Language Problems of Developing Nations

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From the Preface
Most of the essays presented in this book were papers prepared for a conference on the language problems of the developing nations at Airlie House, Warrenton, Virginia, November 1-3, 1966. This conference was one of several organized and sponsored by the Committee on Sociolinguistics of the Social Science Research Council in its efforts to promote interdisciplinary research and training in the relatively new field to which its attention is directed.

Although a number of the papers presented at this conference have since been published in various scholarly journals and books, it seemed highly desirable to bring all of them together in one volume. The number of disciplines involved would otherwise tend to scatter them to journals appearing in all parts of the world and in various languages as well. Thus it was felt that a single volume including most of these papers (a few were dropped for various reasons, primarily, the rapid changes in the language situations in some areas) would elicit the attention of a larger number of students and specialists from a variety of backgrounds. The problems dealt with in this book are of great practical and theoretical complexity and will long continue to require the dedication of large numbers of highly trained and broadly oriented individuals, both in and outside university circles. One of the goals of this collection is to foster interest in such training and orientation.