

RESEARCH

Oğuz Soysal

During 1997/98 **Oğuz Soysal** continued his work with the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project. He has spent most of his time writing articles on words beginning with *š* (mostly *šu-*, and a few *ša-* words). During the May–July 1997 and January–February 1998 periods he temporarily ceased work on these first drafts in order to prepare electronic transliterations of the texts that appeared in *Keilschrifttexte aus*

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Boghazköy, vol. 37, most of which are in the ancient Hittian language with sections in Hittite.

Aside from this, his research activities continue to focus on Hittite history and culture. A German article dealing with an Old Hittite historical text has been published in *Altorientalische Forschungen* 25 (1998): 5–33. He currently has other works in press in the journals *Archivum Anatolicum* 3 (1998), *Hethitica* 14 (1998/99), *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* 50 (1998), and *Kratylos* 43 (1998).

In August/September 1997 he visited the Turkish excavation at Ortaköy (Turkey) and later joined the German excavation team at Kuşaklı (Turkey) as an epigrapher. As a member of the latter team he was able to make two Middle Hittite letters available to the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project with kind permission of the excavation leaders. In January 1998 he received an official invitation from the leaders of the Ortaköy excavation to work jointly with them on the epigraphic finds. Therefore, he went in June 1998 to Ankara to work with a scientific team at the Ankara University. Hopefully, this Ankara-Chicago cooperation will continue in the foreseeable future.

In addition to these activities he has also been preparing since January 1996 a “Hittian word list” based on texts in the Hittian language from Boğazköy (Hittian-Hittite bilinguals, Hittian recitations, Hittite rituals and festivals with Hittian elements, etc.). The list in question currently consists of ten thousand computer-stored entries (words and word complexes; all of the published material) on three hundred and fifty pages and is still in progress.
