

### Theo van den Hout

Over the past year **Theo van den Hout** continued his research on issues of record management, writing, and literacy in Hittite society. He prepared a talk for the 54th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale in Würzburg, Germany, on the role of the Hittite cuneiform script as an instrument of power and administration in the early history of the Hittite kingdom, and submitted an article on text-dating issues and the origins of the typical Hittite cuneiform for the Italian journal *Incontri Linguistici*. Unrelated to these topics, he submitted two articles, one on the interpretation of a highly problematic Hieroglyphic Luwian passage and another with some philological notes on a group of Hittite texts. Both are intended for two volumes in honor of colleagues. Theo also prepared handcopies of some 250 Hittite clay fragments and wrote three book reviews for the *Orientalistische Literaturzeitung* and the *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie*.

Theo delivered lectures at the Humanities Open House and at the 218th Meeting of the American Oriental Society in Chicago. In November he gave in Amsterdam his inaugural lecture as corresponding member of the Royal Dutch Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Since the previous *Annual Report* the following publications have appeared in print: “Some Observations on the Tablet Collection from Maşat Höyük” in A. Archi and R. Francia (eds.), *VI Congresso Internazionale di Ittitologia, Roma, 5–9 settembre 2005* (= SMEA 49 [2007] (2008)), pp. 387–98; and “A Classified Past: Classification of Knowledge in the Hittite Empire” in R. D. Biggs, J. Myers, and M. Roth (eds.), *Proceedings of the 51st Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale held at The Oriental Institute of The University of Chicago, July 18–22, 2005* (= SAOC 62), pp. 211–19. Van den Hout’s contribution to the sold-out Oriental Institute conference volume *Margins of Writing, Origins of Cultures* (OIS 2), edited by Seth Sanders, was reprinted with a new postscriptum (pp. 261–62) where he followed up on several points raised in the original article. Besides these, three entries in the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie* came out, as well as three reviews for the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, and *Kratylos*.

After about ten years’ delay, the *Encyclopedia Britannica* finally published its entry on Anatolian languages. This is a complete reworking by H. Craig Melchert and Theo of the original article of 1974 written by Philo Houwink ten Cate. It can be found through [www.britannica.com](http://www.britannica.com).

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