INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

Theo van den Hout

In the past year, **Theo van den Hout** taught two winter classes: Elementary Hittite 2 (an anthology of Hittite texts), and Carian, Pisidic, and Sidetic. Carian represents the latest branch on the Anatolian tree of Indo-European languages. Its state of decipherment is now such that one can be confident that it is a distant relative of Hittite. However, more inscriptions are needed to gain better insight into the language. Even less material is available for the study of Pisidic and Sidetic, but still their Anatolian character seems fairly certain and the three languages together made a very stimulating class. In the spring, he taught a class on Hittite Prayers, concentrating on compositions of King Muršili II. The class tried to use the prayers to determine some of the traits typical of the Hittite script and language of Muršili's days towards the close of the fourteenth century B.C.

Van den Hout's research time was taken up almost completely by the Chicago Hittite Dictionary (CHD) (see the separate report). In addition, he submitted a translation with notes of the two main so-called Plague Prayers of Muršili II for a volume of *Ancient Near Eastern Texts* in translation and edited by Mark Chavalas. He also submitted an article on a combined Lydian and Lycian topic for the festschrift of a colleague and two reviews. He wrote several articles for the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie*: Pala (the area north east of the Hittite capital in the Pontic mountains, home of the Anatolian Palaic language), Palast, Pfand, and Pferd.

Publications released were: "Self, Soul and Portrait in Hieroglyphic Luwian," in Silva Anatolica. Anatolian Studies Presented to Maciej Popko on the Occasion of His 65th Birthday, edited by P. Taracha, pp. 171–86 (Warsaw, 2002); "Another View of Hittite Literature," in *Anatolia Antica. Studi in Memoria di Fiorella Imparati*, edited by St. de Martino and F. Pecchioli Daddi, pp. 857–78 (Eothen 11; Florence, 2002); "Another Middle Hittite Oracle Fragment," *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* (2002), p. 44; and "De affaire Tarhunmija. Brieven van een Hettitische hofschrijver," in *Zij Schreven Geschiedenis. Historische Documenten uit het Oude Nabije Oosten (2500–100 v. Chr.)*, edited by R. J. Demarée and K. R. Veenhof, pp. 145–53 (Leuven). The following article was electronically published: "Miles of Clay: Information Management in the Ancient Near Eastern Hittite Empire," at http://www.fathom.com/story/story.jhtml?story_id=190247›http://www.fathom.com/story/story.jhtml?story_id=190247. Also, the second issue of the *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* was released.

On the latter topic of the character of the Hittite tablet collections and information management during the Hittite Empire, van den Hout presented several papers: at the V. International Congress of Hittitology, Çorum, Turkey, September 5; during the Humanities Open House, University of Chicago, October 26; at the symposium Digital Genres: Semiotic Technologies This Side of the Millennium, University of Chicago, May 30; and in German at the Ludwig-Maximilians Universität München, June 16. He spoke about "Kingship and Political Structure in Hittite Anatolia (1650–1180 B.C.)," in the Organizations and State Building Workshop, Department of Political Sciences, University of Chicago, April 14.

Finally, he was very pleased with the appointment as "Correspondent" member of the Royal Dutch Academy of Arts and Sciences.

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