

ABSTRACTS

Béni L. Balogh

■ **“Exultation and Despair”: Hungarians in Transylvania and the Second Vienna Award**

Keywords: *30 August 1940, Second Vienna Award, Transylvania, Hungary*

For about four years, the new Hungarian-Romanian border drawn by the Second Vienna Award of 30 August 1940 divided Transylvania and the Hungarians living there. The Hungarians of Northern Transylvania, who had been returned to Hungary, became part of the majority nation again, and the benefits of this soon became apparent. The most visible progress has been in the areas of mother tongue use, education, and culture. It was mainly due to this fact that, despite the severe economic difficulties, social conflicts and the not insignificant blood sacrifices of the war, the Hungarians of Northern Transylvania emerged from the turmoil of the Second World War and faced the new change of state sovereignty after 23 August 1944 with a strengthened national consciousness. The Hungarians of Southern Transylvania, however, who were stranded in Romania, experienced the arrival of a new minority form of existence as a blow similar to the catastrophe of Trianon. Over the next four years, their situation deteriorated and they suffered severe economic, social, cultural, and demographic losses.

Miklós Csapody

■ **From a Barrack to a Palace**

Keywords: *Transylvania, Trianon, forced situation, literary life*

Hungarian literature in Transylvania is a forced consequence of Trianon, the local expansion of post-Ady modernism. It is the expression of the literary, cultural, and political aspirations that successfully counteracted the intellectual suction of Budapest from the last third of the 19th century onwards. With Trianon, centralisation ceased in Transylvania as well, and the task of literature became to ensure autonomy and spiritual unity (the Erdélyi Szépmíves Céh was established in 1924, the *Korunk* in 1926, the same year in which the Marosvécs writers' meeting was held, and the *Erdélyi Helikon* dates to 1928). After the Second Vienna Award, Hungarian literature in Transylvania split into two countries. In Northern Transylvania, the Hungarians became the majority again, while the Hungarian literary life and press in Southern Transylvania, which had remained under

Romanian rule, were in a hopeless situation. The study is a summary of the Hungarian literary societies, press, journals, institutions, newspaper and book publishing, competitions, prizes, scholarships, awards, debates, anecdotes, and critical life in Transylvania between 1918-44.

János Fodor

■ **Fault Lines and Points of Contact in the Activity of György Bernády in the National Hungarian Party**

Keywords: *Bernády György, National Hungarian Party, Transylvania, political life*

The political career of György Bernády, former mayor of Marosvásárhely, sheriff and member of parliament between the two world wars essentially follows the history of the National Hungarian Party in Romania. Accordingly, the study highlights the following periods: the period of the immediate formation of the National Hungarian Party (1918-1922), Bernády's break with the party (1927-1933), and the history of his return and further activities (1934-1938). In a sense, his activities were characterised by exceptionalism, despite the fact that he was a major politician in the first ten years of the National Hungarian Party, twice coming close to the presidency and leading the pact negotiations with the Romanian National Liberal Party on behalf of the National Hungarian Party. The intensity of his activities declined considerably in the 1930s, but he still dealt with minor regional political issues, and his activity came to an end with his death in 1938.

János Főcze

■ **Moscow's Trojan horse? The Union of Hungarian Workers of Romania (MADOSZ) in the interwar period's Transylvania**

Keywords: *Union of Hungarian Workers of Romania (MADOSZ), interwar period, Transylvania*

Controlled by the communist movement of the country, the Union of Hungarian Workers of Romania (MADOSZ) was founded in 1934 in the Romanian Kingdom. Shortly after its creation it managed to spark a revolt in the Gyimes valley of the Eastern Carpathians. A national-revolutionary organization at its inception, MADOSZ became one of the few Romanian popular front organizations after 1936, only to be banned with all the political parties in 1938. In this paper, I'm addressing the core questions of the history of the organisation, focusing mainly on the double determination of the movement. Can MADOSZ be solely as the Trojan horse of the interests of the Soviet

Union? What other dimensions of its existence can be highlighted? How was the organisation embedded in the political system of the Romanian Kingdom and what were its views regarding the modernisation of Transylvanian society? How were the members of the movement perceived and addressed and how did their fate turn after 1945?

József Kollár – Dávid Kollár

■ **“Style Is the Picture of Man”: Authenticity, Style, Autonomy**

Keywords: *exaptation, adaptation, authenticity, autonomy, style, manner*

In our article, we argue that, contrary to the essentialist conception of authenticity, it is more productive to view authenticity not as the inner core of the person, the true self, but as public patterns of metaphorical exemplification awaiting interpretation. If, following Goodman and Danto, we accept that authentic style is a metaphorical exemplification, then, based on Rorty’s concept of language and metaphor, we can view style as an exaptation of symbols adapted to specific functions through cultural selection.

In our article to support this approach, we proceed as follows: first, using the model of Goodman and Danto, we argue that authentic style can best be captured by metaphorical exemplification, and then show that the metaphorical use of linguistic, pictorial, and other symbols is exaptation. According to our results, the authentic style is the exaptation of symbols adapted to the functions defined during cultural selection. We then clarify the relationship between authenticity and creativity through the concepts of style and manners, and then point out that whether a particular use of a symbol is authentic or not does not depend on whether creative or mechanical mental processes are responsible for its creation. Finally, we examine the relationship between authenticity and autonomy and show that in a cultural milieu that favours autonomous decisions and authentic style, agents that originally created non-authentic symbols can also become authentic symbol users.

Artur Lakatos

■ **A Subjective Parallel on Recovery**

Keywords: *book review, Hungarian culture, history, Trianon*

Book review of Szakály Sándor’s *Talpra állás Trianon után* (Recovery after Trianon).

Katalin Lakatos-Fleisz

■ **Faces in the Mirror of History**

Keywords: *book review, Hungarian culture, history*

Book review of Béla Borsi-Kálmán’s *Változatok az „aha-élményre”*. *Írások a magyar-zsidó együttélés (és a magyar-magyar kapcsolatok) tárgyköréből* (Variations on the Aha-Experience: Writings on Hungarian-Jewish Coexistence and Hungarian-Hungarian Relations).

Zsolt K. Lengyel

■ **The Country and the Landscape: László Szabédi’s Interpretation of Transylvanianism in the History of the Development of the Idea**

Keywords: *László Szabédi, transylvanianism, landscape Transylvanianism, country Transylvanianism*

László Szabédi, on the eve of the 1937 *Jelszó és mítosz* (Watchword and Myth) debate, tried to unravel the characteristics and underlying intentions of the two movements of Transylvanianism in a letter written to Ferenc Szemlér, the initiator of the debate, which has survived in several versions. By analysing the document, the study sheds light on the poet-scholar’s multifaceted views on the two trends of Transylvanianism, landscape Transylvanianism and country Transylvanianism, and their place in the history of Transylvanian Hungarian ideas. Central roles are played by the initiator of the debate, Ferenc Szemlér, Sándor Reményik and Károly Kós, who did not differ in their perceptions to the extent that Szabédi thought in his multifaceted and profound treatise. In this last phase of the natural history of this current of ideas, in 1943, it could be confirmed for Szabédi that Kós, whom he had criticized for his political vision, had repeated himself over the years because his ideal image of Transylvania had always been shattered by the reality of counter-interests.

János Kristóf Murádin

■ **A Regional Political Group with National Ambitions: The Transylvanian Party between 1940 and 1944**

Keywords: *Transylvanian Party, political formation, Northern Transylvania*

The study tries to give a thorough picture of the most important Hungarian party in Northern Transylvania, reintegrated in Hungary after the Second Vienna Award. The Transylvanian Party gathered the Hungarians of Northern Transylvania together

as no other Hungarian political formation in history. In January 1942 it had 243,500 members, which means that every fourth Hungarian adult in Northern Transylvania was member of the party. Due to this fact, the Transylvanian Party is almost forgotten today, because during the Communist regime it was considered to be an extreme right party, and it was totally impossible to study this topic.

The study describes this unique political party by focusing on the foundation of the Transylvanian Party, its leaders and members, its ideology, and its representation in the Hungarian Parliament. The relations of the party with the government, with other Hungarian parties from the motherland and with the national minorities in Northern Transylvania are also analysed. The study finally presents the decline of this political formation.

Tibor Pethő

■ *One Hundred Years as a Minority*

Keywords: *Hungarian culture, minority, Hungarian Academy of Sciences*

In his article, the author offers an overview of the presentations given at the international conference entitled *100 Years of Hungarian Minorities*, organised by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Ignác Romsics

■ *From Resistance to Accommodation: The Dilemmas of the Hungarians of Transylvania (1918-1920)*

Keywords: *Trianon Peace Treaty, Hungarians of Transylvania, resistance, accommodation*

The Trianon Peace Treaty signed on 4 June 1920 created a new situation for Hungary as a kin state and Romania as successor state, as well as for ethnic Hungarians living in the detached regions, including Transylvania. In Hungary, the treaty was considered as enormous injustice, a crime against humanity. People believed that "it is bound to collapse as soon as the minds clear and the blood-soaked clouds of

revenge cease the blur the eyesight of people". The mood in Bucharest was, of course, altogether different. The peace treaty and especially the union of Transylvania with Romania was considered as a logical development of history and as an act of historic justice that never could be overruled. As for Hungarians living in Transylvania, they had to take crucial decisions: choosing to either remain in Romania or opt for Hungary. Those choosing to remain also had to decide how to relate to the Romanian state. In 1919-1920 almost two hundred thousand ethnic Hungarians left their native region. Those who remained tried various forms of resistance, including abstention from any participation in public life. Following the signing of the peace treaty this attitude was increasingly met with criticism. More and more people believed that they had to acquiesce to the new situation for a longer or shorter period of time, and therefore swearing an oath of loyalty to the Romanian state was all but unavoidable. The first community leader who suggested this course of action was György Bernády, former mayor of Marosvásárhely/Târgu Mureş. By the very end of 1920 three younger intellectuals (Károly Kós, István Zágoni és Árpád Paál) were preparing to call for a similar strategy. It was then that they published their program in a pamphlet titled *Kiáltó Szó* (Shouted Words) in which they suggested accommodation in return for extensive cultural autonomy granted to the Hungarian minority community by the Romanian state. In his essay, based on extended archival and printed materials, Ignác Romsics analyzes the choices and ambiguities of this transitional period.

Kinga Sebestyén

■ *A Dome of Questions*

Keywords: *book review, Hungarian culture, literature*

Review of Ágnes Mészöly's *A kupolák titka* (The Secret of Domes).

A lapszámot szerkesztette:
Kovács Kiss Gyöngy

L. Balogh Béni (1961) – történész, főlevéltáros, PhD, MNL Országos Levéltára, Budapest
Csapody Miklós (1955) – irodalomtörténész, PhD, Budapest
Fodor János (1989) – történész, PhD, egyetemi tanársegéd, BBTE, Kolozsvár
Főcze János (1991) – történész, PhD, levéltáros, MNL Országos Levéltára, Budapest

Kollár Dávid (1993) – szociológus, költő, művészetkritikus, doktorandus, PPKE BTK, Budapest

Kollár József (1961) – filozófus, költő, művészetkritikus, PhD, PTE Alkalmazott Ontológiai Kutatócsoport, Pécs
Lakatos Artur (1980) – történész, PhD, közgazdász, Kolozsvár

Lakatos-Fleisz Katalin (1978) – egyetemi oktató, PhD, BBTE Pszichológia és Neveléstudományi Kar, Szatmárnémeti Kihelyezett Tagozat

K. Lengyel Zsolt (1960) – történész, habilitált docens, a Regensburgi Egyetem Magyar Intézetének vezetője
Murádin János Kristóf (1960) – történész, habilitált egyetemi docens, tanszékvezető, Sapientia EMTE Nemzetközi Kapcsolatok és Európai Tanulmányok Tanszék, Kolozsvár

Pethő Tibor (1973) – újságíró, Magyar Hang, doktorandus, Eszterházy Károly Katolikus Egyetem, Eger

Romsics Ignác (1951) – történész, az MTA rendes tagja, egyetemi tanár, Eszterházy Károly Katolikus Egyetem, Eger

Sebestyén Kinga (1984) – irodalomtörténész, tanár, Talentum Református Iskola, Kolozsvár

Todor Tamás (1989) – festőművész, Budapest

TÁMOGATÓK



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„1940–1944 között az idő mintha »összesűrűsödött« volna a határ mindkét oldalán – csak éppen ellenkező előjellel. Észak-Erdélyben a magyarok túlnyomó többsége felfelé ívelő korszakként élte meg a bécsi döntést követő négy évet, amelyhez képest – paradox módon – az ezt megelőző 22 évnvi, tehát valójában jóval hosszabb ideig tartó román uralom provizóriumnak tűnt számukra. Dél-Erdélyben viszont a különleges jogokat élvező német kisebbséggel szembeni leértékelődésük, a hatalomnak való egyre fokozottabb kiszolgáltatottságuk, a nemzetiségük miatt elszenvedett megaláztatásaik, az otthontalanság kínzó érzése traumatizálták a dél-erdélyi magyarok kollektív tudatát, és egyfajta identitásképző tényezővé léptek elő.”

(L. Balogh Béni)

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