

CHUVASH STUDIES

Edited by

ANDRÁS RÓNA-TAS



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Chuvash, a language spoken by about 1.5 million people in the Volga region of the Soviet Union, is the only remnant of one of the two great branches of the Turkish languages. Its study is playing a key role in solving many of the focal issues of comparative Altaic studies, in the research of Finno-Ugrian—Turkish contacts, and in the history of such early Eastern-European peoples as the Khazars, the Magyars prior to their arrival in the Carpathian Basin, and the Volga Bulgars.

This volume is an anthology of the papers delivered at a symposium held in Eger, Hungary, in 1977. A number of comparative studies illuminate the different facets of Chuvash linguistic history, while others trace the impact of Chuvash-type loanwords on the Hungarian language. Through linguistic analysis, new insights are offered into Chuvash society and culture. The techniques of cartographic philology are applied to a great many old maps of the Volga region, while other authors discuss aspects of Chuvash folk music and modern Chuvash literature. Unprecedentedly many-sided in its approach, the volume will be of interest to all Turkologists, to scholars of early Eastern-European history and of the history of the Hungarian language.



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