

# CHICAGO HITTITE DICTIONARY (CHD)

## THEO VAN DEN HOUT

---

After the publication of the fourth installment of the letter Š and, as a result, the completion of that volume last year (see the OI's *Annual Report 2019-20*), with a total of more than seven hundred pages, we immediately started work on the letter T/D. (Because the Hittite cuneiform writing system makes no systematic differentiation between these two sounds at the beginning of words, T and D are traditionally treated as one letter in our field.) Although the pandemic required changes and adjustments in our daily work routine, we successfully made the transition to remote work on the CHD thanks to the excellent electronic infrastructure at the OI and the ever-effective assistance of our IT manager Knut Boehmer and head of Research Archives Foy Scalf. As far as allowed by the rules of the University, we have worked in our offices, carefully calibrating our presence and always wearing masks whenever anybody else was around.

As mentioned in last year's report, our work on the letter T/D will result in the largest volume so far. First drafts of many words starting in *t-/d-* were already written years ago by various authors (Harry Hoffner,† Richard Beal, Oğuz Soysal, Alice Mouton), and editor Richard Beal started editing all of them for consistency of style and language. Because of the time lag or because not all available textual evidence had been used and cited, new attestations and new literature also had to be added to them. Foy Scalf has been great in providing Beal with both hard-copy and electronic copies of whatever we need. This help has allowed our staff, scattered by COVID-19, to continue working with most of the resources we would have if we were in our offices. Also, sometimes new attestations bring new meanings that have had to be worked in; and in some cases when drafts had not been written at all, Beal composed them. Thus working his way through the material, he has reached words starting in *tap-*.

Meanwhile, senior editor Petra Goedegebuure has been working on the so-called *function words*. They are not your regular nouns and verbs but conjunctions (e.g., “and, if, since,” etc.), postpositions (i.e., the opposite of *prepositions*, such as the English words “on, over, under, for” not coming before a noun but after it), or certain adverbs. These words are often short and seemingly simple, such as the conjunctions *ta*, normally translated “and” or left untranslated, and *takku*, “if, when,” but the description of their functioning in the Hittite language is highly complex and therefore results in long entries. Two other examples are the postpositions/local adverbs *tapuša* and *tapuša*, “beside, alongside.” Though straightforward in their meaning, the grammatical behavior of these postpositions/adverbs has never before been fully discussed. Theo van den Hout continued work on the verb *dā-*, “to take,” which has many shades of meaning depending on the context and combination with various adverbs.

Several years ago we took up the plan to start updating the older volumes with the letters L and M for an exclusively electronic edition. In the past year Goedegebuure has made important strides in updating the L in general as well as the function words in M.

Meanwhile, work on the proceedings of the 10th International Congress of Hittitology has almost come to an end. Manuscripts have been returned to the individual authors with editorial remarks and suggestions, and we will be able to finalize the entire manuscript and deliver it to the OI Publications office shortly.

## PROJECT REPORTS | CHICAGO HITTITE DICTIONARY

Since last summer, Dr. Susanne Görke from the University in Marburg, Germany, has been working in the CHD office whenever possible. She is the recipient of the prestigious German Feodor Lynen Fellowship, awarded by the Humboldt Foundation, and is working on a book on the development and establishment of a religious system in Hittite Anatolia.

Finally, it is with deep gratitude that we acknowledge especially the ongoing, wonderful, and loyal support of Mr. Philip Elenko from New York and from the Güterbock family, as well as all others.

---