

## CHICAGO HITTITE DICTIONARY

### Theo van den Hout

At the Chicago Hittite Dictionary (CHD) we had a good and productive year. As usual, work on the dictionary proceeded at various levels. Harry Hoffner and Theo van den Hout met regularly to transform first or intermediate drafts of words for the next fascicle or installment that is due. Such sessions are prepared by van den Hout, who makes all the necessary changes and checks practically all references in a draft and then passes it on to Hoffner for comments and additions. In the process, our outside consultants Gary Beckman (Ann Arbor, University of Michigan), Craig Melchert (Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina), and Gernot Wilhelm (Julius-Maximilians-Universität, Würzburg, Germany) are regularly queried. In their meetings, Hoffner and van den Hout establish a definitive text. Richard Beal, one of our two Senior Research Associates (SRA), implements all changes in the computer version of the draft so that the dictionary entry is ready to go! Van den Hout and Hoffner have reached almost the end of the enormous amount of Hittite words starting in *šar-*. This means that our goal to publish the second fascicle of the letter Š of about the same size as Š/1 (208 pages) in 2004 is right on track.

Meanwhile Senior Research Associates Richard Beal and Oğuz Soysal continued writing first drafts of words for our next letter T. The T volume will be even larger than the Š volume and it is important that as much as possible is ready in first draft by the time we publish the last installment of Š and start preparing for T/1 (2006–2007). In this, Richard and Oğuz received very valuable help from our guest Research Associate, Alice Mouton. Alice is a Ph.D. student from Paris in the very final stages of her dissertation (Paris-Leiden) who joined us in January 2003 for one calendar year. She received a Programme Lavoisier scholarship from the French Minis-



*Research Associate Alice Mouton and visiting graduate student Petra Goedegebuure*

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try of Foreign Affairs. In her characteristically enthusiastic manner, she has helped us in many ways and has, among other things, written many first drafts already.

Kathleen Mineck, our new half-time staff member, continued the work of keeping up our file collection. She is well known to the Oriental Institute community and a Ph.D. student in the department. Newly published texts were entered by her into the CHD server and cards were made ready to be parsed and filed. In between, Kathleen assists van den Hout in specific queries concerning final drafts on which he is working. Students working for the CHD this year and doing the parsing and filing work were Natasha Bershadsky, Dennis Campbell, and Andrei Chatskov.

Sadly, Hripsime Haroutunian, the predecessor of Kathleen Mineck, who had been on the dictionary team for almost ten, years left us in the fall of 2002 to become lecturer for Armenian here at the University of Chicago. We greatly appreciate everything she has done for us and meant to the CHD during all those years. We wish her all the best in her new job!

Thanks to Sandra Schloen, substantial progress has been made on the electronic version of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary. A representative sample of almost one hundred entries of the P volume has been converted to XML format and stored efficiently in a Tamino (Internet-based) database. These entries can be displayed in a live document view which mimics the format of the printed version but provides additional features like content-based, color-coded links and cross-references. A Java-based interface is currently being developed to provide tools for navigating, querying, and viewing the data.

We had several visitors again this year: Petra Goedegebuure from the University of Amsterdam was here during the month of November to do some final checking on the material for her dissertation. Billie-Jean Collins, from Emory University and previous Research Associate on the CHD, visited us and consulted the files in December. Willemijn Waal from Amsterdam and Andrei Chatskov from St. Petersburg consulted our files and used the Research Archives to work on their respective Master's Theses. Both were at the Oriental Institute for a full quarter. Ian Rutherford came from the University of Reading in Great Britain.

Together with our Director of Development Debora Donato, both Hoffner and van den Hout went to Los Angeles for the April 4 premiere of the movie *The Hittites* by Tolga Örnek (for which, see *2001/2002 Annual Report*, pp. 30–31). We expect this documentary will raise public awareness of the Hittites and their history, which should be a great help to us in our fund raising efforts for the coming years. This brings us to last year's highlight: we received another grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for the year 2003/2004. That will be our last regular NEH grant before we submit the Challenge Grant in November!

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