

Oğuz Soysal

Oğuz Soysal started his job as Research Associate for the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project in August 1995. He has spent most of his time writing articles on words beginning with “š” (mostly *šu-*, and a few *ši-* words).

Aside from this, his research activities continued to focus on Hittite history and historiography. A Turkish article on the designation and classification of the “Large Text of Hattušili III” was published in *Archivum Anatolicum* 1 (Turkey, 1995). Furthermore, through two recent articles in German he has continued his contributions to Old Hittite history, in which he has been interested since he was a student at the Universities of Marburg/Lahn and Würzburg. These articles are now in press for the journals *Hethitica* 14 (1997/98) and *Altorientalische Forschungen* 25/1 (1998). Other works in progress include “Some Remarks on KBo XVIII 151,” dealing with an oracle report in Old Hittite, and “Ein althethitischer Exempla-Erlass KBo III 34,” which intends to treat a difficult to understand historical-administrative document. The latter will be published as a monograph.

Besides his involvement with Hittite, he has worked on the Hattian (or Hattic) language as well and since January 1996 has been preparing a “Hattian word list” based on the texts in Hattian from Boğazköy (Hattic-Hittite bilinguals, Hattic recitations, Hittite rituals, and festivals with Hattic elements). Hattian is the oldest representative among the ancient Anatolian languages and has survived only in the religious textual tradition from Boğazköy. Because of the small number and poor preservation of documents containing Hattian elements, this language still remains a mystery. Despite some Hattian-

RESEARCH

Hittite bilingual texts, the Hattian word complexes—the language itself is of agglutinative character and modified by prefixes, infixes, and suffixes—are still difficult to analyze, and the meaning of most Hattian words has not yet been determined. Consequently, a dictionary or glossary of Hattian is presently not available. Therefore, this list would be of help to future lexicographic studies. All known Hattian words in transliteration and in alphabetical order are included; this work seeks to offer a general view of the structure of Hattian words (and words complexes) and to point out the origin of those Hattian (loan) words that have survived in Hittite documents. Besides numerous Hattian elements in ancient Anatolian onomastic and toponymy, a large number of the cultic names/terms (titles of priests, names of sacral buildings, pottery, breads, etc.) were borrowed from Hattian language. These appear especially in the Old Hittite documents. However, some of them are incorrectly considered as Hittite and etymologized in the philological studies and even in the current etymological dictionaries as elements of Indo-European vocabulary. The word list in question currently consists of about 5,850 Macintosh computer-stored entries (words and word complexes; about 75% of published materials) and is still in progress. After its completion, the word list will be added to the lexical files of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary as a contribution of a “Nachbarsprache.”
