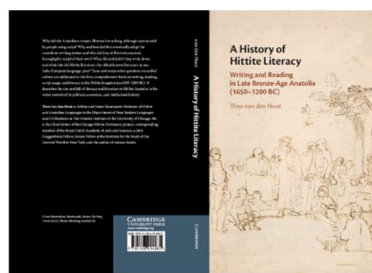


“Literacy *avant la lettre* The case of Hittite Anatolia”

Although being part of the ancient Near Eastern world where cuneiform script had developed and had been used extensively since the beginning of the third millennium and having witnessed its use up close by the Assyrian merchants in Anatolia for an extended time, the Anatolians nevertheless seem to have been slow in adopting it. Why was this? What hurdles did they face when adapting the script to their Indo-European language? And why, once they had embraced it, did they still develop their own indigenous ‘hieroglyphic’ script? What was the sociolinguistic situation in the kingdom and its relation to script use? How widespread were both scripts and, as a consequence, literacy?

Prof. Theo P. J. van den Hout

Arthur and Joann Rasmussen Professor of Hittite and Anatolian Languages
Department of Near Eastern Languages and civilizations
Interim Director, The Oriental Institute
Chicago University



Professor Theo van den Hout has recently published a book on the topic of Literacy in Anatolia, and the lecture will refer to it.

Time: Kyoto - November 28, 2021; 10:30-12:00 (am)

Chicago - November 27, 2021; 19:30-21:00
on the ZOOM platform with registration

【Program】

- 10:30-10:35 Opening worlds by Prof. Ada Taggar Cohen and introducing Prof. Theo van den Hout (5 minutes)
- 10:35- 11:10 Prof. Theo van den Hout - a short introduction to the Hittites’s world (35 minutes)
- 11:10 -11:45 interview/questions from Ada Taggar Cohen on topics from Theo van den Hout’s new book (35 minutes)
- 11:45-12:00 Q&A / discussion with participants (15 minutes)

Organized by Prof. Ada Taggar-Cohen Under the project of JSPS 17K02234 for the years 2017-2021
With the co-organization of Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Monotheistic Religions (CISMOR)