

## THE CZECH NATIONAL REBIRTH MYTHS AND STIMULATION OF AN IDEA

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Linking with the research of Otto Urban and Vladimír Macura, the author attempts to show that the nation functioned as a collective notion and a concept of identification which ideally concealed the elimination of the small structural elements which made up traditional society as well as their absorption in the large-scale structures of the bourgeois society. Both nations – the Czechs and the Germans – constituted themselves as modern bourgeois societies in this area, with which the unusual role of free choice was also connected. The common conceptions of the historical contest between two ethnic-national principles are revealed as pretenses which are incomparably younger than the quasi-historical material to which they attempt to connect themselves. The author uses the elucidation of the differences between synchronous and asynchronous types of modernization to interpret the importance of linguistic and cultural problems in those societies like the Czech and the German, which were first of all modernized through cultural achievements and only much later in other parts.