Editor's Note

Ber Borochov's *Di oyfgabn fun der yidisher filologye* (The Tasks of Yiddish Philology) first appeared in 1913 in the academic journal, *Der pinkes: yorbukh far der geshikhte fun der yidisher literatur un shprakh, far folklore, kritik un bibliografye*, edited by Shmuel Niger and published by Kletskin (*Kletskin farlag*) in Vilna. The cover of the journal is reproduced in the appendix (fig. 1). The original article was not paginated. In 1966, a reprint appeared in a posthumous collection of Borochov's articles published in Tel Aviv by Brener, *Shprakh-forshung un literatur-geshikhte* (The Science of Linguistics and the History of Literature) (pages 53-75).

The translation that follows is based on both versions, which are identical except for two notes in the original version that are not in the reprint. Many terms from Borochov's Yiddish text are added in ( ) in italics. All editorial additions to Borochov's text, e.g. English translations for Yiddish expressions, are printed within [ ]. In the footnotes, editorial notes are indicated by [ ] and end with *Ed*.

In the same issue of *Der pinkes* (1913), Borochov added an annotated list of bibliographic sources related to Yiddish philology (as he understood it). The list, entitled *Di biblyotek fun yidishn filologn* (The Yiddish Philologists' Library), contains most of the works referred to in his essay. A page from this list (fig. 5 in the appendix) illustrates his methods.

In 1980, portions of Borochov's essay were published in English in the *Jewish Frontier*, vol. 47, no. 6 (June–July), entitled, "The Aims of Yiddish Philology" (pages 15–19), translated by Dovid Katz, with the translator's introduction, entitled "Ber Borokhov, Pioneer of Yiddish Linguistics" (pages 10–14). This translation is available online at http://www.angelfire.com/il2/borochov/yiddish.html (last accessed March 14, 2007), and at *The Ber Borochov Internet Archive* http://www.angelfire.com/il2/borochov/ (last accessed February 27, 2007).