HISTORICAL AND SOCIO-POLITICAL FEATURES OF LANGUAGE IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

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Abstract: Bosnian language-for Balkans- has always been a very sensitive question. Therefore, this paper deals with the reasons behind dissolution of Serbo-Croatian language into three different languages from the historical, socio-political and linguistic perspectives. This paper began with the historical background as inevitable introductory framework for an understanding of language changes and transformations. Then the second part of this paper analyzes sociopolitical developments and language that were conditioned by various historical processes. An attempt has been made to present how language was evolving from Medieval Bosančica to present day three constitutionally accepted languages namely Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian. Furthermore, last part of the paper deals with the main characteristics of Bosnian language in comparison to Serbian and Croatian languages. Apart from indicating affirmed historicity of Bosnian language this paper holds that the development of different languages in Bosnia-Herzegovina was a result of a need for national identification. However, there are insignificant linguistic differences among three languages that are officially used in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Key words: Bosnia-Herzegovina, Language, Bosnian language and Serbo-Croatian Language