

Oğuz Soysal

Oğuz Soysal continued his job on the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project. He spent most of his time writing articles on words beginning with *šu-*. After five years of work and more than one hundred articles he is now approaching the end of the *šu-* words.

Aside from this, his research activities have continued to focus on Hittite culture and history and the Hattian language. The following articles were published or are currently in press: “Beiträge zur althethitischen Geschichte (I). Ergänzende Bemerkungen zur Puḫanu-Chronik und zum Menschenfresser-Text” in *Hethitica* 14 (1999): 109–45; Review of *StBoT* 37, by J. Klinger, in *Kratylos* 44 (1999): 161–67; “Bazı kayıp, gözden kaçmış ve yanlış saptanmış Hattice fragmanlar” in *Archivum Anatolicum* 4 (2000): 177–205; “Analysis of a Hittite Oracular Document” in *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie* 90/1 (2000): 85–122; “Hattice Araştırmalarında Son Durum” (Fourth International Congress of Hittitology, Würzburg, Germany, 4–8 October 1999); “Zum Nomen: *šuwaru-*” for a festschrift; “A Practical Vocabulary from Ortaköy,” with Aygül Süel, for a festschrift; and Review of *Systematische Bibliographie der Hethitologie 1915–1995*, by V. Souček and J. Siegelová, in *Journal of the American Oriental Society*.

In addition to these activities Soysal has also been preparing since January 1996 a Hattian word list based on texts in the Hattian language from Boğazköy and Ortaköy (Hattian-Hittite bilinguals, Hattian recitations, Hittite rituals and festivals with Hattian elements, etc.). The list in question currently consists of 10,000 computer-stored entries (words and word complexes; 100% of published material) on 500 pages and is still in progress.

In 1998 he received an official invitation from the leaders of the Ortaköy excavation (in Çorum, Turkey) to work jointly with them on the epigraphic finds. The work on the Ortaköy epigraphic finds was begun in 1990 by a Turkish team led by Aygül Süel, excavator of Ortaköy and member of Ankara Üniversitesi Dil ve Tarih-Coğrafya Fakültesi. Soysal joined this team in 1998 and since then he has been contributing to the studies on the documents in Hattian within his personal project Ortaköy-Sapinuwa Epigraphical Research (OSER). This project was financially supported by the American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT) in 1999 with a research fellowship. In February 2000 the good news came from ARIT that another fellowship was granted for the research on the Ortaköy materials in 2000. The work in 2000 was conducted during June. Accompanied by Yasemin Soysal (who is a member of Ankara Üniversitesi Dil ve Tarih-Coğrafya Fakültesi), the team went to Çorum and took ca. 400 pictures of the selected original tablets (primarily the Hattian and bird oracle texts), which are deposited at the Museum

of Çorum. The activities of the 1999 season are briefly reported in “Epigraphical Studies from Hittite Sapinuwa” in *ARIT Newsletter* 27 (spring 1999), p. 7, and the first results of the epigraphic studies will be released by Oğuz Soysal and Aygül Süel in a joint article.

On his trip to Turkey, Soysal also had an opportunity to join several archaeological surveys in the vicinity of Sivas and to inspect some ancient sites like Kayalıpınar and Kahvepınar. The former promises to be an extremely important Hittite settlement, as reported by the Turkish and German archaeologists at the Fourth International Congress of Hittitology in Würzburg in October 1999.
