**Kelemen László (1919-1984)**



**Professor László Kelemen**, the head of the **Department of Educational Studies and Psychology at the University** and a supporter of the modernisation of **teacher training**, is a significant, internationally renowned figure in Hungarian **educational science and psychology**.

László Kelemen was born in 1919 in Kiskunfélegyháza, where he completed his civil school education. He graduated as a teacher in 1938. Between 1938-42 he graduated from the **Hungarian, History and German** Department of the Civil School Teacher Training College in Szeged. Between 1942-43 he was a student at the Apponyi College for Teacher Candidates, and obtained a teacher's diploma in **pedagogy and psychology while in Szeged.** In 1947, he received a doctorate from the University of Szeged, and a candidate's degree in 1958. He was awarded the degree of Doctor of Psychology in 1964.

From 1966 to 1982 he worked as a **professor** at the **Kossuth Lajos University of Debrecen**, where he was head of the **Department of Educational Studies** from 1966 to 1970 and of the **Department of Psychology** from 1970 to 1982. In 1974-77 he was also elected Deputy Rector for Teacher Training.

During his professorship in Debrecen, László Kelemen carried out a wide range of **professional and public work**. As the head of the **Department of Educational Studies** and **Deputy Rector for Teacher Education**, László Kelemen considered it **important to modernise teacher education**: his main ambition was to ensure that teachers graduated from the university as well prepared as possible for practice.

Besides the development of **educational science**, he was particularly interested in **psychology**. It was largely thanks to his efforts that the **Department of Psychology** was established in **1970** and a **psychology degree course** was launched in 1974. As a psychologist, he was primarily concerned with the **development of thinking**. He believed that students' thinking could be improved in a planned and very successful way through regular practice.

All in all, **László Kelemen** is a major figure in both educational science and psychology, and his carries on today.