
NATIA LAKOBIDZE

ISSUES OF LANGUAGE THEORY ACCORDING TO "EINHEIT IN VIELFALT (UNITY IN DIVERSITY)" BY GURAM RAMISHVILI

G. Ramishvili's book *Einheit in Vielfalt (Unity in Diversity)* was published with the support of Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in 1988-89 in Bonn.

The book is comprised of four parts: 1. Humboldt's theory of language; 2. Theoretical issues in semantics; 3. Humboldt and anthropology of language; 4. Appendix.

According to G. Ramishvili, Humboldt's theory of language is based on three postulates: "language is a system", "language is not ergon, but energeia", "language is a form".

The author believes that comparative linguistics has been established as a result of perceiving the existence of different language systems by Humboldt.

The book attempts to present energeistic interpretation of Ferdinand de Saussure's *Course in General Linguistics*. According to the author's opinion, such interpretation of Ferdinand de Saussure's theory sheds light on a range of issues that deals with the relationship of a language to other sign systems.

Languages differ not only in terms of sound and formal structure of a language but also semantically. G. Ramishvili regards diversity of languages as one of the essentials for the development of mankind. Language variety offers opportunities to perceive the world through different perspectives, as different languages, first of all, represent different world perceptions.