

CHICAGO HITTITE DICTIONARY AND ELECTRONIC HITTITE DICTIONARY (CHD AND eCHD)

Theo van den Hout

The CHD team — Richard Beal, Petra Goedegebuure, Oğuz Soysal, and Theo van den Hout — continued work during the past year on what will be the final fascicle or installment of the Š volume. Practically all entries have been written and edited as well as sent to our outside consultants. Important (and therefore often lengthy) entries among this last batch of words starting in *šu-* are the conjunction *šu* “and,” and the possessive *šumma/i-* “our.” Of great cultural interest are words like *šuhḫa-* “roof,” and *šuppi-* “holy, sacred,” and its many derivatives, to be distinguished from *parkui-*, which just means “pure, clean.” Cleanliness and purity are key notions in Hittite religion and *šuppi-* describes the highest degree in that area: many things can be clean and pure but not all of them are fit for the gods. *Šuppi-* denotes anything that is appropriate to be used in divine presence. For instance, the gods’ assistance is requested when a woman gives birth and if a woman in labor is using a birth stool, it is of course important it is clean, but if one of the stool’s legs breaks, it is no longer *šuppi-*.

Oğuz Soysal continued his work on the so-called Bo-fragments, approximately a thousand Hittite texts from the very early excavations at the Hittite capital between 1906–1912 that are still unpublished. The second volume of these, the third in the CHD Supplement Series (CHDS 3), should be out when you read this. Beal and Soysal also did further work updating the L volume, the very first letter of our dictionary that came out in the late seventies; on both projects see the *Oriental Institute 2013–2014 Annual Report*. Students working for the CHD this year were graduate students Thalia Lysen (1st year PhD) and Robert Marinneau (3rd year PhD), and undergraduate Katherine McFarlin, all of them supervised by Oya Topçuoğlu. Oya just defended her dissertation and is now officially Dr. Topçuoğlu! Since she will remain in the Chicago area for some other projects we will benefit one more year from her organizational talents.

We were also very fortunate this year to have Barbara Jillson volunteering several hours each week for the CHD. Barbara started work on our bibliographical database at the



Figure 1. The family of Prof. Harry Hoffner celebrating the inauguration of the Harry A. Hoffner Library of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary

beginning of the academic year and her wide knowledge of several modern languages is a great asset to this particular project!

As you may remember from our previous report, we were shocked last year (March 10, 2015) by the very sudden passing of our Senior Editor and co-founder of the dictionary, Professor Harry Hoffner. Through the kindness and generosity of his wife Wini we have received Harry's library of Hittitological books. We used to have a collection of photocopies and offprints, to which we added some important works on permanent loan from the Joseph Regenstein Library. However, especially when going through the painstaking process of reference checking, many trips downstairs to the Research Archives were necessary to track down the various sources. Now we have many of them conveniently on our own shelves! We had ex-libris stickers made for the books and hung up a sign saying "Harry A. Hoffner Library of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary" with his photo. On June 4 Mrs. Wini Hoffner, accompanied by her two sons David and Lee and their wives Cherry and Theresa, came to the OI to officially inaugurate this with some coffee, sodas, and pastries (see fig. 1). I want to take this opportunity to thank our loyal supporters and donors: Mr. Philip Elenko, Walter and Susan Güterbock, Drs. Audrius and Sigita Plioplys, Richard Beal and JoAnn Scurlock, Mrs. Gwendolyn Dhesi, and Thomas and Bernice Güterbock.

Among our visitors this year was Dennis Campbell, our former student and CHD Assistant, now Assistant Professor of Ancient History at San Francisco State University and our immediate go-to person in all matters Hurrian. Dennis came to teach in van den Hout's Hurrian class and he also gave a lecture. In November 2015 Hajime Yamamoto, our former Japanese student, returned for a few weeks to consult our files for work on his dissertation. It was good to see them again!

Finally, we further prepared for the 10th International Congress of Hittitology (see logo) to be held at the Oriental Institute from August 28 through September 1, 2017. We have done some important initial fund raising, secured lodgings for the Hittitologists who will descend on Chicago for this occasion, and have started working on a small exhibit featuring the history of Hittitology and the CHD while the conference takes place. The fund raising will continue in the coming year as summer 2017 nears: check our website at ich10.uchicago.edu for the latest!

