

P R E F A C E

For quite some time now, Chuvash scholars and scholars from the Department of Altaistics, József Attila University, Szeged have been working in close collaboration. One of the aims of our common effort has been to lay down the foundations of a new Etymological Dictionary of the Chuvash Language. To this end, considerable amount of preparatory work - collecting historical and dialectal data - has already been done in Cheboksary.

This volume presents a few papers on the very complicated subject of Chuvash etymology. With the exception of Arpád Berta's paper, all the articles have already appeared in languages and journals not easily accessible to most of the scholarly world. The late Prof. Julius Németh's paper was published in German in *Studia in Honorem Veselini Besevliev*; the English translation is of a slightly revised version. Hasan Eren's paper has been published in Turkish, my papers in Hungarian. Addm Molnár has compiled a useful bibliography which, though far from being complete, will hopefully help readers find their bearings in the vast amount literature connected with the history of the Chuvash people and language. We offer this volume as the first contribution to our common project.

My sincere thanks go to Addm Molnár for his help in editing this volume.

Szeged, January 1982.

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