

**DOCUMENTS FROM THE
TEMPLE ARCHIVES OF
DIPPUR DATED IN THE
REIGNS OF CASSITE RULERS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649070480

Documents from the Temple Archives of Dippur Dated in the Reigns of Cassite Rulers by
Albert T. Clay

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Cover @ 2017

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DOCUMENTS

FROM THE

Temple Archives of Nippur

DATED IN THE REIGNS OF CASSITE RULERS
(COMPLETE DATES)

BY

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Semitic Section of the Department of Archaeology, University of Pennsylvania*

*Seventy-two Plates of Autograph Texts. Fifteen Plates
of Half-tone Reproductions.*

PHILADELPHIA

Published by the Department of Archaeology, University of Pennsylvania

1906

To
Provost
Charles Custis Harrison
LL.D.

Through whose encouragement and generosity original
investigations have been furthered and research
fellowships founded at the University
of Pennsylvania

This Volume is Gratefully Dedicated

216406



PREFACE.

More than a year ago the manuscript was ready for the press of what appears as Vol. XV (the tablets of which do not have in their dates the name of the king), including the discussions concerning the check-marks, stylus, seal, etc., which now appear in this volume (XIV). Since that time I have been able to prepare the texts with complete dates, the study of which I had begun more than three years ago. The publication of Vol. XV having been delayed, I rearranged the material contained in the introductions to both volumes. The discussions concerning the nomenclature of the documents appear in Vol. XV. In addition to the many names in the texts of that volume, I have added a large number, which I collated from hundreds of other tablets in our Museum, as well as from another small collection—also belonging to the Cassite period—making in all nearly seventeen hundred. [This volume, it will be noticed, contains a large number of additional names.] Discussions also concerning the many new Cassite names, as well as the many hitherto unknown names of deities, appear in that volume.

After the Introduction to this volume was in type an article appeared¹ in the *Orientalistische Literaturzeitung*, Vol. 9, No. 3, by Dr. A. Ungnad, of Berlin, concerning the marks of the *sisiktu* as a substitute for the seal impression, found on a tablet belonging to the first dynasty of Babylon. As his account of the tablet did not mention anything concerning a hole (see my discussion of the *sisiktu* on page 13), I wrote to Dr. Hermann Ranke, of the Berlin Museum, asking him to ascertain whether there was not a small hole in connection with the cloth marks so clearly visible in the photograph of the tablet published by Dr. Ungnad. In a letter dated April 19th, Dr. Ranke writes: "Beneath the *šir* of *Ishum-nāšir* really appears something like a little hole. As the edge of the tablet is somewhat destroyed it would not be absolutely safe to judge from this one instance whether the hole is accidental or not. The cloth impression is only beneath the word *ziziktum* which

¹ *Eine neue Form der Beglaubigung in altbabylonischen Urkunden.*

was written after the impression had been made. I tried to copy the impression, but didn't succeed very well. It looks like the edge of something like cloth (the single threads being visible) as if it was from the end of a sleeve." As a matter of fact the hole appears in the photograph published by Dr. Ungnad. A reproduction of Dr. Ranke's autograph copy follows:



This fully confirms the conclusions at which I had arrived (see p. 12), namely, that the *sisktu*, which means something like "cloth" or "garment," must have, in some way, included or embraced that which could be used to make a small hole in the soft clay. As I said (see p. 13), two of the three Cassite tablets which contain the marks of the *sisktu* have absolutely no trace of cloth marks, and it is by no means certain that the third has, inasmuch as it is very roughly made. One of the first two mentioned, however, as said before (see p. 13) may be an inside tablet, in which case the envelope would have contained the impressions. If this be true, the instrument pierced the envelope, and left its imprint upon the smaller tablet.

The small volume of texts recently published by Professor Felix Peiser, a copy of which I received after the printing of these texts had been begun, also confirms an important conclusion at which I arrived. *MU-BI-im* I have explained as a Sumerian phrase, with the Semitic mimimation, *i. e.*, it is equivalent to *shumi(MU)-shu(BI)* "his name;" and that where more than one name follows, it stands for "their names" (see p. 34, also Vol. XV, p. 22). This is proved by the Sumerian expression *MU-NE-NE* = *shumi-shunu* "their names", which appears several times in Prof. Peiser's texts, but which he simply translated "names."

Although of a similar character, *i. e.*, documents from the administrative department of some temple (not the "archives of a banking family") they did not come from Nippur. The study of the proper names, as well as many other details clearly show this, among which may be mentioned the fact that the frequently occurring *MU-BI-im* at the top of the lists in the Nippur tablets is not used in his, as well as the fact that his *MU-NE-NE* is not found in our tablets, as far as I have been able to ascertain.

A most interesting fact which his documents prove is the correctness of my identification of the god *KUR-GAL* as well as *MAR-TU* with *Amurru*, which I made by the help of the Aramaic ܐܡܪܘ , contained in endorsements written upon several documents of the *Murashû* Sons (cf. Vol. X, p. 71). The name of one of

the storehouse officials of his texts is written: *KUR-GAL-ērīsh* *MAR-TU-ērīsh*, and also in an abbreviated form, with the "kose suffix" *A-mur-ri-ia*. This conclusively establishes the fact that *KUR-GAL* as well as *MAR-TU* are to be read *Amurru*.

In conclusion I desire to express my gratitude to the following who have rendered me helpful assistance in connection with this volume: to Dean Robbins, of the General Theological Seminary, New York City, who kindly permitted me to copy the tablets of the Hoffman Collection; to the Librarian of the Seminary, Mr. Edward Harmon Virgin, whose courtesies, and hospitality I enjoyed while at work upon the tablets; to Prof. Arthur W. Goodspeed, of the University, and his graduate student, Mr. George C. Chambers, who measured the impressions of the wedges made by the stylus; to Prof. W. J. Hinke, and to Mr. D. D. Luckenbill, the Harrison Fellow in Semitics, for their assistance in the proof-reading, as well as to the members of the publication committee: the Provost, and the Vice-Provost Prof. Edgar Fabs Smith, Mr. S. F. Houston, the president of the Archaeological Department, Mr. Eckley Brinton Coxe, the generous founder of the Fund which has made possible the publication of these texts, Mr. J. Levering Jones, and Prof. H. V. Hilprecht.

It is with a profound sense of gratitude for all that has been done for me by our honored Provost, Doctor Charles Custis Harrison, who has been from the beginning one of the foremost promoters of our Babylonian researches, that I dedicate to him this volume, as a slight token of my appreciation of his kindness.

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University of Pennsylvania.