

CHICAGO HITTITE DICTIONARY

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Work on the Chicago Hittite Dictionary (CHD) continued at the same pace as the previous year, when we began working on the letter T. Thanks to the work of editors Richard Beal and Petra Goedegebuure, as well as Humanities Teaching Fellow Robert Marineau, the first part of this task—all words starting in *ta*—is already starting to take shape.

Beal finished going through the roughly 195 words starting in *ta*- or *da*- (the Hittite language does not make a distinction between *t* and *d* at the beginning of words). This task meant scouring our files for newly attested words or new examples of existing words. He also checked the so-called “*Konkordanz*,” the German website where all tablets and fragments are listed with photos, findspots, and bibliography, for new joins to already-cited references and for new editions and/or translations for each text cited. If there were none, there may have been a new transliteration. Many entries are short, but some are monstrously long, such as the entry for the verb *da*- “to take,” which, as you can imagine given its everyday meaning, is attested very often. As a result, such an entry can run to dozens of pages. Since some of these dictionary articles were written as many as twenty-five years ago, there was often much new information to add. Along the way, Beal copyedited all the articles into our CHD house style, which should save us a lot of time later on.

Articles for several common words had, for some reason, not yet been written—for instance, one for *taru* “wood/tree.” Another word that had not been written about was the obscure technical term *tarwiyali*, used in augury or bird oracles. For such oracles, one may compare the story of Romulus and Remus at the founding of Rome: after whom of the two was the new city going to be named? To ascertain the decision, the two brothers asked a priest to watch the skies and wait for birds to fly in, because the kinds of birds, their numbers, the flight path, and the sounds they made were considered signs that an expert priest could “read” and interpret as the will of the gods. This very popular Anatolian technique ultimately made its way to Italy, possibly through the Etruscans.

Likewise not yet written was the article for the important verb *tarna*- “to let (go), allow,” which Marineau worked on. There are hundreds of attestations of this verb, and often it occurs with adverbs (similar to combinations in English, such as “let in/out/off/on/up”). Although some of these compounds are straightforward and easy to understand, others can be extremely difficult to interpret. In a similar way, Goedegebuure continued her work on the conjunction *ta* “and” and wrote the entry for *tawananna*, a title of Hittite queens.

Goedegebuure also continued work on the pilot project of revising the entries for the letter L, the very first installment of the CHD published in 1980. The project envisages an electronic update of this publication, now already more than forty years old, and serves as a possible model for the future dissemination of our dictionary.

Two guests remained with us in 2022–23. Dr. Susanne Görke, from the University of Marburg, Germany, first arrived in 2021. Her stay was made possible by the prestigious German Feodor Lynen Fellowship, awarded by the Humboldt Foundation, for her work on a book about the development and establishment of a religious system in Hittite Anatolia. Dr. Görke returned to Germany earlier this calendar year, and we will miss her steady presence in the CHD office. Semra Dalkılıç, a PhD student from Turkey, also spent another year with us as a guest in the CHD office, working on her dissertation on Anatolian seals and sealing practices.

Finally, I want to thank graduate student Naomi Harris for organizing a series of Anatolian Circles (started several years ago and, before Naomi, led by Thalia Lysen, who graduated in 2022), where students, guests, and faculty present new ideas in an informal and conversational way. The latter means that speakers can be interrupted at any moment—and they are!

And as always, we would like to thank our donors, particularly Walter and Susan Guterbock, for their generous support.
