**Karácsony Sándor (1891-1952)**



**Sándor Karácsony**, as an **educator, psychologist, linguist, and evangelist**, contributed significantly to the development of the image and reputation of the **Institute of Educational Studies** at the University of Debrecen.

Sándor Karácsony was born in 1891 in Földes, where he studied at the prestigious **Reformed College of Debrecen** after completing elementary school and graduating with honors.

He then continued his studies at the **University of Budapest**, where he excelled as a **student of Hungarian and German**. During his university years he visited several tertiary institutions abroad. He had a deep respect for his professor, the educational historian **Ernő Fináczy.** However, because his views on education differed considerably, he **obtained his doctorate** and **habilitation** at **the University of Debrecen**. In 1942 he was appointed a **full professor, heading the Institute of Educational Studies** until 1950, when because of his views he was removed from his post by the authorities.

His **lectures and seminars** at the university covered almost all branches of **education**. The **history of education**, **educational theory**, and **didactics** played an equally prominent role in his lectures, as did questions of **developmental psychology**, **religious education in schools**, and the **psychological and logical problems of education**. His work was not only influential at the university, though; he was also quite active in public life. As an **evangelist**, he organised Bible study groups and conferences, helped to **edit** journals (Az Erő, Magyar Ifjúság, Diákvilág, Gyermekvédelem, Pro Christo, Új Szántás) and even took part in the leadership of the **The Hungarian Scout Association**.

He was the author of an extremely large number of books and studies in which he expressed his views on **education and culture**.

**Sándor Karácsony** is an important figure at the Institute of Educational Sciences of the University of Debrecen, an integral part of the past, and part of the **Debreceness** that is evident in the professor's entire character and life's work.