

During the historical development the larger part of the south Slavs (Slovenes, Croats, partly the Serbs and the population of Bosnia and Herzegovina) and the west Slavs (Czechs and Slovaks) had become the part of one state – the Habsburg Monarchy or the Austrian Empire and later the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. The 19th century means for all mentioned Slavic nations the culmination of their tasks for emancipation; the stabilization of the language norm and the achievement of the intellectual entity.

The historical and cultural situation in the common state during the 19th century opens areal, socio-linguistic and diachronic view on the codification processes by the particular nations, which are organized from one political centre by the common educational and administrative-political system. Secular education of better quality had led all the nations of the state to the cultural and political emancipation, which resulted in the destruction of monarchy.

The first part of the work deals with the key moments of the history of the Slavs in the Habsburg Monarchy till the 19th century. From the Great Moravia and the Slavic mission of Cyril and Methodius, creation of the independent Slavic states, till their final integration to the Habsburg Monarchy. It focuses on the development of the literary languages – especially the translations of the Bible to the national languages, codification of the written language in the grammar books and dictionaries, orthographic reforms and the maturity of the national literary production. It mentions the development of educational systems and research institutions and their participation in the cultivation of languages.