

# Cuneiform Texts at the University of British Columbia

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The University of British Columbia possesses two sets of cuneiform documents, hitherto unpublished. One is now on display in the Museum of Anthropology, hereafter designated the MOA Collection. The other is housed in the University Library's Special Collections Division, denoted here the SCD Collection. In this article the two collections are combined and presented in chronological order. They are divided as follows: SCD Collection – texts 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 10; MOA Collection – 1, 2, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15. Information about the acquisition of the pieces is given under the individual items when known. Since all the pieces were donated or purchased their origin is determined by the internal evidence of the inscriptions.

Thanks are due to Anne Yandel, Head of Special Collections, and to Elizabeth Johnson, Curator of Collections at MOA, for their kind cooperation in providing access to the collections. Thanks are also due to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada for its support of the Royal Inscriptions of Mesopotamia Project which provided the facilities for this research. The assistance of G. Frame and L. Shiff in preparing the Neo-Babylonian editions is gratefully acknowledged, although any errors are the sole responsibility of the authors.

## TEXT EDITIONS

### 1: MOA 4.19

Clay cone; length: 12 cm, dia.: 8.1 cm at head tapering to 2 cm; origin: Girsu (Telloh); gift of Mr. Charles Flick, 1934.

### TRANSLITERATION

- 1) 𒀭nín-gír-sú
- 2) [ur-sãg]-𒀭kálá-[ga]
- 3) 𒀭en-[líl-lá]
- 4) 𒀭lugal-a-[ni]
- 5) 𒀭gù-dé-a

- 6) 𒀭énsi
- 7) 𒀭lagaš<sup>ki</sup>-[ke<sub>4</sub>]
- 8) [n]i-du<sub>7</sub>-𒀭e pa mu-na/-è
- 9) 𒀭é-ninnu<sup>d</sup>IM.DUGUD<sup>mušen</sup>/bábbar-ra-ni
- 10) mu-na-dù
- 11) [ki-b]é 𒀭mu-[na-gi<sub>4</sub>]

### TRANSLATION

- 1) For the god Ningirsu,
- 2) mighty hero
- 3) of the god Enlil,
- 4) his lord,
- 5) Gudea,
- 6) governor
- 7) of Lagaš,
- 8) made the appropriate order appear.
- 9) The E-ninnu temple, his shining Anzu bird,
- 10) he built (and)
- 11) restored for him.

### COMMENTARY

The inscription is badly worn away but is well attested from other examples (see J.-M. Aynard, 'Les clous d'argile du Musée du Louvre,' *RA* 54 [1960] p. 13). Gudea ruled c. 2150 BC.

### 2: MOA 4.24

Clay cone; length: 7.5 cm, dia.: 5.7 cm tapering to 3.0 cm; origin: Girsu (Telloh); gift of Mr. Charles Flick, 1934.

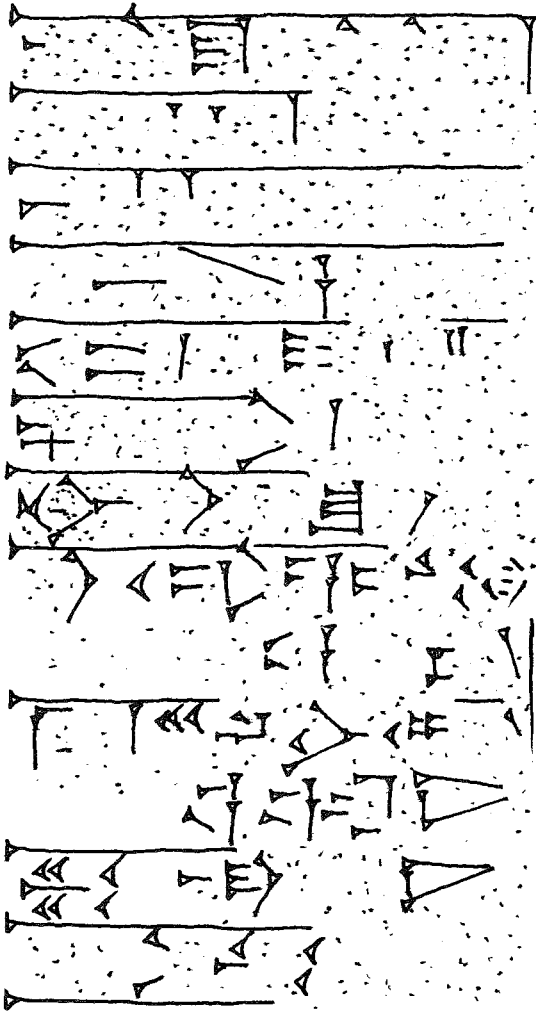
### COMMENTARY

See notes to text 1: MOA 4.19. Duplicate of text 1 with the following variants: line 3 adds -ra at the end; line 4 of text 1 is omitted.

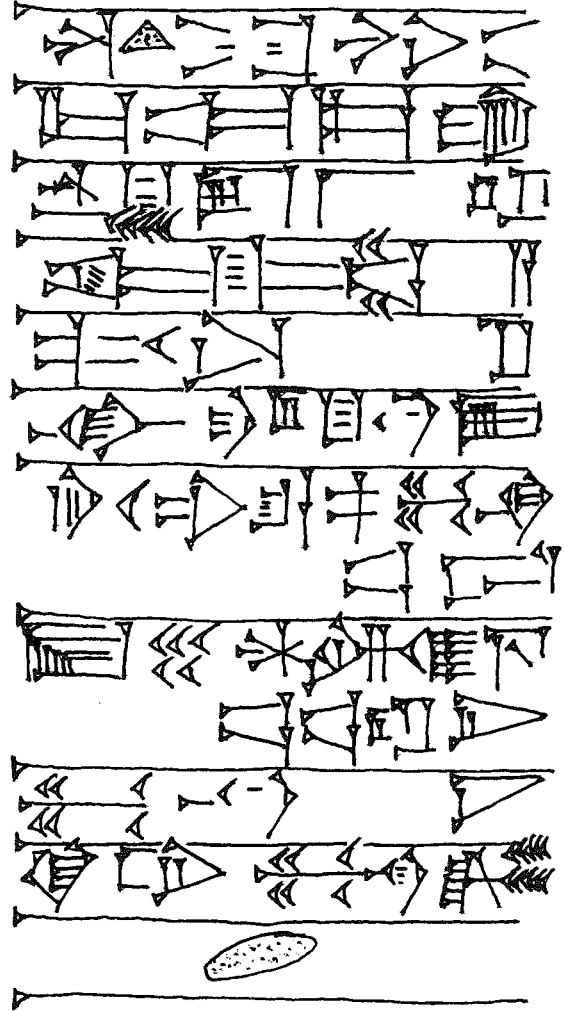
### 3: SCD A

Clay tablet; dimensions: 3.3×3.3×1.6 cm; origin: Umma (Djokha).

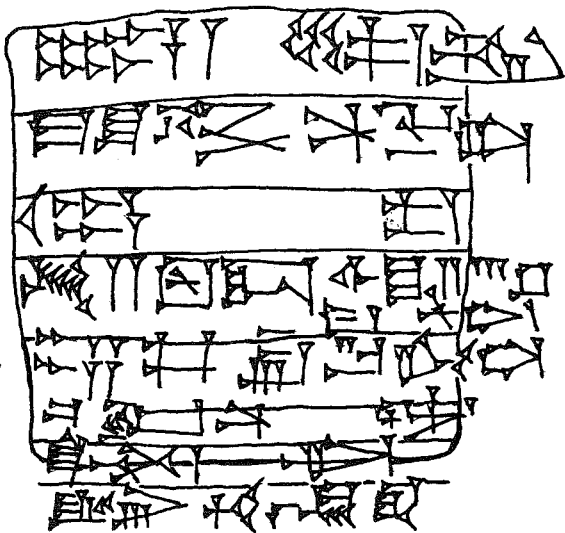
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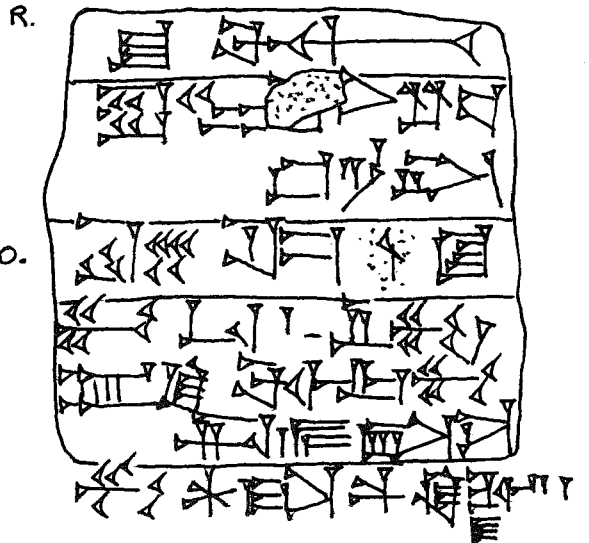


0.



5.

3.



10.

R.

## TRANSLITERATION

- 1) 9 (gur) 3 (bán) še gur-lugal
- 2) é-šu-tum-an-dùl-ta
- 3) 14 (gur) 2 (bán) gur
- 4) kun-i<sub>7</sub>-da ù a-<sup>r</sup>šà<sup>gis</sup>/ma-nu-ta
- 5) 4 (gur) 4 (bán) gur aša<sub>5</sub>(GÁN)-ur-gu-ta
- 6) ugula KA-<sup>d</sup>inanna(?)
- 7) ki ir-ta!
- 8) lugal-gú-en-e/šu-ba-ti
- 9) iti sig<sub>4</sub>-<sup>gis</sup>i-šub-ba/gá-gar-ta
- 10) iti še-sag-kud-šè
- 11) mu-ús-sa si-mu-r[u]/-um<sup>ki</sup> ba-ḫul mu/-ús-sa-bi-ta
- 12) mu an-ša-an<sup>ki</sup> ba-ḫul/-šè

## TRANSLATION

- 1) Nine royal *gur*, 180 (*sila*) barley,
- 2) (from) the warehouse of Andul.
- 3) 14 *gur*, 120 (*sila*)
- 4) (at) the mouth of the river and from the Manu field.
- 5) Four *gur*, 240 (*sila*) from the field of Urgu.
- 6) Foreman: KA-Inanna
- 7) from Ir.
- 8) Lugal-guene received (them).
- 9) From the month of Sig-i-šib-ba ga-gar
- 10) to the month of Še-sag-kud.
- 11) From the year after the year after the city Simurum was destroyed
- 12) to the year the city of Anšan was destroyed.

## COMMENTARY

2) šu-tum is commonly written as é-šu-tùm = Akk. *šutummu* 'warehouse, depot' (see R. Labat, *Manuel d'Épigraphie akkadienne*, Fifth edition, Paris: Librairie Orientaliste Paul Geuthner, 1976, p. 163). Andul is attested as a *kuš*, in a text published by M. Sigris (Neo-Sumerian Account Texts in the Horn Archaeological Museum [= AUAS 4] Berrien Springs, Michigan: Andrews University Press, 1984, text 496:4).

4) For aša<sup>gis</sup>manu see S.T. Kang, *Sumerian Economic Texts From the Umma Archive* (= *Sumerian and Akkadian Cuneiform Texts in the Collection of the World Heritage Museum of the University of Illinois* 2) Urbana, Chicago, and London: University of Illinois Press, 1973, texts 18:6 and 48:3.

5) The field of Urgu is well attested in Umma (see Kang, *ibid.* 2:14 and 52:2, and Sigris, *op. cit.* text 475:5).

7) The PN Ir is attested in many texts including Kang (*Umma*, *op. cit.*) 88:7 from year 36 of Šulgi.

9) Second month of the Umma calendar.

10) First month of the Umma calendar. This and the second month in line nine appear to be inverted

as the transaction takes place within a single year.

11) Šulgi, year 34.

12) Šulgi, year 34(?). We have followed the ordering of Šulgi year formulae proposed by K. Sykes, 'The Year Names of the Ur III Period,' A Field Paper Submitted to the Faculty of the Division of the Humanities of the University of Chicago for the Degree of Master of Arts, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Chicago, 1973.

## 4: SCD B

Clay tablet; dimensions: 5.0×5.4×2.0 cm; origin: Umma (Djokha).

## TRANSLITERATION

- 1) [... u<sub>4</sub>]-21(?)-šè
- 2) x [...] a-šà lá/-maḫ
- 3) ugula ba [...]
- 4) kišib lu[gal-é-maḫ]-e
- 5) iti še-gur<sub>10</sub>-ku<sub>5</sub>
- 6) mu-ús-sa si-mu-ru-
- 7) um<sup>ki</sup> lu-lu-bu<sup>ki</sup> a-rá-
- 8) 9-kam ba-ḫul

(Seal)

- 1) lugal-é-maḫ-e
- 2) dub-sar
- 3) dumu lugal-kù-ga-ni

## TRANSLATION

- 1) [...] for 21 [days]
- 2) x [...] the Lamah field.
- 3) Foreman: Ba- [...].
- 4) Seal of: Lu[gal-e-maḫ]-e.
- 5) The month Še-gur-ku.
- 6) The year after Simurum
- 7) (and) Lullubu,
- 8) were destroyed for the ninth time.

(Seal)

- 1) Lugal-e-maḫ-e,
- 2) scribe,
- 3) son of Lugal-kugani.

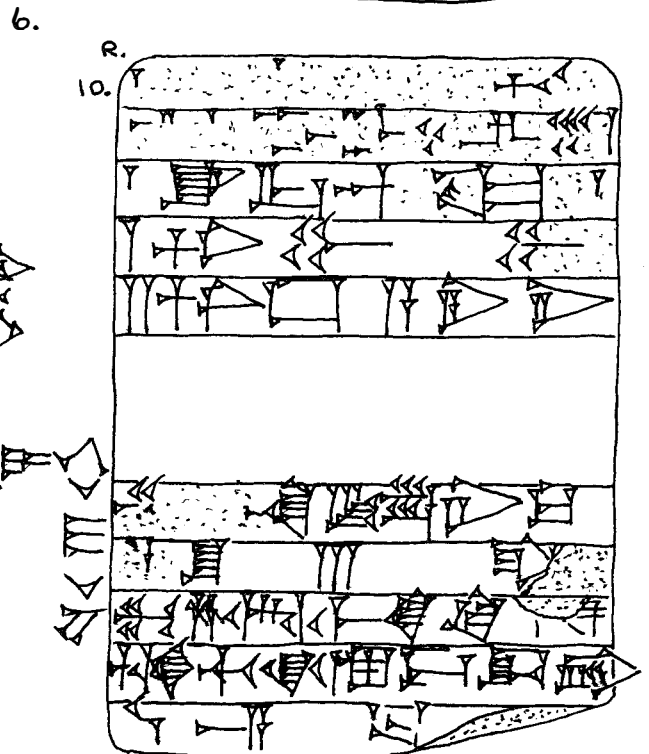
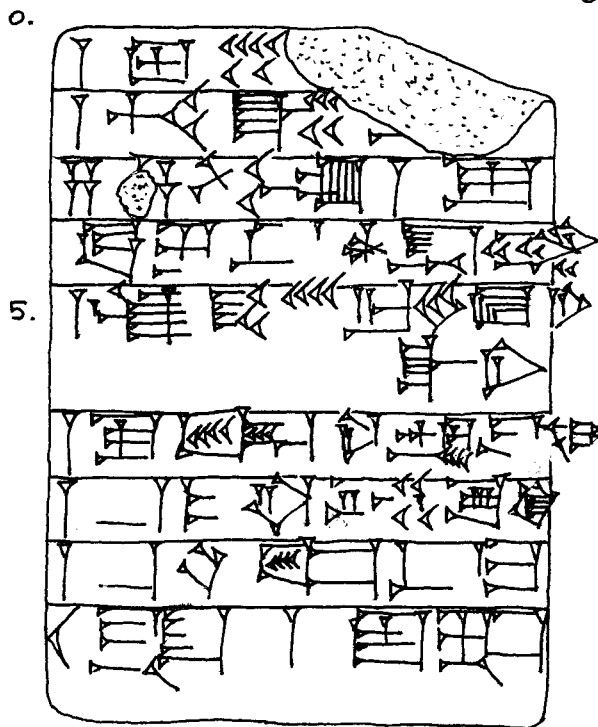
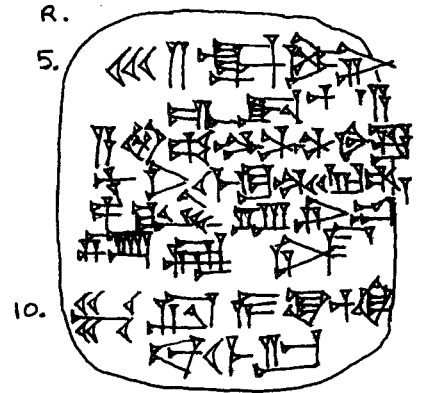
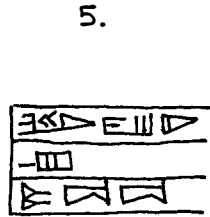
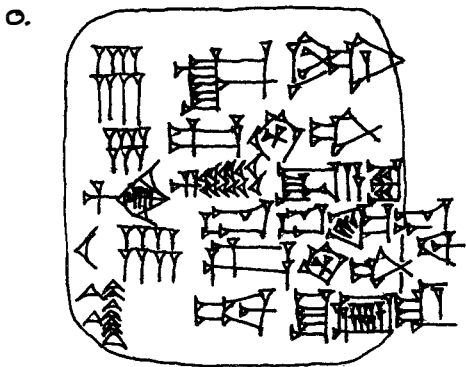
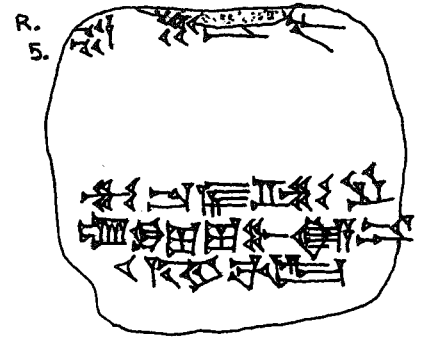
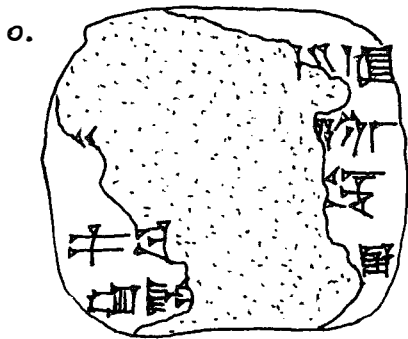
## COMMENTARY

2) The Lamah field is well attested in Umma texts. See Kang (*Umma*, *op. cit.*) 38:2, 39:2, 42:2, 75:2, 82:4, 84:3, 115:6, and 158:4.

6) Month 12 at Puzriš-Dagān and Ur.

7) Šulgi, year 45.

Seal: For examples of the same seal inscription see Kang (*Umma*, *op. cit.*) text 41 and G.G. Hackman, *Temple documents of the third dynasty of Ur from Umma* (= *BIN* 5) New Haven: Yale University Press, 1937, texts 28, 229, 233, 236, 262, and 265.



**5: SCD Duschene #38**

Clay tablet; dimensions: 4.0×4.5×2.0 cm; origin: Puzriš-Dagān (Drēhem).

## TRANSLITERATION

- 1) 8 engar dumu-ni
- 2) 7 guruš šà-gu<sub>4</sub>
- 3) kun-zi-da(!)-i<sub>7</sub>/du-du-ka gub-ba
- 4) 18 guruš šà-gu<sub>4</sub>/zàr-tab-ba šu-ùr-ra
- 5) 32 engar dumu-ni/mar-da-r[i]-a
- 6) a-šà gu<sub>4</sub>-mul nin<sub>x</sub>-
- 7) nu-dù ù<sup>d</sup>šul-pa/-è!
- 8) ugula lugal-ukkin-né
- 9) kišib <lugal>-ukkin-né! x
- 10) mu-ús-sa ki-maš<sup>ki</sup>/ba-ḥul

(Seal)

- 1) lugal-ukkin-né
- 2) dub-[sar]
- 3) dumu du-du

## TRANSLATION

- 1) Eight young plowmen,
- 2) seven male workers, ox drivers,
- 3) at the weir (dam) of the Dudu canal mouth (are) stationed.
- 4) 18 male workers, ox drivers, (piled) grain heaps and spread (them).
- 5) 32 young plowmen equipped (with) spades
- 6) in the Gumul field, (the)
- 7) Nin-nudu (field), and the Šulpa-e (field).
- 8) Foreman: Lugal-ukkinne.
- 9) Seal of: <Lugal>-ukkinne ...
- 10) The year after Kimaš was destroyed.

(Seal)

- 1) Lugal-ukkinne,
- 2) scribe,
- 3) son of Dudu.

## COMMENTARY

1) For the term dumu-ni see H. Limet, *Textes sumériens de la IIIe dynastie d'Ur* (= *Documents du Proche Orient Ancien*, épigraphie 1) [Brussels]: Musées Royaux d'Art et d'Histoire, [1976], text 18:2.

2) For guruš šà-gu<sub>4</sub> see Kang (*Umma*, op. cit.) 64:1 and 69:1.

3) For kun-zi-da see commentary to Kang (*Umma*, op. cit.) 2:2 (p. 365).

4) For zàr-tab-ba šu-ùr-ra see Kang (*Umma*, op. cit.) 53:2, 54:2, and 115:2.

5) For mar-da-ri-a see Kang (*Umma*, op. cit.) 53:4.

6) The gu<sub>4</sub>-mul field is attested in Kang (*Umma*, op. cit.) 31:8 and 53:5. The nin<sub>x</sub>-nu-dù field is attested in Kang (*Umma*, op.cit.) 46:5 and 34:1.

8) Lugal-ukken-né according to J.-P. Grégoire, *Archives administratives sumériennes*, Paris: Librairie Orientaliste Paul Geuthner, 1970, 28 II 17.

9) x is probably a profession.

10) Šulgi, year 47.

**6: SCD C**

Clay tablet; dimensions: 3.9×5.4×1.9 cm; origin: Puzriš-Dagān (Drēhem).

## TRANSLITERATION

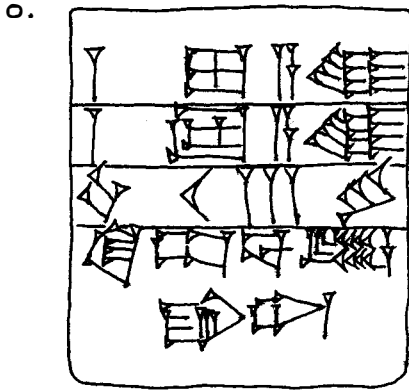
- 1) 1 udu-niga [...]
- 2) 1 máš-gal-niga [x ...]
- 3) 4 *ha-bu-um* 1 sila<sub>4</sub>
- 4) *še-lu-uš*<sup>d</sup> *da-gan*
- 5) 1 zeh-niga<sub>x</sub> ur-nìgin-gar/santana
- 6) 1 sila<sub>4</sub> *puzur*<sub>4</sub>-<sup>d</sup>EN.ZU nu-bànda
- 7) 1 sila<sub>4</sub>(?) énsi gir-su<sup>ki</sup>
- 8) 1 sila<sub>4</sub>(?) *zabar-dab*<sub>5</sub>
- 9) 10 gukkal(?) 1 sila<sub>4</sub> gukkal
- 10) 1 [...] x [...] máš
- 11) [x x x x] na-ša<sub>6</sub>
- 12) 1 anše ur-<sup>d</sup>ištaran
- 13) 1 mašda bu-bu
- 14) 2 mašda *é-a-i*(!)-*lī*
- 15) mu-[DU] na-ša<sub>6</sub> i-dab<sub>5</sub>
- 16) iti šu-eš<sub>5</sub>-ša
- 17) mu *ha-ar-š*<sup>ki</sup> *ki-maš*<sup>ki</sup>
- 18) *ḥu-mur-ti*<sup>ki</sup> ù ma-da-bi
- 19) u<sub>4</sub>-1-a ba-[ḥul]

(Side)

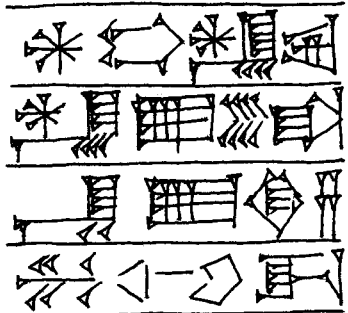
- 20) u<sub>4</sub>-13-kam

## TRANSLATION

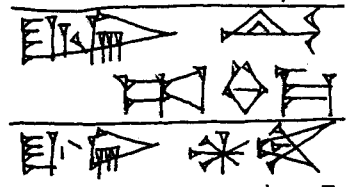
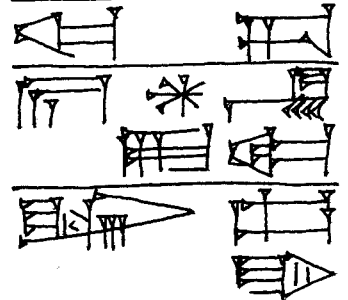
- 1) One barley-fattened sheep ...,
- 2) one barley-fattened full-grown goat,
- 3) four wild animals, one lamb,
- 4) (from) Šellus-Dagān;
- 5) one fattened kid (from) Ur-ningimar, the orchard keeper;
- 6) one lamb (from) Puzur-Sîn, the captain;
- 7) one lamb (from) the governor of the city of Girsu;
- 8) one lamb (from) Zabar-dab;
- 9) 10 fat-tailed sheep, one fat-tailed lamb,
- 10) ... goat(s),
- 11) ... (from) Naša;
- 12) one ass (from) Ur-Ištaran;
- 13) one gazelle (from) Bubu;
- 14) two gazelles (from) Ea-ilī;
- 15) delivered, Naša took hold of it.
- 16) The month Šu-eš-ša.
- 17) The year Harši, Kimaš,
- 18) Humurti, and their lands,
- 19) were destroyed for the first time.



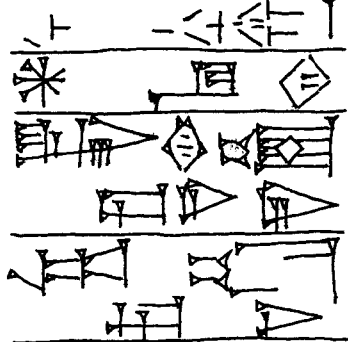
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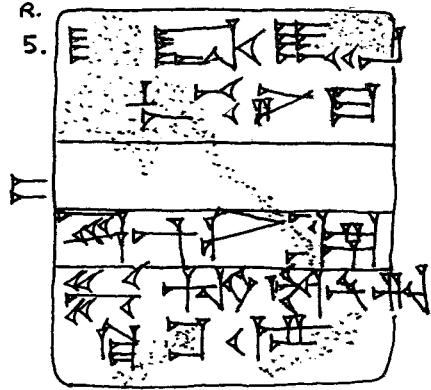
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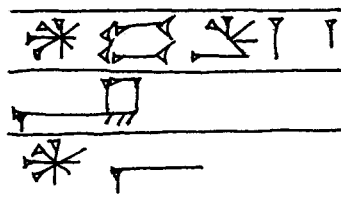
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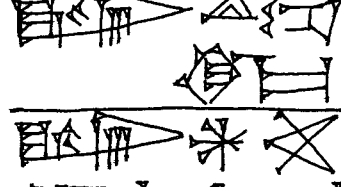
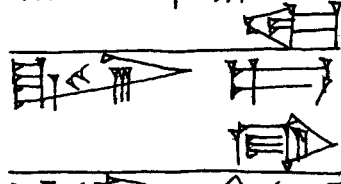
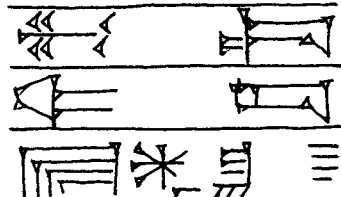
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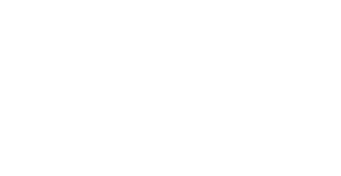
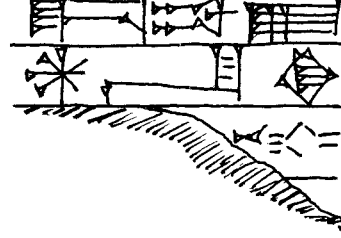
9.



5.



10.



(Side)

20) Day 13.

## COMMENTARY

3) For *hu-bu-um* = 'wild animal' see M. Sigrist (op. cit.) text 433:5.

4) Šellus-Dagān is listed in C.E. Keiser, *Neo-Sumerian Account Texts from Drehem* (= *BIN* 3) New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1971, p. 23, as having a seal designating him *ensi* of Simurum (seal 627). Note that the lamb in line seven is also from an *ensi*.

6) For Puzur-Sîn, see Grégoire (op. cit.) 168:8.

16) Eighth month at Puzriš-Dagān.

17) Šulgi, year 48.

## 7: SCD E

Clay tablet; dimensions: 2.8×3.1×1.5 cm; origin: Puzriš-Dagān (Drehem).

## TRANSLITERATION

- 1) 1 udu-a-lum
- 2) 1 sila<sub>4</sub>-a-lum
- 3) u<sub>4</sub>-13-kam
- 4) ki ab-ba-ša<sub>6</sub>/-ga-ta
- 5) x DA GIG x/x x UB(?) ì-dab<sub>5</sub>
- 6) iti maš-dù-kú
- 7) mu *hu-u<sub>4</sub>-ùḫ-nu-ri*<sup>ki</sup> ba-ḫul

(Side)

8) Two.

## TRANSLATION

- 1) One 'alum' sheep,
- 2) one 'alum' lamb,
- 3) the 13th day,
- 4) from Abba-šaga
- 5) ... took hold of it.
- 6) The month Maš-du-ku.
- 7) The year the city Ḫuḫnuri was destroyed.

(Side)

8) Two (total).

## COMMENTARY

6) First month at Ur and Puzriš-Dagān.

7) Amar-Suena, year seven. Note the variant spelling with *u<sub>4</sub>* in *hu-u<sub>4</sub>-ùḫ-nu-ri*<sup>ki</sup> is not attested by N. Schneider, *Die Zeitbestimmungen der Wirtschaftsurkunden von Ur III* (= *AnOr* 13) Rome: Pontificio Istituto Biblico, 1936.

## 8: MOA 4.29

Stamped brick; dimensions: 26.3×26.2×6.7 cm; origin: Eridu (Abū Shahrain); donated by Mr. H.V.S. Page.

## TRANSLITERATION

- 1) <sup>d</sup>amar-<sup>d</sup>EN.ZU
- 2) <sup>d</sup>en-líl-le
- 3) nibru<sup>ki</sup>-za!
- 4) mu-pà-da
- 5) saḡ-ús
- 6) é.<sup>d</sup>en/líl-ka
- 7) lugal-kala/-ga
- 8) lugal-uris/<sup>ki</sup>-ma
- 9) lugal-an-ub/-da-límmu-ba-ka
- 10) <sup>d</sup>en-ki
- 11) lugal-ki-ág/-gá-ni-ir
- 12) abzu [ki]-ág/gá-ni
- 13) mu-na-dù

## TRANSLATION

- 1) Amar-Suena,
- 2-4) (the one) chosen by the god Enlil in Nippur,
- 5) the constant (supporter)
- 6) of the temple of the god Enlil,
- 7) mighty king,
- 8) king of Ur,
- 9) king of the four quarters,
- 10) for the god Enki,
- 11) his beloved lord,
- 12-13) built his beloved Apsû (temple) for him.

## COMMENTARY

This building inscription is found at both Ur and Eridu. According to the donor, Mr. H.V.S. Page, who collected both this brick and M4.30 in the Middle East during WW I, it came from Eridu. For other examples of this brick see W.W. Hallo, 'The Royal Inscriptions of Ur: A Typology,' *HUCA* 33 (1962) p. 35. For an edition, see I. Kärki, *Die Königinschriften der dritten Dynastie von Ur* (= *StOr* 58) Helsinki: The Finnish Oriental Society, 1986, Amar-Suena 5, p. 76.

The inscription is stamped on both the face and right edge of the brick. The stamp on the face is the better preserved of the two and is the example copied here.

1) Amar-Suena, year eight.

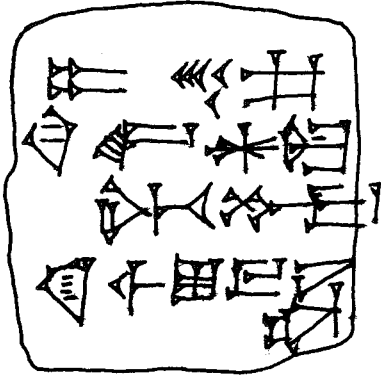
## 9: MOA 4.30

Stamped brick; dimensions: brick - 26.4×22 (incomplete)×7.3 cm, stamp - 5.6×16.6 cm (incomplete); origin: Eridu (Abū Shahrain); donated by Mr. H.V.S. Page.

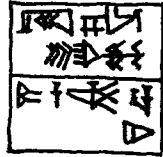
## TRANSLITERATION

- 1) <sup>d</sup>amar-<sup>d</sup>EN.ZU
- 2) nibru<sup>[ki-ta]</sup>
- 3) <sup>d</sup>en-[líl/-le]

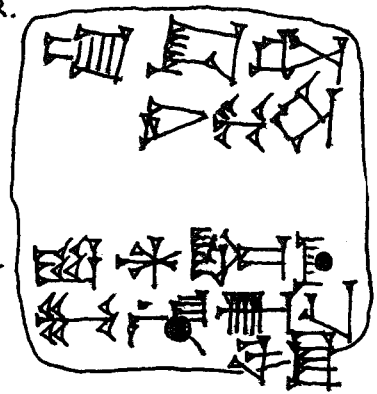
O.



10.

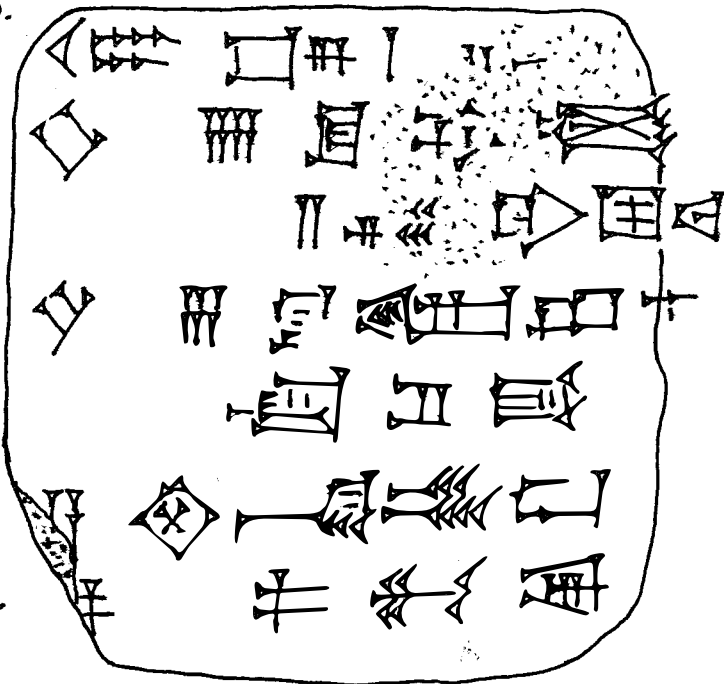


R.



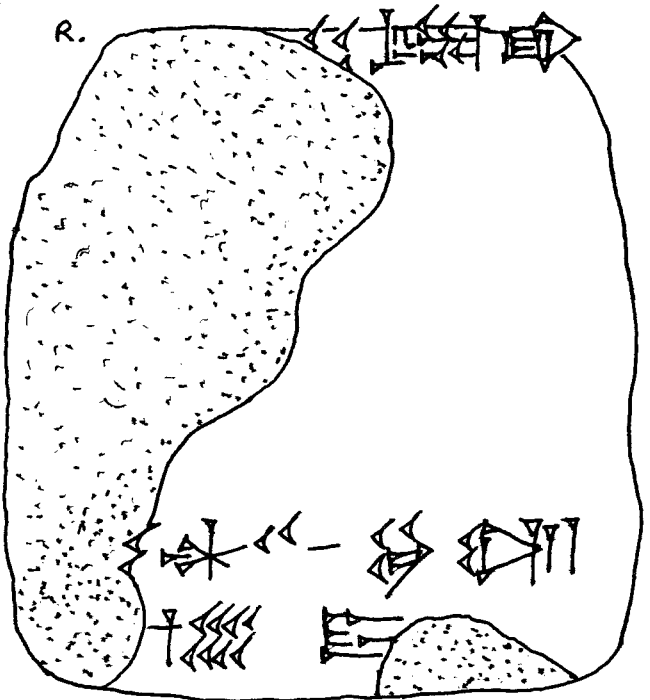
5.

O.



11.

R.



5.



- 4) mu-[pà]-da
- 5) sa<sup>~</sup>g-ús-
- 6) é-<sup>d</sup>en-<sup>r</sup>líl<sup>r</sup>/-ka
- 7) lugal-kala/-ga
- 8) lugal-uris/<sup>ki</sup>-ma
- 9) lugal-an-ub/-da-límmu-ba-ke<sub>4</sub>
- 10) <sup>d</sup>en-ki
- 11) [... á]g  
(breaks off)

## TRANSLATION

- 1) Amar-Suena,
- 2-4) (the one) chosen by the god Enlil in Nippur,
- 5) the constant (supporter)
- 6) of the temple of the god Enlil,
- 7) mighty king,
- 8) king of Ur,
- 9) king of the four quarters,
- 10) (for) the god Enki,
- 11) [his beloved] [lord],
- 12-13) [he built his beloved Apsû (temple) for him].

## COMMENTARY

This inscription is another variation of the text stamped on MOA 4.29. There is a considerable amount of pitch on the back of this brick.

**10: SCD D**

Clay tablet; dimensions: 4.5 × 4.8 × 2.2 cm; origin: Umma (Djokha).

## TRANSLITERATION

- 1) 4 še-gur
- 2) ki KA-<sup>d</sup>nin/-ildu(m)-ma
- 3) ki ù-ma-ni/-ta
- 4) kišib á-al/-lí-mu NIM
- 5) iti <sup>d</sup>li<sub>9</sub>-si<sub>4</sub>
- 6) mu en eridu<sup>ki</sup>/ba-<sup>h</sup>un

(Seal)

- 1) á-al/-li-mu
- 2) dumu x x e/-ni

## TRANSLATION

- 1) Four *gur* of barley
- 2) from(?) KA-Ninildumma
- 3) from Umani.
- 4) Seal of: A'allimu, the Elamite.
- 5) The month Lisi.
- 6) The year the *en* priestess of Eridu was installed.

(Seal)

- 1) A'allimu,
- 2) son of ...-e-ni.

## COMMENTARY

- 4) For NIM = 'the Elamite', see Limet (op. cit.) p. 90.

The PN A'allimu is known from a number of variant spellings. The name appears as a-al-lí (Kang, *Umma*, op. cit. 313:12 and T.B. Jones and J. Snyder, *Sumerian Economic Texts from the Third Ur Dynasty*, Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1974 [repr. of Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1961] 171:3); a-al-la-mu (Keiser, op. cit. 431:3 and 576:4 and Jones and Snyder, *ibid.* 101:9; 104:26, and 104:29); a-al-lí-mu (Jones and Snyder, *ibid.* 193:7, seal dumu-mu-ni ... nin-gar); and a-al-mu (Jones and Snyder, *ibid.* 106:16). However, this appears to be the only text that begins the name with á. Note that, even within this text, there is a discrepancy in the orthography between á-al-lí-mu in line four and á-al-li-mu in the seal.

- 5) Second month, Lagaš.

- 6) Amar-Suena, year eight.

**11: MOA 4.37**

Clay tablet; dimensions: 4.2 × 4.4 × 1.7 cm; origin: Umma (Djokha).

## TRANSLITERATION

- 1) 17 un-íl
- 2) u<sub>4</sub>-8-šè zubi/a zi-ga dab<sub>5</sub>-ba
- 3) u<sub>4</sub>-6-šè du<sub>6</sub> DAG (OR NAG?) ab-didli/-ne si-ga
- 4) a-šà en-du<sub>8</sub>-du
- 5) [...] x ugula mu-zu
- 6) [kišib x(?)] x ša<sub>6</sub>-ga
- (blank)
- 7) [m]u <sup>d</sup>nanna kar/-zi-da

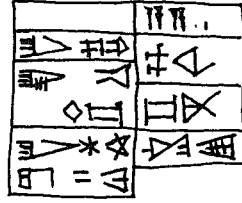
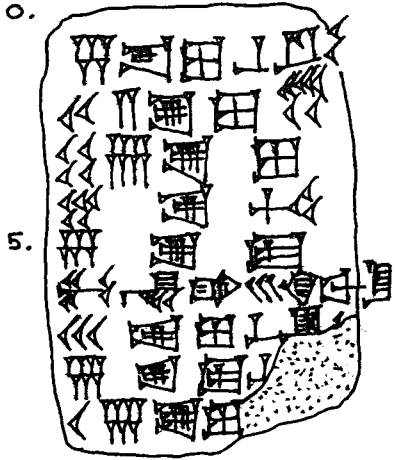
## TRANSLATION

- 1) 17 porters
- 2) for eight days removed water from water-logged soil
- 3) (and) for six days the ... workers filled in the mound ...
- 4) (at) the field Endudu.
- 5) ... foreman: Muzu.
- 6) Seal of: ...saga.
- (blank)
- 7) The year (the *en* priest of) the god Nanna of Karzida (was installed).

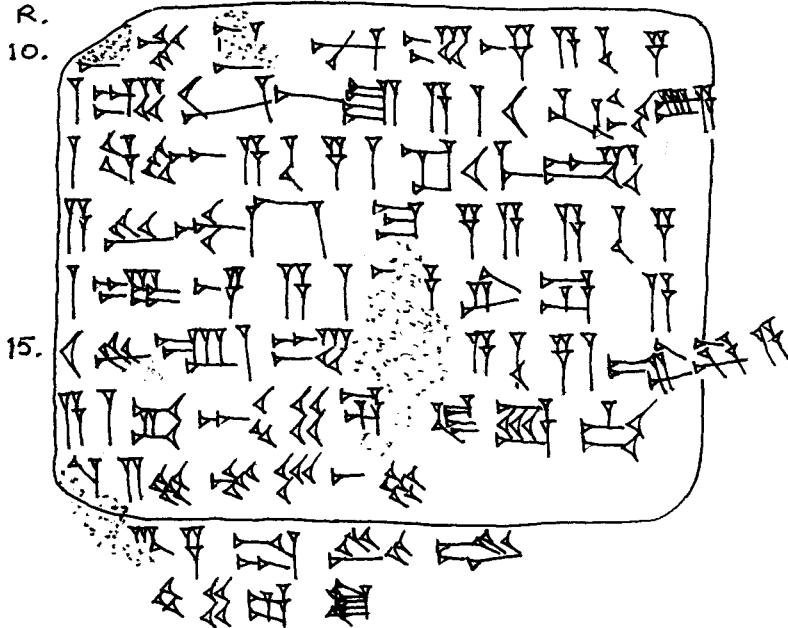
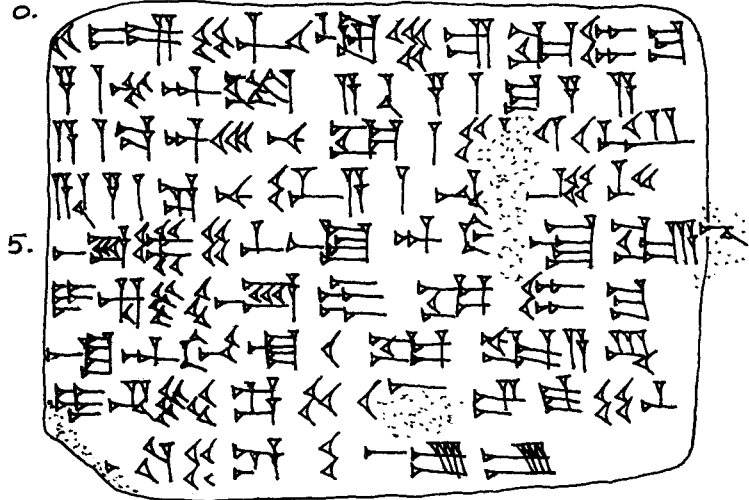
## COMMENTARY

- 2) For zubi = *zā'ibu* 'water-logged soil' or *midirtum* 'rotten soil', see Kang (*Umma*, op. cit.) 21:4 and commentary.

12.



13.



3) ab-didli is a type of worker listed in N.W. Forde, *Nebraska Cuneiform Texts of the Sumerian Ur III Dynasty*, N.P.: Coronado Press, 1972, p. 61.

4) The field of Endudu was located at Umma. See Kang (*Umma*, op. cit.) *passim* and G. Pettinato, *Untersuchungen zur Neusumerischen Landwirtschaft 1, Die Felder, 1. Teil*, Naples: Istituto Orientale di Napoli, 1967, pp. 197f.

5) Although highly unusual, could this be read with the previous line as: a-ša en-du-gub/-ba ugula mu-zu? There is precedent for abbreviating en-du-du<sub>8</sub> to en-du in Kang (*Umma*, op. cit.) 62:3. A more likely reading for this line is: ugula pa-mu-zu; however, we are unaware of another attestation of this name.

6) kišib is normally in this position in this type of text.

7) Amar-Suena, year nine.

## 12: MOA 4.33A

Clay tablet; dimensions: 7.0×4.9×2.2 cm; origin: Umma (Djokha).

### TRANSLITERATION

- 1) 5 kuš udu-bar-gál
- 2) 22 kuš udu-niga
- 3) 48 kuš udu
- 4) 50 kuš máš
- 5) 6 kuš sila<sub>4</sub>
- 6) mu en ga-eš<sup>ki</sup> ba-ḥun
- 7) 30 kuš udu-bar-gál
- 8) 7 kuš sila<sub>4</sub>-bar-[gál]
- 9) 17 kuš udu [...]
- 10) 40(+) [kuš udu]
- 11) 99 kuš [máš]
- 12) 25 kuš sila<sub>4</sub>
- 13) mu <sup>d</sup>šu-<sup>d</sup>EN.ZU lugal
- 14) kuš udu tag-ma énsi-ka
- 15) kišib a-a-kal-la ašgab
- 16) ki lú-kal-la-ta
- 17) énsi-ke<sub>4</sub> ba-an-dab<sub>5</sub>; [or GIŠ-Uḫ-KI? (Umma)]

(Seal)

- 1) [<sup>d</sup>šu-<sup>d</sup>EN.ZU]
- 2) lugal-kala-ga
- 3) lugal-uri<sub>5</sub>/<sup>ki</sup>-ma
- 4) lugal-an-ub/-da-límmu-ba
- 5) a-a-[kal-la]
- 6) énsi
- 7) GIŠ.Ùḫ<sup>[ki]</sup>
- 8) ir-zu

### TRANSLATION

- 1) Five hides (of) unplucked sheep,
- 2) 22 hides (of) grain-fed sheep,

- 3) 48 hides (of) sheep,
- 4) 50 hides (of) goats,
- 5) six hides (of) lambs,
- 6) the year the *en* priestess of Gaeš was installed.
- 7) 30 hides (of) unplucked sheep,
- 8) seven hides (of) unplucked lambs,
- 9) 17 hides (of) sheep (of some sort),
- 10) 40(+) (hides of sheep),
- 11) 99 hides (of) goats,
- 12) 25 hides (of) lambs,
- 13) the year Šū-Sîn became king.
- 14) Stamped sheep hides of the governor.
- 15) Receipted by A<sup>a</sup>-kalla, the leather worker,
- 16) from Lu-kalla.
- 17) The governor of ...(?)

(Seal)

- 1) Šū-Sîn,
- 2) mighty king,
- 3) king of Ur,
- 4) king of the four quarters,
- 5) A<sup>a</sup>-kalla,
- 6) governor
- 7) of Umma,
- 8) (is) your servant.

### COMMENTARY

1) Kang (*Drehem*, op. cit.) p. 274 translates 'unplucked sheep'.

9) udu-[niga] is to be expected from the order established in lines 1-5.

6) Amar-Suena, year nine.

10) [udu] is to be expected from the order established in lines 1-5. There appears to be another Winkelhacken in the lower position on the edge of the break suggesting the number written is at least 40.

11) [máš] is to be expected from the order established in lines 1-5.

13) Šū-Sîn, year one.

Seal: See Kang (*Umma*, op. cit.) p. 345, for the same seal.

## 13: MOA 4.36A

Clay tablet; dimensions: 5.1×3.9×1.6 cm; origin: Babylon; donated by D. Thom, 1950.

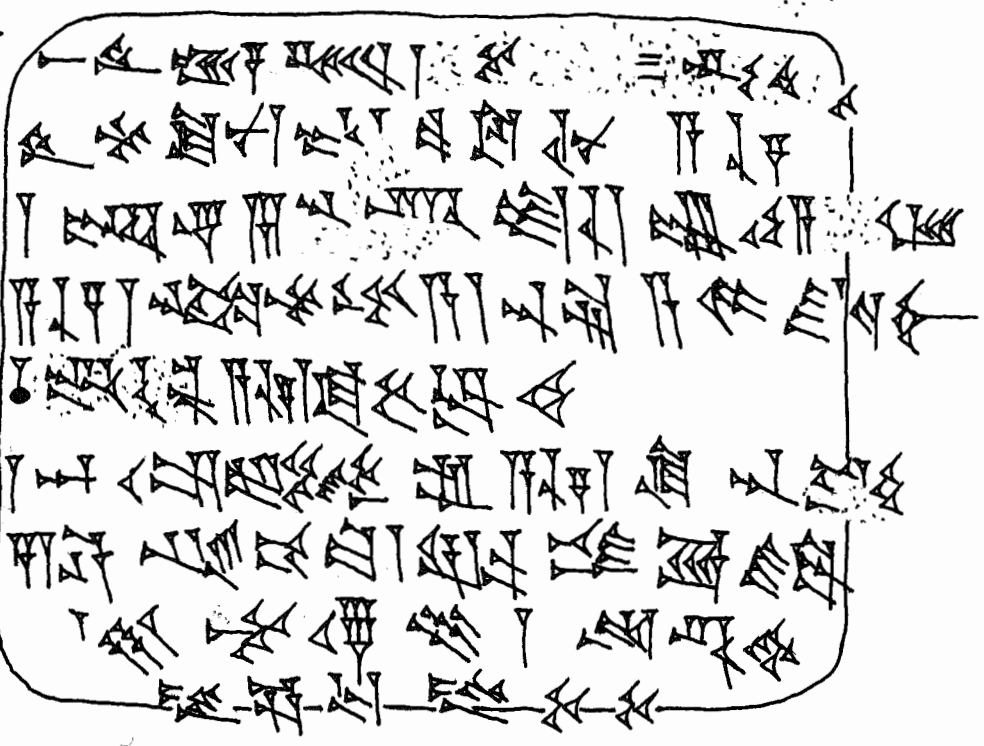
### TRANSLITERATION

- 1) 22 GUR ŠE.BAR ù 50 GUR ZÚ.LUM.MA
- 2) šá <sup>m</sup>MU-<sup>d</sup>AMAR.UTU A-šú šá <sup>m</sup>BA-šá-a
- 3) A <sup>m</sup>ZÁLAG-<sup>d</sup>30 ina UGU <sup>m</sup>li<sup>l</sup>-ši-ru
- 4) A-šú šá <sup>m</sup>e-til-pi A <sup>m</sup>EN-ZI<sup>l</sup>.MEŠ
- 5) ina ITI.SIG<sub>4</sub> ŠE.BAR ina DU<sub>6</sub>-<sup>d</sup>g[u]-la ka-a-ri<sup>l</sup>
- 6) i-nam-din ina ITI.GAN ZÚ.LUM.MA

14.

0.  A fragment of a cuneiform tablet with rounded corners, containing approximately 12 lines of text. The characters are arranged in vertical columns, reading from right to left. The fragment is labeled '0.' on the left side.

10.  A small fragment of a cuneiform tablet containing a few lines of text. It is labeled '10.' on the left side.

R.  A fragment of a cuneiform tablet with rounded corners, containing approximately 10 lines of text. The characters are arranged in vertical columns, reading from right to left. The fragment is labeled 'R.' on the left side.

15.  A fragment of a cuneiform tablet with rounded corners, containing approximately 8 lines of text. The characters are arranged in vertical columns, reading from right to left. The fragment is labeled '15.' on the left side.

- 7) *ina* DU<sub>6</sub>-<sup>d</sup>*gu-la* UGU *ka-a-ri*  
 8) *i-nam-din e-lat* 12(?)<sup>1</sup> GUR 3 (BÁN) ŠE.BAR  
 9) [x] *na(?) še e bu(?)<sup>1</sup> ú ú*  
 10) 1 LÚ<sup>1</sup> *mu-k[i]n-nu* <sup>md</sup>EN-SUR A-šú šá  
 11) <sup>md</sup>EN-PAP.ME-SU A <sup>m</sup>ši-gu-ú-a  
 12) <sup>m</sup>pir-<sup>u</sup> A-šú šá <sup>m</sup>si-lim-<sup>d</sup>EN  
 13) A LÚ.GÍR.LÁ <sup>m</sup>BA-šá-a A-šú šá  
 14) <sup>md</sup>AG-SUR A <sup>m</sup>dan<sup>1</sup>-né-e-a  
 15) u LÚ.SID <sup>md</sup>EN-[x (x)] A-šú šá <sup>m</sup>tab-né-e-a  
 16) A <sup>m</sup>ga-*hal* TIN.TIR.KI ITI.GU<sub>4</sub>  
 17) 1 U<sub>4</sub><sup>1</sup> 2.KÁM MU 41.KÁM  
 18) [<sup>md</sup>A]G-NÍG.DU-ÜRUGAL  
 19) TIN.TIR.KI

## TRANSLATION

- 1) 22 *kur* of barley and 50 *kur* of dates  
 2) belonging to Iddin-Marduk, son of Iqīšā,  
 3) descendant of Nūr-Sîn, are charged  
 against (the account of) Līširu,  
 4) son of Etil-pī, descendant of Bēl-napšāti.  
 5) In the month Simānu, the barley at Til-Gula  
 (on) the quay  
 6) he will repay. In the month Kislīmu, the dates  
 7) at Til-Gula on the quay  
 8) he will repay. (This is) in addition to the debt  
 of 12(?) *kur* 3 *ban* of barley  
 9) ...  
 10) Witnesses: Bēl-ētir, son of  
 11) Bēl-aḫḫē-erība, descendant of Šigūa,  
 12) Pir<sup>u</sup>, son of Silim-Bēl,  
 13) descendant of the butcher, Iqīšā, son of  
 14) Nabû-ētir, descendant of Dannēa,  
 15) and the scribe Bēl-..., son of Tabnēa,  
 16) descendant of Gaḫal. Babylon. The month of  
 Aiaru,  
 17) second day, year 41 of  
 18) Nebuchadnezzar, the king  
 19) of Babylon.

## COMMENTARY

This text is the earliest known instance of Iddin-Marduk making a loan as a single agent. He belonged to the well-known trading family of Nūr-Sîn and, to this point in time, had put together deals solely in conjunction with more experienced members of the family. See Laurence B. Shiff, 'The Nūr-Sîn Archive: Private Entrepreneurship in Babylon (603–507 B.C.),' University of Pennsylvania Ph.D. dissertation, 1987.

Date: April 10, 564 BC.

## 14: MOA 4.35A

Clay tablet; dimensions: 5.6 × 4.5 × 2.1 cm; origin: Šuppatu.

## TRANSLITERATION

- 1) ZÚ.LUM.MA ZAG.LU NUN(?) SUR BUR X X  
 2) šá <sup>m</sup>x x x a A-šú šá 12<sup>m</sup> [(x)] X  
 3) A <sup>m</sup>ge<sup>1</sup>-gi-bi šá *ina muḫ-ḫi* <sup>md</sup>AG-PAP  
 4) A-šú 12<sup>m</sup> <sup>m</sup>na-di-nu A <sup>m</sup>ba-bu-tu  
 5) X X KI(?) 8 GUR ZÚ.LUM.MA  
 6) <sup>md</sup>U.GUR-ú-še-zib A-šú šá <sup>m</sup>KI-<sup>d</sup>AMAR.UTU-TIN  
 7) A <sup>m</sup>e-gi-bi *ina* ŠU.II <sup>md</sup>AG-PAP  
 8) 12<sup>m</sup> *ma(?) -ḫi(?) -ir(?)* 1 X [(x)] X X KI(?) X GAB(?)  
 9) X X GUR ITI(?). 12<sup>m</sup> *ana* MU(!?) -*am*  
 10) [...] X *ma-ḫi-ir* X X 2 12<sup>m</sup>  
 11) *ina* ŠEŠ(!?). UNUG(!?). <KI> <sup>md</sup>(!)U.GUR-[ú]-še-[zib]  
 12<sup>m</sup> *i-nam<sup>1</sup>-din* (x)  
 12) LÚ *mu-kin(!)-nu* <sup>md</sup>EN<sup>1</sup>-SIPA-šú-nu A-šú šá  
 13) <sup>md</sup>EN-SUR A <sup>m</sup>EN-AD<sup>1</sup>-šú <sup>m</sup>AG-KAR(!)-[Z]I.MEŠ  
 14) A-šú šá <sup>md</sup>AMAR.UTU-MU-ÜRUGAL A <sup>md</sup>é-a-MI-ŠA-RAK  
 15) <sup>md</sup>EN-KÁD A-šú šá <sup>m</sup>KI-<sup>d</sup>AG-TIN  
 16) <sup>md</sup>U.GUR-ú-še-zib LÚ.UMBISAG A-šú šá  
<sup>m</sup>KI-<sup>d</sup>AMAR.UTU-TIN  
 17) A <sup>m</sup>e-gi-bi URU *šup-pa-tu*<sub>4</sub> ITI.BÁR  
 18) [U<sub>4</sub>] 1.KÁM MU 17.KÁM <sup>m</sup>da-ri-muš(?)  
 19) LUGAL E.KI LUGAL KUR.KUR

## TRANSLATION

- 1) Dates the yield ...  
 2) belonging to ..., son of ...,  
 3) descendant of Egibi, against the account of  
 Nabû-nāšir,  
 4) son of Nādinu, descendant of Babūtu  
 5) ... eight *kur* of dates  
 6) Nergal-ušēzib, son of Itti-Marduk-balātu,  
 7) descendant of Egibi, from Nabû-nāšir  
 8) received(?) ...  
 9) ... *kur*, the month(?) of Ulūlu, yearly(?)  
 10) ... received ... two *kur*  
 11) in Ur(?), Nergal-ušēzib will pay.  
 12) Witnesses: Bēl-rē<sup>u</sup>-šunu, son of  
 13) Bēl-ētir, descendant of ...-abūšu,  
 Nabû-ētir-napšāti,  
 14) son of Marduk-šuma-ušur, descendant of  
 Ea-...,  
 15) Bēl-ikšur, son of Itti-Nabû-balātu,  
 16) Nergal-ušēzib, the scribe, son of  
 Itti-Marduk-balātu,  
 17) descendant of Egibi. The city Šuppatu.  
 The month Nisannu,  
 18) the first [day] of the 17th year of Darius,  
 19) king of Babylon, king of the lands.

## COMMENTARY

17) Šuppatu was located on the Euphrates River in the region of Babylon. See R. Zadok, *Geographical Names According to New- and Late-Babylonian Texts* (= *Rép. Géogr.* 8) Wiesbaden: Dr. Ludwig Reichert Verlag, 1985, pp. 297–98.

Date: April 17, 505 BC.

**15: MOA 4.34A**

Clay tablet; dimensions: 5.0×4.0×1.7 cm; origin: Babylon.

TRANSLITERATION

- 1) 42 GUR ZÚ.LUM.MA
  - 2) *šá*<sup>md</sup>EN-TIN-*iṭ* DUMU *šá*<sup>md</sup>EN-TIN
  - 3) A <sup>m</sup>*ir-a-nu i-na qa-at*
  - 4) <sup>m</sup>*bul-lu-ṭa(!)-a* DUMU *šá*<sup>md</sup>AG-na-din
- (space)
- 5) A-*šú šá*<sup>m</sup>*ba-la-ṭu*<sup>md</sup>AG-it-tan(!)-*ni(!)*
  - 6) <sup>r</sup>A-*šú šá*<sup>md</sup>AG-NUMUN-MU A <sup>m</sup>*ir-a-nu*
  - 7) <sup>r</sup><sup>m</sup>EN-TIN-*iṭ* DUB.SAR
  - 8) A <sup>m</sup>*ir-a-nu(!)* TIN.TIR.KI
  - 9) ITI.SIG<sub>4</sub> U<sub>4</sub> 12.KÁM
  - 10) MU 25.KÁM <sup>m</sup>*da-ri-muš*
  - 11) LUGAL TIN.TIR.KI LUGAL KUR.KUR

TRANSLATION

- 1) 42 *kur* of dates
  - 2) belonging to Bēl-uballiṭ, son of Bēl-uballiṭ,
  - 3) descendant of Iranu, in the hands of
  - 4) Bulluṭa, son of Nabû-nādin.
- (space)
- 5) Son of Balāṭu, Nabû-ittanni,
  - 6) son of Nabû-zēra-iddin, descendant of Iranu;
  - 7) Bēl-uballiṭ, the scribe,
  - 8) descendant of Iranu. Babylon.
  - 9) The month Simānu, day 12,
  - 10) year 25 of Darius,
  - 11) king of Babylon, king of the lands.

COMMENTARY

This text is unusual in that the real 'meat' of the contract, if indeed it is a contract, is missing. There is no mention of the terms of the agreement, no date stipulated for the pay-back, and the 'witness' clause and name of at least one witness are missing.

Date: June 27, 497 BC.

15.

