

The Origins of Slavonic



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LINCOM, 2007. Hardcover. Book Condition: Neu. Dust Jacket Condition: Gut. 1. Auflage. This book examines the causes of the dissolution of Common Slavonic. Archaeologists have questioned traditional theories of the Indo-Europeanization of Europe; consensus has been growing that the Indo-European languages arrived in Europe earlier than previously thought, accompanying the introduction of agriculture at the end of the Neolithic period. This stands in contrast to the premise that Proto-Indo-European was introduced during the Bronze Age by steppe nomads. Acceptance of the former model requires adjustment in the chronology of the break-up of Indo-European unity. It also necessitates the modification of theories of language change. This issue has been addressed by the proposal of a framework of language evolution incorporating the Utterance-Based Theory of Selection and the Punctuated Equilibrium Model. Both stress the role of external factors in the development of languages. The conclusion is that there exists a concrete and dynamic relationship between catastrophic historical events and episodes of profound change in the structure of a language. The body of this book is composed of historical, archaeological, and linguistic evidence, which substantiates this claim. Noel C. Brackney currently lectures in Russian at the University of Surrey in the United Kingdom and is a member of the Surrey Morphology Group. This monograph is based on his doctoral dissertation. Table of Contents Foreword iii Abbreviations iv Illustrations vi Acknowledgements viii Chapter 1: Introduction 1 Chapter 2: Theoretical Parameters 6 2.1 Introductory Remarks 6 2.2 From Early Philological to Neogrammarian Theories of Language Change 8 2.3 The Neogrammarian Approach to Language Change 11 2.4 Structural and Generative Linguistics 12 2.5 The Object of Study 18 2.6 Definition of Terms 20 2.7 Interdisciplinary Approaches to Language Change 23 2.8 Language Change 25 2.9 The Ontogeny of Linguistic Change 28 2.10 The Function of Linguistic...



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