

### Petra M. Goedegebuure

In her study of the languages of Anatolia, **Petra M. Goedegebuure** combines philology and the cultural background of texts with language typology and functional grammar. In doing so she hopes to achieve two main goals. The first is to describe Hittite on the level of pragmatics (how language is used in an interactive setting, as opposed to the study of meaning or form). Her second goal is to develop methods for applying modern linguistics to dead languages. Even though modern linguistic approaches are used in Hittitology, they are never tested for their validity. This has led to the problem of linguists rejecting dead languages as an object of study and of philologists rejecting linguistics as a means of study.

In the keynote paper “Focus in Hittite and the Stressed Pronoun *apa-*: In Search of a Method” (in *Pragmatische Kategorien: Form, Funktion und Diachronie; Akten der Arbeitstagung der Indogermanischen Gesellschaft 24.–26. September 2007, in Marburg*, edited by E. Rieken and P. Widmer, pp. 93–112 [Wiesbaden, 2009]), Petra provides a framework for how to use modern linguistic theories on pragmatics for the description and better understanding of extinct languages. She concludes that general linguistic theories can be fruitfully used for the pragmatic study of extinct languages if one uses an onomasiological approach, mapping forms on well-defined functions, instead of the reverse, which tries to determine the meaning of forms.

This approach is also exemplified in a soon-to-be-published article on Hittite question words (“Focus Structure and Q-word Questions in Hittite” [*Linguistics* 47/4 (2009): 945–69]). Although the current opinion is that Hittite question words typically occur in clause-initial position, it turns out Hittite question words can occur anywhere in the clause, depending on the communicative intent of the speaker.

The field of deixis, more specifically the use of Hittite and Luwian demonstratives, is explored in the forthcoming monograph *Reference, Deixis and Focus in Hittite: The Demonstratives ka- “this,” apa- “that” and asi “you,”* and in “The Luwian Demonstratives of Place and Manner,” in a festschrift for a colleague. As a result of the latter study Petra was able to oust one alleged

member from the Luwian demonstratives and re-classify it as a local adverb (“The Cuneiform Luwian Adverb *zanda* ‘down,’” submitted to *Proceedings of the 7th International Conference of Hittitology, in Çorum, Turkey, 2008*).

Petra’s work on language change through contact resulted in three publications: “Central Anatolian Languages and Language Communities in the Colony Period: A Luwian-Hattian Symbiosis and the Independent Hittites” (in *Anatolia and the Jazira during the Old Assyrian Period*, edited by J. G. Dercksen, pp. 137–80, PIHANS 111 [Leiden, 2008]); “Hattian Origins of Hittite Religious Concepts: The Syntax of ‘To Drink (to) a Deity’ (again) and Other Phrases.” (*Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* 8/1 [2008]: 67–73); “The Syntactic Alignment of Hattian” (in *Proceedings of the Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale 53, Moscow 2007*).

She furthermore participated half-time in the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project as academic contributor (see separate Report), and taught Elementary Hittite III (reading of texts).

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