



## A Complete Retrograde Glossary of the Hittite Language

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*A Complete Retrograde Glossary of the Hittite Language.* By JIN JIE. Uitgaven van het Nederlands Historisch-Archaeologisch Instituut te Istanbul, 71. Leiden: NEDERLANDS HISTORISCH-ARCHAEOLOGISCH INSTITUUT TE ISTANBUL, 1994. Pp. [vii] + 100. Hfl 39 (paper).

The present work replaces the estimable but badly outdated *Glossaire inverse de la langue hittite* of Pierre Reichert (= *Revue hittite et asianique*, fasc. 73 [Paris: Klincksieck, 1963]). However, it goes far beyond the latter in including not only appellatives, but also separate inverse lists of personal, divine, and geographical names.

The principles of organization, set out clearly in the introduction, are generally sound, but there are a few inconsistencies and infelicities. Treating simple and geminate consonants alike for alphabetization is fine, but suppressing the contrast itself is not (*dašuwant*- 'blind' should be listed separately from *daš-šuwant*- 'mighty'). The vexing problem of *e*- and *i*-vocalism is not always well handled: *ḫatkiešnu*- should be stricken (= *ḫat-kešnu*-), while even specialists will be momentarily flummoxed by verb stems *it*-, *izz*-, and *izza*- (better known as *ēd*- and *ēz[za]*-).

A work such as this is judged chiefly on three criteria: completeness, accuracy, and usefulness. The author deserves high marks on the first score. A spot check of stems in *-want*- and verbs in *-nu*- based on my own incomplete files turned up few omissions: *armahḫuwant*-, *kannanu*-, *kinganu*-, *kuwašnu*-, *dušganu*-, and the variant spellings *weridanu*- and *kišnu*-. All these examples are extremely rare, and not by coincidence all but the first are in portions of the alphabet not yet covered by recent lexica.

One may disagree with the author's analysis of a number of stems, but this statement would apply to any individual scholar's list, and the issue is generally inconsequential for the purposes of this book. I noted few outright errors (for *annaneku*- read *annanega*-, and *išpandanz* is surely a lapsus for *išpandaz*).

The greatest merit of the work is certainly the bringing together of both appellatives and names. A reader finding an acephalic form in a text obviously has no way to determine its word class, and it is a great boon to be able to test all the possibilities in one place. As a linguist, I will find this glossary of immense help in verifying and supplementing my own collections.

One drawback, however, is that having found an extant stem, a user does not know how to find out any further information about it, in those cases where it does not occur in one of the standard lexica. The author obviously performed the very laborious task of searching out words in other works (p. 1). It seems that it would have taken only a modest amount of additional effort to have marked rare words taken from these sources with some simple sigla (letters or numbers) which would not have affected readability, but which would have per-

mitted readers to trace their source. Likewise, differentiation of mountains and rivers in the geographical list would have been very useful, at apparently little cost.

In spite of these limitations, this glossary in its current form represents a very welcome new research tool, and the author deserves our thanks for undertaking the onerous task of compiling it.

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*Damaszener Mitteilungen*, vol. 7 (1993). Deutsches Archäologisches Institut Station Damaskus. Mainz am Rhein: VERLAG PHILIPP VON ZABERN, 1994. Pp. vi + 326, 11 foldouts, 78 plates. DM 198.

This beautifully produced volume contains ten articles concerning topics from the Paleolithic down through the medieval Islamic periods. These are arranged chronologically. Two contributions concern pre-Hellenistic periods. Sultan Muhesani gives a very useful survey of the present state of knowledge of the Paleolithic period in Syria (pp. 1–21). In his conclusions he notes problems still to be solved, such as the relations between the Sitt Markho and Khattab tool kits, and the lack of evidence for Upper Paleolithic occupation in the northern part of the Levant. Berthold Einwag makes some preliminary remarks on survey work carried out in the western Jezireh between the Qaramuh and Euphrates Rivers (pp. 23–43). The earliest finds belong to the Paleolithic Period (Tell Auhan). Neolithic settlements are in the Saruḡ plain or in wadis running towards the Euphrates. Halaf settlements of all sizes are very numerous, while Ubaid ones are very few. The Uruk Period is mostly attested on small tells. Early Bronze Age sites are again numerous, often overlaid with later occupation. While Middle Bronze is likewise well represented, the absence of Habur ware is striking. Einwag does not specifically mention whether Late Bronze was frequent or not, although he does illustrate a sherd of Nuzi ware found at Tell Haḡib. Neo-Assyrian is well represented and includes the only excavated site in the survey area, Arslan Tash. Roman sites are also numerous and include several necropoleis, one of which had a nearly completely preserved tower tomb.

Four articles deal with the Roman and Late Antique periods. In a detailed examination of the architectural ornament of the Roman Temple at Isriye, Rüdiger Gogräfe argues for a date in the Severan dynasty (193–235 A.D.) (pp. 45–61). He suggests that within the Roman architectural ornament used in Syria, Isriye reflects more western than eastern (Palmyrene) influence,