

Oğuz Soysal

In 2003/2004 **Oğuz Soysal** continued his work on the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project. He has spent most of his time writing articles on words beginning with *ta-*.

Aside from this, his research activities have continued to focus on Hittite culture/history and the Hattian language. The following articles were published between 2003 and 2004: “A Practical Vocabulary from Ortaköy,” with Aygül Süel, in *Hittite Studies in Honor of Harry A. Hoffner Jr. on the Occasion of His 65th Birthday* (Winona Lake, 2003), pp. 349–65; “Did a Hittite Acrobat Perform a Bull-leaping?,” *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* (2003 nr. 4): 105–07; “A New Fragment to Hittite Gilgameš Epic,” *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* (2004 nr. 1): 9–10; “Notizen zu altanatolischen Beiträgen,” *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* (2004 nr. 1): 18–20; “Beiträge von Emil O. Forrer zu hattischen Studien: Eine Bilanz seiner wissenschaftlichen Verdienste,” in *Šarnikzel. Hethitologische Studien zum Gedenken an Emil Orgetorix Forrer. (19.02.1894–10.01.1986)*, (Dresden, 2004), pp. 609–26. Four additional articles, one on necrology, and four reviews are in press.

After intensive work that has consumed many years, his *Hattischer Wortschatz in hethitischer Textüberlieferung* (Handbuch der Orientalistik; Leiden, 2004) was published.

Soysal’s international cooperation with his Turkish, German, and French colleagues in the field of Hittitology continued in 2003/2004. The most essential enterprise among them was his work with Turkish Hittitologist Aygül Süel, focussing on specific Ortaköy text genres (vocabularies and Hattian-Hittite bilinguals). Hittitology has waited a long time for access to these texts, and Soysal and Süel now have gladly released the first results of their studies on the Ortaköy texts in a joint article as their contribution to the Hoffner festschrift (see above), a very important vocabulary text containing names of useful plants in Hittite. Another important result of this cooperation was the utilizing of textual information in the Hattian documents from Ortaköy in his *Hattischer Wortschatz* as lexical entries that extended and enriched the contents of his work greatly.

With the permission of Heinrich Otten and Gernot Wilhelm, who are the former and current German philologists of the Boğazköy excavations, Soysal has been able to study and utilize the field transliterations of the unpublished Boğazköy tablets (courtesy of the late Hans G. Güterbock). As a result of his studies he identified several duplicates of some important historical documents from the Old Hittite kingdom. The texts are mostly tiny fragments; however, they make a remarkable contribution to collating a larger corpus of Old Hittite historical documents. Soysal’s edition of these documents was submitted in a German manuscript to the editorial board of *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie* for release in an upcoming issue. Furthermore, a recently discovered Hittite fragment of the Gilgameš Epic, from the above mentioned Boğazköy material, was published in *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* (see above).

Soysal’s newest international collaboration is a bibliographical work listing all scholarly articles on Hittite, and this was undertaken with his French colleague Alice Mouton, a visiting scholar at the Oriental Institute between January 2003 and January 2004. The material used here is based on Soysal’s personal bibliographical files of more than 8,000 cards compiled since early 1983. Alice Mouton transferred these files into a computer generated word-document format. This huge body of raw material needs to be reworked and refined, however, in order to be made accessible for broad public use in its electronic format.

In April 2004, Soysal was appointed a visiting assistant professor at Bilkent University in Ankara for spring semester 2005 in order to help establish Hittite studies at Bilkent.