a. Introduction. Acknowledgements.

In the summer of 1989, in a phase of rapidly changing conditions and attitudes throughout Europe, the two authors¹, in their respective official roles², met and decided that times were favorable for a research project in cooperation: the edition of the Neo-Assyrian texts from the private archives of Assur kept in the Vorderasiatisches Museum of Berlin, then part of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin of the German Democratic Republic. Very soon, from a mere framework of agreement between the Museum and a specialized publication abroad, the cooperation evolved to a joint effort of scholarship of the two authors, albeit with different individual tasks, on the basis of their competences: LJR would have the ultimate responsibility for the copies of the texts, FMF ditto for the transliterations, translations, and historical/philological comments³. While work was in progress, the reunification of Germany (3/X/1990) caused a

¹ For the sake of brevity, the initials of the two names (resp. FMF and LJR) will be used in the following pages.
² LJR was the Director of the Vorderasiatisches Museum of Berlin (GDR) at the time; she remained in this capacity in the reunified German state until retirement in July 1991. FMF's primary function for the purpose of the project was that of director of the State Archives of Assyria Bulletin, a journal linked—in name and in fact—to international research and publication programs in the field of Neo-Assyrian (cf. SAAB 1 [1987] 1 ff.). However, travel funds for the subsequent visits to Berlin were provided by Italian public grants connected to FMF's official position at the University of Padova.
³ This basic division of chores has been maintained from the initial study phase to the present result—although of course collations and controls carried out jointly have greatly marked the advancement of interpretation.
noticeable surge of interest regarding the publication of the Assur tablets on the part of the Deutsche Orient-Gesellschaft, in view of the rights of the Society for having sponsored the archaeological excavation of Assur by R. Koldewey and especially by W. Andrae in the years 1903-1914. It was thus considered advisable to split up the publication resulting from the joint enterprise of study in two different and mutually complementary contributions: (a) a volume with the hand-copies of the cuneiform texts, formed by a succession of fascicles, to be published in Germany by the Society; (b) a series of articles, bearing transliterations, translations, and preliminary notes to all texts, plus a handsome selection of photographs, to appear in the State Archives of Assyria Bulletin.

The authors thus present in these pages of the SAAB the very first product of the international project of study and publication of the Neo-Assyrian texts from the private archives of Assur in Berlin, fostered by the Vorderasiatisches Museum; while the parallel fascicle bearing the copies and indexes is planned to appear in the very near future. For this initial effort, the authors have chosen the edition (transliteration, translation, notes) of documents stemming from the Neo-Assyrian private archival units numbered N9 and N10 in O. Pedersen’s recent overview of the archives and libraries of the city of Assur.5

***

On the present occasion, the authors would like to extend their warmest thanks to Dr. Evelyn Klengel-Brandt, present Director of the Vorderasiatisches Museum of Berlin, for kind permission to study and publish the Assur documents in her care in the Museum, for her many friendly suggestions and useful remarks on the materials and their Museum “history”, and for her full and resolute support of the project through all difficulties.

4) Cf. most recently on the matter A. K. Grayson, Antiquities from Ashur: A Brief Description of their Fate with Special Reference to the Royal Inscriptions, ARRIM 1 (1987), 15-18. Of course Walter Andrae was also Director of the Vorderasiatisches Abteilung of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin in his own right, from 1928 to 1951; for a recent biography of Andrae, cf. the essay by E.W. Andrae and R.M. Boehmer, Walter Andrae 18.2.1975-28.7.1956, in the pleasant book of reminiscences and drawings edited by the same two scholars, Bilder eines Ausgräbers/Sketches by an Excavator, Berlin 1989, 3-44 (German), 93-132 (English).

5) O. Pedersén, Archives and Libraries in the City of Assur (= henceforth ALA), II, Upsala 1986, passim. The scholar responsible for this detailed work on the classification of the Assur materials deserves ample credit and appreciation, for ALA has been of essential and precise guidance for the search and identification of the tablets in the Museum, in themselves and in relation to the Assur excavation photographs. Further, Dr. Pedersén’s remarks on prosopography and juridical contexts of the archives have constituted an extremely useful starting point for investigation into these sectors.
The authors are also most grateful to Dr. Klengel-Brandt, and through her, to the authorities of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin for kindly contributing the photographs reproduced in the present article\(^6\).

While working on the texts in the Museum, the authors have greatly benefited from the kind assistance and expert advice of Drs. Ralf-B. Wartke and Joachim Marzahn; and from the helpful concern of Ms. B. Gaspar and Ms. L. Ross. To all these members of the staff of the Vorderasiatisches Museum the authors are extremely thankful.

The authors are very obliged to Prof. Dr. Johannes Renger, Freie Universität Berlin, for his generous offer to publish the hand-copies of the texts in fascicles and volumes which will represent the continuation of the *Keilschrifttexte aus Assur* series, under the aegis of the Deutsche Orient-Gesellschaft.

Many thanks go to Dr. Simonetta Ponchia, Padova, who was of assistance to both authors in collating the tablets during a visit to the Museum in October 1991. Dr. Ponchia also offered very useful remarks on the loan-documents while the MS. was in preparation. For friendly discussions and constructive advice in various stages of the preparation of the work, warm thanks must also go to Prof. Carlo Zaccagnini, Bologna. Dr. Daniele Morandi, and especially Dr. Giovánni B. Lanfranchi, Padova, were of great encouragement and aid during the entire project: the authors are very grateful for their friendly-contribution.

***

In a final stage, the work of the authors has greatly benefited from the advice and additional efforts of Prof. Dr. Karlheinz Deller, Ruprecht-Karl Universität Heidelberg. Prof. Deller kindly read through the completed MS. and, in agreement with the authors, took it upon himself to provide a further collation to the entire group of texts upon a visit to Berlin\(^7\). As result of this generous and painstaking effort two entirely new fragments —which joined and increased extant texts—, plus a significant number of new and enlightening insights, suggestions and critical remarks could be added to the present article\(^8\). For Prof. Deller’s overall support and assistance, the authors would like to express their heartfelt thanks\(^9\).

---

\(^6\) The copyright of all photographs in the present article is, of course, the exclusive property of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin: reproduction by permission only.

\(^7\) Heidelberg students Ms. Anais Schuster and Ms. Petra D. Gesche, as well as Mr. Nils Heessel, now of FU Berlin, aided Prof. Deller in his work at the Museum; their contribution is gratefully acknowledged.

\(^8\) Throughout the article, the initials KHD will highlight the individual notes of particular import which go back to Prof. Deller’s collations or suggestions.

\(^9\) In particular, FMF wishes to express his deep indebtedness to Prof. Deller, the pioneer of studies on the NA Assur texts, for the many teachings received in long-past years at the University of Heidelberg, which fueled the enthusiasm for the present undertaking.
b. The contexts of the documents.


As stated above, this article\textsuperscript{10} concerns the edition of documents from archives N9 and N10. These two archives\textsuperscript{11} represent not only the largest complexes of private documents from NA Assur, but they display also many mutual links in the persons attested and their basic concerns from the legal and socio-economic point of view. Thus, archives N9 and N10 may be considered a good starting to come to grips with the primary topics and particularities present in the private documents from NA Assur\textsuperscript{12}.

In particular, the present article deals with 66 documents altogether, 58 from N9, 8 from N10. This overall amount corresponds to the number of tablets which were physically located in the Vorderasiatisches Museum for the named archives during FMF's visits to Berlin in 1990 and 1991. It is, however, a number far short of the\textit{sum total} of 111 texts given in Pedersen's catalogue for the material recorded in the excavation inventories and excavation photographs, which may be assigned to the two archives on the basis of the findspots. The lack of approx. 40\% of the material of N9 and N10 known to have been discovered by Andrae and his team may be traced back to a mixed series of factual circumstances and theoretical possibilities, which will be briefly discussed here.

Of the documents classified under the archives N9 and N10, surely 15 (resp. 3\textsuperscript{13} and 12\textsuperscript{14}) are part of the group of Assur texts which was shipped to Istanbul by the excavators, on the basis of an agreement between the Deutsche Orient-Gesellschaft and the Sublime Porte. These texts, as yet unpublished, are provided with a museum number in the Assur collection of the Istanbul Arkeoloji Müzeleri\textsuperscript{15}. The remaining 30 recorded items, which remain for the moment undetected in the Museum, are all tablets provided with an excavation number (Assur Fundnummer) and with a double shot

\textsuperscript{10} The series of articles which begins with the present one will be referred to as NATAPA (I, II, etc.).
\textsuperscript{11} The concept of “archive” for Assur follows Pedersen’s definitions: “By means of the records from the well-organized excavation, the original group of texts found together are here reconstructed as far as presently possible. (...) ‘Archive’ describes a group of texts of administrative, economic, juridical and similar types, including letters. (...) The private archives stem from private houses and may concern both private matters for the persons living in these houses and official matters from the activities of these persons” (ALA I, 20-21).
\textsuperscript{12} For a general estimate of the quantity of Neo-Assyrian documents from private archives at Assur, cf. ALA II, 141.
\textsuperscript{13} ALA N9, Nos. 38, 47, 48.
\textsuperscript{14} ALA N10, Nos. 16-17, 19-27; and Ass. Fd. Nr. 9966g.
\textsuperscript{15} The numbers, with the\textit{siglum} A, are recorded in Pedersen, ALA,\textit{ad loc.}. More in general, a bibliography on the progressive reports by Turkish scholars on the status of the Assur antiquities in Istanbul is provided by Grayson,\textit{cit.}, 16\textsuperscript{a}.
(Obverse/Reverse) in the excavation photographs (Photo Assur, reference by double plates), which fall into one of two categories: (a) items presenting a number of inventarization given by the Museum — i.e. a V(orderasiatische) A(beatlung) T(ontafeln) number — which has been changed in the course of time\textsuperscript{16}; or (b) items for which a VAT number is not known/published. To judge from the exemplars which have, in effect, been found and are given in the present article, the quest in the bowels of the Museum for tablets of type (b) yields quite satisfactory results — and especially the discovery that these texts are all solidly provided with VAT numbers\textsuperscript{17} — so that more finds can be expected in the future. On the other hand, the exemplars of type (a) are beset by problems of double inventarization; thus, the few absent members in this group could still elude researchers for some time, even though they are known to have been present, and may even have been examined, in the past\textsuperscript{18}.

Finally, mention should be made of a small group of documents which show close relations in type and content with the materials of archive N9, but which were probably never endowed with Assur excavation numbers: they are at present in the Musée d’Art et Histoire of Geneva\textsuperscript{19}, in the Louvre\textsuperscript{20}, or in private collections\textsuperscript{21}. As is well known, a certain number of antiquities from Assur never reached Berlin or Istanbul, but emerged instead in various cities around the world after World War I and over a long stretch of time\textsuperscript{22}; and the task of cataloguing these random pieces has only just begun\textsuperscript{23}. The parallels between our materials and these “outer” texts from N9 will be quoted in the philological notes.

2. The position of the archives in space and time.

In O. Pedersen’s survey of the texts from Assur of the Neo-Assyrian period\textsuperscript{24},

\begin{footnotesize}
\begin{enumerate}
\item This applies in particular to items in the VAT 16000+ range, which now are renumbered VAT 20000+.
\item Mainly in the range of VAT 9000+.\textsuperscript{18}
\item Also in view of possible future integrations to the material presented here, the order of the texts in this article follows that of Pedersen’s catalogue: in particular, N9 is represented by nos. 1-53, unattributed texts of N9 are nos. 54-58, and N10 corresponds to nos. 59-66.
\item MAR 20613 = FNALD, no. 48. Further bibliography on this text in ALA II, 93.
\item AO 4515 = TCL 9, 62.
\item On the fate of the antiquities from Assur, and especially on the incident of the freighter Cheruskia, cf. Grayson, \textit{cit.}, 15-17.
\item ALA, II, \textit{passim}; and see also id., \textit{Private Archives in Assur}, SAAB 1 (1987), 43-52.
\end{enumerate}
\end{footnotesize}
archives N9 and N10 are described as located in the northwestern area of the town wall (called by the excavators “Aussenhaken”). Specifically, archive N9 is a complex of 84 documents found in the two private houses nos. 65 and 66, which are resp. the building adjacent to the NW corner of the town wall, and the building immediately to the southwest of it. The two houses are considered to have been used “at least during the later period before the destruction of the city by a single family, as is clear from the central persons in the texts found.” On the other hand, archive N10 is represented by 27 documents found in houses 67 and 68, which are resp. adjacent to the previously named buildings to the southwest, still bordering on the city wall: and even at a rough appraisal of the contents of this archive, one may agree with Pedersen that “many of the persons in this archive are also well attested in the texts of Houses 65-66.”

Interestingly enough, some of the texts in both archives are conveyances regarding the transfer of real estate, which must have been in the immediate vicinity of the excavated private houses. Thus, e.g., “a plot of bare ground” is said in a sale document to be “adjacent to the fortification, adjacent to the house of Aššur-eriba, adjacent to Tardi, adjacent to the exit alley” (text no. 59, 5-8, from archive N10). Now, “the house of Aššur-eriba” must coincide with one of the buildings archaeologically numbered 67 or 68, since most texts found in N10 concern this very person; thus the “plot of bare ground” cannot but have been right alongside these buildings, near the city wall. In a further case, the sale regards a house, “adjacent to the house of Tarditu-Aššur, adjacent to the alley, adjacent to the stone fortification, adjacent to the alley which leads from the Eastern Gate to the Gate of Destinies, adjacent to the house of Bel-zeru-iddina son of Urad-Allatu” (text no. 33, 7-11, from N9). As may be noticed, the city-wall is mentioned again; and so are two elements of the complex Assur gate system, which would seem to have comprised 13 entrances, with a variety of names and aliases.

From the chronological point of view, the occupation of these houses might conceivably go back beyond the limits of the 7th century, but no document in N9 antedates 681 BC: this date is attested for three texts, two of which show close

---

25) Cf. the map in ALA, II, 86 (deriving from Andrae, WHA, pl. 24, with slight modifications), which shows clearly how the inner part of the city wall (the part marked “Innenverstärkung”) near its NW corner had become—in later NA times—the delimiting wall of this whole complex of buildings. To be noticed is the fact that N9, together with N16, are the only Assur private archives for which “it is possible to establish the room which originally contained the texts. These were inner rooms probably without graves under the floor” (O. Pedersen, SAAB 1 [1987], 47)—differently from most cases at Assur, where the archive room was the room above the family graves (ibid., 48).

26) ALA II, 86.

27) ALA II, 94.

28) For the names of the gates of Assur, cf. most recently Menzel, AT, II, T 154-156, with previous bibliography, and concordances with Shalmaneser III’s Throne Inscription.
connections\textsuperscript{29}. After this, the chronological backbone of the archive shows a certain sparseness for the period prior to 648 BC: we have found only six documents for these 30 years or so, and the total reaches a mere 8 combining all sources of information\textsuperscript{30}. For archive N10, no document before 648 had been hitherto noticed: it is thus doubtful whether, in fact, one such text exists\textsuperscript{31}.

The post-canonical period, on the other hand, is extremely rich in attestations in both archives. As is more than well known, the reconstruction of the eponym sequence for the period from 648 to the fall of the Assyrian empire relies on a remarkable theoretical framework brought forth by Margarete Falkner\textsuperscript{32}. Now, it may be observed that Falkner made use of the Assur material for her reconstruction of the last 36 years of the Assyrian empire, by reading a certain number of the \textit{limmu}-dates on the Assur excavation photos\textsuperscript{33}; however, not having the material at her disposal in its entirety, she was unable to utilize the Assur dates for the purpose of inner sequencing, as she did with the texts from Nineveh and Kalhu\textsuperscript{34}. It is thus a matter of special interest for Neo-Assyrian studies to set forth the year-eponyms attested in the legal documents from Assur, so as to allow the picture thus obtained to be more closely compared with Falkner’s reconstruction of late Assyrian chronology.

For an initial evaluation, in any case, we cannot but keep to Falkner’s chronological framework, albeit theoretical and unproved, and present the dated Assur material accordingly. Proceeding by decades, the documentation published here yields the following 36 clear attestations of \textit{limmu}-dates:

\begin{itemize}
  \item Nos. 5, 8 = 642 BC; no. 18 = 641;
  \item Nos. 9, 39\textsuperscript{7} = 635;
  \item Nos. 13, 46 = 628; nos. 10, 14, 25, 32, 45, 56\textsuperscript{7}, 66 = 626; nos. 11, 19, 41, 43 = 625;
  \item Nos. 15, 28, 44 = 623; nos. 24, 35 = 622; nos. 6, 47, 59, 60, 62 = 621; nos. 17, 23, 49, 50 = 620;
  \item Nos. 48, 52, 64 = 619; no. 51 = 618; no. 65 = 617; no. 61 = 616.
\end{itemize}

\textsuperscript{29} Texts nos. 7, 21 and 22: the latter two show many common features.
\textsuperscript{30} In this article, cf. nos. 12 (dated to 675), 2 (672[?]), 30 (668[?]), 31 (658), 16 (657), 38 (657), 1 (653). According to Pedersén, ALA, II, 87, there are two more texts dating from the period for which the Eponym Canon is attested: a tablet in Istanbul (A 2627 = ALA N9[48]), also dated to 653 BC; and ALA N9(39), the date of which is readable on Ass. Ph. 1291/92, top left (650 BC).
\textsuperscript{31} Cfr. the discussion at no. 63, line 7.
\textsuperscript{32} \textit{Die Eponymen der spätassyrischen Zeit}, AIÖ 17 (1954-56), 100-120.
\textsuperscript{33} Cf. Falkner, \textit{cit.}, \textit{passim}. Falkner’s quotes of Assur dates are taken up in Pedersén’s catalogue, as part of the bibliography under each individual text.
\textsuperscript{34} \textit{Cit.}, 106-108. Falkner’s study of the sequential professional designations of the witnesses in various published NA “archives” is a cornerstone for prosopographical research into this age.
The post-canonical evidence published here for N9 and N10 shows, as may be noticed, the particularity of a shortage of presences at the high end, i.e. for the 640s and the 630s, as opposed to an extremely crowded lower section. This picture changes very little even taking into account that —in the Falkner reconstruction— the frequently attested limmu Nabû-šarru-usûr could refer to one of two homonyms, resp. attributed to 645 and 626; and it also changes to a limited extent by adding information on the texts from the same archives which have not been located. In brief, post-canonical texts from Assur archives N9 and N10 seem to be essentially concentrated in the last two decades of the empire—almost with no gaps from 628 to 617. This general result may now be checked in further detail against the main prosopographical findings from the two connected archives.


The intimations given above on the essentially local and domestic nature of the texts discovered in archives N9 and N10 find full confirmation from a consideration of the personal names involved in the documents. As will be shown here and in the following sections, the two lots of documents concern the business transactions of a specific group of people in 7th-century Assur, the main kernel of which seems to have been linked by family ties ("relatives"), while an outer circle was tied to the former and reciprocally by ties of common professional affiliation ("friends and colleagues")

a) The family of Dada-ahhe.

Both K. Deller and O. Pedersen have dedicated brief sketches to the main

---

35) The same, of course, may be said for the three eponyms named Sin-šarru-usûr (639/627/622), who are however less attested in this archive: for these homonymies, cf. Falkner, cit., 114-116. In particular, for the problems surrounding Nabû-šarru-usûr, cf. recently F.M. Fales, SAAB 2 (1988), 105-124.

36) E.g., judging from ALA, II, 87 ff., these texts present further examples of the known eponyms (thus cf. N9(18) for 642 BC, read by Falkner, cit., 10385; and cf. N9(64) for the limmu for 635, read by Deller, BaM 15 [1984], 233 ad (s)). Only the limmus for 646 and 636 should be added outright to the picture given above (the limmu for 646 is visible on the photo in N9(23) according to Falkner, cit., 104106; and cf. ALA II, 92 ad N9(74) for the second eponym of 636, Marduk-šarru-usûr). The problem of the "new" post-canonical eponym Kanunayu, present in ALA N9(72) —cf. Deller, BaM 15 (1984), 232, ad (f)— is now taken up by Dalley-Postgate, CTN III, 55 no. 6, and passim. To be noticed that this eponym seems to be attested in our texts as well, albeit with an unexpected chronological formula: "in the palû of Kanunayu", no. 37, LE 1.


39) ALA II, 87-90.
family group attested in these two Assur archives (and related texts), based on the information available to them. The matter may be taken up in further detail upon the present occasion.

As already recognized by both previous researchers, the “patriarch” of archive N9 is a man named Dada-ahhe, possibly son of Eriba-Assur (text no. 1)\(^{40}\). As far as is visible in the texts, Dada-ahhe’s dealings start in 681 BC, when he purchases a plot of land (no. 22), and then continue in 675 with a receipt concerning a commercial venture (no. 12). Dada-ahhe is creditor in a corn loan of 672 (no. 2) and in a silver loan of 658 (no. 31); he is involved in a judicial decision in 657 (no. 16); in the same year he is again to be found lending silver (no. 38); in 653 he is participant in the transfer of property of a paternal estate as payment for debts. In a year which could have been 668 (= no. 30) we find Dada-ahhe paying the price for a slave woman. Among the undated documents of his, no. 4 is a receipt which should refer to an early stage, due to the presence of Paqa-ana-Assur, known for 681 BC\(^{41}\); another one of a certain interest is the silver loan no. 37, made to a group of smiths. In brief, Dada-ahhe’s business activities seem to have spanned some thirty years; his documents in the archive thus fully coincide with the texts of “canonical” age.

The continuity in business and legal matters in archive N9 then seems to be represented by a subsequent generation of people, headed by an individual called Mudammiq-Assur. Was this man part of the family of Dada-ahhe? In the light of extensive collations of the materials, Mudammiq-Assur may be now said to be quite probably attested in one text as son of Dada-ahhe (\(1^2\)Da-d[a-hi])\(^{42}\). Now, two further people in the archive are said to be the progeny of a man with this name: in no. 52, r. 7-8 (attributed to 619 BC) we find the witnesses “Aššur-aplu-lešir, son of Dada-ahhe” (\(1^2\)Aš+šur-\(\_\)a-giš \(1\)Da-da-hi) and “Aššur-denu-amur, son of Dada-ahhe” (\(1^2\)Aš+šur-de-nu-igigal \(1\)Da-da-hi). But for the rest these two individuals play a very small role in the archives: we find Aššur-aplu-lešir as the creditor of a sum of silver only in no. 60, of 621 BC, while in the same year he is at hand as a mere witness in no. 47, a loan-document of Mudammiq-Assur (see below). As for Aššur-denu-amur, his main role seems to have been that of witness or mere co-protagonist of the deeds of his contemporaries (nos. 11, 19, 35, 61).

---

\(^{40}\) The writings of the name, as already noted in ALA II, 88, include Da-da-pap.mēš, Da-da-hi, Da-a-da-pap.mēš, and u.u.pap.mēš, at times within the same text.

\(^{41}\) But cf. ALA II, 89, where the presence of Paqa-ana-Assur in a text of 653 BC (ALA N9[48], in Istanbul) is suggested. Notice, in any case, that text no. 4 = ALA N9(5) is erroneously given a date in 619 BC in ALA II, 87.

\(^{42}\) No. 35, 21, despite a large “watered” sector (cf. photo on pl. X), bears out the first two signs of the name with sufficient clarity (collation KHD). Notice also the consequent restoration of the name of Dada-ahhe in no. 34, 8.
This brings us to the already mentioned Mudammiq-Assur: and it may be safely said that whether he was the son of “old” Dada-ahhe or not, he certainly seems to have inherited the predecessor’s function and importance in the business and legal dealings which formed part of the life of NW Assur houses 65 and 66. In this edition we have counted 20 distinct texts which bear testimony to his presence. His earliest document should be dated to the late 650s, while the most ancient post-canonical case can be pinpointed through Falkner’s reconstruction to 642 BC (no. 5). The most recent text refers to 620 (no. 17); and his division of inheritance was issued in 619 (no. 52). A long career—as long as Dada-ahhe’s or even slightly longer.

In any case, it may be safely said that, just as Dada-ahhe’s documentary presence factually coincides with the material of N9 antedating 648, so Mudammiq-Assur plays a decisive part in the post-canonical documentation of this archive: he is the protagonist of multiple transactions, from notes of credit (no. 5), to simple loans (nos. 14, 26, 32, 47) to loans with work-provisions (nos. 6, 15, 46), to loans of mixed items (nos. 9, 45), to loans with pledge of specific goods or in exchange for merchandise (nos. 17, 18, 24, 36), to purchases of people (nos. 34, 39) or land (no. 35). And when he is not, or no longer, a protagonist, he participates as witness in the dealings of his neighbours (nos. 59, 60).

Mudammiq-Assur had 6 sons, as we know from his division of inheritance (no. 52): but only three of them are mentioned in this document, Nabu-eriba (defined miiru šaniu, Obv. 8), Assur-ballissunu (Obv. 12), and Aššur-[A…] (Obv. 17). However, the “company” kept by these three heirs in the legal and economic documents of the archive is sufficient evidence to reconstruct—at least as a good working hypothesis—the larger framework of the family. At a bird’s eye view, we may notice that in no. 19 (of

43) For the occurrence of one Mudammiq-Assur who is said to be “son of Pa-ru-[…]” in an “outer” Assur deed (Scheil RA 24, 119 no. X), cf. Deller, BaM 15, 237; and notice ALA II, 8811, where it is judged that “it is hardly the same person”.

44) This total tallies quite well with the 22 occurrences noted by Pedersen (ALA II, 88) and the 19 texts summoned by Deller, including “outer” material (BaM 15 [1984], 231-233).

45) Cf. text no. 39, an interesting case from the chronological viewpoint, since the party dealing with Mudammiq-Assur is a well-known hazanna of Aššur (and possibly Ekalate), by name Sin-na’id, who is known to have been a contemporary of Akkullanu, the Ninevite ērib biti of the age of Esarhaddon and the early years of Ashurbanipal (cf. S. Parpola, LAS II, 327ff.; F.M. Fales, AECT, 230 ff.). Now, the date of this text is only half-preserved (r. 17: “lim-mu ṣiṣi-[x]x[x]), but—in view of the above—the most plausible solutions should be sought in the late 650s (i.e. choosing between Aššur-nasir, Aššur-ila’a, Aššur-duru-usur, for the years 654-652). However, it will be noticed (cf. section 2, below) that a large number of the protagonists of this deed are best known in texts which are attributed to the 620s or even the early 610s through Falkner’s reconstruction! For ALA N9(48), of 653 BC, cf. footnote 30, above.

46) Same date in the silver loan ALA N9(69), for which cf. Deller, BaM 15 (1984), 232, ad (e).

47) For an existing duplicate to this text, cf. the notes to the edition.

48) Note that at least in the latter case, we might be dealing with a homonym, a scribe attested as such together with the “real” Mudammiq-Assur in text 52; cf. 9, notes, at line 16.
625 BC), Nabû-eriba is associated with two other people, Šar-ili and Muqallil-kabti, in a loan made out to a second team, which comprises his brother Aššur-ballissunu, together with one La-tubašanni-Aššur and one Kišir-Ištar(?)\(^{49}\). The very same team of debtors is attested in no. 47, 3ff., while the same group of creditors, Nabû-eriba, Šar-ili and Muqallil-kabti, is present in no. 48 (of 619). And finally, in the text no. 61 belonging to archive N10 (and placed by Falkner at 616 BC), Šar-ili, together with the already mentioned Aššur-denu-amur, are witnesses to a deed of sale of a slave woman owned by La-tubašanni-Aššur, defined \(\text{L}6^*\text{.DUMU}\)\(^{49}\) of Nabû-eriba.

On the basis of these attestations, it seems plausible to suggest that Šar-ili and Muqallil-kabti were two further sons of Mudammiq-Aššur, though there is barely a shred of actual proof of the matter\(^{51}\). Certainly the activity of Šar-ili in our archives is almost as formidable as that of Mudammiq-Aššur, though spanning—still following Falkner’s reconstruction—only the last decade of existence of the Assyrian state. In no. 10 (626 BC), he lends silver to one Baššu (who is probably the same person elsewhere known as a “colleague”, see below), receiving the usufruct of barley in exchange; again a silver loan is the object of no. 19, already seen above (625). The same year Šar-ili buys two female slaves (nos. 41, 43); a further sale document of sorts, but with no date preserved, is no. 53. In no. 17 (of 620 BC) there is a complicated piece of business in which Šar-ili and Sagib-Aššur operate jointly to provide “merchandise of the mountain region” (\(\text{qip-tú ša KUR-e, l. 1}\)) to Mudammiq-Aššur: it is interesting to notice here that in exchange for the goods, Sagib-Aššur—and this man only—seems to obtain a “share” (\(\text{zittu}\)). The two are business partners also in no. 46, a loan-contract with work-agreement of the same date. The same type of contract is also represented by no. 56, which might go back as far as 626 BC (date only partially preserved), and where Šar-ili’s business partners are the already mentioned Muqallil-kabti and Šamaš-sarru-usur. As said above, no. 48 is a joint contract with work-agreement of 619 BC; then, in what has

\(^{49}\) The sign has been repeatedly collated (and cf. also Deller, BaM 15, 236); but we might be dealing, in fact, with the \(\text{hundurayyu}\) Kišir-Aššur, a “friend” of La-tubašanni-Aššur in deed no. 61 (cf. below, section b). This is certainly also the man indicated as \(\text{Kí-šir-[-]}\) on the Obverse of the fragmentary Ass.Fd.Nr. 9573“e”, a duplicate of Mudammiq-Aššur’s testament (cf. Appendix 2 in this article).

\(^{50}\) See the text and the relevant notes for a tentative translation of the term. This man was certainly quite close to the family: he is attested in nos. 19 (party to the loan), 27 (as one of a group of people providing merchandise from the mountain region) and 47 (again as co-participant to the loan). As witness he is present in no. 56 (together with Dur-maki-Aššur, a man also present in no. 27), and in no. 33.

\(^{51}\) The notion that Šar-ili was the son of Mudammiq-Aššur was first brought forth by Deller, BaM 15 (1984), 237, on the basis of a duplicate fragment of Mudammiq-Aššur’s testament (cf. fn. 49, above), in which the name appears on the Obverse; it is espoused by Pedersén, ALA II, 88. On the other hand, there is unanimous consent (BaM 15 [1984], 237; ALA II, 88) on the fact that the family ties of Muqallil-kabti are not clear. As a matter of fact, we think that text no. 17—discussed below—could go some way in proving that Šar-ili was actually a son of Mudammiq-Aššur, since the two were working in close cooperation.
been estimated to correspond to 616 BC, we find Šar-ili in the unexpected role of witness to a deed of La-tubašanni-Assur (no. 61). But this is not all; a particularly interesting attestation of Šar-ili in archive N9 is represented by no. 27, an undated administrative text, in which our man appears together with friends and perhaps relatives (a Nabû-eriba is present on Obv. 14, r. 6) as responsible for specific goods (wine in jars, silver, and skins) possibly imported from an outer region.

The activity of Muqlallil-kabti may be differentiated from Šar-ili’s only insofar as this man appears in two loan-documents as sole partner of Mudammiq-Assur, nos. 14 and 32. These texts also show the particular feature of having been written on the same day (= 1st), month (= III), and year (626 BC, according to M. Falkner’s reconstruction) although representing two entirely different transactions; as expected, most of the witnesses are the same, including the above-mentioned Nabû-eriba. For the rest, Muqlallil-kabti is a business partner of Šar-ili, but is far less present in our texts than the latter (nos. 19, 48, 56), and never appears by himself.

If the evidence for kinship ties among the people examined thus far may be considered frail, it is decidedly lacking in the case of two further well-attested individuals: Šumma-Assur and Aššur-eriba. However, these two people—who moreover belonged to different generations—share with the Dada-ahhe descendance the fact of being often (co-)protagonists of the deeds, so that it would not even be inconceivable to postulate a remote family connection with the main “line”, although—as said—with no proof. In any case, we may well deal with their documentation within the group of paramount personalities of our archives.

Šumma-Assur’s business dealings span a variety of situations, years, and connections. In no. 2 and in no. 3 he is a witness to Dada-ahhe; in no. 8 he is the debtor of barley. His house is adjacent to the communal home of the hundurayyus in no. 35 of 635 BC; and he is described as a hundurayyu himself, albeit in different ways (no. 23, 2; 28, 3 52). His father was P/Bir(a)nu, and thus his brother was the “Baṭuṭu, son of Birana”53 mentioned as a witness in no. 50, 16-17, and very often present in the deeds of archive N9 54. His son 55 Aššur-alik-pani seems to have become indebted in his own right in the

---

52) The definition here is 1.6*. Har-har-a-a (cf. Introduction, section b5, below).
53) For a discussion on the etymologies of both these names, cf. K. Deller, BaM 15 (1984), 239 54. Notice a further individual called Bi-r-nu-a in no. 39, r. 10.
54) Baṭuṭu is a witness in deeds of Mudammiq-Assur (nos. 6, 24, 32, 52), and Šar-ili (no. 17), a debtor to Šar-ili (no. 10), or together with the latter (no. 59). In the main text of the hundurayyus no. 35 (see below), a Baṭuṭu with the professional title of scribe appears as witness: this could well be a case of homonymy, however, and “our” Baṭuṭu could be one of the four names of (out of 30) lost in the “watered” part of the text.
55) Cf. already Pedersén, ALA II, 88, for the identification of this family line, to which some further detail is added here.
620s (nos. 23, 24), and perhaps the division of inheritance with Šumma-Aššur’s other son, Ahu-lamur (no. 28, of 616) had something to do with a difficult economic situation, which was behind the formula “The debts of the first son will be paid over jointly” (RHE 1-2). The name Šumma-Aššur was very frequent: notice that a homonym 1MU-AS+šur is son of Kandilanu (no. 33); and the 1ŠUM-mu-AS+šur son of Mannu-ki-ahhe is also a homonym (no. 13, 620 BC).

Aššur-eriba is the main protagonist of archive N10. In the documents of this archive, we see him buying a house, adjacent to his own in no. 59, as mentioned above (ad b2); he is one of a group lending silver in no. 60; he buys a slave woman from La-tubašanni-Aššur in no. 61; he is —somewhat unexpectedly— the debtor of silver in no. 62, but only as part of a more complex transaction, i.e. with deposit of an amount(?) owed by third parties —a situation that seems to recur in no. 64, although in slightly different terms; and finally in no. 65 he is once more the lender of silver, this time to Basî or Basiya, the son of Aššur-denu-amur56.

For the rest, Aššur-eriba, if not a relative, was certainly at least a “good neighbour” of the people of the adjacent dwellings, who left us archive N9: he is regularly present as witness to Sar-ili (nos. 10, 11, 19, 41, 43); he is one of the thirty hundurayyus selling the plot to Mudammiq-Aššur in no. 35. His father is said to be Kakkullanu in nos. 62 and 64; and the retrieval of these texts in N10, among other documents presenting Aššur-eriba’s name, makes a homonymy scarcely probable. A homonym is instead attested in no. 51, where an Aššur-eriba son of Urad-Nabî is named.

These data conclude what is known about the individuals endowed with the fundamental legal/economic roles in our documentation, and their direct relatives; and we may now go on to speak of a wider social group which may be detected in the material. To do so, we may start from a document which connects in various ways the names of many members of this group.

b) The list of hundurayyus (no. 35):

Text no. 35 is a very large conveyance text (no less than 60 lines), recording the sale of a plot of bare ground on the part of a group of hundurayyus57 to the authorities of the city of Assur. The date is 635 BC, following the chronological reconstruction by M. Falkner: thus this document falls right in the central period of attestation of the second generation of the family of Dada-ahhe, and is a crucial testimonial for the recovery of the names and mutual relationships of many people mentioned in the archive.

56) Cf. also no. 52 for the patronymic; through this link, Basî/Basiya should therefore be the grandson of Dadahi (see above).

57) For this professional designation, cf. below, ad section b5.
A first group of prosopographical data may be derived from the names of the owners of the properties neighbouring the one being sold, viz.:

L. 4 mentions the house of Šumma-Assur: this man, who was also a hundurayyu, has been dealt with above;

L. 7: a further neighbouring property is that of Mutakkil-Assur from Bit-Zamani, also mentioned as a witness further down in this text (r. 31). He could be the same person as a co-witness to Mudammiq-Assur in no. 9, 15 (same date as the deed under examination); cf. also no. 13, LHE 2, and possibly no. 35, r. 16, for the patronymic.

But the main prosopographical material comes from the list of joint co-owners of the qaqquru puša’u. Among these people, all of them summarized on l. 20 as “total, 30 men, by profession hundurayyu”, we find the following:

Susū (l. 8) is quite probably the same man as the witness mentioned in texts of the 630s, 39, 13; and the late 620s, no. 23, 12; 47, 12; and in a text of the archive N10, no. 59, 32. He is certainly identical with the Šu-u-su gaš hū-dir-a in no. 52, r. 6, of 619 BC.58

Sagīb-Assur (l. 9) is often mentioned as doing business with Mudammiq-Assur and Šar-īli, i.e. is tied to the second and third generation of Dada-ahhe’s family: cf. no. 6, 3 (with his son); 17, 3 and 5 (mention of his wife); 39, 12 (together with Susu); 46, 4; while a different individual would seem to be referred to in 29, 1.

Bisu’a (l. 10) is one of the best-known names of the archive: one individual so named is known as witness already for Dada-ahhe’s time (no. 2); but the main attestations occur for a witness of the Mudammiq-Assur period, and especially around the 620s, viz. no. 6, 11; 14, 13; 17, 15; 24, A, 12; B, 10; 38, A, 5; B, 15; 45, A, 10; B, 10; 59, 31; 60, 11. In no. 18, 5, Bisu’a is a business associate of Mudammiq-Assur’s.59 The same name seems attested in various other private archives of NA Assur.60

Kisir-Assur61 is more rarely attested: he first appears as a witness in Mudammiq-Assur’s deeds no. 39, r. 19 (of the 630s), in the latter together with Susu and Sagīb-Assur, and in no. 36, 7 (undated); but then he flanks Šakilya (see below) as a witness for a deed of one La-tušašanni-Assur in archive N10, no. 61, 27 (616 BC); he is possibly the purveyor of half a mina, 3 shekels in no. 27, r. 3; a son of his (?) is Šummayu in no. 33, r. 14.

Šakilya is one of the “cronies” of the Dada-ahhe family—mainly in the age of Mudammiq-Assur62—who appears most frequently as witness: cf. nos. 14, 12; 17, 15;

---

59) The same connection between the two is visible in TCL 9, 62, tablet, 1ff., cf. Appendix 1.
60) Working on the list of attestations provided by Deller, BaM 15 (1984), 238, it would seem that individuals named Bisu’a occur again in Assur archives N15, N32, N33.
62) Similarly to Bisu’a, an individual of this name appears already in Dada-ahhe’s archive: cf. no. 58, r. 1’ (no date).
24, A, 11; B, 11; 32, 12; 38 A, 6; B, 14; 45, A, 9'; B, 11; and in archive N10, nos. 59, 30, and 61, 26. As partner in a mixed loan, together with Mudammiq-Âššur, Úrad-Nanâ, and Amur-ilut-Âššur, we find him in no. 9. His son was Âššur-abu-ûṣur, as we know from no. 52, r. 15.

Âdi-ili-îqubi (l. 11): a man of this name is first attested in 657 BC, with Dada-ahhe (no. 16, 4). Corresponding to the one in the hundurayyu text appears as witness in 626 with Šakilya and Bisu’a (no. 45, B, 12); and in 621 with both the above as well as with Susu and Mudammiq-Âššur in a deed of archive N10 (no. 59, 32). He should also be the same man as the witness in no. 65, 11 (of 617 BC).

Hansâya or Hašsaya is attested with Šummu-Âššur in 642 BC (no. 8, 10); his son is perhaps the Šunu-âbâtia(?) mentioned in no. 33, r. 12. A man with the same name is attested as a witness in one of Âššur-eriba’s texts of archive N10, no. 64.

Âššur-rešî-išši (l. 12) is a witness in a conveyance involving the hazanu of Assur, Sin-na’id, no. 39, 14 (perhaps of the 630s), and in a text of N10, no. 59, LHE 2 (621 BC), where he makes his appearance with many of the above-mentioned hundurayyus, but possibly with the additional function of scribe (cf. 59, LHE 2-3).

Šumma-ibašši-ili appears as witness in three further texts, all of Mudammiq-Âššur’s lot: his presence may be made out earliest in no. 39, r. 15 (635 BC?), and later in two texts of the eponymate of Dadi (620 BC), i.e. no. 17, where he is a witness with the regularly present Batutu, Bisu’a, Šakilya, and no. 49. Of Âššur-eriba we have spoken above.

It is interesting to notice that Ahulamma is attested elsewhere only in documents from archive N10: in text 59, he sells Âššur-eriba a plot adjacent to the latter’s previous property. In no. 65, on the other hand, he is a mere witness to a deed by Basiya.

Of Âššur-denu-amur, too, we have spoken above; the name of the next hundurayyu is far from clear; and Bullit-Âššur has no further attestations. On the other hand, Âššur-salliₐm-ahhe is attested again in nos. 41, 59, as witness.

Âššur-alîk-panî, son of Šummu-Âššur, has been discussed above. The last of the well-attested hundurayyus is Tukultu-Âššur (always written Tukul-tu-Âššur + šur): this man is regularly attested with two other witnesses, Qur-di-Âššur and Tar-dîtu-Âššur (= us-tu-Âššur), in texts of the 620s (Šar-ili group), i.e. nos. 11, 41, 582, 59 (here with the Mudammiq-Âššur group of cronies and associates).

63) We suggest that his name might also be written in Schiel II (= recent re-edition Deller, BaM 15 [1984], 226-227, with copy), at the end of r. 14, from an examination of the photograph, Taf. 24, e ("Ša’-kil’-âa").
64) Is this the same man as the Âššur-abu-ûṣur who also appears in the texts of Mudammiq-Âššur or his sons (no. 26, r. 4'; 48, 14; 56, 15; 61, 28) as witness?
66) Notice the different writings (resp. syllabic and logographic) of the verbal element -sallîm- in the two texts.
4. The texts.

The texts of archives N9 and N10 are all of legal nature, save one (the administrative list no. 27). It may be useful to give a picture of the main typologies attested here, reserving a brief and preliminary glimpse at particular, even novel, types and problems for the end of this section. The texts of archives N9 and N10 are all of legal nature, save one (the administrative list no. 27). It may be useful to give a picture of the main typologies attested here, reserving a brief and preliminary glimpse at particular, even novel, types and problems for the end of this section. The most frequent occurrence is the loan of silver: cf. nos. 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26, 32, 38, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 56, 60, 62, 64, 65. Loans of barley for consumption (šē.p̄.d̄.mē̄š) are nos. 2, 3, 8, 31, 57. Loans of mixed items are nos. 9 (silver and straw), 45 (silver and garments).

The institution of the pledge is well documented at Assur. We find pledges of persons (nos. 13, 31, 45, 50), pledges of real estate (nos. 24; cf. also no. 57), and pledges of mixed items (no. 11). Such pledges are for the most part being undertaken, but at times we find them being settled, in the latter case with the redemption of the persons (no. 17, 30).

A particular type of contract with pledge is the so-called “work-contract”, relatively well attested at Assur in general. The “work-contracts” in our edition are represented by nos. 5, 13, 44, 46, 55. The basic idea here is that the debtor, as compensation for the loan which he has taken out, pledges his own person to the creditor for a specific number of months. At the end of this period, he will pay back the debt, or else the amount due will double. In our corpus of texts, two slightly variant phraseologies express this concept. In the majority of cases (nos. 5, 13, 55) the verbs applied to the debtor are “to take (the money)” (naṣū); thence “to serve” (palāhu) the creditor for a number of months, finally “(not) to be negligent” (egū) in repayment, or else the amount will “double” (esāpu). In the second case (= no. 46), the sum lent is qualified as igrišu, “his (= the debtor’s) wages”; the debtor will “serve” (palāhu) for a number of months; at repayment time, he should “(not) be absent from work” (makū), not even a single day, or else the amount will “double” (esāpu). As may be seen, the collation of the two formulae shows that we have here purely and simply a contractual pledge of the debtor to work for the creditor for the amount of time which would be...
Conveyances, or transfers of property, are regularly written down on “vertical” tablets in the NA period. The exemplars in archives N9 and N10 refer essentially to two objects: female slaves and real estate. Thus transactions regarding women are nos. 29, 30, 39, 41, 43, 44, 55, 61; while nos. 22, 35, 54, 59 are sales of plots of bare ground (*qaqquru puša’u*), and nos. 33, 42 represent the sale of houses in urban contexts, described in their inner components. The sale of an entire group of servile personnel is attested only once, in no. 34; while fragmentary conveyance texts, of unknown object, are nos. 21, 53, 58.

Of particular interest in the group of conveyances are three texts (nos. 33, 35, and the fragmentary no. 54) in which the seal identification section which opens the document clearly does not refer to the sellers of the real estate, counter to the normal practice for this age, and of course neither to the buyers, but to a group of city authorities, namely the *hazannu* (of Assur), the *ša muhhi alî*, and the *rab esarte*, “commander-often” of a professional group (perhaps always of the scribes, as in the better-preserved case no. 35, 3). In this case, therefore, it would seem that the conveyance was not based upon the usual void of juridical links between the transacted real estate and the imperial or municipal territory in which it was comprised, but rather appears to have required a sort of preliminary guarantee or *nilīt obstat* conferred by the municipal authorities through their seals, possibly as direct continuation of Middle Assyrian custom.

Judicial decisions: no. 11 is a text with some obscurities involving a “misdeed” which was “brought before” a specific individual—who thus would be endowed with the functional characteristics of a judge, although he is not designated as such—and which was consequently settled; very little distinguishes this text from a “receipt” of a private agreement (cf. below). In no. 16, instead, the formula *dēnu ša PN* makes it clear that we

---

71) For the concept of *palāhu*, cf. already Postgate, FNALD, 48, 55. Going into further detail, notice that text no. 13 records the obligation of one man to “serve” Mudammiq-Asšur for 10 months—but the debt in silver is unspecified. In no. 55, on the other hand, the creditors are three in number, but they act as one, since the months of service are again 10; also, the sum is given clearly in this text.

72) This term means to refer to tablets written with lines parallel to the short axis of the rectangle, following FNALD, 4.

are in the sphere of a judgment on a civil claim discussed and settled in court, with consequent "judicial peace" (šulmu). No. 40 is a very small, virtually insignificant, fragment. Finally, no. 66 seems to concern a theft, on which a judgment was officially rendered (parāsu) by the city-overseer.

— Receipts, i.e. documents recording the receipt of a payment or the conclusion of a transaction of sorts are not very frequent in NA documentation in general, and show no rigid rules of format; rather, this textual genre seems to pivot essentially around a small number of formulae indicating mutual agreement and full repayment, and preventing second thoughts about the matter. In our corpus, no. 1 is a sealed "vertical" tablet, recording the transfer of property of a paternal estate (bit abišunu) in lieu (kum) of the repayment of debts (habullē). No. 4 is a laconic note —part of the Dada-ahhe texts— on the partial conclusion of a debt-obligation characterized by the verb šallumu. Even more unusual is no. 12, also of the Dada-ahhe sub-group, which regards debts relevant to the preparation of a collective (?) commercial enterprise. Going on to the Mudammiq-Aššur documents, we find further variant typologies of the receipt. In no. 17, two persons are in charge of the delivery of some wine and silver, described as "merchandise of the mountain region", to Mudammiq-Aššur, and by consequence one of the two may redeem two (previously pledged) members of his family, and obtain a "share" (zīitu) of the silver as well. In no. 18 Mudammiq-Aššur, having received —in a joint venture with Bisu'a— some silver from a woman, proceeds to give back his "share" of the loan. This text has some procedural connections with no. 5, which seems to be a brief note of receipt constituting an addition to a contractual text, stating purely and simply that "Mudammiq-Aššur gets half of the silver owed to Bisu'a". Finally, no. 36 is a fragmentary text, possibly regarding an ox, which is dealt by Mudammiq-Aššur on one hand and a group of people with mainly West Semitic names on the other.

— Particular interest may be attached to the divisions of inheritance in our corpus, since this textual genre is not very well attested in NA. No. 20 might actually be no more than a receipt: it states that two brothers have made a division of goods between themselves, with two other individuals being mentioned in this connection. No. 28, although fragmentary in its contents, is a more precise division into "shares" (zīitu zuāzu) on the part of two brothers. Finally, no. 52, already mentioned above, is an extremely precise division of shares (zīitu batāqqu) effected by the heirs to a paternal estate (bit abišunu) comprising servile personnel and parts of a house.

***

74) Cf. FNALD, 55-57, for an outline of the texts and their main phraseological components.
75) Cf. FNALD, 56, for this verb as typical of receipts.
76) Cf. the observations by Postgate, FNALD, 118-119.
In a no more than preliminary perspective, it may be added here that the legal horizon of the private archives from Assur—as compared to that proceeding from the archives of the royal or gubernatorial palaces in Nineveh or Kalhu—presents a certain number of aspects which are specific and relatively unique, or at least give evidence of "marginal"/regional formulaic and practical legal tendencies. Some of the particularities in terminology mainly attested in the Assur texts were clearly pointed out by K. Deller: thus, e.g., the division of estates “down to the pots and pans” (kallu u śiāhharru: cf. nos. 20, 28, 52), the penalty of the “doubling” of the amount due (ešāpu: cf. nos. 6, 22, 30, 46, 56), the formula of the “smashing of the tablet” upon conclusion of the legal value and sanctions of the deed (egirtu marāqu: nos. 1, 38, 62), the conclusive expression “not a shekel, not even a half shekel, is left” (riāhu: cf. nos. 1, 18, 37). A further interesting clause is the penalty of the burning of the eldest son “in the hamrute-temple of the god Adad” (nos. 33, 42, 51).

To these examples, a few more uncommon characteristics—albeit still subject to further study—may be added. Interesting is the terminology relevant to the debtor’s (etc.) “negligence” or “absence” in his work service: cf. the use of the verbs egū, mekū/makū (no. 46), and the formula ana šeṭšu’ (no. 20). In a conveyance text, the penalty clauses foresee the gods taking action against the subject’s permanence in the Assur temple (no. 22). Finally, worthy of note is the tendency to substitute one tablet (usually with the notation of a previous debt) with the present one: cf. e.g. nos. 13, 62: and in this connection, it may be noted that the term dannutu seems at Assur to stand for more than just a “valid tablet”, predominantly referring to conveyance documents, as at Nineveh and other known sites, but instead applies to tablets with specific technical and economic function within the procedures of silver and corn lending (cf. especially no. 38).

5. Notes on the hundurayyu “house” and its activities.

The professional term hundurayyu has been used with no explanation or comment in the previous sections of this introduction to the texts, and thus at this point requires, in our opinion, a specific treatment, albeit preliminary in character. In particular, the following questions of historical interest may be posed:

(a) Can the professional term hundurayyu be explained in its meaning and func-

77) The standard reference works at present available are Postgate’s FNALD; Kwasman’s NALK; and Kwasman-Parpola’s SAA 6.
79) The clause is examined in Menzel, AT, I, 67-68.
80) Cfr. CAD D, 90b; and see FNALD, 3. This usage seems reflected in no. 59 of our corpus.
tion, per se and specifically in relation to its presence at Assur, from our texts and parallel material?

(b) What type of social/economic structure linked the hundurayyus internally, causing the cases of common residence, property, and activity which we may detect in or around archives N9 and N10, either archeologically or from the texts themselves?

(c) What was the (economic and social, even geographical) background of the private dealings of the hundurayyus who were the main protagonists of archives N9 and N10, as reflected in the legal texts?

First of all, a quick look at the occurrences of the term hundurayyu in our evidence will be in order —with a large number of reciprocal variants of the designation itself as its main result. Such variants are tied to the writing/phonetics of the name itself on one hand, and on the other to the presence/absence of a prefixed geographical determinative, URU or KUR, and at times even of LÜ. The “main” writing is, as a matter of fact, known only from text no. 21, 2, with no geographical determinative (LÜ.GAL-hu-un-du-ra-a-<a>) and is confirmed by a letter outside the archive (KAV 112, 6: LÜ. Hu-un-du-ru-a-a). The majority of cases, however, shows a different colouring of the last vowel. Many occurrences present i: thus in No. 22, 18 a LÜ.GAL–hu-dir is present, in 23, 2 we have hu-dir-<a>-a with no previous markers (similarly to no. 52, 2, r. 6, hu-dir-a), while no. 39, r. 7 attests URU.Hu-un-dir-a-[a], i.e. a form with dissimilation -nd- and a determinative. The same form characterizes a further case outside the archive, ND 1120, 17. Other cases show a vocalization coloured in a: the large text no. 35 bears out the variant LÜ.hu-dar-a-[a] (fully written in I. 20, and passim in half-preserved condition), while a minute fragment, no. 54, bears witness to a variant Hu-un-dir-a-a. That all these cases represented mutual variants in writing/phonetics is undisputable on prosopographical grounds (cf. section b, above); it is also clear therefrom that a further variant of *hundurayyu was LÜ.Har-har-a-a, applied to a son of Šumma-Aššur in no. 28, 3 (cf. 23, 2). Thus, the conclusive observation to be made here is that *hundurayyu is by no means the main form attested in our material, and it will be considered paradigmatic only insofar as it is traditionally quoted in the existing literature, as well as in view of a possible connection with the toponym Hündur (cf. below).

Of the three questions posed above, that of the activity of the hundurayyus is by far the one with the longest list of references, despite the lack of a definitive solution thus far. A preliminary note on the professional name hundurayyu was given by K. Deller in OrNS 33 (1964), 95 (review of CAD $), with the following main results: this “Handwerkername” has the form of a gentilic, tied to the toponym URU.Hu-un-du-ur attested in Sargon’s eighth campaign inscription; through prosopography (case of Paqa-ana-Aššur: cf. our nos. 21, 22), the variant writing hu-dir may be connected to hundurayyu; through a further prosopographical comparison, relevant to the name Mudammiq-Aššur, who is hu-dir-a in one case (our no. 52) and is dubbed LÜ.GAL–GAR in another text (VAT 10007, r. 13), “muss die Frage aufgeworfen werden, ob LÜ.GAR nicht etwa Wz. für LÜ.hun-
duraja ist\textsuperscript{81}. The attempt to link the designation hundurayyu and the activity of “baker” of the Aššur temple was taken up again by Menzel, AT I, 250-253, s.v. LÜ.NINDA and LÜ.GAL-NINDA. This author, in particular, discussed at length the prosopographical material seen above on Mudammiq-Aššur and the letter KAV 112 (on which cf. below): on both counts, the equivalence of LÜ.NINDA, “baker” with hundurayyu is affirmed, although the reader perceives a few difficulties in the overall chain of consequences\textsuperscript{82}. Deller himself went back to the question in detail in BA M 15 (1984), 234-235, but even the additional evidence assembled here failed to convince others: cf. Pedersen, ALA II, 89\textsuperscript{16}, 132\textsuperscript{4} for prosopographical objections (based on the fact that the Mudammiq-Aššur LÜ.GAL-NINDA is a protagonist in archive N33), and see already Parpola, LAS 2, 321 on grammatical grounds.

Thus, in brief, there is no real agreement at present on the identification of the hundurayyus with the “bakers” of the Aššur temple. Yet, that these people worked for the temple is undisputable: KAV 112\textsuperscript{83}, presumably from Esarhaddon’s age, is a letter of accompaniment with which one temple steward (lahhinu) sends two hundurayyus to a colleague of his, so that the latter may give them two massiki for the performing of the work/ritual (dullu) in front of the king\textsuperscript{84}. And even clearer is the role of these individuals in the Assur temple, taking account of a clause of a text from Nimrud, of the age of Sargon, on the preparation of a cultic banquet in the sanctuary, ND 1120: \(\text{rú-sa-ak-nu i-si-ru KUR.Hu-un-dir-a-a u-ups-pu,} \ldots\) they have placed, they plastered, the hundurayyus have covered over\textsuperscript{85}. Now, on the basis of both these passages, we might tentatively accept the notion of massuku in KAV 112 as a sort of carpet, as suggested by von Soden\textsuperscript{86}. The ensuing general picture would then be that of a group of craftsmen,

\textsuperscript{81} As noted by Pedersén (ALA II, 89\textsuperscript{16}), the opinion on this correspondence was modified by the same author in OrNS 34 (1965), 471, then 477, where the former LÜ.GAR, i.e. LÜ.NINDA, is considered the equivalent of karkadinmu and then corrected further to lahhini.

\textsuperscript{82} Thus the argument leads Menzel (ibid., 252) to accept a reading TUG.ma-si-ki — i.e. in the realm of woven material — for the object of the hundurayyu’s work in KAV 112, 9, and not ztu.ma-si-ki, which would have made it a kind of baking flour. Nonetheless, in her opinion, “kann man dann nur zu dem Schluss kommen, dass es sich bei dem TUGmassuku um die besonderen Tücher handelt, die von den (Brot)Bäckern beim Produktionsvergang benötigt werden” (pp. 252-253). The second difficulty, that Mudammiq-Aššur was “chief baker” in one text but a mere hu-dir-a in the other, is clearly perceived by Menzel, who however brings up a couple of hypotheses for harmonization of the data (p. 253).


\textsuperscript{84} The crucial passage is KAV 112, 5-10: \(\text{šan-nu-ri-gi-ši. Hu-un-du-ru-a-a 7as-sap-ra u7-nu 8ša i-qa-rib-ú-né-ni 8-nu 2-su TUG.ma-si-ki 19ár-hiš di-na-ša-nu.} \) For dullu as “zweideutig”, in the sense that it can “(handwerkliche) Arbeit, aber auch eine irgendwie geartete kultische Betätigung ausdrücken”, cf. Menzel, AT II, *207\textsuperscript{2314}.


\textsuperscript{86} AHw., 619a. Notice, however, more recently, the totally dissimilar interpretation by CAD M/2, 326b, where a different (third!) reading of the determinative is proposed, 88, with the meaning “towing rope”.

\begin{itemize}
  \item As noted by Pedersén (ALA II, 89\textsuperscript{16}), the opinion on this correspondence was modified by the same author in OrNS 34 (1965), 471, then 477, where the former LÜ.GAR, i.e. LÜ.NINDA, is considered the equivalent of karkadinmu and then corrected further to lahhini.
  \item Thus the argument leads Menzel (ibid., 252) to accept a reading TUG.ma-si-ki — i.e. in the realm of woven material — for the object of the hundurayyu’s work in KAV 112, 9, and not ztu.ma-si-ki, which would have made it a kind of baking flour. Nonetheless, in her opinion, “kann man dann nur zu dem Schluss kommen, dass es sich bei dem TUGmassuku um die besonderen Tücher handelt, die von den (Brot)Bäckern beim Produktionsvergang benötigt werden” (pp. 252-253). The second difficulty, that Mudammiq-Aššur was “chief baker” in one text but a mere hu-dir-a in the other, is clearly perceived by Menzel, who however brings up a couple of hypotheses for harmonization of the data (p. 253).
  \item The crucial passage is KAV 112, 5-10: \(\text{šan-nu-ri-gi-ši. Hu-un-du-ru-a-a 7as-sap-ra u7-nu 8ša i-qa-rib-ú-né-ni 8-nu 2-su TUG.ma-si-ki 19ár-hiš di-na-ša-nu.} \) For dullu as “zweideutig”, in the sense that it can “(handwerkliche) Arbeit, aber auch eine irgendwie geartete kultische Betätigung ausdrücken”, cf. Menzel, AT II, *207\textsuperscript{2314}.
  \item AHw., 619a. Notice, however, more recently, the totally dissimilar interpretation by CAD M/2, 326b, where a different (third!) reading of the determinative is proposed, 88, with the meaning “towing rope”.
\end{itemize}
presumably of ultimate Mannean origin, but present in Assyrian temples at least since Sargon’s reign, specialized in weaving activities, relevant to carpets or perhaps just mats. \textit{Hu(n)d}alurayyu (also \textit{Harharayyu}) would thus have been a gentilic moniker that eventually came to have a merely professional connotation, presumably in the sphere of weaving.

Whether they were carpet-weavers for the Aššur temple or not, the \textit{hundurayyus} seem to have carried out a professional activity which required them to band together in larger or smaller groups. This collective tendency of the \textit{hundurayyus} is of course inferred, not decisively proved: however, the authors cannot recall any other NA deed which matches no. 35 in the present publication, i.e. which presents the joint ownership of a relatively small plot of land on the part of 30 individuals endowed with the same professional designation. Further, as may be noted, the plot was located near the residences of some of the more prominent \textit{hundurayyus}, like Šumma-Aššur (no. 35, Obv. 4); and this, together with the data on adjacent properties near the \textit{Aussenhaken} described above (Introduction, \textit{ad b}2), would seem to point to the existence of a veritable “\textit{hundurayyu} district” in Assur City. We thus come to the second problem posed above: can these data lead us to surmise that the \textit{hundurayyus} constituted some sort of “guild”, perhaps even originally endowed with its specific “charter” in Assur (and perhaps in other cities endowed with temples as well)? In our opinion, this suspicion is plausible—but the evidence for it is lacking for the NA period, and parallels can only be summoned from the corporations attested in Late Babylonian temples. That many groups of professionals were viewed as collective bodies in the eyes of the Palace, is well known; but we still seem to lack an institutional framework in which to place such aggregates and envisage them dynamically, in their dealings with the king and

\textsuperscript{87} Menzel, AT, I, 253, made the clear point that *\textit{hundurayyu} and \textit{lu.Har-ha-ra-a} represent the same professional designation, since one person is called in both ways in our archive (cf. Introduction, \textit{b}3a, \textit{ad Šumma-Aššur}). Hundu/ir and Harhar are neighboring sites in Sargon’s account of his expeditions to Mannean territory: cf. L.D. Levine, \textit{Two Neo-Assyrian Stelae from Iran}, Toronto 1972, 38-39; and see \textit{id.}, \textit{Geographical Studies in the Neo-Assyrian Zagros}, Toronto and London 1974, 116ff.

\textsuperscript{88} In this connection, it may be interesting to notice that in no. 48 an individual might be at the service of three of the \textit{hundurayyus} “for the knotting”\textsuperscript{m} (\textit{ina’ xiṣù}) in lieu of his “wages” (\textit{igrištu}): a connection which cannot but bring to mind the “wages of a textile-knotter” (\textit{igrištu lú.tūg.KA.xiṣù}) mentioned in Urad-Gula’s well-known letter to Ashurbanipal, ABL 1285 (full and recent re-edition in S. Parpola, \textit{The Forlorn Scholar}, in F. Rochberg-Halton (Ed.), \textit{Studies Presented to E. Reiner}, Chicago 1987, 257-278; cf. also F.M. Fales - G.B. Lanfranchi, \textit{Lettere dalla corte assira}, Venezia 1991, no. 31), r. 18-19.


\textsuperscript{90} Cf., e.g., a passage such as LAS 2, 6-r. 3, “The scribes, the haruspices, the exorcists, the physicians (and) the augurs staying in the palace (or) living in the city will enter the treaty on the 16th of Nisannu. Now, by tomorrow, they should have taken the oath”.

---

\textsuperscript{87} Menzel, AT, I, 253, made the clear point that *\textit{hundurayyu} and \textit{lu.Har-ha-ra-a} represent the same professional designation, since one person is called in both ways in our archive (cf. Introduction, \textit{b}3a, \textit{ad Šumma-Aššur}). Hundu/ir and Harhar are neighboring sites in Sargon’s account of his expeditions to Mannean territory: cf. L.D. Levine, \textit{Two Neo-Assyrian Stelae from Iran}, Toronto 1972, 38-39; and see \textit{id.}, \textit{Geographical Studies in the Neo-Assyrian Zagros}, Toronto and London 1974, 116ff.

\textsuperscript{88} In this connection, it may be interesting to notice that in no. 48 an individual might be at the service of three of the \textit{hundurayyus} “for the knotting”\textsuperscript{m} (\textit{ina’ xiṣù}) in lieu of his “wages” (\textit{igrištu}): a connection which cannot but bring to mind the “wages of a textile-knotter” (\textit{igrištu lú.tūg.KA.xiṣù}) mentioned in Urad-Gula’s well-known letter to Ashurbanipal, ABL 1285 (full and recent re-edition in S. Parpola, \textit{The Forlorn Scholar}, in F. Rochberg-Halton (Ed.), \textit{Studies Presented to E. Reiner}, Chicago 1987, 257-278; cf. also F.M. Fales - G.B. Lanfranchi, \textit{Lettere dalla corte assira}, Venezia 1991, no. 31), r. 18-19.


\textsuperscript{90} Cf., e.g., a passage such as LAS 2, 6-r. 3, “The scribes, the haruspices, the exorcists, the physicians (and) the augurs staying in the palace (or) living in the city will enter the treaty on the 16th of Nisannu. Now, by tomorrow, they should have taken the oath”.
among themselves\footnote{According to K. Deller-A.R. Millard, \textit{AfO} 32 (1985), 50a, \textit{qinnu} is the only word for "guild" which has been hitherto discovered in NA texts; other contexts in which communal work and organization is described deal with the groups through formulae such as \textit{LÚ.SUR.ME₃} OF \textit{PAP SIMUG KÜ.GI.ME₃} (resp. KAV 197, 9; VAT 1007, r. 12; both quoted \textit{ibid.}).}

And finally —to tackle the third question posed above— it must be stated that a parallel lack of information and basic contextual uncertainty characterizes our view of the \textit{hundurayyus} in their \textit{private} undertakings, \textit{i.e.} in the ventures which are the very object of the texts published in the present article. As is well known, the extant Neo-Assyrian legal archives give ample evidence of the possibility for single/multiple acquisitions on the part of private individuals, at times even high officials who seem to use their public power for private purposes\footnote{Cf. overviews of the problems concerned in F.M. Fales, \textit{Il villaggio assiro Bit Abu-ila'a}, "Dialoghi di Archeologia" 3 (1980), 66-84 (English translation: \textit{The Assyrian Village Bit Abu-ila'a}, in C. Zaccagnini [Ed.], \textit{Production and Consumption in the Ancient Near East}, Budapest 1989, 169-200); id., \textit{A Survey of Neo-Assyrian Land Sales}, in T. Khalidi (Ed.), \textit{Land Tenure and Social Transformation in the Middle East}, Beirut 1984, 1-13; J.N. Postgate, \textit{The Ownership and Exploitation of Land in Assyria in the 1st Millennium B.C.}, in M. Lebeau-Ph. Talon (Eds.), \textit{Reflets des deux Fleuves}, Leuven 1989, 141-152.}. In the texts published here, on the other hand, \textit{joint} economic activities and positions of credit/debt mark many documents of the \textit{hundurayyus'} archives; and questions of kinship among the contracting parties —insofar as they may be reconstructed— seem to enter the picture only marginally and to a limited degree. In the same light, as shown in detail above (\textit{ad b3a}), even the protagonists of archives N9 and N10—the main "entrepreneurs" Dada-ahhe, Mudammiq-Asšur, Aššur-eriba, and the others—seem to fit in schemes of mutual kinship with difficulty, and in some cases not as direct heirs of one another. Thus, in brief, we are left with a number of common ventures in private business on the part of the \textit{hundurayyus} which appear to fall outside of schemes of family activity: rather, the \textit{hundurayyus} appear to be taking care of their private businesses through some mutual bond and general franchise which could have to do with their public collegiate status.

Where does this leave us, from the point of view of a socio-economic model for these data? Similarly to the question of the "guild" posed above, a possible interpretation is suggested by a structure which up to now has never been considered to antedate the Neo-Babylonian period: we are referring to the private commercial establishment, the "house" or "firm", which from Neirab to Murašû to Egibi will dominate the later age\footnote{Cf. the recent study by M. Stolper, \textit{Entrepreneurs and Empire: the Murašû Archive, the Murašû Firm, and Persian Rule in Babylon}, Leiden 1985.}. But there is absolutely no proof that the \textit{hundurayyus}, as a body or even in limited groups, were engaged in commercial and financial activities along the guidelines and with the scope of the later establishments. All we know, in fact, is that, apart from their undertakings for the temple, they were engaged in loans on a relatively large scale, and that some of their business concerned merchandise (silver, wine) transported from...
regions outside the Assyrian homeland (a zone of production is called on more than one occasion the Kur, “mountain (area)"). Whether these sources, as legal or economic materials, “erstaunliche Ergebnisse in der Deutung neubabylonischer Urkunden vorweisen kann”94, is still in our opinion an open question.

***

The above remarks are, as already stated, merely introductory in function and decidedly preliminary in nature: many of the conclusions reached in the various sections might require (possibly even substantial) revision before the publication of the texts from the private archives of Neo-Assyrian Assur is over. On the other hand, it was felt that the decades-long wait for the NA Assur texts justified an attempt to make light of some of the most conspicuous issues already on this occasion; on other matters, the judgment has been as reserved and problematical as deemed necessary. It is in any case foreseen in this stage of the work that the reader will make his own critical assessment upon reading the texts in transliteration and translation, provided in the following pages.

c. Texts

Archive N9.

1. VAT 14451. ALA N9(1). Ass.Fd.Nr. 9557, Ph. Ass. 1344/45, bottom right. Photo: pls. I-II.

Rectangular (“vertical”) tablet, with small breaks on Obverse (upper right), heavily mutilated on Reverse (only beginnings of lines preserved). Brownish clay. 8.9×9.4 cms. 14+1+20+1 lines. Seal impressions on Obverse.

Transfer of property of a paternal estate as payment for debts. 653 BC.

Obverse

1. NA₄.KIŠIB₁Da-da-P[AP.MEŠ]

2. (erasure) A 1su-As+š[ur]
3. Na₄.Kšib 1Pap-tab-ši [( )]
4. Na₄.Kšib 1dMes-APIN1-[š]
5. DUMU 1Qaq-qa-da-ni

SEALINGS

6. 6 AD-šú-nu a-na gi-mir-te-šú
7. ša 1su-As+šur AD-šú-nu
8. ku-um 13 MA.NA KÜ.BABBAR
9. ha-bu-li ša URU.ŠAL-URU-a-a
10. i-ta-nu e-gér-te ú-ta-ri-qu
11. me-me-ni la re-he šul-mu
12. [i]na bir-<ti>-šú-nu mám-ma TA* mám-ma
13. [la] i-da-rBu-bu-3-bu
14. [mannu ša ina urkiš ina] "ma"-te-mi

Lower Edge
1. [x x x]-ni

Reverse
approx. 3 lines lost
4'. [x]t[irma] [n]
5'. IGI [Zi-[x x x x] x da-a-a]
6'. IGI [1]
7'. IGI [1]
8'. IGI [1]
9'. IGI [1]
10'. IGI [1]
11'. IGI [1]
12'. IGI [1]
13'. IGI [1]
14'. IGI [1]
15'. IGI [x]
16'. IGI [Igi [1]
17'. IGI [Na-
18'. IGI [Sur-
19'. IGI [K1-
20'. IN.APIN

Upper Edge
1. lim-mu 1Aš+šur-DINGIR-[a-a]
Translation

"Seal of Dada-ahhe, son of Eriba-Âšûr; seal of Ahi-(it)tabšâ; seal of Marduk-ereš, son of Qaqqadani.

A paternal estate of theirs, in its entirety, belonging to Eriba-Âšûr, their father, in lieu of 13 minas of silver—the debts of a man from Assur—they have given over. They have smashed the contract. Nothing is left over. There is judicial peace between them. Nobody will litigate with anybody (else). Whoever in the future or whenever ...".

List of witnesses, fragmentary.

"Eponymate of Aššur-ila’a”.

Notes
1ff.: various lines of this text are discussed by Deller: BaM 15, 249 (Obv. 3); OrNS 34, 263 (6-9); WZKM 57 (1961), 41 (11).

4: suggestions for emended reading and integration by KHD, although the sign is actually a cross between la and pin.

9: the “Mr.” sign is missing, similarly to the case in text no. 11, 4, a judicial decision of a much later date (q.v.), so no personal name seems implied.

10: Deller, WZKM 57 (1961), 37, also OrNS 53 (1984), 79-80, analyzed the verb as a D-stem, with the overall translation “die Tafel haben sie zerrieben”; he suggested that e-gir-te should be understood as a plural.

14: integration of the line by KHD.

R. 5': the end signs are on the right-hand edge; KHD suggests tentatively uru.Ba-lṭa-ṭa-a-a.


Triangular docket, perforated. Greyish clay. 3.0×3.7×0.7 cms. 9+10 lines.

Corn loan. 672 BC(?).

Obverse
1. 1-ŠE 5 qa ŠE.PAD.MEŠ

95 Some confusion has surrounded the numbering of this tablet. Deller’s used the number Ass.Fd.Nr. 9515 in BaM 15 (1984), 242-243—the reference to PAP 2 EN-KASKAL in line 7 is undisputable—but not in ibid., 238 (list of mentions of Bisu’a) where the same tablet is dubbed Ass.Fd.Nr. 9570b. The latter number is also used by Pedersén, ALA, 91 = archive N9(3), with reference to all the above attestations.
2. ša 1Da-da-hi
3. ina IGI 1IN.KIN-a-a
4. 1-Sē 5 qa ŠE.PAD.MEŠ
5. ša 1Da-da-hi
6. ina IGI 1U+GUR-PAP-ir
7. PAP 2 EN-KASKAL
8. a-na pu-hi
9. i-ta-šu

SEALINGS

Reverse
10. 1Tit[.KI]N-a-a
12. ina ad-x-r'rī SAG.DU-shá
13. SUM-an šum-mu la i-din
14. a-na mit-har GAL-bi
15. IGI.BA RA UD-13-KAM
16. lim-me 1pA-x-r$\gamma$-PAP
17. IGI 1Da-i'[n[$u]
18. IGI 1Bi-su-u-a
19. IGI 1Šum-mu-AS+šur

Translation

“Six seahs, 5 qas of corn, belonging to Dada-ahhe, credited to Ululayu. Six seahs, 5 qas of corn, belonging to Dada-ahhe, credited to Nergal-našir. Total, of what two expedition leaders took as loan. Ululayu is guarantor. At the threshing floor, as capital sum, he will give it back; if he fails to give it back, it will increase by an equal amount. Month of Nisannu, 13th day, eponymate of Nabu-...-ušur. Witness: Qatinu; witness: Bisu’a; witness: Šumu-Aššur”.

Notes

12: a clear ad- is followed by a partially broken sign: KHD suggests ad-$r$-d$\alpha$-[r[i], on the basis of VAT 9867, 4 (noted in OrNS 34 [1965], 265 as “auflägliche Schreibung”), but the Winkelhaken which opens the sign clashes with this interpretation.

16: the text has a half-preserved sign after the divine name Nabû, which is hardly MU OF EN, and just barely plausible as a very short LUGAL (thus KHD). On the other hand, prosopography shows that the Dada-ahhe group is to be essentially dated in the first half of the 7th century96; so that a Nabû-belu-uşur (eponym for 672) would fit the issue best.

96] See Introduction, section 2a; and cf. nos. 21, 22, below, of 681 BC, for the presence of the witness Qatinu.

_Tableet, as yet unextricated from Envelope. Light brown clay. 4.0×2.1×1.3 cms. _4|+n|+[n]+[n+]|2 lines. Tablet: 2 lines visible in break of Envelope._

_Corn loan. No date (but before 653 BC, cf. Introduction)._  

A (Envelope)

Obverse  
1. _NA₄.KIŠIB ¹PAP-u-a-SU_  
2. _5 ANŠE 1-SĒ ŠE.PAD_  
3. _ša ¹Da-da-PAP.MEŠ_

_SEALINGS_

4. _pa-an [²PAP]-r-a-SU_  
5. _x [x x x x x]x_

Reverse  
(beginning lost)  
1'. _IGI ¹Šā-kil-ia_  
2'. _IGI ¹MU-Âš+šur_  
blank space (2-3 lines’ length)

B (Tablet)

1. _5 ANŠE 1-SĒ ŠE.PAD_  
2. _[ša ¹Da-da=VAP].[MES]_  
(rest covered)

_Translation_  
A: “Seal of Ahu’a-eriba. 5 homers, 6 seahs of barley, belonging to Dada-ahhe, are credited to Ahu’a-eriba … (break)  
… witness: Šakilya; witness: Šumma-Âšur”.  
B: “5 homers, 6 seahs of barley, belonging to Dada-ahhe …”.

_Notes_  
A, 4: the writing _pa-an_ seems to occur only here in this archive; but is present (KHD) in legal documents of other houses (Ass.Fd.Nr. 8996a = ALA N22(1), _pa-an_; VAT 14447, _ina pa-an_).

Light grey clay, rectangular shaped tablet, written on “long” side. 4.8×2.8 cms. 5 lines.

Receipt on the repayment of debts. No date.

Obverse
1. TA* šA ŠE.IN.NU
2. ša 1Pa-qa-ana-Ås+šur
3. 1Da-da-hi hab-ba-lu-ni
4. 1Da-da-hi HÀ.LA-Åša
5. ú-sa-lim

Reverse uninscribed, only sealings

Translation
“From the straw which Paqa-ana-Åšur and Dada-ahhe owed, Dada-ahhe has paid back his share in full”.

Notes
4-5: for this particular meaning of šallumu, with parallels, cf. FNALD, p. 56; more material in CAD S/1, 226b-228a. A good case in point is CT 33, pl. 17 (= FNALD, pp. 152-153; K. Deller, JESHO 30 [1987], 20f.).


Rectangular (“horizontal”) tablet, almost completely preserved (slight abrasions; and the remnant of the “envelope” covers the end signs of lines 2-3 of the Obverse). Light-brown clay. 3.7×2.2 cms. 5+1+4 lines.

Inner tablet of contract text. Post-canonical date (642 BC).

Obverse
1. ina šA e-gé-r-te
2. 14UTU-[x x]

97) I.e. with writing parallel to the long axis of the rectangle: cf. fn. 12.
3. \textit{ina} šā e-gē[r-te]
4. ša 1A-ha-bu-a
5. meš-lu 1Mu-sig–Asš+šur

\textbf{Lower Edge}
1. T'A šā' Kū. BABBAR?1 Bi-su-u-(erasure)a

\textbf{Reverse}
1. i[ti]š Kin(? ud'(text:ùš)-20
2. ūm-mu1 1Mu-SILIM–Aššur
3. ig1 1Na-ma-nu
4. IGI id-PÀ–DU–A

\textbf{Translation}
\begin{quote}
\textit{"(This goes) inside the contract of Šamaš-\ldots, (and) inside the contract of Aha­bu'a: Mudammiq-Assur (gets) one-half of the silver (owed to) Bisu'a. The month of Uulu (= VI), 20th day, eponymate of Mušallim-Assur. Witness: Na'manu; witness: Nabû-mukin-apli".}
\end{quote}

\textbf{Notes}
3: perhaps UTU–A[D–PAP], on the basis of visible traces (KHD).
4: the name is quoted by Deller, OrNS 34, 262.
Edge 1: the reading of the first part of this line is very problematical.
R. 1-2: for the date, cf. Falkner, cit., 103 (642 BC); also, ALA, 87. The first sign of r. 1 could be Ig1 (KHD).
3: Na'manu appears together with Bisu'a and Mudammiq-Assur in the deed TCL 9, 62 (quoted by Deller, BaM 15, 237; given in Appendix 1, below).

\textbf{6. VAT 20347. ALA N9(7).} Formerly VAT 16525; Ass.Fd.Nr 9575\textsuperscript{90}. Ph.Ass. 1283/84, 2nd row, right. Published photo: FWA, Taf.107.

\begin{quote}
\textit{Fragment of tablet (left half, esp. Reverse, very broken). 2.1×2.2×1 cms. 6+2+4+1 lines.}
\end{quote}

\textit{Loan of silver with work agreement. Post-canonical date (621 BC).}

\textbf{Upper Edge}
1. [x x (x) G]IN Kū. BABBAR

\textsuperscript{90} The situation of numbering here is again quite intricated: cf. Deller, BaM 15 (1984), 232, who quotes this text \textit{ad} (n), as Ass.Fd.Nr. 9575; but the inventory number VAT 16525 was assigned to the document by the same author in WZKM 57 (1961), 36\textsuperscript{10} (as may be reconstructed from Pedersén, ALA, 91, who quotes all these cases while assigning the original number 9570f).
Obverse
2. [x x]x šá 9 ITI.MES
3. [i]x-[Aš]+šur A 1Sa-gib-[Aš]+šur
4. [fl] a-na 1Mu-SIG-Aš+šur
5. [i-p]a-lāh šum u₄-r₄[um]₁
6. [e]-te-gi KU.‘BABBAR”
7. ʾe²-ṣip SUM-an

Left Hand Edge
8. [ITI]r GAN UD-20-KAM
9. [lim-mu] 1Aš+šur-rém-a-ni

Reverse
10. [IGI] E₂-₃₁-ia
11. [IGI] Bi-su-u-a
12. [IGI] ʾBa-tu-tu?
13. [x x] ¶UM

Translation
“n minas, n shekels of silver, belonging to Mudammiq-Aššur, for 9 months, ...-Aššur, son of Sagib-Aššur took; ... Mudammiq-Aššur; if he is negligent one single day, he will give back the money double. Month of Kislimu, the 20th day, eponymate of Aššur-remanni. Witness: Šakilya; witness: Bisu’a; witness: Baṭṭu; ...”

Notes
2: the sign is written in the shortened NA form (=9*).
5-6: same formula, but with mu = šum, in VAT 16528 (= ALA N9(74), not retrieved); cf. Deller, WZKM 57, 36.
10-11: for the names of the witnesses in this text, see Deller, BaM 15, 232.

Envelope and tablet. Debt-note for silver. 681 BC.

A. Envelope. Fragment 1): 2.2×2.5 cms. One stamp seal impression at center of written surface; fragment 2): part of back, similar stamp seal impression; 2.1×1.8 cms.

Reconstruction of A1+A2:

1. [25 gín.šeš Kû].babbar
2. [ša¹Na-di]-ia

SEALINGS

3. [IGI¹Ki]-šir-"Aš+šur"
4. [ITLšU UD-10]-kâm
5. [lim-mu¹Pa]-PAP-KAM-eš
6. [IGI¹Na-b]u-u-a
7. [IGI¹Aš-š]ur-mu-lâl

SEALING

8. [IGI¹QuR-dj]-Aš+šur
9. [x x x]-bu°

B. Tablet. Brown clay. 2.4×1.7 cms. 4+1+3 lines.

Obverse

1. 25 gín.šeš 'Kû'.babbar
2. ša¹Na²-di-ia
3. 'IGI¹Ki-šir-"Aš+šur
4. ITLšU <UD>-10-kâm

Lower Edge

5. lim-mu¹Pa-PAP-KAM-eš

Reverse

6. IGI¹QuR-di-Aš+šur

99) The photo depicts the tablet with attached parts of the envelope, which have at present been disengaged.
7. IGI $^1$Na-bu-$^2$u-$^3$a$^3$
8. IGI $^1$Aš+$^5$šur-mu-$^6$LAL

Translation
B: "25 shekels of silver, property of Nadiya, are credited to Kišir-Aššur. Month of Du’uzu (= IV), the 10th day. Eponymate of Nabû-ahu-ereš. Witness: Qurdi-Aššur; witness: Nabû’a; witness: Aššur-mutaqqin".

Notes
A, 9: this witness seems to be the only one not present on the tablet B.
B, 4-5: these two lines show final signs squeezed onto the right-hand edge (KHD).
5: for the date of Nabû-ahu-ereš, see Pedersen, ALA, 87: 681 B.C. The same date is attested in nos. 21 and 22.

8. VAT 14448, ALA N9(9). Ass.Fd.Nr. 9570h; Ph. Ass. 1283-84, center, 3rd row from top. Published photo: FWA, Taf. 107.

Pillow-shaped tablet, "horizontal", complete save for end of lines on Obverse. Brownish clay. 3.2×2.4 cms. 6+2+5+1 lines.

Contract. Loan of barley. Post-canonical date (642 BC).

Obverse
1. 9 ANšE šE.PAD.MEš
2. ina GİŞ.BAN ša 10
3. ša $^1$Man-nu-da-an-ana-Aš+$^5$šur
4. ina IGI $^1$Šum-ma-4[Aš+$^5$šur]
5. DUMU+1Pir-na-a-[()]
6. ITL.AB UD-6-[KAM]

Lower Edge
7. lim-mu $^1$Mu-SILIM-4[Aš+$^5$šur]
8. ina ad-ri SUM-an [()]

Reverse
9. MU la SUM-ni tar-bi
10. IGI $^1$UD-5-KÂM-a-a
11. IGI $^1$Rim-ute
12. IGI 1SU.MEŠ
13. IGI 1Aš+šur-EN-DINGIR

Upper Edge
14. IGI (uninscribed)

Translation
"9 homers of corn, by the seah of 10 (qas), belonging to Mannu-dan-ana-Aššur, at the disposal of Šumma-Aššur, son of Bir(a)nâ; the month Kanunu (= X), the 4th day, the eponymate of Mušallim-Aššur. He will give it back at the threshing-floor; if he fails to give it back, it will increase. Witness: Hanšaya; witness: Rimute; witness: Ribate; witness: Aššur-bel-ili; witness: (uninscribed)."

Notes
2: the formula ina GIS.BAN ŠQuad 9/10, without the sign qa, as in the present case, is well known from Kalhu, cf. essentially Iraq 19 (1957), pls. 27-33 passim (suggestion KHD).
4: for the name, cf. Deller, BaM 15, 238.
6-7: for the eponym, cf. Falkner, cit., 103 (642 BC); also ALA, 89.
12: considering no sign to be absent, one should view SU.MEŠ as pseudologographic writing for *Ribâte; for syllabic spellings of this name from NA Assur, cf. Deller, BaM 13 (1982), 151.


Reddish-brown clay. 3.0×2.3 cms. 5+2+6+2+1 lines.

Loan. Post-canonical date (635 BC).

Upper Edge
1. 5 ȘN KU.BABBAR

Obverse
2. 8 ma-qa-ra-te
3. ša še²{text: LÚ).IN.NU
4. ša 1lr-Na-na-a-a
5. ša 1Mu-sig-AS+šur
6. ša 1Ša-kil-iä{text: AN}
Lower Edge
7. ša 1iGu.LAL-DINGIR-Âš+šur
8. ina 1iGri

Reverse
9. a-na iGu.APIN <i>-du-nu
10. šum-ma nu i-din
11. a-na 1/2 gín-šú
12. i-rab-bi
13. iGu.NE UD-1'6'
14. lim-mu 1Âš+šur-gar-u-šné-re

Upper Edge
15. iGu 1Mu-tak-kil-Âš+šur

Left Hand Edge
16. iGu 1Mu-sig-Âš+šur

Translation
"5 shekels of silver, 8 bundles of straw, belonging to Urad-Nana, to Mudammiq-Assur, to Šakilya, to Amur-il(ut)-Assur, credited to Agri. They will be given back in the month of Arahsamnu (= VIII). If they are not given back, it will grow by 1/2 shekel. Month of Abu (= V), 16th day, eponymate of Aššur-garu'a-nere. Witness: Mutakkil-Assur; witness: Mudammiq-Assur”.

Notes
3: notice the unexplainable scribal error; and cf. also l. 6.
7: this individual is mentioned by Deller, BaM 15, 236.
13: the last sign is barely visible on the right and the edge.
16: as noted by K. Deller, BaM 15, 233, this homonym of the “main” Mudammiq-Âšsur is a scribe, who also appears in no. 52, r. 21 (1Mu-sig-Âš+šur A.BA ša-bit μπ-π) and in Scheil II (= RA 24 [1927], 112; BaM 15 [1984], 226-227), r. 17. Notice further that the latter text has a sequence of participants quite similar to the one in the present document.
**10. VAT 14440. ALA N9(11).** Ass.Fd.Nr. 9570k; Ph. Ass. 1283/84, left, 4th row from top. Published photo: FWA, Taf. 107.

*Pillow-shaped tablet, “horizontal”, complete. Brownish clay. 3.4×2.2 cms. 6+1+5+1 lines.*

*Contract. Post-canonical date (626 BC).*

**Upper Edge**

1. 1/2 MA KÜ.BABBAR šá īM–DINGIR

**Obverse**

2. ina igi 1Ba–tu–ti
3. ŠE.BAR am-mar ši-te-ni
4. ša ina KUR 600–É.GAL
5. ša 1ša–zib–KAM–éš(text MAN) i-la-qu-ni
6. lu šá 5 MA lu–tī–ša 10 MA
7. īm–DINGIR 3-su ina šA

**Lower Edge**

8. KÜ ITT.BARA UD–14

**Reverse**

9. lim–mu 1pu–MAN–PAP
10. igi 1Mu–sîlim–Aš+šur
11. igi 1Aš+šur–A–Aš
12. igi 1ša–la–Aš+šur–man–nu
13. igi 1Aš+šur–su

**Translation**

“Half a mina of silver, belonging to Šar–ili, at the disposal of Batuti. Corn—as much as there is— which is (at the exchange rate) of the province of the Chief Herald, which Aššur–eres will receive: be it 5 minas, be it 10 minas, Šar–ili will enjoy the usufruct of one third of it. Month Nisannu (= I), day 15, eponymate of Nabû–šarru-uṣur. Witness: Mušallim–Aššur; witness: Aššur–apal–iddina; witness: Ša–la–Aššur–mannu; witness: Aššur–eriba”.

**Notes**

1: a brief description of this text was given in Introduction; section b3(a).
3: for the presence of the fem. pronoun, it must be recalled that ŠE.BAR is feminine as other names of cereals in NA (= ṣuṭṭuṭu; cf. FNALD, p. 42); the clause factually means that the corn will be enjoyed, whatever the accumulated interests.
4: possibly for ša ina <mahiri> māt nāgir ekalli, as e.g. in ND 2335 = FNALD 29, 9-10, written in the same year.

5: the sign after the DINGIR is clearly formed by three oblique nail-heads; perhaps a hastily written AN.ŠAR (or alternatively 30, according to KHD) was meant. The last sign of the name is MAN, but after the -KAM-, an -eš is expected.

6: quoted AFO 32, 49.

8: for KU = akālu, “to enjoy (the usufruct of)”, or sim., cf. e.g. FNALD, 187a.

12: the witness is the same as in 59, 30 (KHD).


Rectangular tablet, written on “long” axis. 3.8×2.4 cms. 4+2+6+1 lines.

Judicial decision. Post-canonical date (625).

Obverse
1. NA₄.KIŠIB ¹PAP-na-ag-ri
2. DUMU ¹KI-sir-ÂŠ+šur
3. sa-ar-tu ša ina ŠE-IM-DINGIR
4. e-pa-šú-u-ni ina IGI <¹>URU.ŠÂ–URU-a-a

SEALINGS

Lower Edge
5. uq-ta-ri-i<ib>-šu
6. 1 MA.NÂ KÜ: BABBAR "ê-[te-mi]-di

Reverse
7. ŠE₂.zi-šu a-na šá-pár-te šak-ni
8. itt.zlz. UD-10-KÂM lim-mu EGR šá ¹PA-MAN-PAP
9. IGI ¹Qur-di-ÂŠ+šur
10. IGI ¹UŠ-tú-ÂŠ+šur
11. IGI ¹Tukul-tú-ÂŠ+šur
12. IGI ¹ÂŠ+šur-SU

Upper Edge
13. IGI ¹ÂŠ+šur-de-ni-IGI.LAL

Translation
“Seal of Ahu-nakri, son of Kišir-Aššur.”
The misdeed which he (=Ahu-nakri) committed in the house of Šar-ili: he (=Šar-ili) brought him before the man from Assur. He (=the man from Assur) imposed 1 mina of silver; his (=Ahu-nakri's) ... is given as pledge.


Notes
1ff.: the text is quoted by ALA, II, 90. Each personal name in this judicial decision is given only once: thus the role of the two parties and of the “judge” in the affair must be inferred from the context.

4-5: cf. text no. 1, 9, above, for another occurrence of “the man from Assur” (or better from “Assur Inner City”, “from Libbali”, Ļ.ŞA—Ľ.ŞU-a-a), and see K. Deller, Studi ... Volterra, 641, where a personal name was instead believed to be present. In fact, KHD now surmises that the context of a judicial decision points to an official as being implied by such a formula, possibly the LŪ.GAR–KUR, on the basis of a more recently published tablet, BM 103206 (= F.M. Fales, ZA 73 [1983], 240, 3) which clearly presents the LŪ.GAR–KUR as “judge” in Assur. The authors would, on the other hand, notice that the sole officials mentioned in the entire group of texts here edited belong to the municipal authorities, headed by the hazannu (cf. nos. 33, 35, also 54). Now, since the hazannu is known to act very often as “judge” in NA texts (Studi ... Volterra, cit., 647, including Assur material), one wonders whether Ļ.ŞA—Ľ.ŞU-a-a was not a designation of this post.

5: for the verb, see CAD Q, 239a.

6-7: ŋe3-[te-mi]-di was suggested by KHD; the ŋ.zi is a hitherto unknown type of structure.

12. VAT 14453. ALA N9(13). Ass.Fd.Nr. 9570m; Ph. Ass. 1283/84, right, 4th row from top. Published photo: FWA, Taf. 107. Photo: pl. V.

Pillow-shaped tablet, “horizontal”, complete. Light brown clay. 3.4x2.6 cms. 6+2+6+1+2 lines.

Note or receipt on debts pertaining to a commercial enterprise. 675 BC.

Obverse
1. [L]6*.TUR Ša 1Da-Š-da-ah
2. ANŠ.E.NIT ₃ a-di ŋe3-Š-bi-šŠa
3. Ša EN.KASKAL.M[EŠ (x)]
4. ma-a’-da i-QA-MAR
5. 1 MA.NA KU.BABBAR(ERASURE).MESê hi-bi-la-a-teê
6. 1Da-da-ahê

Lower edge
1. TA* ša-bi ê'Iêê
2. Tl.BA曩 EA UD-22ê KAMê

Reverse
1. lim-mu 1PA-PAP.ME-AS
2. IGI 1EN-iq-bi
3. IGI 1SUHUŠ-ôTU
4. IGI 1Aš+šur-kar-ir
5. IGI 1IR-PAP.MEŠ-ŠU
6. IGI 1Aš+šur-zu

Upper edge
1. [m]an-nu ša i-bal-kât-u ênê

Left Hand Edge
1. Aš+šur lu-u
2. EN de-ni-šê

Translation
"A dependent/subordinate of Dada-ahhe—a male donkey, including its bundles, of the expedition chiefs, he . . . s exceedingly; (thus) Dada-ahhe has taken away one mina of silver as compensation therefrom. Month Nisanû ( = I), day 28, eponymate of Nabû-ahhe-iddina. Witness: Bel-iqbi; witness: Ubru-Šamaš; witness: Aššur-ēṭir; witness: Urad-ahhešu; witness: Aššur-le’i. Whoever will contravene—the god Aššur will be his opponent in court”.

Notes
1ff.: despite extensive collation, the issue in this text is still not completely clear; it would seem that a Lû.TUR (= suhâru) of Dada-ahhe (cf. no. 61, below, for the qualification) was responsible for an excess (ma-a’-da, l. 4) of sorts in the treatment of a donkey belonging to the “expedition chiefs” (for the function of the EN-KASKAL in these Assur texts, cf. Deller, BaM 15, 242); but the meaning of the verbal clause in l. 4 is uncertain. In any case, the document goes on to say, Dada-ahhe got one mina of silver back for the mismanagement.

1: reading [L]Ô.TUR suggested by KHD and confirmed by collation (LJR).
2: the first sign is a contracted form of ANŠE occurring at Assur, cf. e.g. Fales, ZA 73 (1983), 246, 5 as reread by Deller, OrAnt 25 (1986), 23, 21.
4: the first sign of the verb is quite surely—as established after many efforts at collation—an *i-* with an accidental Winkelhaken which causes it to look somewhat like a *tag*-. The last sign is undisputably -*mar*; KHD would however read *i*-qa-*rad*, “kardät-scht er (zu) sehr”, arguing correctly that this refers to an existing verb, “während *qmr man erst in das Wörterbuch einführen müsste”. On the other hand, the action implied by the verb has little bearing with a description of a donkey, “including its bundles”: for *ebissu* as an expression of donkey-loads, cfr. e.g. the letter NL 2408 = SAA 1, 26.

8: KHD suggests a reading as UD-20'-(erasure)KAM.


Brown clay. 3.3×3.1 cms. 7+5+3+2+4 lines.

Loan of silver and garments. Post-canonical date (628 BC).

Upper Edge
1. NAD.KISIB i Śūm-mu-As+šur
2. A i Man-nu-ki-PAP.MEŠ
3. 5 <GÎN> KU.BABBAR.MEŠ
4. ša i Lq-bi-išAš+šur

Obverse
5. ina IGI i Śūm-mu-išAš+šur
6. ku'-um di du ša i UN2/SID2
7. DUB.SAR ě'-DINGIR.MEŠ
8. la i-BU-<uki/q>>-ša-nu
9. KU.BABBAR TA i IGI i Lq-bi-Aš+šur
10. i-ia-sa i-ti-dīn
11. 4-1.AG.LAL

Left Edge
12. DUMU.MEŠšu
13. a-na ša-par-ti kam-mu-sat
14. ITI.KIN UD-1-KAM

Reverse
15. lim-mu 1 ud PA-sa'-gīṯ
16. IGI 1Aš+šur-réme-šuk-na
17. IGI 1Aš+šur-su
18. IGI 1d.ME.ME–APIN-es
19. IGI 1Qī-bit–Aš+šur

Left Hand Edge
1. IGI 1M an-nu-ki-PAP. MES
2. IGI 1Mu-tak-kil–Aš+šur

Translation
"Seal of Šummu-Aššur, son of Mannu-ki-ahhe.
5 (shekels) of silver, belonging to Iqbi-Aššur, credited to Šummu-Aššur. In lieu of the …… of the scribe of the temple, he did not … them, (but) he had to take the silver from Iqbi-Aššur and give it as payment. The woman Tarsi/Tuquin-lamur, his daughter, is given as pledge. Month of Ululu (= VI), 1st day, eponymate of Nabû-sagib. Witness: Aššur-reme-šukna; witness: Aššur-eriba; witness: Gula-eres; witness: Qibit-Aššur; witness: Mannu-ki-ahhe; witness: Mutakkil-Aššur”.

Notes
1ff.: a further problem area characterizes this document, for many of the same reasons as no. 12: despite repeated collation, some signs and sign groups still fail to yield satisfactory and coherent interpretations. In particular, ll. 6-8 are marked by multiple erasures and possibly one or more scribal errors, and the overall formulary is also relatively novel and unexpected. In any case, it is to be noted that the text shows some common features with an equally complex double document (tablet + envelope), VAT 9686 = ALA 17(8), which will be published in NATAPA II. Quotes of the latter text draw for the moment upon a transliteration dated 3N/60 kindly provided by KHD, and one by FMF dated 24/3/92.
1-2: quoted by Deller, WZKM 57, 36.
6: as emendation for the di brought forth by the authors (also recollated), KHD has suggested either SAG! (i.e. SAG! .DU GAR-un) or DU6! (i.e. DU6! .DU ša UN<.MES>). For the moment, however, it was deemed preferable to leave the passage devoid of a specific interpretation.
7: the ē is blurred; but notice the parallel in VAT 9686 A, 2: LŪ*.A.BA ē-DINGIR(.MES]), also in B, 4, [ša l]ū.A.BA ē–DINGIR.
8: KHD suggests to emendate either to i-pu<–ug>–šū-nu or to i-bu<–uk>–šū-nu; but, in view of the uncertainties surrounding l. 6, a choice is as yet impossible.
14-15: same date, to the day, as VAT 9686.
16-18: the same names, in the same sequence, appear in VAT 9686, B, as the last three witnesses (notice the writing 1d.ME.ME–KAM-es, ibid., B, 17); while ibid., A, is largely fragmentary in its witness list.

Brown clay. 3.1×1.9 cms. 5+2+6+1 lines.

Loan of silver. Post-canonical date (626 BC).

Upper Edge
1. 1 MA.NA KU.BABBAR

Obverse
2. ša 1Mu-SIG—Aš+šur
3. ša 1Mu-qa-lil—IDIM
4. ina IGI 1PA—PAP—SU
5. "A? 1MU—u-se-zib DIN
6. [ITI].SIG4 UD-1

Left Edge
7. "lim"-mu 1PA—MAN—PAP
8. A.BA KUR

Reverse
9. "UD-1-KÁM"? ITI.KIN SUM—an
10. MU NU SUM ana 4-tú-šú GA"L
11. IGI 1Mu-ki-ia
12. IGI 1Ša-kil-ia
13. IGI 1Bi-su-u-a
14. IGI 1PAP—SU

Translation
“One mina of silver, belonging to Mudammiq-Aššur, belonging to Muqallil-kabti, credited to Nabû-ahu-eriba, son of Šummu-ussezbīt, master builder. Month of Simanu (= III), the 1st day, eponymate of Nabû-šarru-usur, scribe of the land.

He will give back on the 1st day of Ululu (= VI); if he does not give back, it will increase by one-fourth. Witness: Mukiya; witness: Šakilya; witness: Bisu’a; witness: Ahu-eriba”.

Notes
Iff.: this deed was written on the same day as no. 32, with the same creditors, three
of the same witnesses, although the debtors and the amounts are different. Most likely the scribe was also the same (KHD).
3: for the name-type, cf. CAD Q, 57b.
5: a similar name, although bearing the verb in the preterit, is in no. 39, 20 (KHD).
14: not Edu-eriba (Deller, BaM 15, 231)

15. VAT 20384. ALA N9(16). Formerly VAT 16576. Ass.Fd.Nr. 9570p; Ph.Ass. 1283/84, center, 5th row from top. Published photo FWA, Taf. 107. Photo: pl. V.

Brown clay. 3.0×1.9 cms. 4+2+2+3 lines.

Loan of silver with work agreement. Post-canonical date (623 BC).

Upper Edge
1. "107 ITI.MES

Obverse
2. ḫaḫ-hu-ma
3. a-na ḫMu-SIG-As+šur
4. i-pal-lah
5. šum-ma u₄-mu e₄-gēⁿ

Left Edge
6. KU.BABBAR e₄-sibⁿ SUM-an
7. ITI.APIN <UD>-14ⁿ-KĀM

Reverse
8. "lim-mu² ḫNu-MAN-E
9. IGI ḫGa-lul

Upper Edge
10. IGI ḫRi⁻x x⁻.MEŠ
11. IGI ḫAD-G[1S x]

Translation
"Ten months Ahu-huma will serve Mudammiq-Aššur. If he is negligent for (even just) one day, he will repay double the silver. Month of Arahsamnu (= VIII), 14th day, eponymate of Šalmu-šarru-iqbi. Witness: Galulu, witness: Ri...; witness: Abu-leš[ir]").
Notes
2-4: for the group of texts from Assur characterized by the same clause, see Deller, BaM 15, 232; cf. Pedersen, ALA, 90, fn.17. See the Introduction, b4.
5: the last sign seems to bear only one horizontal (collation Petra D. Gesche) and thus to represent a squeezed but relatively clear -gi (KHD).
10: the next-to-last sign could be PAP or more likely DINGIR.
11: as suggested by KHD, from the other attestations of IGa-lul in the archive we might equally well restore 1Ad-[a-a-a] (cf. nos. 41, 43).

16. VAT 14444. ALA N9(19). Ass.Fd.Nr. 9570s; Ph.Ass. 1285-86, top right. Photo: pl. VI.

Brown clay. 4.2x2.6 cms. 6+2+7+2+3 lines.

Judicial settlement. 657 BC.

Obverse
1. de-e-nu ša 1Gab-bu-IGI.LAL]
2. ša 15-ba-la-ti [( )]
3. TA* 1Da-da-hi
4. TA* 1EN-DINGIR-qi-bu-u'-ni]
5. ina UGU sa-ar-ti-šú-nu
6. ša (text: TA*) LÚ.SIPA.MEŠ-šú-nu

Lower Edge
7. id-bu-bu-u-ni
8. 1 gīn 1/2 gīn me-me-ni

Reverse
9. a-na me-me-ni "la" ih-bīl
10. šūl-mu ina bir-ta-šú-nu
11. man-nu ša ina ur-kiš ina ma-te-me
12. ib-bal-lak-kāt-u-ni "de-e"[ni KA].KA
13. ū-ba-u-ni AŠ+šur qUTU EN[ ] 1PA]
14. lu ƎNi šū İTI.BĀRA UD-2"[ ]
15. lim-me 1La-ba-si

Upper Edge
16. IG1 1A-kul-la-nu LÚ.SANGA
17. IGI 130-1 IGI 1dPA-re-eh-"tú-PAP"

Left Hand Edge
18. IGI 1dMAš.MAš-MAN-PAP
19. IGI 1TI. AB-a-a
20. IGI 1SU-As+šur

Translation
"Case which Gabbu-amur and Ištar-balati brought to court against Dada-ahhe and Adi-ilu-iqбуni, concerning their misdeed, (specifically) on the part of their shepherds. Neither a shekel nor a half-shekel did anybody owe anybody else; there is judicial peace among them. Whoever will, in the future or whenever, contravene and seek (further) lawsuit or litigation —the gods Assur and Šamaš, Bel, and Nabu will be his opponents. Month Nisannu (= I), the 21st day, limmu of Labasi. Witness: Akkullanu, the priest; witness: Sin-Na’id; witness: Nabu-rehtu-úṣur; witness: Nergal-šarru-úṣur; witness: Kanunayu; witness: Rib-Assur".

Notes
1: the initial clause is discussed by K. Deller, Studi...Volterra, cit., 641.
13: after UTU, the signs are faded: the formula is tentatively restored on the basis of no. 53, r. 8. Notice the D-form ú-ba-u-ni instead of the expected Dtn *ubta’úni (see e.g. SAA 6, 292-293, for attestations of the latter).
16: for the name, cf. AT, 199; notice further that one 1A-kul-la-nu (no prof. name) is a witness in MAH 20613 = Postgate, FNALD 48, 16, a record of judicial settlement of 648 BC concerning 1Da-da-hi, and which thus “definitely belongs to archive N9” (KHD).
17: the two names here surely refer to the hazannu Sin-na’id and the ša muhhi ali Nabû-rehtu-úṣur, who appear together in VAT 9361, 1-2, a sale of bare ground of uncertain date (edition to be given in NATAPA II).

17. VAT 14450. ALA N9(20); Ass.Fd.Nr. 9570t; Ph. Ass. 1285/86, left, 2nd row from top.

Brown clay. 3.8×2.4 cms. 6+2+7+2+2 lines.

Receipt. Post-canonical date (620 BC).

Upper Edge
1. qip-tu ša kur-e
Obverse
2. lu-u GEN'IN lu KÜ.BABBAR
3. 1Sa-gib-Aš+šur 1IM-DINGIR
4. is-sa-hi-iš SUM-u-ni
5. 1LAL-un-nat MI-šū šá 1Sa-gib-Aš+šur
6. 1Mil/Iš-ki-Aš-na DUMU-šá
7. 1/2 MA KÜ.BABBAR HA.LA(erasure)-šū

Lower Edge
8. ša 1Sa-gib-Aš+šur
9. 1Mu-šig-Aš+šur SUM-din

Reverse
10. qip-tu gab-bu ú-za-ki
11. 1Mu-šig-Aš+šur IL
12. ššl-mu ina bir-tú-šá-nu
13. šá BAL-u-ni Aš+šur 4UTU
14. 15 šá 4*-iš lu EN DI-šá
15. IGI 1Bi-su-u-a IGI 1Šá-kil'-ia
16. IGI 1MU-1.GAL-DINGIR IGI 1Ba-šu-šu

Upper Edge
17. ITI.KIN lim-mu 1u.u-i

Left Hand Edge
18. IGI 1Du-u-su
19. IGI 1Kin-na-a-a

Translation
"The (credit for) merchandise of the mountain region —both wine and silver—Sagib-Aššur and Šar-ili provided jointly. (Thereupon) Mudammiq-Aššur gave back the woman Tuqunnat/Tuqun-mati, wife of Sagib-Aššur, Milki/Îški-iddina, her son, and half a mina of silver, the share of Sagib-Aššur. He (thus) obtained clearance for the entire merchandise; Mudammiq-Aššur took it. There is judicial peace between them. Whoever will contravene —Aššur, Šamaš, Istar of Arbaal will be his opponents in court. Witness: Bisu’a; witness: Šakilya; witness: Šumma-ibašši-ili; witness: Bațu tu. Month of Ululu (= VI), eponymate of Dadi. Witness: Du’su; witness: Kinnaya”.

Notes
1: the two occurrences of qiptu in this text (which are, by the way, the only NA attestations known for the word) are briefly discussed by Deller, OrNS 58, 263. Notice
that both the basic meanings of qiptu 2 (following CAD Q, 260-263), i.e. "credit for merchandise" and "merchandise", are plausible here, although the passage of ll. 5-10 on the inheritance portion (comprising a woman, her child, and silver) which Sagib-ÂšÂšur got back would seem to tip the scales in favor of the first meaning. In other words, the receipt would serve the purpose of explaining that Sagib-ÂšÂšur, free from the previous debts which had induced him to pledge his zittu, is at present liable of withstanding a regular commercial debt in view of an expedition.

7-11: the sentence is quoted by Deller, BaM 15, 232, who however understands the pronominal suffix of the 3rd person plural to be present at the end of l. 7, and a ū to open l. 8. Notice also the rendering kibtu here.

14: the transliteration 4* here indicates the sign LIMMU (Deimel no. 124, 42), relatively rare in NA as against the common LIMMU (597, 9).

16: Šumma-ibašši-ili occurs also in no. 35, 12.

19: Du-na-a-a could be the same person as Da-na-a-x in no. 59, LHE 1 (KHD).


Brown clay. 3.1×2.1 cms. 6+2+6+1 lines.

Receipt: silver vs. a portion of inheritance. Post-canonical date (641 BC).

Obverse
1. ina MA-e KUR.Gar-gar-miš
2. ša 1dPA-SUM-A
3. ša 1La-tēš-in-ni
4. ina šu.2-šā a-na <\ulum>Bi-su-u-a
5. a-na 1Mu-sig-Âš+šur

Lower Edge
7. sum-u-ni 1Mu-sig-Âš+šur
8. ša HA.LA-šu

Reverse
9. a-na 1La-tēš-in-ni
10. sum-ni 1 1/2 ŧIN la
11. re-e-hi 1TI.KIN UD-11
12. lim-mu 1Âš+šur-ŠU-GUR-ra
13. IGI 1dU.GUR-DU IGI 1A−PAP-e
Translation

"58 shekels (lit. 1 mina less 2 shekels) of silver, at the mina of Karkemiš, belonging to Nabû-nadin-apli, which the woman La-tubašinni, acting on her own behalf, gave to Bisu’a and Mudammiq-Aššur. Mudammiq-Aššur has returned (the amount) of his share to the woman La-tubašinni. Neither one shekel nor a half shekel is left over. Month of Ululu (=VI), eponymate of Aššur-gimillum-terra. Witness: Nergal-ibni; witness: A-ahhe; witness: Nabu’a; witness: Nabu-mukin-apli”.

Notes

1ff.: Two documents connected to this text and to No. 19 are TCL 9, 62 and As.Fd nr. 9661b, transliterated in Appendix 1, below.

2: notice the peculiar writing of the toponym, which however has at least one parallel (cf. Parpola, NAT, p. 130); the mina of Karkemiš occurs also in No. 61, below, 8; cf. also e.g. Menzel, AT, II, T 182 no. 77, 2.

4-7: quoted by Deller, BaM 15, 237. Notice the tricky formular: the sum belongs to Nabû-nadin-apli, but thanks to the expression of l. 5, we are given to understand that it is the woman (his wife?) who lent it physically to Mudammiq-Aššur. Thus ša 1PN ... sum-u-ni is a relative clause, and the verb should be normalized as *tadinuni (KHD).

7-11: quoted by Deller, BaM 15, 232. Here the verb is not in the subjunctive (i.e. it is to be normalized as *ittidini, KHD).

10-11: the la réhi formula is quoted and discussed by Deller, WZKM 57, 41.

13: in the second name, the initial sign is in fact a šā: KHD wonders whether we should not be dealing with a very squeezed rendering of 1šā-kil'-ia'.
Obverse
2. ša 1IM-DINGIR
3. ša 1Mu-qa-li-IDIM
4. ša 1 IDM(erasure) PA-SU
5. ina IGI 1Åš+šur-TI-su-nu
6. ina IGI 1NU-TÉŠ-ana-Åš+šur

Lower Edge
7. ina IGI 1Ki-šir-15
8. KÜ.BABBAR ana 8-tú-šú GAL-bi

Reverse
9. ITI.SIG4 UD-10-KAM
10. lim-mu EGIR ša 1PA-MAN-PAP.A.BA
11. IGI 1QuR-di-Åš+šur
12. IGI 1 Åš+šur-su
13. IGI 1uŠ-Åš+šur

Upper Edge
14. IGI 1Tukul-tú-Åš+šur

Left Hand Edge
15. IGI 1 Åš+šur-de-ni-IGI

Translation
"2 minas of silver, belonging to Šar ili, to Muqallil-kabti, to Nabû-eriba, are credited to Aššur-ballissunu, to La-tubaš-ana-Aššur, and to Kišir-Ištar. The silver will increase by one-eighth. Month of Simanu (= III), the 18th day. Eponymate following that of Nabû-šarru-ušur, the scribe. Witness: Qurdi-Assur; witness: Assur-eriba; witness: Tarditu-Assur; witness: Tukultu-Assur; witness: Assur-denu-amur”.

Notes
3: this writing might indicate assimilation (*Muqallik kabti? KHD).
6: add this attestation of La-tubaš-ana-Aššur to the list given in OrNS 35, 307.
13-15: for the same names, cf. n. 52, 10-11, 13.
20. **VAT 14452. ALA N9(27).** Ass.Fd.Nr. 9571a; Ph. Ass. 1285/86, bottom center.

*Brown clay. 8.4×3.6 cms. 14 + remnants of 6 lines. Sealings.*

*Division of inheritance. No date (but possibly post-canonical).*

**Obverse**
1. "NA₄. Kišib 2 PAP-e
2. "A₅ouncer Aššur-ba-ni

---

**2 STAMP SEALS**

3. ḫi-ta-ar-su
4. TA pa-an a-ha-mi-ši
5. mi-mu TA mi-(erasure)-mu
6. la i-da-bu-bu
7. ana še-ti-šu
8. IG₁5-de-ni
9. bi-lat.lu-ša-te-ra
10. bi-lat lu-ma-(erasure)-ti
11. IG₁-Qi-biš-Aššur
12. ina ša-bi la qur-bu
13. [ša] "ur-ka"-ta-šu-nu
14. [DUG kal-lu] si-ha-ru
rest lost

**Reverse**
approx. 11 lines lost
12'. ] x
13'. ] x
14'. ] x
15'. ]-ni
16'. ]-Aššur
17'. ]-Aššur

**Translation**

"Seal impression of two brothers, sons of Aššur-bani.

---

100 For the tablet presumably corresponding to Ass.Fd.Nr. 9570x = ALA N9(24), cf. ad no. 22, below.
They have divided up (the estate) between them. None of the two will litigate with the other. For his carelessness, Pan-Ištar-deni will make (over) one bundle extra, or reduce one bundle (of his part). Qibit-Asšur will not be involved therein. Of their estate, they have divided up (everything) down to the pots and pans". (rest of Obv., approx. 11 lines of Reverse lost: only end signs of witnesses’ names preserved in the remainder).

Notes
1ff.: the text represents a division of inheritance, among two unnamed individuals, described only as “sons of Aššur-bani” –although the individual specified in l. 8, Pan-Ištar-deni, could very well be one of the two. The clause concerning this man (ll. 8-10) presents a number of difficulties.

3-4: the passage is quoted and translated by Deller, WZKM 57, 35; id., Studi ... Volterra, 640^2.
5: Cf. Deller, OrNS 53, 78.
7-10: cf. already Deller, OrNS 35, 313, with the translation “seinem Nachlässigen soll PN ein Talent überschüssig machen (oder) ein Talent verringern”; at present, KHD (written communication) would attempt to seek different meanings altogether for the expression in l.-7, and expresses concern about the extremely high figure involved in this private transaction, if one considers bi-lat to mean “talent” (i.e. approx. 61 kilos), whatever the metal involved. In fact, it is plausible to infer that biμu could have simply meant “pack” or “bundle” in this context. For l. 7, on the other hand, the authors feel that caution requires them to stick to a derived form of šiātu, also in view of the many attestations of finite forms of this verb from NA Assur (cf. AHw., 1226a).

12: for qerebu lg, “to be involved”, cf. CAD Q 231a; Deller, OrNS 58, 262. See also no. 47, 7.
13: after extensive collation (by LJR) the line may be safely read [ṣa]"ur-ka"-ta-šū-nu, as suggested by KHD.
14: for this formula, cf. 28, 7; 52, r. 1; see Introduction, b4.


Greyish-brown clay. 4.4x3.7 cms. 2(+n)+7+1 lines.

Conveyance, fragment. 681 BC.

Obverse
1. NA₄.KIŠIR ŠPa-qa-ana-As+šur
2. LÚ.GAŠ-<u-<u-<u>
(erasure) SEALINGS

3. [x x x] x [x x x]
rest lost

Reverse
1. IGI 1Pa-raq-a-ana-d1[5]'
2. IGI 1DUG-IM-15 LÚ.ÍR 'GAR.KUR'
3. IGI 1dŠU-SU IGI 1Qa-ina-nu
4. IGI 1SAG.DU-a-nu
5. IGI 1Dan'7 (text: UN)-ni-a A 1dMES-SU
6. IGI 1Zi-rži-a DUMU 1E-ri-li-a
7. IGI 1Aš+šur-Ti-ni DUMU 1dŠU-Š.NUMUN'-DŮ

Left Hand Edge
1. [lim-mu 1]4PA-PAP'(text qa).MEŠ-KAM-eš

Translation
"Seal of Paqa-ana-Aššur, chief hundurayyu. ... (rest of Obverse lost)
Witness: Paqa-ana-Ištar; witness: Šab-šar-Ištar, the servant of the governor of the Assyrian province; witness: Marduk-eriba; witness: Qatinnu; witness: Qaqqadanu; witness: Danniya, son of Marduk-eriba; witness: Ziziya, son of Egiriya; witness: Aššur-ballitanni, son of Marduk-zeru-ibni.
[ ... eponymate of] Nabû-ahhe-eres".

Notes
R. 1ff.: The names of the witnesses correspond quite closely to the ones in no. 22, below.
LHE 1: The restoration of the line, dating the text to 681 BC, is given on the basis of the parallels (esp. r. 1ff.: witnesses' name) with no. 22, below.


Reddish clay. Stamp seals. Break on Obv. bottom. 7.8×4.1 cms. 12+1+14 lines.

Conveyance. Sale of a plot. 681 BC.

Obverse
1. N4.KIŠIB 1LAL-[x x (x)]
2. : 1Sa-[x x x x]
3. EN 1a-[da-ni]

SEALINGS

4. qaq-qí-ri pu-še-[e x x x]
5. 15 ina+1 KÚŠ GÍD.[DA]
6. 10 1/2 KÚŠ DAGAL [(x)]
7. "u"-piś-ma 1Da-d[a-p]AP.MEŠ
8. T[A* 1]"LAL"-[x x x x] x
9. [x x x x x] KÚ.BABBAR
10. [x x x x x x-a-a
11. [x x x x x x] MAN
12. [x x x x x x]

Lower Edge
13. la-qi ma-2nu3

Reverse
14. ša e-bal-kát-tú-ni
15. 4Aš+šur 4Šá-maš e-ra-ab
16. 6 4Aš+šur lu-hal-li-qu
17. KÚ.BABBAR e-si-bí sum-an

18. IGI 1Pa-qa-ana-4Aš+šur LÚ*.GAL-hu-dir
19. IGI 1DuG-im-15 URU.Ba-ri-kát-a-a
20. IGI 10ŠU SU IGI 1Qa-tí-nu
21. IGI 1 ¡Dan'-ni-ia
22. IGI 1Zi-zí-ia
23. A 1E-di-ri-ia
24. IGI 1Aš+šur-TI-ni SIMUG
25. A 10ŠU NUMUN-DÜ
   (one line blank space)
26. ITI.BÁRA UD-10-KAM
27. lim-mu 10PA-PAP-APIN-ES

Translation

"Seal of Tarši..., ditto of Sa..., owners of the estate being sold.
A vacant plot, 15 cubits' length, 10 cubits' width, Dada-ahhe contracted from Tarši
...... for n minas silver ......
The plot is purchased and acquired. Whoever contravenes, Aššur and Šamaš will deny him access to the Aššur temple. He will give back the silver in double amount.

Witness: Paqa-ana-Assur, chief hundrayyu; witness: Ṭab-šar-Assur, of the city Barikatu; witness: Marduk-eriba; witness: Qatinu; witness; Damniya; witness: Ziziya, son of Ediriya; witness: Aššur-ballitanni, smith, son of Marduk-zeru-ibni.

Month of Nisannu (= I), the tenth day, eponymate of Nabû-ahu-ereš".

Notes
5: The sign looks almost like a na; but the two oblique nails should represent an erroneous scribal afterthought, since they appear to have been “zuletzt geschrieben” (Petra D. Gesche). For an example of the ligature ina+1 kūš, KHD refers to NALK 192, 5-6.


17: cf. Deller, WZKM 57, 35. The doubling of the amount is a more frequently attested feature in the penalties of loan-contracts.

18: cf. Deller, BaM 15, 234, for this individual and his title; cf the previous text.

19-25: here also cf. no. 21, r. 2-7, for the same persons. In l. 21, notice the writing 1un-ni-ia, as in no. 21, r. 5; but an emendation to Dan- seems required by existing Akkadian name-forms.


Brown clay. Cushion-shaped Envelope (tablet inside). 4.4×3.3×1.5 cms. 3+2+6+2+1 lines. Sealings.

Debt-note with silver offering. Post-canonical date (620 BC).

Upper Edge
1. NA₄.KIŠIB 1Aš+sumer-DU-IGI
2. DUMU 1MU-Aš+sumer hu-dir-ra-a

Obverse
3. 9 ĠIN KU.BABBAR
4. ša 1dUTU-MU-ra-Aš
SEALS

5. *ina Igi 1Aš+šur-DU-pa-ni*

Lower Edge
6. *<ina> pu-u-hi i-ti-ši*
7. *a-na 4-tú-šú GAL-bi*

Reverse
8. *III.DU₆ UD-27-KAM*
9. *lim-mu ¹U.V-i AGRIG*
10. *IGI ¹U+GUR-ÅŠ ¹.DU₈*
11. *IGI ¹PAP-su*
12. *IGI ¹Su-u-su*
13. *IGI ¹Bi-su-tu-a*

Left Hand Edge
1. *SAG ⁴UTU*

Translation

"Seal of Assur-alik-pani, son of Summa-Assur, hundurayyu; 9 shekels of silver, belonging to Šamaš-šumu-iddina, credited to Assur-alik-pani. He has taken it as a loan. It will increase by one-fourth. Month of Tašritu (= VII), 27th day, eponymate of Dadi, treasurer. Witness: Nergal-iddina, gatekeeper; witness: Ahu-eriba; witness: Susu; witness: Bisu’a”.

(on left-hand edge): “(Offering of) the first-fruits of Šamaš”.

Notes

1ff.: The text is a normal debt-note for silver, save for the conclusive line which indicates that the sum is a “first-fruit” offering for the god Šamaš, i.e. presumably that it was the debtor’s obligation to supply it to the temple. For a discussion of the problems involved in this kind of texts, cf. Postgate, FNALD, 132; Menzel, AT, II, T181-T193. For the cult of Šamaš at Assur, cf. Menzel, AT, I, 76.

1-2: For the name, see no. 26, below, and cf. Menzel, AT, I-II, 253426. This Summa-Assur is the son of Bir(a)nā, cf. Introduction, b3a.

10: For Nergal-iddina, gatekeeper, cf. no. 39, r. 6 (notice the alternative writing with sum-na); the same man also appears in the following Assur texts (courtesy KHD): KAV 189, r. 8; CTNMC 68 (= FNALD 18), 37.

LHE 1: For the position of the note on the side of the tablet, cf. e.g. a parallel case from Assur in FNALD no. 26. Notice that a single text “worin Kapital des Gottes Šamaš verliehen wird” is quoted in Menzel’s treatment (AT, I, 76991-992), albeit with no number.
whatsoever; however a further cryptic note (ibid., II, T181, bottom) makes a reference to the present document quite likely.


*Tablet with Envelope. Envelope (A): 3.1×2.1×1 cms. 4+2+7+2 lines. Tablet (B): 2.6×1.6×0.9 cms. 5+2+4 lines.*

*Loan of silver. Post-canonical date (622 BC).*

A (Envelope):

Upper Edge
1. **NA₄,kišib** \(\text{I}Aš+šur–DU–IGI\)
2. **A** \(\text{I}MU–Aš+šur\)

Obverse
3. \(\text{I}₂\text{MA} \text{g}f[N \text{KU:.BABBAR}]\)
4. **ša** \(\text{I}Mu–SIG–[Aš+šur]\)

**SEALING**
5. **ina** \(\text{I}Aš+šur–DU–\text{IGI}\)
6. **ana** \(8-\text{ut}–\text{i}²–šū \text{g}’\text{AL (x)}\)

Lower Edge
7. \(\text{I} \text{za}²\text{ha}? x [x x]\)
8. **ana** \(ša–pār–[te]\)

Reverse
9. **ITILAPIN UD–[14 (x)]\)
10. \(\text{lim-mu} \text{I}³₀–\text{MAN–PAP [A.B]A KUR}\)
11. **IGI** \(\text{I}S̄a–kil–ia\)

\(^{101}\) The identification is based on the Assur excavation photos.
12. IGI \textsuperscript{1}Bi-su-u-a
13. IGI \textsuperscript{1}BrBa'-tu-\textsuperscript{tu}
14. IGI \textsuperscript{1}FrX\{x x\}-a
15. IGI \textsuperscript{1}Lu-ba-lat

B (Tablet):

Obverse
1. 1/2 MA 7 gN KU.BABBAR
2. \textit{sa} \textsuperscript{1}Mu-sig-\textit{As}+\textit{sr}
3. \textit{ina} IGI \textsuperscript{1}As+sr-DU-IGI [( )]
4. \textit{fl} \textsuperscript{x x\textsuperscript{3}} ME
5. \textit{ana} \textit{S\textsuperscript{3}-p[ar]-t\textsuperscript{4}}

Lower Edge
6. \textit{ana} 8-ut-ti-\textit{sr}
7. \textit{gal-bi}

Reverse
8. \textit{Impin} UD-14
9. \textit{lim-mu} \textsuperscript{1}30-MAN-PAP A.BA KUR
10. IGI \textsuperscript{1}Bi-su-u-a
11. IGI \textsuperscript{1}Su-kil-\textsuperscript{a}

Translation
A: “Seal impression of A\textsuperscript{S}s\textsuperscript{u}r-\textsuperscript{a}lik-p\textsuperscript{n}iya, son of \textsuperscript{Su}m\textsuperscript{a}mma-A\textsuperscript{S}s\textsuperscript{u}r. Half a mina, 7 shekels of silver, belonging to Mudammiq-A\textsuperscript{S}s\textsuperscript{u}r, are credited to A\textsuperscript{S}s\textsuperscript{u}r-\textsuperscript{a}lik-p\textsuperscript{n}iya. It will increase by one-eighth. An estate ... (is placed) as pledge. Month of Arahsamu (\textit{VIII}), 14\textsuperscript{th} day, eponymate of Sin-\textsuperscript{sr}ru-u\textsuperscript{sr}, palace scribe. Witness: S\textsuperscript{a}kilya; witness: Bisu'\textsuperscript{a}; witness: Ba\textsuperscript{\textsuperscript{\textsuperscript{u}t\textsuperscript{u}}}; witness: ...; witness: Lubalat”.

B: “Half a mina, 7 shekels of silver, belonging to Mudammiq-A\textsuperscript{S}s\textsuperscript{u}r, are credited to A\textsuperscript{S}s\textsuperscript{u}r-\textsuperscript{a}lik-p\textsuperscript{n}iya. An estate ... (is placed) as pledge. It will increase by one-eighth. Month of Arahsamu (\textit{VIII}), 14\textsuperscript{th} day, eponymate of Sin-\textsuperscript{sr}ru-u\textsuperscript{sr}, palace scribe. Witness: Bisu'\textsuperscript{a}; witness: S\textsuperscript{a}kilya”.

Notes
A, 3: KHD notes that the figure 7 is here written on two tiers (4+3 digits), while in the inner tablet, l. 1, it is written on three tiers (3+3+1).
A, 10: the professional title of the eponym is written on the edge, slightly slanting upward.
B, 4: it is difficult at present to reconcile the designation of the estate here with that of A, l. 7. A reading SAG.KAL'.ME is also possible in this line.

25. VAT 14441. ALA N9(33). Ass.Fd.Nr. 9571g. Ph.Ass. 1285/86, bottom right\(^{102}\).

Photo: pl. VII.

"Brown clay. 3.4x2.7 cms. 6+2+6+2+3 lines."

"Contract. Post-canonical date (626 BC)."

Obverse
1. 25 GIN.MEŠ KU.BABBAR
2. ša ITI.AB-a-a
3. l\(\text{d}^d\)PA-ga-mu-li
4. A Aš+šur-rém-a-ni LÜ*.NAR
5. ša\(\text{d}\) él LÜ*.GAR-KUR
6. a-na pu-u-hi i-ti-ši

Lower Edge
7. 3BAN 9 qa GIŠ.GEŠTIN
8. ina UGU KU.BABBAR.MEŠ

Reverse
9. ša PAP SUM-an BE-ma la :
10. 2 GIN.MEŠ PAP ša ITI-šu
11. i-rab-bi-u
12. \(\text{I}^d\)DA-a-a l\(\text{I}^d\)DU\(\text{I}^d\)
13. EN-ŠU.2.MEŠ ša KU.BABBAR
14. ITI.DU\(\text{I}^d\) UD-17-KAM
15. '\(\text{I}^d\)lim'-mu l\(\text{I}^d\)PA-MAN-PAP

Upper Edge
16. [IG\(\text{I}^d\)] IR-ASH+šur
17. IG\(\text{I}^d\) NA-a-in

\(^{102}\) KHD also consulted a rough copy of this text by Franz Köcher, of which the authors were not previously cognisant.
Translation

"25 shekels of silver, belonging to Kanunayu. Nabu-gammuli, son of Assur-reman­ni, the cultic singer of the household of the governor of the Assur province, has taken (it) as a loan. He will give 3 seahs, 9 qas of wine in addition to the silver of the base total; if he does not give (lit.: ditto) it, (the silver) will grow by two shekels of the base total per month. Dayyu, the gatekeeper, acts as guarantor for the silver. Month Tašritu (= VII), 9th day, eponymate of Nabû-šarru-uṣur. Witness: Urad-Assur; witness: Nain; witness: Si'ini; witness: Ubur-Šamaš; witness: Ubur-ahhe”.

Notes

3: the last sign seems to have been written over a previously erased one; but the copies by LJı and Köcher confirm the -li.

9-10: as noted by KHD, “PAP in ll. 9 and 10 must be a synonym of ság.dù ‘capital sum’; this usage is quite unique”. The authors’ translation takes account of this suggestion.

12: the last sign can—admittedly—be made out as dü₃ only with much difficulty; KHD suggests—but “nicht mit Sicherheit”—the alternative e-ti₃₃, “master builder, architect”, and 1’gir.2-a-a as a further possible reading for the preceding name.


Tablet, greyish clay: complete, but with multiple abrasions. 3.0×2.1 cms. 3+4 lines.

Loan. No date, but presumably post-canonical (Mudammiq-Assûr group).

Obverse
1. 1 gın ṣu₂/₃₃ KÜ.BABBAR
2. [ša] 1Mu-sig-Aṣ₃+ṣur
3. [x x] x [x x]
   rest (ca. 2 lines) lost.

Reverse
1'. [lim-m]μ lAṣ+ṣur-x-x
Translation

"1 shekel two-thirds of silver, are credited to Mudammiq-Aššur. ....
... eponymate of Aššur..... Witness: Tarditu-Aššur; witness: Šulmu-šarri; witness: Aššur-abu-ušur".

Notes

R. 1': suggestion for reading by KHD.
2': the first two signs after the determinative lend themselves to more than one interpretation (e.g. "šal-lim")

27. VAT 20354. ALA N9(36). Formerly VAT 16522. Ass.Fd.Nr. 9571k; Ph.Ass. 1289-90, top left. Photo: pls. VIII-IX.

Rectangular tablet with rounded edges, written on "short" axis. Reverse inscribed by half. 3.2×7.2 cms. 21+1+8 lines.

Administrative list (wine in jars, silver, and skins). No date, but probably post-canonical.

Obverse
1. 2-me-30 DUG ŠAB.MEŠ
2. ŠU.2 1DM-DINGIR
3. 1-me-30 " ŠU.2 1Dan-ni-U+[GUR]
4. 1-me-14/15 " ŠU.2 1dUTU-SU
5. 1-me-30+9? " ŠU.2 1rBAŠ-ma-kiš-Aš+šur
6. 1-me-207+9? " ŠU.2 1Dan-ni-U+GUR
7. 1-me-10+n8 " ŠU.2 1rBAŠ-ma-kiš-Aš+šur
8. 2-me-30+n8 " ŠU.2 1x-DU-tū-APIN-ES
9. 2-me-10+n8 " ŠU.2 1x-mîr-Aš+šur ana"
10. 1-me " ŠU.2 1Aš+šur-tu-ra"
15. 13 MA ŠU.2 Ša̱LU-ma-ki-AS+šur
16. 5 MA ŠU.2 Ša̱LU-nu-U+GUR
17. 6 MA ŠU.2 ULU-SU
18. 1 MA <K>̱PA-MU-AS KU.DI-Mn
19. 2 MA KUŠ.maš-kur ŠA-URU-a-a
20. 1/2 MA 6 GIN
21. 13 GIN " 2 DUG IGII”

Lower Edge
22. 2 GIN " ana 6 KUŠ "

Reverse
23. 3 1/2 MA Ša̱ "ANŠE.MEŠ”
24. 2 MA 34 GIN 4 KUŠ.maš-k[ir]
25. 1/2 MA 3 GIN 1KI-šir-AS+šur
26. 5 GIN 1NU-TÉŠ-ana-AS+šur
27. 5 GIN 1PA-SU X
28. 2 GIN KUŠ.DUš-fi-i [( )]
29. 10 GIN 1IM=AS+šur
30. 1 MA 8 GIN te-liš ŠA KUŠ.maš-k[ir] ŠA ŠE.BAR
(Blank).

Translation

The silver which is in the mountain region: 10 minas, care of Banitu-ereš; 11 shekels care of Dur-maki-Aššur; 10 minas care of Nabû-eriba; 13 minas, care of Dur-maki-Aššur; 5 minas care of Danau-Nergal; 6 minas, care of Šamaš-eriba; 1 mina, Nabû-šumu-iddina, silversmith; 2 minas for an Assyrian waterskin-raft; one-half of a mina, 6 shekels; 13 shekels ditto, 2 vases ditto; 2 shekels ditto for 6 skin-ditto.

3 1/2 minas for donkeys; 2 minas 34 shekels—4 waterskin-rafts; 1/2 mina, 3 shekels, Kišir-Aššur; 5 shekels, La-tubaš-ana-Aššur; 5 shekels Nabû-eriba; 2 shekels of dark-tanned leather; 10 shekels Šar-Aššur; 1 mina 8 shekels, the produce of of a waterskin-raft of barley”.

Notes
1ff.: Notice that the sign transcribed “ here is the variety of the NA ditto-sign with three obliques.
8: perhaps an erasure bearing the sign KASKAL is before the name 1DŪ-tú-APIN-es.
23: the reading ANŠE.MEŠ (not GEŠTIN.MEŠ) was established by KHD.
24: for maškuru, cf. Deller, BaM 15, 244.
26: cf. Deller, OrNS 35, 307, for the name.
30: in view of Obv. 19 and r. 2, te-lit šá kuš.maš-š[k] should be the reading here, not te-lit šá su-pár-gil etc., as understood by Deller, WZKM 57, 40 fn. 29. The blank space following this line is approx. equivalent to 13 lines.


Fragment, light-brown clay. 4.1×7.6 cms. 11+8+1+2 lines.

Division of inheritance. Post-canonical date (623 BC).

Obverse
1. NA4.KIŠIB 1PAP-IGI.LAL
2. NA4.KIŠIB 1Aš+šur-DU-pa-ni
3. DUMU 1MU-Aš+šur LÚ*.Har-har-a-a

SEALINGS

4. EN HA.LA zu-a-zi
5. 12 i-mu-ru ru-up-šú
6. meš-šu ina LÚ* (sic!) AD-šú K0
7. [DU]G.kal-lu si-ha-ru
8. [n] GIŠ.IG.MEŠ 4 GIŠ.šiʔ-šx-2-a-te
9. [1 GI]Š.GU.ZA a-n[a x x]
10. [x x lu]7-tú HA.L[α]
11. ] x [  

Reverse
1'. 1IG 1[x x x] x
2'. 1IG 1[x x]
3'. 1GI 1[x x x] x
4'. 1GI 1[x x x] x
5'. 1DUMU7n 1[x x x] x
6'. 1GI 1[Aš+šur]-šx-2-SAGš-šx
7'. ITI.ZÍZ UD-25-KAM
8'. lim-mu 1Šal-mu-MAN-E
1991] NEO-ASSYRIAN TEXTS FROM ASSUR: PRIVATE ARCHIVES 65

Left Hand Edge
1. tihi* rE' 1d30-še-<zib>-a-ni x[

Right Hand Edge
1. ha-bu-li ša ĝ AD qa-ni
2. a-hi-ši SUM-nu

Translation
"Sealing of Ahu-Iamur; sealing of Assur-alik-pani, son of Summa-Assur, by profession hundurayyu, owner of the share which is divided up.

(A house) 12 cubits wide —half of it he had come to enjoy as his paternal estate—
(is divided down to) the pots and pans. n doors, 4 wooodden ... , one chair for ... the share of Ahu-lamur ... ."

(Reverse: beginning lost; next 5 lines too fragmentary for translation)
"Witness: Aššur-reši-išši. Month of Šabaṭu (= XI), the 25th day, eponymate of Šalmu-šarru-iqbi".

(on left-hand edge:)
"Adjacent to the house of Sin-šeizibanni ... ."

(on right-hand edge:)
"The debts of the paternal estate will be paid over jointly".

Notes
2-3: See nos. 23, 24, above, for the name, and cf. Menzel, AT, I-II, 2533426.
4: the expression zittū zuāzu and its variants is analyzed by Deller, WZKM 57, 33.
5: the signs are clear (recollated), but the expression is partially obscure: by comparison with FNALD 19, 7, ina-me-te, the authors would suggest a quaint and ungrammatical contraction for "ina ammuṭu. Certainly, as noted by KHD, the lack of the parallel indication of length is intriguing.

RHE 1: for the NA expression qanni aha'iši/ahīš, etc., "together, jointly", cf. some materials assembled in CAD Q, 82b, and note the suggestion for no. 33, 3-4, below.

Rectangular tablet, written on “short” axis. Brown clay. 7.4×3.8 cms. 10+2+16+2+1 lines. Slight break at top.

Conveyance. Sale of slave woman. 657 BC.

Obverse
1. NA₄.KIŠIB šA-šur [Sa-šur]
2. DUMU Ṭḫ₄.PA₄-x [x x]
3. EN mši šUM₃ [mši]

SEALINGS
4. ṬŠu.Šu-dum-ma 3 ru-₄
5. ū-pi₄-ma ṬŠu₄-pu₄-im-papa(KA)₄-hi
6. ū-ni šA₄-bi₄ 10 GIN KU.BABBAR
7. ṬA₄* IGI šA₄-šur LÔ₄* SEM [(x)]
8. ṬŠu₄-IŠU₄ sa₄-pa₄-ga₄-mur
9. ta-di₄-ni mšu₄-a₄-tu₄
10. zar-pa₄-ta₄-at tu₄-a₄-ru de₄-nu

Lower Edge
11. KA.KA la₄-a₄-ši
12. ṭma₄-nu ša₄ ina₄ ur-ki₄ ši₄ ma₄-ti₄-m₄-e

Reverse
13. lu₄-Šu₄-gu₄₄-pa₄-šur
14. lu₄-Šu₄ DUMU₄.ME₄ŠU₄₄ lu₄-u₄ PAP.ME₄-šu₄
15. ša₄ de₄-e₄-nu₄ KA.KA
16. ṬA₄* DUG₄-im₄-papa₄-hi
17. ū DUMU₄.ME₄-šu₄ ub₄-ta₄-u₄-ni
18. kas-pa₄ ʈŠu₄₄ 10-m₄₄-te₄₄ ana₄-em₄₄-sh₄₄ GUR
19. ina₄-de₄₄-ni₄-shu₄₄ KA.KA₄-[ma]₄
20. la₄ ṭl₄₄-q₄₄-[q₂₄]
21. ši₄-t₄₄-b₄₄-en₄₄-nu₄₄ [ana₄ 100 um₄₄₄ti₄]
22. sa₄-[t₄₄]₄₄ ina₄ kal₄ um₄₄₄ti₄

23. IGI ʈI₄
24. IGI ʈI₄
25. IGI ʈIR₄₄-
26. IGI ʈI₄
27. IGI 1
28. IGI 1

Upper Edge
29. x 
30. IGI 1

Left Hand Edge
1. INI.BÁRA UD-2'5'7 lim-mu 1La-ba-sti

Translation
"Seal of Sagib-Āšur, son of Nabû..., owner of the woman being sold.
The woman Gula-umme, 3 spans (in height) —Tab-šar-papahi contracted and
bought (her), for 10 shekels of silver, from Sagib-Āšur, the brewer. The silver is given
over entirely. This woman is acquired, taken; there is no revocation, lawsuit or litigat-
on. Whoever, in the future or whenever, either Sagib-Āšur or his sons or his brothers,
will seek lawsuit and litigation with Ṭab-šar-papahi and his sons, will give back the silver
tenfold to its owners, and will not gain in his lawsuit and litigation. (Guarantee against)
seizure and epilepsy —100 days; (against) fraud —for all time.
(8 lines of witnesses' names lost or very fragmentary)
Month of Nisannu, 25th day, eponymate of Labasi”.

Notes
5: KHD points out that the name of the buyer corresponds to 1DUG.GA-IM-pa-pa-
hi, VAT 9995, 13.
6: the initial signs are of uncertain reading.
11: for the form la-a-sti, cf. e.g. SAA 6, 52, r. 1.


Rectangular tablet. Brown clay. 6.8x4.1 cms. 10+2+17+1+2 lines. Sealings.

Conveyance. Sale of female slave. 668(?).

Obverse
1. NA4.KIŠIB 1Tar-di-tú-As+šur
2. EN MI SUM-an

SEALINGS
3. 1(erasure)Da-da-PAP.MEŠ
4. NIN DAM PAP17(text qa)-šú
68

5. TA IGI ¹Tar-di-tú–Aš+šur
6. ina šâ-bi 20 GÎN.MEŠ KÛ.BABBAR
7. ip-tar-ra
8. tu-a-ru
9. de-e-nu da-ba(erasure)-bu la-a-šú
10. ina ur-kiš ina ma-te-₄ma²

Lower Edge
11. lu-u ¹Tar-di-tú–Aš+šur
12. lu-u AD-šú

Reverse
13. lu-u PAP-šú lu me-me-i'-šú
14. šá de-e-nu da-ba-bu
15. TA ¹Da-da–PAP.MEŠ
16. u DUMU-šú ṗub⁷-ta-’u-ni
17. man-nu dan-nu(erasure) ša e-la-a-ni
18. KÛ.BABBAR e-ši-bi
19. a-na ¹Da-da–PAP.MEŠ SUM-an
20. man-nu š’a i-ba'[l]-kât-u-ni
21. Aš+šur ²Šá-maš EN ṗu-PA⁷ U+GUR
22. lu EN de-e-nu-šú
23. IGI ¹PAP-u-₄-a
24. IGI ¹Zi-zi-i ṗSIMUG⁶
25. IGI ¹PAP-u-a–SU
26. IGI ¹Û-pa qa–ana–DINGIR
27. IGI ¹<PAP>–Aš+šur–SU IGI ¹Qa-ti-nu
28. IGI ¹Zi-zi-i
29. IGI ¹GIR.2(text GIM)–’As+šur”⁷

Upper Edge
30. ITI.ZIZ UD-10-KAM lim-mu ¹DUMU–<la>–rim⁷

Left Hand Edge
31. THREE FINGERNAIL MARKS šu-pur ¹Tar-di-tú–Aš+šur
32. EN MÎ SUM-an

Translation

"Seal of Tarditu-Aššur, owner of the woman being sold.
Dada-ahhe will release from Tarditu-Aššur the sister of his (= the latter’s) sister-in-law, for 20 shekels of silver. There will be no revocation, lawsuit or litigation, in the
future or at any time, be it Tarditu-Aṣšur, or be it his father, or be it his brother or be it anybody, who will seek lawsuit or litigation with Dada-ahhe and his son. Whoever legitimately will come up, will have to give back the money doubled to Dada-ahhe. Whoever will contravene—may Aššur, Śamaš, Bel, Nabû, Nergal be his opponents in court. Witness: Ahuayyu; witness: Zizi, smith; witness: Ahu’a-eriba; witness: Upaqana-ili; witness: Aššur-eriba; witness: Qatinu; witness: Zizi; witness: Šepa-Aššur.

Month of Šaḫatu (= XI), the tenth day. Eponymate of Mar-larim(?).

Fingernail(-mark) of Tarditu-Aššur, owner of the woman being sold”.

Notes

1: notice that this attestation would represent the only syllabic rendering in N9 and N10 of the name Ṭarditu-Aššur, elsewhere given as uš-ta-Åšur (KHD).

3-4: erasures mark this part of the text, making some readings difficult. L. 3 could have started out originally with an a. In l. 4, the obvious alternative is a feminine personal name; but the line seems to be of uncertain reading for all hitherto concerned.

7: for paṭaru, “to release” (a slave), i.e. to buy the slave’s freedom, with ina libbi plus the indication of price, cf. FNALD, 29, 49, SAA 6, 306b. KHD would rather integrate and read ip-<ōta>-tar-ra, “has released”, but notes that the present tense *ipāṭtar occurs as well at Assur, viz. 1 MA.NA KU.BABBAR SUM-na 1 ip-ṭar, VAT 8641, 14-15.

9: the syllabic writing da-ba-bu is rare but attested: cf. e.g. FNALD 1, 10, 18; SAA 6, 6, 11’ for a further case, and ibid., 294a-b, for a view of the prevailing writing habits.

11-13: in NA sale documents, the sequence of persons liable to lay claim on the item being sold in the future is “usually given in a strict order” (FNALD, p. 19), from which the chain given here, seller-father-brother, represents a rare and precious deviation.

17-18: quoted and discussed by Deller, WZKM 57, 35 (cf. also AHw., 252b).

24: KHD points out that the SIMUG sign in this text (as in no. 22, 24) has only one encased line of three oblique nails, and that possibly the normal form with a double encased triad is not attested at all in post-canonical Assur.

27: for the name see Deller, OrNS 34, 477

28: possibly the same person as Zī-zi-ia of nos. 21, 22, above.

29: according to KHD, the sign GIM was here erroneously written for GIR.2, implying a full name *Šepa-Aššur-ašbat.

30: perhaps we are just dealing with a strange writing for a well-known eponym: the best bet is Mar-larim (cf. RIA, II, 450b) of 668 BC (cf. Introduction, b3a, for the dates of the Dada-ahhe texts).

31: three fingernail marks are clear on the edge of the tablet. Notice that here we have a co-occurrence of sealing and fingernail marks on the part of the same person, i.e. the selling party Tarditu-Aššur; cf. no. 42, below, where the selling party “signs” with his fingernails in the space for sealings, after the expression “seal of ...”. 

Tablet with Envelope. Tablet: pillow-shaped clay, light brown color. 2.8×2.1 cms. 6+1+6+1+1 lines.

Loan of barley against pledge. 658 BC.

A (Envelope):

beginning broken away
1'. [§a rλAš+šur-rēm-a-ni²

SEALINGS

2'. ina igi ¹Man-nu-ki-15-zu
3'. <ina> pu-u-hi 'i[i'-[tu-ši]
4'. ina ad-ri sag.du-'šā' sum-na
5'. BE la-din tar-bi
6'. r₇Šaru.Arba-il-igi.lal
7'. r₇Ša-su-u-a ina šā-pār-te GAR-na
8'. [ūgš] (u)H UGU EN-šu
9'. [ITI.BĀRA] UD-22-KAM
10'. [lim-mu ¹§]-₇pA-šu-u
11'. [igi ¹x x x]x-a-še²
12'. [x x x x] GUR²/si'

Left Hand Edge
1. igi ¹[x x x]
2. igi ¹L[u-šā-kin]
3. ¹Da-a-hi
4. EN-ŠU.2.M[ēš ša SÉ.BAR]

103) The authors had suggested in the first version of the manuscript of the present article that an envelope of the inner text VAT 20341 existed, and was to be identified with VAT 20394, Ass.Fd.Nr. 9570p, which however had been unavailable during FMF's visits to the Museum. After a particularly thorough search by Mr. Nils Heessel, the tablet in question turned up on April 8, 1992. It bears at present the same VAT number as the inner tablet VAT 20341, and is fitted into the same box as the latter. The transliteration of the envelope (= A), as published here, is by KHD, who is to be particularly thanked on this occasion.
B (Tablet):

Obverse
1. 23 ANŠE ŠE.BAR
2. ša ₁Aššur-rēm-a-ni
3. ina ₁IGIL Man-nu-ki-ि15-ZU
4. DUMU ₁Il-hiʔ-x-[x]
5. ₁Da-da-hi
6. ₁Ṣa-ṣu-u-a

Lower Edge
7. ₁<<<=>>URU Arba-il-IGIL.la1

Reverse
8. ina ša-pār-te [GAR-na]
9. uš HA.˂A˃UG[U EN-ši-na]
10. ina ILBAR ARU-22-[KAM]
11. lim-su ₁Ṣa-dā-pa-šuʔ-[u]
12. ₁IGIL Sin-qi-15
13. ₁IGIL Su-ra-si

Upper Edge
14. ₁IGIL Na-di-nu

Left Hand Edge
15. ₁IGIL Lu-ša-kîn

Translation
A: "23 homers of barley, belonging to Aššur-remanni, credited to Mannu-ki-Ištar-leʾi. He has taken it on loan. He will return its capital sum at the threshing-floor; if he fails to return it, it will increase. The woman Šašu’a and the woman Arba’il-lamur are placed as pledge. If they die or flee, responsibility is upon his (sic) owner. Month of Nisannu ( = I), 22nd day, eponymate of Ša-Nabû-šû.

Witness: ... aše; witness: ... si; witness: ...; witness: Lu-šakin. Dada-ahhe is guarantor for the barley".

B: "23 homers of barley, belonging to Aššur-remanni, credited to Mannu-ki-Aššur, son of Ilhi... Dada-ahhe (is guarantor). The woman Šašu’a and the woman Arba’il-lamur are placed as pledge. If they die or flee, responsibility is upon their owner. Month
of Nisannu (= I), 22nd day, eponymate of Ša-Nabû-šu.
Witness: Sinqi-Istar; witness: Sursi; witness: Nadinu; witness: Lu-sakin”.

Notes

B, 4: The reading of this line has been repeatedly collated, but is still unsatisfactory. The authors wonder whether one should not reckon with *ina puhi ittiši being written here, perhaps over an erased patronymic (or even over an expression indicating Dada-ahhe’s status as guarantor, which would justify the latter’s name being present by itself in the next line).

5: as implied above, the mention of Dada-ahhe by himself here would be virtually impossible to make out if A, LHE 3-4 were lacking.

9: on the beginning of this line, KHD notes: “<A> missing in B, but "HA.A" sufficiently clear in A”.

14-15: it may be observed that Dada-ahhe, Nadinu, and Lu-sakin occur together as witnesses also in MAH 20613 (= FNALD no. 48), a text already mentioned above (no. 16, notes) as quite surely pertaining to the present archive.

32. VAT 20348. Probably ALA N9(49). Formerly VAT 16546. Ass.Fd.Nr 9571\(^{104}\)

Small cushion-shaped tablet. Grey-brown clay. 2.6×1.7×0.8 cms. 4+2+7+2 lines.

Loan of silver. Post-canonical date (626 BC).

Upper Edge
1. [n MA.N]A 6 GIN [KÜ.BABBAR]
2. [s]a ¹Mu-²SIG-³Aš-šur

Obverse
3. [s]a ¹Mu-qa-lil-²DIM
4. [ina IG]1 ¹[Su]-²me-³Aš+šur
5. [DUMU] ²[Se.-e]-³Aš+šur
6. [ITI].SIG4 UD-1

\(^{104}\) This text is — from the description — quite surely the document mentioned by Deller in BaM 15 (1984), 231-232 ad (d) as Ass.Fd. Nr 9571 “(Buchstabe nicht bekannt)”. Thus it should be Pedersen’s ALA N9 (49) = 9571y (“loan; cf. Deller, BagM 15, 231f”), with photograph = Ph.Ass. 1291/92, bottom center.
Lower Edge
7. [lim-mu] ḫPa-MAN-PAP
8. [(L butterknife.)A.B]A-E.GAL

Reverse
9. [ina it] ITI.KIN SUM-an
10. [MU NU S]UM ana 4-tu-šú ḫGA"L
11. [IG]I 1PAP-SU
12. [IGI] 1Ša-kil-[i]a]
13. [IGI] 1Bi-su-u-[a]a]
14. "IGI] 1Ba-tu-[u]a]
15. "IGI] 1DINGIR-ma-[lid-gul]

Translation
"n minas, 6 shekels of silver, belonging to Mudammiq-Asšur, belonging to Mual-lil-kabit, credited to Išme-edu-Asšur, son of Še’e-Asšur. Month of Simanu (= III), 1st day, eponymate of Nabû-šarru-usur, scribe of the palace. In the month of Ululu (= VI), he will give (the amount) back; if he does not give it, it will increase by one-fourth. Witness: Ahu-eriba; witness: Šakilya; witness: Bisu’a; witness: Baṭuji; witness: Ilumailidgul”.

Notes
4: the Iš- has one oblique too many; the following -me- is clearly set apart (collation Petra D. Gesche).
7ff.: same date as no. 14, above, which has the same parties and many of the same witnesses (Ahu-eriba, Šakilya, Bisu’a) —and in all likelihood the same scribe (thus KHD)— but different debtors.
10: this formula is identical to that of no. 14, 10.


Rectangular tablet. Reddish-brown clay. Upper r.h. part of Obv. broken. 11.5×6.1 cms. 19+3+24[+n]+1 lines.

Conveyance. Sale of a house. Date lost.

Obverse
1. [NA₄.KIŠIB 1] Ȁṣ+šur"-x[x x]-i? x[x x x]
2. [NA₄] KIŠIB Iₓ[x x] x x [x x x]
3. [NA₄] KIŠIB 'x x LÚ].GAL–IO-te [ša x x]

SEALINGS

4. [é ep-šu a-di GIŠ].ÜR.MEŠ-šú 1 GIŠ.IG šá qa-ni
5. [a-he-šššiš] 'iš ma-a-a-li TUR é-u
6. [x x x x] x TUR é-a-ni
7. [x GAB.DU (?)] 'iš Iš-tú-PAP.MEŠ
8. [GAB.DU] su-qa-qu "GAB.DU" BÁD.NA₄
9. [GAB.DU] su-qa-qu šà TA* IGI KÁ.GAL Zu-hi
10. [a]-na "KÁ.GAL ši-ma-a-te GIN-u-ni
12. 'iš šú-a-tú šá 'QI-bit–AŠ+šur A IEN–MÚ–PAP
14. [šá Iₓ]–PAP.MEŠ A ÎM–DINGIR.MEŠ SIMUG "x (x)"
16. [ina šà–bi n MA.NA] 1 GIN KÚ.BABBAR TA* IGI LÚ.MEŠ
18. [tuaru de–e]–nu KA.KA la-aš-šú

Lower Edge
20. [lu–u Iₓ x x x lu–u] AŠ+šur–a-a-li lu–u Iₓ[x x x]
22. [lu–u x x x lu–u] lu–u EN il–ki–šú–nu

Reverse
1. [lu–u mâm–ma]–nu–šú–nu šá dl(e–nu) KA."KA”
2. [TA IŠIL–nu]–KUR.AŠ+šur "DUMU.MEŠ–šú DUMU.DUMU.MEŠ–šú”
3. [ub-ta]-u–ni ma–a é AD–ni ni-paṭ–ṭar
4. [1 MA.NA KÛ.BABBAR 1 MA.NA KÚ.GI ina bur–ki d²NIN.LÍL
5. [î–šà]–ku–nu 2 ANŠE.KUR.KA.MEŠ BABBAR.MEŠ ina GİR.2 AŠ+šur i–rak–ku–su
7. [kas]–pu a–na 10.MEŠ a–na EN–šú GUR–ru
8. [ina d]–e–ni–šú–nu KA.KA–ma NU TI–u

9. [I]GI ‘QI-bit–”AŠ+šur GAL–50
12. IGI 1šu-nu-pap+u-idda 1ud-5-kâm-a-a
13. IGI 1mu-sal-lim-âš+sur 1âš+sur-ši-i
14. IGI 1mû-a-a 1ki-šir-âš+sur
15. IGI 1âš+sur-ünûmûn-dû 1kan-dil-a-nu
16. IGI 1mu-tak-kil-âš+sur 1kâm-âš+sur
17. IGI 1âš+sur-mû-gar-[un] 1âš+sur-šê-zib-a-nî
18. IGI 1âš+sur-mu-23 [x x x] 1âš+sur-mu-sig
19. IGI 1âš+sur-kur-du-ni 1âš+sur-âš+sur
20. IGI 1mû-âš+sur 1kan-dil-a-nu
21. IGI 1nû-teš-ana-dingir 1û.x
22. [x x]x-a-a 1[x x x]
23. [îlr.] ud-23 [ + n ]-kâm
24. [îml.] 1mu-23 [x x x]

Left Hand Edge
1. 1鈧-mû-âš šá šú pa-ra-ki it-tî-dîn

Translation
"Seal of ... ... ... ... magnates of the city.
A built house, including of its beams, 1 door for common use, a bedroom, a courtyard (with) an exit, ... a courtyard, domestic quarters, ... adjacent to the house of Tarditu-Ãšur, adjacent to the alley, adjacent the stone fortification, adjacent to the alley which leads from the Gate of Zuhi to the Gate of Destinies, adjacent to the house of Bel-šumu-iddina son of Urad-Allatu.

This house, belonging to Qibit-Ãšur son of Bel-šumu-ušur, belonging to Aššur-ajjali son of Urad-îstar, belonging to ...-ahhe son of Šummu-ilani, a smith: Šulmu-Ãšur, son of Iluma-le'i, bought and contracted (it) for n minas, 1 shekel of silver from these men. The money has been given over entirely. There is no revocation, lawsuit or litigation. Whoever, in the future or whenever —be it Qibit-Ãšur, be it Nabû-nadin-ahhe, be it ... , be it Aššur-ajjali, be it ... , be it their sons, be it their grandsons, be it ... , be it their superintendent for the labor duty, be it anybody of theirs— who will seek lawsuit and litigation with Šulmu-Ãšur, (or with) his sons and his grandsons, saying: ‘We want to redeem the house of our forebears': they will place 1 minas of silver and 1 mina of gold in the lap of Mullissu, and they will tie two white horses to the feet of Aššur, and they will burn their eldest son in the hamru-temple of the god Adad. He will return the money tenfold to its owner. In their lawsuit and litigation they will not succeed.

of Aššur-mudammaqi; witness: Aššur-šaduni son of Amur-Aššur; witness: Šumma-Aššur son of Kandilanu; witness: La-tubaš-ana-Aššur, ...man; witness: ...-ayu son of ...

Month of ..., day 23[+ n], eponymate of .....”.

(on left-hand edge)

“n shekels(?)... he has given to Bel-šumu-iddina for blocking his side”.

Notes

3: cf. no. 35, 3 for a similar title.

8: GAB.DU of GABA.DU is a variant to the better known GAB.DI, for which cf. CCENA 62, FNALD 23. The writing with DU was first attested in a NA legal document published by I.L. Finkel, SAAB 3 (1989), 66-67, 6-7.

9: KHD suggests that Zu-hi is an allogram for Suhi, the well-known land on the Middle Euphrates; although the authors would not reject the alternative possibility of emending kā’ (= papa)-hi; for papahi in relation to the Assur gate system, cf. Menzel, AT, I-II, 37403.

11: the first name is that of the neighbour who occurs again in LHE 1.

12-14: there are three sellers named in these lines, and all bear the patronymic; the SIMUG sign in l. 14 has the characteristics noticed ad no. 30, 24.

19-20: here, on the other hand, and somewhat inexplicably, the sellers appear to be five.

R. 1: the transliteration bears the authors’ [lu-u måm-ma]-nu-šu-nu on the basis of 37, 8, although KHD’s suggestion [lu-u ha-za]-nu-šu-nu is also a possibility.


9: Another attestation for Qibit-Aššur, rab hansa, is BaM 16 (1985), 373, r. 12. KHD notes that at least other six lû/lû*.GAL-50s are attested at Assur, never in connection with any other professional name.

LHE 1: this clause is perhaps only partially preserved and thus relatively obscure. The verb paraku means basically “to block, obstruct, to be at cross purposes, to cross” —and it often appears with a juridical meaning in NA conveyances, although in the N stem (cf. FNALD, 18). Since Bel-šumu-iddina was a neighbour of the buyer, we should be here dealing with a factual event or problem connected to the adjacency of the houses. In this light, the authors would suggest that the clause recorded a sum that the buyer gave to the neighbour as compensation for blocking a “side” of the latter’s house (possibly tied to the “door for common use” of Obv. 4). By postulating a numerical notation in shekels and an a-na as placed in the break before Bel-šumu-iddina’s name, the subject of ittidin would be Šulmu-Aššur, and the meaning of the verb would be a very basic “to give, to give over” (KHD on the other hand suggests “Bel-šumu-iddina has allowed to cross(?) his side”).

Dark red tablet with generally “watered” surface. 9.6×4.7 cms. Remnants of 15+3+16’ lines. Sealings.

Conveyance. Date lost, but probably post-canonical.

Obverse
1. [NRA4.KIŠIB] 1Man-nu-[ki-As+šur]
2. [A] 1Qur-di-[x x x]

SEALINGS

3. EN UN.MEŠ ta-da-[ni]
4. 1x[x x]a/ša 1PAP-li-[i/e]
5. r*lA'1/Ma'-[x]-x-na-x
6. PAP 3? rZI.MEŠ šá 1Man-nu-k[i-As+šur]
7. up-pi[š]-ma 1Mu-sigš-šiš
8. [A] 1Da-d[a-PAP.MEŠ ina š]À 1 MA 5 "GĪN" [KU.BABBAR]
9. [t]A* pa-an rY[Man]-nu-ki-As+šur
10. [r]l"qe" kas-[pu] ga-mu[r]
11. [t]a/Ad'-(n u)n.MEŠ za-x[x x]
12. x [x x tu-a]-ru de"e-[nu]
13. KA."KA" [läššu mannu ša ina urkiš]
14. "ina ma"-te-me [ižaqqupanni]
15. "T-qa-bu-ni ma-[a UN.MEŠ]

Edge
1. a-pat-šar kas-pu "ana 10.MEŠ"-te?]
2. a-na EN.MEŠ-Sù GUR-ra
3. ina de-ni-šu KA.KA-ma

Reverse
1. "la" i-laq"qi"
2. "As+šur dUTU lu EN de"ni-šu"
3. "šib-te" be-nu a-na 1-me UD.ME³
4. [sa]-ar-tù a-na "kal" MU.MEŠ

105) The Assur excavation photo, which is more complete than the document as preserved at present, has also been checked for the edition.
rest lost (= 9 + blank space completely “watered”)

28’.  ṭtlu. nd-12-kām

29’. lim-mu ṭr x7 GAL ʔšuʔ

Translation

“Seal of Mannu-ki-Assur, son of Qurdi-..., owner of the people being sold.
... Ahu-li’, the woman La-..., in all 3 people belonging to Mannu-ki-Assur: Mudammiq-Assur, son of Dada-ahhe, has contracted and bought (them) for one mina, 5 shekels of silver, from Mannu-ki-Assur. The money is entirely handed over; ... The people are acquired, bought. There is no revocation, lawsuit, or litigation. Whoever, in the future or whenever, will stand up and say: ‘I am redeeming these people’, will return the money tenfold to its owners; in his lawsuit and litigation he will not succeed; may Assur and Samaš be his opponents in court. (Guarantee against) seizure and epilepsy —100 days; (against) fraud —for all time”.

(Reverse: at least 9 lines illegible)

“Month of ..., the 12th day; eponymate of ...”

Notes

8: restoration of the patronymic suggested by KHD.

29’: the traces are hard to fit to a name of a known limmu between late canonical and post-canonical times (cf. Introduction, b3a, for the dates of Mudammiq-Assur). KHD suggests to read here an abbreviated rendering of the name of Sa’i1lu, i.e. 1Sa (Lū*).GAL-MU, “though I must confess that the last sign looks like šu”.


Large grey-brown tablet, bearing 24+n+36 lines. Faded in spots (Obv., bottom l. h. corner; Rev. upper part). 13.7x7.2x2.0 cms.

Conveyance. Sale of a plot of bare ground. Post-canonical date (635 BC).

Obverse

1. [NA₄.KIŠIB ṭx x x] ṭlū.ḥa₆-zA-NU
2. [NA₄.KIŠIB ṭx x] ṭlū.šā-U[G][U]-[ URU]
3. [NA₄.KIŠIB ṭx x] ṭLū₇.GAL-TO-TE šA A.B[AE Меš]
4. [qaq]-\textsuperscript{2} qi-rā\textsuperscript{3} pu-se-e tihi* ĝ 1\textsuperscript{3}Mu-\textsuperscript{4}As+šu\textsuperscript{5}[r] DUMU 1\textsuperscript{6}P[ir-(a)-na]-a

5. [tihi*] ĝ 1\textsuperscript{7}As+šu-bi-sūn Lū*.qur-ZAG tihi* [x x (x)]

6. [tihi*] ĝ 1\textsuperscript{8}KA.KA-a-a Lū*.DUMU GEME KUR tihi* KASKAL.a

7. tihi* ĝ 1\textsuperscript{9}Mu-tak-kil-As+šur URU.Ē-Za-ma-na-a-a

8. qaq-qi-ri (text: e) p\textsuperscript{10}u\textsuperscript{11}-še-e ša 1\textsuperscript{12}Su-u-su Lū*.GAL-\textsuperscript{13}hū[dar-a-a]

9. ša 1\textsuperscript{14}Sa-gib-As+šur DUMU 1\textsuperscript{15}PAP-u+a-a-a Lū*.[hu-dar-a-a]

10. ša 1\textsuperscript{16}Bi-su\textsuperscript{17}-u-a ša 1\textsuperscript{18}Ki-šir-As+šur ša 1\textsuperscript{19}Ša-k[il-ia (x)]

11. ša 1\textsuperscript{20}En-\textsuperscript{21}DINGIR-iq-bu-u-ni ša 1\textsuperscript{22}UD-5-KĀM-\textsuperscript{23}a-[a]

12. ša 1\textsuperscript{24}As+šur-SAG-iš ša 1\textsuperscript{25}Šum-ma-1.GĀL-\textsuperscript{26}DINGIR ša 1\textsuperscript{27}[x (x)]

13. ša 1\textsuperscript{28}As+šur-\textsuperscript{29}SU\textsuperscript{30} ša 1\textsuperscript{31}A-hu-lam-ma ša 1\textsuperscript{32}As+šur-[x x (x)]

14. ša 1\textsuperscript{33}As+šur-\textsuperscript{34}DŠe-e-nu-a-mur ša 1\textsuperscript{35}Un-zar-\textsuperscript{36}h[u]

15. ša 1\textsuperscript{37}Bal-liṭ-As+šur ša 1\textsuperscript{38}As+šur-SILIM-PAP.MEŠ ša r\textsuperscript{39}rāḥā\textsuperscript{40}-ma-[x x]

16. ša 1\textsuperscript{41}As+šur-DU-IGI ša 1\textsuperscript{42}As+šur-DU-\textsuperscript{43}As ša \textsuperscript{44}rāḥā-[ni]

17. [ša] 1\textsuperscript{45}Ša-As+šur-\textsuperscript{46}a-ne-nu ša 1\textsuperscript{47}As+šur ša \textsuperscript{48}[x x x (x)]

18. [ša] 1\textsuperscript{49}Tukul-tū-As+šur ša \textsuperscript{50}a-a-a-a ša \textsuperscript{51}[x x x x (x)]

19. [ša] 1\textsuperscript{52}Shu.Lal-iš-DINGIR ša 1\textsuperscript{53}Mu-kūn-As+šur Š\textsuperscript{54}a-[x x x x (x)]

20. "PAP" 30 LŪ.MEŠ LŪ.-hu-dar-a-a-a [x x x x (x)]

21. [ša] 1\textsuperscript{55}piš-\textsuperscript{56}MaMu-SIG-As+šur DUMU 1\textsuperscript{57}Da-da-[hi x x x x (x)]

22. [ša] 1\textsuperscript{58}Ha-am-ri ša 1\textsuperscript{59}Am-ni ša 1\textsuperscript{60}[x x x x (x)]

23. [qaq-qi]-\textsuperscript{61}pu-se-e šu-\textsuperscript{62}a-[šu zarpu laqq\textsuperscript{63}u]

24. [x x x] 1\textsuperscript{64}ad-nu [x x x x x (x)]

(abrasion of 3\textsuperscript{65} lines in length)

Reverse

1-4. lines "watered", illegible

5. [2 ANŠE.KUR].RA.MEŠ BABBAR.MEŠ ina GİR.2 As+šur i-rak-[ka-sal\textsuperscript{66}ku-su]

6. [apilšu rabi\textsuperscript{67}u] ina 1\textsuperscript{68}ha-am-ri ša 1\textsuperscript{69}负责人 [GIBIL]

7. [kaspu ana esr\textsuperscript{70}ate] a-na EN.MEŠ-ŠU GUR-\textsuperscript{71}ra

8. [ina (la) den\textsuperscript{72}šu] KA.KA la 1\textsuperscript{73}la-q-qī

9-14. witnesses' names; "watered"

15. [IGI] 1\textsuperscript{74}Du-na\textsuperscript{75}a-a-a

16. [IGI] 1\textsuperscript{76}x x x

17. [IGI] 1\textsuperscript{77}Kab-\textsuperscript{78}ri-ia DUMU 1\textsuperscript{79}[x x x]

18. [IGI] 1\textsuperscript{80}Qa\textsuperscript{81}lu-su LŪ*.I.S[UR]\textsuperscript{82}R\textsuperscript{83}K]

19. [IGI] 1\textsuperscript{84}Lal-\textsuperscript{85}un-As+šur DUMU 1\textsuperscript{86}URU.Aš+šur-\textsuperscript{87}a-[a]

20. [IGI] 1\textsuperscript{88}Ra\textsuperscript{89}a-[a]-MU-SUM-na LŪ*.\textsuperscript{90}dā-a-a-[u ( )]

21. [IGI] 1\textsuperscript{91}Ba-\textsuperscript{92}tu-tu LŪ.A.BA* ša LŪ*.DĪ\textsuperscript{93}

22. [IGI] 1\textsuperscript{94}Ra\textsuperscript{95}a-[a]-BĀD-ma-ki-i LŪ.ŠE-la[p\textsuperscript{96}a-a-a]

23. [IGI] 1\textsuperscript{97}Am-\textsuperscript{98}an-ni-DINGIR LŪ.NINDA [( )]
Translation

"Seal of ..., mayor; seal of ..., city-overseer; seal of ......., commander-of-ten of the scribes.

A plot of bare ground, adjoining the house of Šummu-Assur son of Bir(a)na; adjoining the house of Assur-bessunu, bodyguard; adjoining ... , adjoining the house of Dibbayu, the son of a palace handmaid; adjoining the road of ... ; adjoining the house of Mutakkil-Assur of Bit-Zamani.

The plot of bare ground belonging to Susu, chief hundurayyu; belonging to Sagib-Assur son of Ahuayu, hundurayyu; belonging to Bisu’a, to Kišir-Assur, to Šakilya, to Adi-ili-iqbuni, to Hanšayu, to Assur-reši-išši, to Šumma-ibašši-ili, to ..., to Assur-eriba, to Ahulamma, to Aššur-..., to Aššur-denu-amur, to Unzarhu, to Ballit-Assur, to Aššur-šallim-ahhe, to Dur-ma-..., to Assur-ālik-paniya, to Assur-epiš-šibuti, to Ahubani, to Ša-Assur-anenu, to Iddina-Assur, to ..., to Tukultu-Assur, to Nabû-na’id, to ..., to Qat-tarris-ilu, to Mukin-Assur, to ...: in all 30 people, (by profession) hundurayyu, ... Mudammīq-Assur, son of Dada-ahhe, contracted and bought for one and one-half minas of silver. The money is entirely handed over; this plot of bare ground is purchased, taken over ..., given”.

(end of Obverse and first lines of Reverse too broken or damaged for translation)

"... he/they will tie two white horses to the feet of Aššur, and they will burn their eldest son in the hamru-temple of the god Adad. They will return the money tenfold to its owner. In their lawsuit and litigation they will not succeed”.

(5 lines too damaged for translation)

"... witness: Dunayyu; witness: ...; witness: Kabriya, son of ...; witness: Qalusu, oilpresser; witness: Tuqun-Assur, son of Aššurayu; witness: Nabû-šumu-iddina, scout; witness: Batašu, scribe of the ...man; witness: Nabû-dur-maki, by profession šelappayu; witness: Šamsanni-ilu, baker; witness: Aššur-eriba, tailor; witness: Iqbi-Aššur, son of Urad-Aššur, weaver; witness: Aplu’a, son of Iaqiri ditto; witness: Mutarrīš-Aš-

Month n, day n, eponymate of Sin-šarru-usur, palace scribe. Witness: ..., the scribe who took the tablet”.

Notes
3: Cf. n. 33, Obv. 3.
5: the same individual is attested also in VAT 9930, 26, of 624 BC.
R. 5-8: suggestions for readings in these lines courtesy of KHD.
32-33: as noted by KHD, the Assur text CTNMC 68 (= FNALD 18), 37-39 also presents three consecutive names of gatekeepers, of whom the second is one Marduk-šarru-usur (written \textit{IdSU-MAN-PAP}) as in our l. 32; the suggested restitution of our l. 33 is thus based on the presence of one \textit{1Mu-LAL-As+\textit{ṣur} in the Copenhagen text (l. 39).}

36. VAT 9366. ALA N9(57). Ass. Fd.Nr. 9572g. Ph. Ass. 1291/92, second row from top, left. Published copy: KAJ 285\textsuperscript{106}.

\textit{Receipt(?) regarding an ox.}

Obverse
1. \textit{rbBu-na-a-a}
2. \textit{rA}1\textit{Mar-\textit{lu}\textit{.u}r\textit{tu}\textit{}}} \textsuperscript{3}?
3. \textit{1Na-ga\textit{.a}r\textit{a}r\textit{}}} \textsuperscript{7}?
4. \textit{rA}1\textit{Ha-a-x}[x]
5. [x] x x x [x x]
6. [x x su-\textit{ur} x x r\textit{Aš+ṣur}]\textsuperscript{7}?

Reverse
1. \textit{[ana(\textit{7}) 1]-en GUD.NITÁ

\textsuperscript{106} Notice that here, as elsewhere, the numbers of the Assur excavation photographs are upside-down with regard to the photographed tablets. The present edition is based on FMF’s collation and LJ’s recent copy, which differs to some extent from Ebeling’s one in KAJ 285.
2. [(x)] SUM-a-ni a-na
3. 1Mu-sigès-Asš+šur
4. 1GI kQa²-an-a-a
5. 1GI Pa-šà-a-na
6. 1GI kΓz-bu
7. "1GI 1Ki-šir-Asš+šur

Left Hand Edge
1. GUD⁹ ni-ba-f'u⁷

Translation
"Bunayyu son of Mar-(i)lutu; Naga’a son of Ha-..., ..., to give an ox to Mudammiq-Asšur. Witness: Qanayyu; witness: Pašanu; witness: Izbu; witness: Kišir-Assur.

(LHE:) ox, ...

Notes
6: a reading URU.Aš+šur at the end of the line is a possibility.
LHE.1: this line is lacking in Ebeling’s copy. The first —only half-preserved— sign, as given by LJR, is a vertical closely followed by the complex, such as could represent the end of BAL, GUD, IG, GUL, GA, BŪL, GA, DUG, etc. The second visible sign looks more like ni than anything else: only the upper horizontal wedge is not clearly visible.


Reddish clay tablet, fragmentary at Obv. top, Rev. bottom. 7.2×4.8 cms. Remnants of 4+4+17 lines.

Receipt. Date lost (but time of Dada-ahhe).

Obverse
beginning lost; approximately one-third missing
1’. NA₄.KIŠ[IB x] x [  
2’. NA₄.KIŠIB [x]-la-[  
3’. NA₄.KIŠIB LÙ.[I]MU.G.[MES(?)]  
4’. gab-bu URU.Lû²-[x x (x)]

SEALS
Lower Edge
1. i-BAL[a-e šā] 1TT.MAB.a-a
2. 1/2 MA.NA KÜ.BABBAR ina KL.LAL
3. ša LÚ*.DAM.GĂR
4. LÚ.MEŠ an-nu-te LÚ.SIMUG.ME

Reverse
1. TA* IGÍ1 Da-a-da-PAP.MEŠ
2. i[t-f]a-aš-su
3. "1. gín 1/2 gín ina pa-an 1U.U-PAP.MEŠ
4. "la" re-hi TA* IG1 a-hi-iš
5. ú-tu-ra mãm-ra TA* man-nu
6. la i-da-bu-ub ina ur-kiš
7. "lu" LÚ.SIMUG.MEŠ an-nu-te
8. "lu" mãm-nu-nu-šu-nu ša de-nu
9. KA.KA TA* Da-a-da-PAP.MEŠ
10. ub-ta'-u-u-ni

11. d.MAŠ.MAŠ'-Aš+šur dUTU dNIN.LĬL
12. rd-Se.ru-u-a d15 ša URU.Arba-il
13. lu EN de-ni-šu "kas"-pu
14. a-na 10-a-te a-na EN.ME[S]-šu [GUR-ra]
15. ina de-ni-šu K[.A.KA-ma NU TI]107

16. [ ] x x 1TA-[d]M-a-né-nu
17. [x x x] x x [x x x]
rest (ca. 1/2) lost.

Translation

"... seal of ...; seal of ...la...; seal of the smiths(?), all of them, of the town Lu-.....

In the palu (= eponymate?) of Kanunayyu, these men, the smiths, took from Dada-ahhe one-half mina of silver at the weight of the merchant. Neither a shekel nor a half-shekel is left credited to Dada-ahhe. They are mutually paid off. Nobody will litigate with anybody else. In the future, either these smiths or anyone of theirs who should seek lawsuit and litigation with Dada-ahhe — may Nergal, Aššur, Šamaš, and Mullissu, Šuru’a, Istar of Arbail, be their adversaries in court. He will return the sum tenfold to its owner; in his(?) lawsuit and litigation he will not succeed.

107) The remainder is lost at present: the following two lines were read from Ass.Ph. 1296, bottom right.
Witness: Issi-Adad-anenu, ......".
(rest lost)

Notes

3': the restoration at the end of the line is an obvious possibility, in view of the following mentions of this group of artisans. For the mention of large teams of goldsmith in the material from Assur, cf., for the moment, AfO 32 (1985), 50.

4': after this line, the space for sealings is unusually extended, corresponding to approx. 6 lines' length.

LE 1: for the set of recently discovered limmu-dates bearing the name Kanunayu, cf. the references given in fn. 36, above. As for i-bal[=ina palê, a chronological indication by palê is certainly unusual—if not entirely unknown—for the legal and administrative horizon of Neo-Assyrian (for quotes from epistolary texts, cf. e.g. Ahw., 817a-b); and the fact that it is applied to a post-canonical eponym almost certainly to be placed in the last years of existence of the Assyrian empire makes the matter even more intricate.

2-3: the "weight of the merchant" is a rare, if not unique, occurrence; what is meant is surely the same as the "mina of the merchant" which appears here and there as a measure of weight in NA legal documents (cf. Deller, JESHO 30 [1987], 310, for the attestations; and Postgate, FNALD, 65, for the implications of the expression, which the present attestation might go some way in solving).

R. 1, 3: the parallel writings represent unequivocal proof for the equation of *u.u with *Dada.

11-12: the gods listed here are, interestingly enough, three male and then three female divinities.

38. VAT 9400. ALA N9(59). Ass. Fd.Nr. 9572i. Ph. Ass. 1291/92, upper left; 1297/98, top left. Photo: pls. XII-XIII.

Tablet with detached Envelope. Grey-brown clay. Tablet (A): 4.1x2.2x1.4 cms. 5+2+5+1+1+1 lines. Envelope (B): 4.9x4.1x1.8 cms. 4+2+7+2 lines.

Silver loan. 657 BC.

A (Tablet)

Obverse
1. MA.NA 2 GIN KU.BABBAR

Notice that on photos Ass. 1291/92 and Ass. 1297-1298, the tablet is portrayed with the envelope half-containing the tablet.
2. ša 1Da-da-PAP.MES
3. ina IGI IGU+GUR-MAN-PAP
4. u₂-mu ša dan-nu-tū
5. DIB-bat-u-ni u-ba-la-ni

Lower Edge
6. "$²-gir-tū i-ma-râроссийск
7. MU dan-nu-tū la SUM

Left Hand Edge
1. 2 MA ina MA-e GAL-$bî$

Reverse
1. TTLSU UD-1
2. lim-mu $BNU-TEŠ$
3. IGI IGU+GUR-DÛ
4. IGI "$B(a)-la-a-a$
5. IGI I$Bi-su²-u-a$

Upper Edge
6. IGI I$Šâ$-kil-ia

B (Envelope)

Obverse
1. NA₄.KIŠIB IGU+GUR-MAN-PAP
2. DUMU TTL.KIN-a[-a]
3. 1 MA "$N{a}$ "$2 GÎN KÎ $BBAR$

SEALINGS

4. ša $D'\text{a-da-PAP.}[MEŠ$

Lower Edge
5. ina IGI IGU+GUR-MAN-PAP [( )]
6. u₂-mu ša dan-nu-tū [( )]

Reverse
7. DIB-bat-u-ni u-ba-la-ni [( )]
8. e-gir-tú i-ma-ra-q[a]
9. šum-ma dan-nu-tú la "SUM"
10. 2 MA ina+MA-e GA"L-bi"n
11. ii.t.[š]U UD-1-KAM [( )]
12. lim-mu "NU-TESH [( )]
13. IGI "U+GUR-DÜ IGI 'Tab(a)-la-a-a"

Upper Edge
14. IGI 'Ša-kil-ia [( )]
15. IGI 'Bi-su-u-a [( )]

Translation
A: “One mina, 2 shekels of silver, belonging to Dada-ahhe, credited to Nergal-šarru-usur. On the day he (= Dada-ahhe) seizes and brings the dannutu-tablet, he may smash the egirtu-tablet. If he does not give back the dannutu-tablet—it will increase by 2 minas per mina. Month of Du’uzu (= IV), 1st day, eponymate of Labaši. Witness: Nergal-ibni; witness: Tabalayyu; witness: Bisti’a; witness: Sakilya”.

B: “Seal of Nergal-šarru-usur, son of Ululayu. One mina, 2 shekels of silver belonging to Dada-ahhe, (are) credited to Nergal-šarru-usur. On the day he (= Dada-ahhe) seizes and brings the dannutu-tablet, he may smash the egirtu-tablet. If he does not give back the dannutu-tablet—it will increase by 2 minas per mina. Month of Du’uzu (= IV), 1st day, eponymate of Labaši. Witness: Nergal-ibni; witness: Tabalayyu; witness: Šakilya; witness: Bisu’a”.

Notes
A, 4ff. = B, 6ff.: this clause may be said to shed entirely new light on two well-known NA terms for “document”, dannutu and egirtu—the difference between which seems here rather tied to an economic function and practical utilization than to general typological categories.

A, Edge 1 = B, 10: the expression fixes a repayment of 200% of the original sum, i.e. a net interest rate of 100%.

A, R. 4 = B, 13: for ligatures between ina and the following signs in expressions of measure in this corpus, cf. 22, 5, 6; 61, 7; 64, 2.

Rectangular tablet, grey-brown clay. 8.1×4.3×1.2 cms. 11+17+3 lines.

Conveyance. Sealing of Sin-na'id, mayor of Assur. Date fragmentary.

Obverse

1. NA₄.KIŠIB₁₃₀₋₁ ŠU.ha-za-nu
2. EN MI ta-da-ni

SEALINGS

3. 'D[U]-at-e. 'SAG.GI₇' GEMÉ
4. r₉₉₇₁₃₀₋₁
5. [u-piš-m]a₁'Mu-SIG₅₋₆+šur
6. [ina šÀ n MA.N]A 5 GIN KU.BABBAR
7. ina M[À.NA-e š]a KUR.Gar-gam-miš
8. [l]-qe kas-[p]u gam-[mur]
9. ta-[in MLŠuatu zarpat]
10. la-qi-[a]t denu]
11. KA.KA [laššu]

Reverse

1. man-nu ša ip-[p-[ár-rǐk-(u)-ni]
2. Aš+šur "UTU lu EN [de-ní-šú]
3. še-e-hu ber-ti "IT"[MEŠ]
4. sa-ar-tú kāl MU.AN.NA.[MEŠ]

5. IGI₁'Aš+šur-mu-SIG DUMU₁'Su-sa-ša"[a]
6. IGI₁U+GUR-SUM-na 1.DU₈
7. IGI₁'E-Aš+šur LÜ₅.GAL-URU.hu-šun²-dir-a-[a]
8. rIGI₉₁₃PA-BAŠI LÜ₅*:še-lap-pa-a-a
9. [IGI₁'Mu-šal-lim-Aš+šur :]
10. [IGI₁']BI-ir-na-a
11. [IGI₁'T]ar-di-tù-Aš+šur² [x]
12. [IGI₁'Sa-gib-[Aš+šur x]
13. [IGI₁]'Su-u-[Su x]
14. [IGI₁'Aš]+šur-SAG-[išš]

\(^{109}\) The same problem as noticed in fn. 19, above, applies here.
15. [IGI 1\(^8\)Sum-mu-1.[GAL-DINGIR]
16. [ITI.x UD]-10[+-n-KAM/KÁM]
17. "lim-mu 1Aš+šur\(^2\)-g[ar-u-né-re]

Upper Edge
18. IGI 1Aš+šur-ba-ni
19. IGI 1Ki-šir-Aš+šur
20. IGI 1Sum-mu-uše-zib

Translation
"Seal of Sin-na'id, mayor, owner of the woman being sold.
The woman Banat-Esaggil, female slave of Sin-na'id—Mudammiq-Åššur bought for n minas, 5 shekels of silver at the mina of Karkemiš. The money is given over entirely; that woman is acquired by purchase, taken over. There will be no lawsuit or litigation. Whoever will make obstruction—may Åššur and Šamaš be his adversaries in court. Guarantee against aggressivity between months; (against) fraud for all time.

Witness: Åššur-mudammiq, son of Susayyu; witness: Nergal-iddina, gatekeeper; witness: Iqbi-Åššur, chief of the hundurayyus; witness: Nabû-duri, ditto (= chief of) the architects; witness: Mušallim-Åššur, ditto; witness: Bir(a)nà; witness: Tarditu-Åššur; witness: Sagib-Åššur; witness: Susu; witness: Åššur-reši-iši; witness: Šummu-ibašši-ilî. Month of ..., day 10+n, eponymate of Åššur-garu'a-nere. Witness: Åššur-bani; witness: Kišir-Åššur; witness: Šummu-ušezib”.

Notes
1: For Sin-na'id, cf. further attestations in NA cuneiform assembled by Parpola, LAS 2, 327-328; and in Aramaic alphabetic script by Fales, AEeT, 230. The same man appears in VAT 9361, 1, for which cf. NATAPA II.
2: for this clause, so far only attested in NA documents from Assur, cf K. Deller, BaM 16 (1985), 374-375.
7: notice the very unusual writing (with uru) of the professional affiliation of our household, which gives additional strength to the equivalence of hundurayyu with Lu\(^*\).Har-har-a-a in no. 28, 3, above.
17: the fragmentary limmu-date could in general be placed either in the late canonical or in the first part of the post-canonical period, due to the co-occurrence of the mayor Sin-na'id (see references above) and of Mudammiq-Åššur (see Introduction, ad bâ3a). To this KHD adds the suggestion that “Rev. 2-4 are found in identical order on Ass.Fd.Nr. 9573a, 16-18 (formerly VAT 16531), limmu Åššur-garu'a-nere”. And certainly, a date to (Falkner-)635 BC would fit quite well the many co-occurrences of the witnesses between this text and no. 35, above, attributed to 622 BC.

Right-hand fragment, ca. 1/3 of a square or oblong tablet. Reddish clay. 2.1×2.0×0.8 cms. Remnants of 13 lines.

1. ]-tū
2. ] Aš+šur-š-rım-ut²-tu
3. ]x man³-at
4. ]ep-pa-ēš
5. ] ZĀH-at
6. ] ša x x x
7. ]bl²-tū-šū-nu
8. ]x šā
10. ]x x
11. ]x x
12. ]-i-a

Notes
5: this line ending seems to be a major clue for the contents, possibly pointing to a formula šamma viš-at] ZĀH-at, "if she (= the female pledge) dies (or) flees" (suggestion KHD).
7: this line-ending would seem to point to the formula on "(judicial peace) between them", attested in receipts or in judicial decisions.
9: quite surely a fragment of the date-formula of the text.


Reddish clay tablet, about 1/4 broken. 9[+n]+13+1 lines. 4.2×6.2 [+n] cms. Fingernail impressions on the space for sealings.


Obverse
1. NA₄.KIŠIB ₁Nu-ša-a['(x x)]
2. URU.Ka-par-šu²-ga-[a]
3. EN MI ta-da-ja-a-ni³

SEALINGS
4. Ḥ.KUR-ra-(erasure)ha-ma MI-šā
5. ]ū-piš-mar³MI-DINGIR
Translation

"Seal of Nuṣa',..., of the town Kapar-šuga'a, owner of the woman being sold. The woman Ekur-rahama, his wife —Šar-ili bought (her), in the year in which one shekel of silver was the current price for a seah of barley, for half a mina of silver. The money is given over entirely. This woman is acquired, taken (rest of Obv. lost)..... in his lawsuit and litigation he will not succeed; may Aššur and Šamaš be his adversaries in court. (Guarantee against) seizure and epilepsy for 100 days; (against) fraud, for all time. Witness: Qurdi-Assur; witness: Assur-eriba; witness: Tukultu-Assur; witness: Paqa-ana-sarri; witness: Assur-sallim-ahhe; witness: Ugiga; witness: Galulu; witness: Adrayyu. Month of Šabaṭu (= XI), the 10th day; eponymate following that of Nabû-šarri-uṣur, scribe of the palace”.

Notes

2: the toponym is formed by an initial element Kapar-, of indifferent Assyrian or Aramaic affiliation, “village of ...”. The second element begins with an uncertain sign, which has an upward slant much like NA, but a number of horizontal strokes which rather conforms it to šu. As such it could be related to the Aramaic root *swg (cf. R. Zadok, WSB, p. 144), with the common suffix -at (ibid., pp. 149ff.).
6-7: the formula here is restored on the basis of the examples of fluctuating Getreidekursangaben brought by K. Deller, OrNS 33 (1964), 257-261, and specifically on Deller's example no. 1 (Ass.Fd.Nr. 9581 = our no. 43, below), 6-7, which refers to the same year, and in fact to a mere 20 days before the present text, both as part of the Šar-ili archive, with many of the same witnesses. Notice further example no. 7, VAT 9930, which refers to the previous year (eponymate of Nabû-šarru-uṣur), but bears witness to the same price rates (1 shekel silver = 1 seah barley).


Rectangular tablet, reddish-brown clay. 10.2×6.1×1.8 cms. 17+1+23+3[+?] lines. Many parts "watered". Sealings\textsuperscript{110}, fingernail-marks on left-hand edge.


Obverse
1. [\text{NA4}.K]Išib \textit{1a-ti'-i lú*.šá–ug[u–uru]}

SEALINGS

2. \text{rE}\ [ep-šu] a-[\text{di G}Iš.\text{UR}].\text{MEŠ-šu GIŠ.IG.MEŠ-šú}
3. \text{rna}\ [x x x x x x]l uh\text{'}
4. \text{rE} [x x x x x x x]–Aš+šur
5. tihi\textsuperscript{*} su-qa-q[x x x x x x]
6. ša \text{rTA}–Aš+šur–a[ne-nu x x x x x] x-sa-bit-a-a
7. ū-piš\textsuperscript{*}ma ina šā\textsuperscript{1} 1-me [x x x x]
8. a-na \text{r}Zi-zi\textsuperscript{*}[i x x x]
9. : šu-a-tū up-p[u-us x x]
10. kas-pu ga-mur\textsuperscript{*} [ta-din de-e-nu]
11. KA.KA la-dš-[ū mannu ša ipparikuni]
12. lu \text{r}IM–DINGIR\textsuperscript{*} [lu x x x]
13. lu \text{DU}MU x x [x x x x].MEŠ-šú
14. \text{r}lu \text{DU}MU.DUMU.MEŠ\textsuperscript{*}–šú\textsuperscript{*} [x x x x]
15. lu mám+ma-nu-šú [ša denu KA.K]\textsubscript{A}
16. TA\textsuperscript{*} 1Zi-zi[i tA DUMU.MEŠ]-šú
17. ub-ta-'u-u-ni

\textsuperscript{110} Note that similar sealings would seem to be attested on texts from other Assur private archives, such as e.g. VAT 9359 (=N14(4)) and 10010 (=N3(26)). A study by E. Klengel-Brandt on the Assur seals is forthcoming.
Lower Edge
18. ma-a ê AD-šu-u

Reverse
19. 1 MA.NA KÚ.BABBAR 1 "MA.NA KÚ.GI" [ina bur]-ki 6NIN.LÍL
20. 2 ANŠE.KUR.RA "BABBAR.MEŠ a-na GÍR".2 Aš+šur i-rak-kas
21. (blank) i-ra-kas
22. "DUMU.USHŠú GAL-u ina ha-am-ri ˇ[a 4IM GIBIL]

23. "ina de-níšú KA.KA-š[ma la i]-[laqqi]
24. IGI ِx x x x x x
25. IGI ِx x x x x x MAN? Aš?
26. IGI ِx x x x x x PAP a
27. IGI ِSú-si-r'î [x x x]
28. IGI ِNa'-hi-DINGIR A ِ[x x x]-15
29. IGI ِx x-Aš+šur A ِ[x x x]
30. IGI ِ[x x] x [x x x x]
31. IGI ِ[x x x x x x] :
32. IGI ِ[x x]-Aš+šur' : :
33. IGI ِ[x x x] x LÚ*-MU
34. IGI ِ[x x]-e' A 1dPA-PAP-ir
35. IGI ِAš+šur-IGI-[LAL?] A 1dPA-PAP-ir
36. IGI ِx x x IGI ِAN.SAR-MAN? a-ni
37. IGI ِME.ME-PAP-AS IGI ِQu-u-a
38. "ITI.SIG4 UD-1š-KAM lim-mu ِAš+šur'-[x x]
39. "IGI ِA-šá-a LÚ.A.BA
40. [x x]-ta'a-àš ]

Left Hand Edge
lines 1-3 completely “watered” + 6 fingernail marks.

Translation
"Seal of Iati’, city-overseer.
A house, ... with its beams, with its doors, in ...; a house, adjoining the house of ...Aššur, adjoining the street, adjoining the house of Issi-Adad-anenu, adjoining the house (?) of ...šabitayyu—PN bought for 100 ... and gave to Zizi. That house is bought, acquired. The money is given over entirely; there is no lawsuit or litigation. Whoever in the future (?), be it Šar-ili ... or his sons or his brothers or his grandsons ... or anybody of his, who will seek lawsuit or litigation with Zizi or with his sons, saying: ‘We want to redeem the house of our father’, <will place> 1 mina of silver, 1 mina of gold in the lap of Mullissu, and will tie 2 white horses to the feet of the god Aššur, and he will burn his
eldest son in the hamru-temple of the god Adad. In his lawsuit and litigation he will not succeed.


Notes

1: the seal impression shows a beardless figure on the right hand side, and bears an inscription, which was copied by Petra D. Gesche. It reads: 1[N4,kiš]3Du-mu-qu 2A N Ngô.BA 3{text: gur}r[giš]3URU.ŠÀ-[URU-a-a], “Seal of Dummuqu / son of Iqiš-... / of Assur”. The question of the ownership of this seal is linked to the function of Iati’, the ša muhhi âli in the transaction. Despite the fragmentary state of the tablet, it is clear that Iati’ was not the owner of the house being sold; he is not noted as such in the seal identification section, and the actual owner’s name is given in l. 12, if not earlier (on the buyer, cf. below). Iati’ thus seems to have been present in his role as municipal authority and with the function (unusual for NA times) of guaranteeing the sale of the bitu, exactly the same way as the trio of city officials in nos. 33, 35 and 54 (cf. Introduction, b4, and fn. 73). As for the seal, inscribed with a good Akkadian name which does not correspond to that of l. 1 (Aramaic: cf. R. Zadok, WSB, 201), the most likely solution would seem to be that of an object of slightly earlier date, either tied to the family or to the administrative responsibility of Iati’, or to both at the same time.

8: the clause beginning with a-na is unusual; Zizi cannot of course be anything but the buyer, as made clear by l. 16; on the other hand, the verb *uppušu in l. 7 must have a subject, who should also be the buyer. The solution that comes to mind here would seem that of a secondary donation of the house to Zizi after its acquisition by a third party, whose name has not been preserved; cf. FNALD, 14, for another example of this type (although it must be noted that in this case the secondary recipient is the king, as may be seen from FNALD 1, 7-8).

18: for the same formula, cf. no. 33, above, r. 3.

19: the expected verb <i-šak-kan> is lacking from the tablet after the name of the goddess.

Rectangular tablet, brown clay. Instead of the seal, a scarab is present. Cracks on the Obverse, break at bottom of text (left-hand side approx. 3 lines' length). 7.3×4.2×1.3 cms. 11+[n+]10+3 lines.


Obverse
1. NA₄.KIŠIB ḫUr-[r-d]ī-₄.IM
3. EN MI.TUR [t]a-da-ni

SEALING
4. ḫGASAN-AMA₃ Ml<.TUr>-ṣū
5. ʿu-piş-ma ḫIM-DINGIR
6. MU.AN.NA ki-i šā 1 ǧn Kū.BABBAR IBĀN ṝE.BAR₃
7. ta-lak-u-ṭ-ni ina šā ṝ10 ǧn.MEŠ K[ū.BABBAR ilqe]
8. kas-pu LUH ta-din MI.DUMU ṝu-a-tu
9. zar-pat la-qi-at tu-a-ru
10. [d]e-e-nu KA.KA la-a-ṣū
11. [ma-nu š]a ina ur-kiš ina ma₃te₃-me

Reverse
about 3 lines lost
1'. [x x x x] EN de-ni-ṣū
2'. [sib-tū b]e-ni a-na 1-me UD.ME
3'. [sa-a]r-tū ana kāl MU.AN.NA
4'. [IGI ḫUr-dī]-"Aš-ṣUR" ⾝
5'. [IGI ḫAš+ṣUR-su
6'. [IGI ḫAš+ṣUR-su al-lim-PAP.MEŠ
7'. [IGI ḫPa-qa--<ana>--MAN
8'. [IGI ḫUš-tū-"Aš+ṣUR
9'. ITi.AB [u]d-2'0-ḲĀM
10'. lim-mu ĖGIR ṝšā ḫPA-MA-N₃-PAP

Left Hand Edge
1'. [IGI ḫJu-lul
2'. [IGI ḫAd-ra-a-a
3'. [IGI ḫU-gi-ga
Translation

"Seal of Qurdi-Adad, son of Išpiti, of the village Uradâ, owner of the girl being sold.

The woman Belit-umme, his daughter, Šar-ili contracted and bought, in the year in which 1 shekel of silver was worth 1 seah of barley, for 10 shekels of silver. The sum is given over entirely; this girl is acquired, taken; there is no revocation, lawsuit or litigation. Whoever, in the future or whenever, ...... (break)

... may be his opponents in court. (Guarantee against) seizure and epilepsy — 100 days; (against) fraud — for all time. ...

Witness: Qurdi-Assur; witness: Aššur-eriba; witness: Aššur-šallim-ahhe; witness: Paqa-<ana>-šarri; witness: Tarditu-Aššur. Month of Kanunu (= X), 20th day, eponymate following the one of Nabû-šarru-uṣur. Witness: Galulu; witness: Adrayyu; witness: Ugiga”.

Notes

7: cf. Deller, OrNS 33 (1964), 257, with reading 20 giN.MEŠ; but collation now bears out the digit 10¹. For the very same equivalence between silver and barley, see text no. 41, above, written 20 days later than the present text.

8: LUH must be a scribal mistake for ga<-mur> (suggestion KHD).

R. 4': the reading of this quite fragmentary line was suggested by KHD on the basis of the sequential position of the name in no. 41.

7': the integrated <ana> corresponds to the version of the name given in no. 41, r. 8. Notice also the correspondence of all the following witnesses with those listed in no. 41.


Fragment of brown clay, upper part. 5.1×3.2×2.2 cms. 2+8+2+2 lines.


Obverse

1. Na₄.kišib 'Id-ra-a-a[x x]
2. En gemel sum-[a-ni]

SEALINGS

rest lost
Reverse
beginning lost
1'. [x x x] URU [x]
2'. [IGI 1]x-URU.ŠÂ-[x]URU]-a-a
3'. [IGI 1]x-DU LÚ.NAGAR
4'. [IGI 1][Aš+šur]-iq-bi] A 1Ku-re-e
6'. [IGI 1]šA[+]-MU-DÚ A.BA
7'. [III.NE] UD'-10-KÁM
8'. lim-[mu]ŠNU-[M][AN]-iš-[q-bi] [()]

Upper Edge
9'. sib-tú be-ni a-na [100 ūmāti]
10'. sa-ar-tú a-na kal MU.AN.NA.MEŠ

Left Hand Edge
1. x]-si-i
2. s]IPA.ME (erasure)

Translation
"Seal of Idrayyu ... owner of the female slave being sold.
(Remainder of Obv. and beginning of Rev. lost)
"Witness: PN, of the town ...; witness: PN, from Assur; witness: ...-ukin, carpenter;
witness: Aššur-iqbi son of Kunê, from the village Sumu-il, guarantor for the woman;
witness: Nabû-šumu-ibni, scribe. Month of Abu (= V), 10th day, eponymate of Šalmu-
šarru-iqbi.

(Upper edge:) (Guarantee against) seizure and epilepsy — 100 days; (against) fraud
—for all time".
(Left hand edge:) too fragmentary for translation.

Notes
1: KHD suggests the possibility that the names Id-ra-a-a and Ad-ra-a-a are
identical; and certainly this is the case in the contemporary Nineveh textual horizon (cf.
F.M. Fales, OrAnt 16 [1977], 49, ad 7).
UE 9': notice how the scribe fitted unexpectedly the sibtu-bennu clauses here.
45. VAT 20395. ALA N9(75). Formerly VAT 16543. Ass. Fd. Nr. 9661e; Ph. Ass. 1365/1366, bottom right.

Envelope and tablet. Envelope (A): main fragment (4.2x3.0 cms), parts of 10 lines preserved; 12 further minute fragments, not joined or restored. Tablet (B): 4.2x2.7 cms. Brown clay. 5+2+4+1 lines.

Loan of silver and garments. Post-canonical date (626).

A (Envelope)
3'. ] TÜG.KI.TA.M[ES]
4'. B]E-ma NU [S][UM]
5'. ] ITI.ZÎZ UD-28 KAM
6'. lim-]mu ID.PA-MAN-PAP A.BA
7'. IGI] PAP-SU
8'. IGI 1]Bi-su-u-a
9'. IGI 1]Šd]-kil-ia
10'. ] x
11'. ] 1]LAL-[G/LAL]
12'. ] ina šá-p[a]-tu
    rest lost

B (Tablet)
Upper Edge
1. 3 1/4 (text: -i) GÎN KÜ.BABBAR 2 TÜG.KI.TA.MES

Obverse
2. ša 1]Mu-SIG-AS+šur
3. ina IGI 1]Mu-tak-kil-rdIM
4. DUMU 1]UŠ-tu-PAP.MES
5. ana 4-ut-ti-šu GAL
6. TÜG.KI.TA.MES ina ITI."SIG4" "SUM4"

Lower Edge
7. 1]LAL]-GI.LAL DUMU.MI-šá
8. šá-pâr-tu ITI.ZÎZ UD-28

Reverse
9. lim-mu ID.PA-MAN-PAP

(iii) The photo shows the tablet embedded within the envelope; it has now been detached.
10. IGO 1Bi-su-u-a
11. IGO 1Šá-kil-(on erasure)ia
12. IGO 1EN-DINGIR-E-u-ni

Translation

(A): "... overgarments, ... if he does not give back, ... Month of Šabaṭu (= XI), 28th day, [eponym]m ate of Nabû-šarru-ūṣur, scribe. Witness: Ahu-eriba; witness: Bisu'a; witness: Šakilya; ... the woman Tarši/tuqun-lamur, [...], is pled[ged]."

(B): "3 shekels 1/4 of silver and 2 overgarments, belonging to Mudammiq-Aššur, credited to Mutakkil-Adad, son of Tarditu-ahhe. They will increase by one-fourth. The overgarments will be given back in the month of Simanu (= II). The woman Tarši/tuqun-lamur, his (text: her) daughter, is pledge (thereof). Month of Šabaṭu (= XI), 28th day, eponymate of Nabû-šarru-ūṣur. Witness: Bisu'a; witness: Šakilya; witness: Adi-ili-iqbuni".

Notes

A, 6: Deller, BaM 15, 232, has A.BA [é.GAL], but actually nothing seems present after BA.
B, 7: Notice that the name of the daughter is identical to that of the (also pledged) girl in no. 13 above, of two years earlier—but the family is different. The final -šá is almost surely a scribal mistake for -su—but one should not rule out the possibility that ‘Tarši/tuqun-lamur (and) her daughter’ was meant (KHD).

46. VAT 20396. ALA N9(76). Formerly VAT 16557. Ass. Fd. Nr. 9661f\textsuperscript{112}; Ph.Ass. 1365/66, bottom left.

Envelope with tablet, still partially embedded. Reddish clay.
A (Envelope fragment): 8+2+4+3+2 lines.
B (Tablet): 3.8×3.2 cms. 6+\text{[+n]}+[n+1]+2 lines.

Loan of silver with work agreement. Post-canonical date (628).

A (Envelope)

Upper Edge
1. NA₄,KIŠIB IPA-P-[i-di]
2. DUMU IdPA-[x x x]

Obverse
3. 17 1/2 GIN K[UK.BABBAR x x]
(1 line missing)
5. [TA* IGI] IM³-[DINGIR ( )]

SEALS
6. [TA* IGI] S-a-gib-Àš+š[ur]
7. [a]³ UTU-de-ni-[a]
8. [10] ITI.MEŠ i-pal-lah x
9. [a]-šak₃-tu 'u-še-rab u-še³-[ša]
10. 'ITT U'D i-ma-ki

Lower Edge
11. [K]UK.BABBAR e-sip SUM-n[a³][( )]
12. 'ITT.APIN UD-1-KAM

Reverse
13. lim-mu IdPA-sa-gib
14. IGI 'šU-šiM
15. IGI 'U+GUR₂-bal₃-x
16. IGI 'Iš₂-x [x x]

Left Hand Edge
17. 'IGI² 'Tar-di-[tà-Àš+šur]
18. 'DU₃-i x x
19. EN-šU.2.[MEŠ (x x)]

B (Tablet)

Obverse
1. 17 1/2 GIN KU.BABBAR ig-re-SAŠ³
2. PAP-di-di A Id⁺PA-X X³
3. TA IGI 'MU-SIG-Àš+šur
4. IM-DINGIR TA IGI SA-gib-Àš<+šur>
5. u Id⁺UTU-de-ni-sama³
6. ša 10 ITI.MEŠ i²-pal-lah³
7. 'ITT I₄-MU i-ma-ki
Lower Edge
8. KU.BABBAR e-sip [SU]M-N[a?]

Reverse
lines 1-6 (?) covered by envelope
7'. IDU-UMU-ŠU
8'. EN-ŠU.2.MEŠ

Translation
A: "Seal of Ahu-lidi son of Nabû-... 17 1/2 shekels of silver (received) ... from Šar-ili, and from Sagib-Aššur, and Šamaš-diniya; for 10 months he will serve (them). He will cause the traffic to move in and out. (If) he is absent from work for a month or even a day, he will give back the silver double. Month of Arahsamnu (= VIII), the 1st day, eponymate of Nabu-sagib.
Kenî, his son, is guarantor".

B: "17 1/2 shekels of silver, his wages, Ahu-lidi son of Nabû-... (received) from Mudammiq-Asšur, ditto Šar-ili, and from Sagib-Aššur, and Šamaš-diniya: for 10 months he will serve (them). If he is negligent for one month, (or even just) one day, he will give back the silver double".
(approx. 6 lines covered by envelope)
"Kenî, his son, is guarantor".

Notes
A, 9: for alaktu, cf. the discussion ad no. 48, below.
A, 10-11 = B, 7-8: cf. Deller, WZKM 57, 36; however, Deller reads i-ma-ţi, and translates the clause "wenn sich (die festgesetzte Arbeitszeit von 10 Monaten) um einen tag (oder) um einen Monat verringert, wird er da silber doppelt geben". Now, -ki is clear on both tablet and envelope; notice also the fact that mekāmakû has a semantic range which is not too far removed from egû attested in all other cases quoted by Deller. Cf. CAD E, 48a, lexical section, for the equivalence of the two verbs; but notice CTN 3,59, no. 9, 7-8, where the two verbs occur side by side, and a hendyadis (considered ibid., 60) is deliberately avoided in the translation "(to be) negligent or absent" [ref. by KHD].
B, 1: cf. 48, 2, for igru.
7: notice the writing U₄-mu for the logogram in A, 10.
47. VAT 14435. ALA N9(78). Ass. Fd. Nr. 9661h; Ph. Ass. 1369/70, top left.

Envelope. Brown clay. $4.0 \times 2.3$ cms. $6+2+4+1$ lines.

Debt-note (silver). Post-canonical date (621).

**Upper Edge**
1. KU.BABBAR ša E LÚ.<GAL>KAŠ.LUL

**Obverse**
2. ša ina IG1'Mu-sig-Aš+šur
3. ša ina IG1'Aš+šur-bal<-lit>-su-nu
4. ša ina IG1'Kišir-15
5. ša ina IG1'NU-TES-ana-Aš+šur
6. 1IM-DINGIR 1PA-SU
7. ina ša la gur-bu

**Lower Edge**
8. IN.APIN UD-6-KÁM
9. lim-mu 1' Aš+šur-rém-a-ni

**Reverse**
10. IG1 1'Aš+šur-KUR-u-ni
11. IG1 1'IM-š-ki-KAM
12. IG1 1'Su-u-su
13. IG1 1'Aš+šur-â-Giš

**Translation**
"The silver of the household of the chief cupbearer, which is credited to Mudammiq-Aššur, which is at the disposal of Aššur-ballissunu, which is credited to Kišir-Ištar, which is credited to La-tubaš-ana-Aššur: Šar-ili and Nabu-eriba are not involved in it. The month Du'uzu (= IV), the 6th day, eponymate of Aššur-remanni. Witness: Aššur-šaduni; witness: Adad-iški-ereš; witness: Susu; witness: Aššur-apli-lešir".

**Notes**
1-7: transliteration Deller, BaM 15, 236-237, with comment: "VAT 14435 bestätigt dem Šar-ili und Nabu-eriba, einer sozietät von vier schuldner nicht auszugehören". For qerebu as meaning "to be involved", cf. no. 20, 12, above.
11: Deller (BaM 15, 230(24)) read this name as *Adad-milki-ereš, and suggested identity with 1'u.u-kam-erš lú.sanga 2-i; but u.u is now considered to correspond to Dadali (following Pedersén, ALA 88). In fact, KHD now would read the central element as -iš-ki- (cf. AHw., 396a, s.v. išku II).
12-13: KHD notes that the same sequence of witnesses is attested in TCL 9, 63, 22-23, and that "śu-u-su is qualified there as kešda āš+šur". On this profession and its implications, cf. Introduction b5.


Pillow-shaped tablet: 2.3×2.2×1.6 cms. 5+2+5+2+2 lines.

Loan of silver with work agreement. Post-canonical date (619).

Upper Edge
1. 1/2 ūma. na 23 1/2 gfn Kū. babbar
2. ig-re-e-šu

Obverse
3. ša 10 ur-ha-a-"ni"
4. 1paP-tab-ši i-x x
5. i-pal(erasure)-lah
6. ana 1im-DINGIR
7. a-na 1pa-su

Lower Edge
8. a-na 1mu-qa-lī-IDIM
9. a-lak-tū ú-še-ša

Reverse
10. ú-še-rab ri-ih-tu
11. ig-re-e-šu i-na-āš-ši
12. iti.du₂ ud-20-kam
13. lim-mu 1en-paP-paP
14. ig1 āš+šur-ad'(text ab)-paP

Left Hand Edge
1. 1ig Pū-sa-a-a
2. 1ig šu²-paP² x

Translation
"One-half mina, two and one-half shekels of silver, as his wages: for 10 months, Ahu-it)tabši will ... (and ?) serve Šar-ili, Nabû-eriba, and Muqallil-kabti. He will cause the traffic to move out and in; what is left over he may take as his wages. Month of Tašritu (= VII), 20th day, eponymate of Bel-ahu-ušur. Witness: Aššur-abu-ušur; witness: Pūsā; witness: ..."
Notes

1ff.: cf. Deller, BaM 15, 236: “Muqallil-kabti ... bildet ... mit Šār-ili und Nabu­eriba (Ass. Fd.Nr. 9661i) eine sozietät, die gemeinsam eine eingestellte Arbeitskraft entlohnen”.

3: notice the relatively rare syllabic rendering for the word “month” in NA.

4: a difficult line; the authors read the last signs as i-na kešda, while KHD suggests i-te”-i-sti. For the term kešda in connection with the basic work-activity of the hundurayyu group, also in connection with the well-known passage in KAV 112, 5-9, cf. ad 47, 12, and see Introduction, b5.

9: the alaktu attested here also occurs in the work-contract no. 46, above. The comparison between the two clauses bears out that alaktu should be a task in the realm of production or of society, of which the subject doing “service” is in charge on a day-to-day basis. It would seem that the subject’s constant presence was of the utmost importance (cf. no. 46, A, 10-11, for a severe penalty clause relevant to absence from the job), but that perhaps the individual was not going to be hard at the job all day long (cf. the clause in this text on “keeping the extra amounts”). In any case, the translation forwarded by the authors (who have also greatly benefited from a different opinion by KHD) is obviously of a tentative and preliminary nature.

LHE 2: the last name is unclear.


Brown clay. A) Envelope, fragmentary. 3+7 lines and B) Tablet, complete. 1+6+1+6+1+1 lines.


A (Envelope)

Obverse
1. NA4.KIŠIB 1Šu-li-ih

113) Tablet VAT 20371 was found by Mr. Nils Heessel; the join (in fact, technically a re-join: see below) between this tablet and the fragment of the case VAT 20400 was effected by KHD (8/4/92). From KHD’s notes and transliteration of the text, it is now clear that the main number of this text is VAT 20371+ = ALA N9(69) = Ass.Fd.Nr. 9634, since Ph. Ass. 1369-70 shows both pieces of the envelope as already joined, whereas the Ass.Fd.Nr. 9661k which appears on the fragment VAT 20400 (examined by FMF and LJR as an isolated piece) must be the product of a mistake in classification. thus the correspondence with ALA N9(80), previously suggested with many reservations, must now be abandoned altogether.
2. DUMU ldPA–AŠ–PAP IR KUR
3. 10 GÍN. <KÚ>. BABBAR
rest broken away

Reverse
beginning broken away
1'. UN. MEŠ–šú [putuhhu]
2'. i-ti-ši ITI NE UD-[3-KAM]
3'. lim–mu 1U. U–i LU*[AGRIG]
4'. ldPA–SU EN KU.B[ABBAR naše]
5'. IGI 1La–tēš–a-n[a–Aš+šur]
6'. IGI 1La–qi–pu
7'. IGI 1SU–PAP–u–a

B (Tablet)

Upper Edge
1. 10 GÍN KÚ. BABBAR

Obverse
2. šá 1Mu–sig–Aš+šur
3. ina IGI 1Šu–li–hi
4. DUMU ldPA–AŠ–PAP IR KUR
5. 5 ANŠE ŠE.BAR ina GIS.[B]AN šá 9
6. UD-10-KAM šá ITI.KIN

Lower Edge
7. SUM-an MU là–din

Reverse
8. ina mit–har GAL-bi
9. pu–u–tû<-hu> UN. MEŠ šíL
10. ITI NE UD-4-KAM
11. lim–mu 1U. U–i AGRIG
12. IGI 1La–tēš–a-na–Aš+šur
13. IGI 1La–qi–pu

Upper Edge
14. IGI 1MU–I.GAL–DINGIR

Left Hand Edge
15. IGI 1SU–PAP–u–a
Translation

A: “Seal of Šulih, son of Nabû-nadin-apli, palace servant; 10 shekels of silver ... he is bearing the responsibility for his people. Month of Abu (= V), the 3rd day, eponymate of Dadi, the treasurer. Nabû-eriba is the one in charge of bringing the silver. Witness: La-tubašanni-Aššur; witness: Laqipu; witness: Eriba-ahu’a”.

B: “10 shekels of silver, belonging to Mudammiq-Assur, credited to Šulih, son of Nabû-nadin-apli, palace servant. He will give back 5 homers of barley by the seah of 9 qas, on the 10th day of Ululu (= VI). If he fails to deliver, it will increase by an equal amount. He is bearing the responsibility for his people. Month of Abu (= V), the 3rd day, eponymate of Dadi, the treasurer. Witness: La-tubašanni-Aššur; witness: Laqipu; witness: Šumma-ibašši-ilu; witness: Eriba-ahu’a”.

Notes


9: for the clause(cf. also A, r. 1’-2’), cf. FNALD, 43-44. As noted by Postgate (ibid., p. 44), “the phrase is commonest where the obligation on the debtor is not a purely financial one”. In the present case, the UN.MEŠ for which the debtor is held responsible should be the harvesters or other categories of agricultural personnel who are to supply the required amount of barley at the right time.

B, 5: the indication of the quantity of qas in the seah is also given in no. 8, 2, while an implicit indication is no. 25, 7 (3BĀN 9 qa GIŠ.GEŠTIN).

50. VAT 20377. ALA N9(81). Ass.Fd.Nr. 9661l; Ph. Ass. 1365/66, 2nd from top, left.

Tablet and Envelope. Part of Envelope (= 6 lines’ extension) clinging to tablet. 3.1×2.0 cms.

Loan of silver with pledge of son. Post-canonical date (620).

A (Tablet)

Obverse
1. 4 GīN KŪ.BABBAR
2. ša 1Šu-u-[a]
3. ina IGI 1dPA–SILIM–P[AP.MEŠ]
4. A 1Bal-ti-[i]
5. <1>Kak-[kul]-[a(-a)-nu DUMU-šu]
6. ina šá-[par-ti kammusu]

Two lines covered

Reverse
1'. [lim-mu 1]u.u-i A[GRIG]
2'. IGI 1Lu-ba-laṭa
3'. IGI 1La-qi-pu
4'. IGI 1Qaq-da-da-[n]u
5'. IGI 1SU-PAP.MEŠ-ta

B (Envelope)

1'. [NA4.KIŠIB] 1/Pa-SILIM-PA[P.MEŠ]
2'. [A/DUMU] 1Bal-[t][i]
   (blank space of 8' lines)
3'. 1[Kak-kul-la]-a-nu
4'. [DUMU-šá 1Šu]-u-a
5'. [IGI 1PAP-la]m-ma
6'. [LÜ/LÜ*].A.BA

Translation
A: “Four shekels of silver, belonging to Šu’a, credited to Nabû-šallim-ahhe, son of Baltī. Kakkullanu, his son, is given in pledge ....

   Eponymate of Dadī, treasurer. Witness: Lubalat; witness: Laqipu; witness: Qaq-qadanu; witness: Eriba-ahheya”.

B: “Seal of Nabû-šallim-ahhe, son of Baltī.

(blank space)

Kakkullanu, son of Šu’a. Witness: Ahulamma, scribe”.

Notes
A, R. 2': cf. 24, 15', for the same name (reading KHD).
B, 5': if not corresponding to the better known Ahulamma (cf. Introduction, b3b), this individual is attested only here in the present corpus; but see possibly also no. 65, 10, of 617 BC.
51. VAT 15500. ALA N9(82). Ass.Fd.Nr. 9687; Ph.Ass. 1369-70, bottom right. Photo: pls. XIV-XV.

Rectangular tablet, brown clay, slight damage on Obverse. 9.1×5.0 cms. 17+3+19 lines. Sealings.

Adoption of son. Post-canonical date (618).

**Obverse**

1. [NA₄, KI][SIB ¹Sin-qī-15 [DUMU x x]
2. "LŪ₈.x x₃-bi-li" EN "x x₃

**SEALINGS**

3. "Qui-bit"-¹Asšur DUMU-sū śa ¹Sin-qī-15
4. 4 ru²-tu la-an-šu
5. ¹Mu-šal-lim-Asšur a-na DUMU-u-ti i-ši
6. 15 GIN KU₂.BABBAR ¹Mu-šal-lim-[Asšur]
7. ernet-tū ana ¹Sin-qī-[I[SIN-ša]-lim]
8. 7 DUMU₂.UŠ₂.MEŠ-sū śa [¹Μu-ša]-lim-Asšur
10. de-e-nu KA₂.KA₂ tu-a-ru la-áš-sū
11. [kas]pu gam-mur" [tadin x x x]
12. "man-nu śa ib³-ba[l-kat-u-ni (x x)]
13. ina [x x x] ²Asšur u ²[UTU x x x]
14. [a-de-e śa M]AN ina šu₂-[lu-ba-il'-i-u]
15. [x x x] ba² [x x x x x]
16. [x x]¹Mu-šal-lim-Asšur x x x]
17. [ina u₂GU] "Qui-bit-[Asšur] ina [x x x]

**Lower Edge**

18. i-ta-bal-ka[t (x x)]
19. [(x)] i-qa-bi ma-a la DUM[U₂.UŠ]
20. dan-nu šu-ū [( )]

**Reverse**

21. 1 MA₂.NA KU₂₂.BABBAR 1 MA₂.NA KU₂.GI
22. ina bu₉-ka ⁴NIN.LIL GAR-an
23. 2 ANŠE.KUR.RA.MES BABBAR.MES ina KI₂.TA [⁴Asšur]
24. i-ra-kas 4 ANŠE hur<-ba>-kan-ni.MES
25. ina GfR₂ ⁴MES₂.MES₂ ube-rab
Translation

"Seal of Sinqi-Istar, son of ...., the ...-man, owner of the son being transacted.

Qibit-Âššur, son of Sinqi-Istar, 4 spans’ height: Mušallim-Âššur took him in adoption. Mušallim-Âššur will give Sinqi-Istar 15 shekels of silver as gift. Even if 7 sons of Mušallim-Âššur were brought into existence, Qibit-Âššur will still be his eldest son. There is no lawsuit, litigation, or revocation. The money is paid in full. Whoever contravenes, ..., the gods Âššur and Šamaš will be his adversaries in court. May the oath by the king call him to account."

(One fragmentary line)

... Mušallim-Âššur ... against Qibit-Âššur in ... will contravene, saying: ‘This is not my most important son’—he will place 1 mina of silver and 1 mina of gold in the laps of the goddess Mullissu, he will tie two white horses at the base (of the statue) of the god Âššur, he will introduce 4 hurbakkanu horses at the feet of the god Nergal. His first-born son he will burn at the hamru-temple of Adad. He will return the amount tenfold to its owner; he may litigate in a non-case of his, (but) he will not succeed.

Witness: Âššur-eriba son of Urad-Nabû; witness: Kanunayu, the man in charge of the (royal) tomb; witness: Âššur-na’id, son of Urad-Nabû; witness: Âššur-taklak, son of Urad-Nabû; witness: Âššur-ballit, son of Âššur-killanni; witness: Kutî, man of the crown prince; witness: Âššur-nadin-ahi, son of Katesi. Month of Addaru (= XII), the 8th day, eponymate of Sailu, chief cook. Witness: Âššur-remanni, scribe".

Notes

5: cf. Deller, OrNS 56, 185, quoting this passage. For Mušallim-Âššur, possibly a man of the circle of Šar-ili, cf. no. 9, above (link with Âššur-eriba, who is also present in nos. 12, 17, 33, 39, 41).

7: namurtu in the NA period, with Postgate (TCAE, 154ff.) has evolved from a
freely made audience gift for the king, to some sort of compulsory disbursement to the Crown, involving vassal rulers and provincial governors alike, part of which was due at fixed dates. There is, on the other hand, no real trace in the hitherto published literature (cf. SAA 5, 231a for more data) of a nāmurtu between private individuals, such as is indicated here.

26: cf. Menzel, AT, 67-68.
38: for the date, cf. most recently K. Deller-A.R. Millard, AfO 32 (1985), 52. Notice that the same abbreviated writing of the eponym's name is given ibid., 43, 39.

52. VAT 14436. ALA N9(83). Ass.Fd.Nr. 9723; Ph.Ass. 1367/68, top left. Photo: pls. XVI-XVII.

Rectangular tablet, brown clay. 8.9×4.6 cms. 17+21 lines. Sealings.

Division of inheritance. Post-canonical date (619).

Obverse
1. NA₄.KIŠIB 6 PAP.MEŠ-e
2. DUMU ṢMu-SIG₄-AS₄+šur hu-dir-a
3. EN HA.LA ba-ta-qi

SEALINGS
4. Š.E.GIBIL a-di Š.E.SIG₄.MEŠ-šu
5. 1AS₄+šur-NIGIN-ra 'Taš-me-tú-AMA?'
6. 1Ur-kit-EN-PAP PAP 3 ZI.MEŠ
7. 3-su ša Š.E.GIBIL HA.LA
8. ša 1₄PA-ŠU DUMU 2-u

9. 1Man-nu-ki-AS₄+šur 'Ur-kit-AMA?'
10. 1₅-EN-PAP PAP 3 ZI.MEŠ
11. 3-su ša Š.E.GIBIL
12. HA.LA ša 1AS₄+šur-bal-liṭ-sūn

13. 1AS₄+šur-BĀD 1₅-GILIM-PAP
14. Š.URUDU? 'dī-qā-ru ina muh-hišša'
15. PAP 2 L₂U.ZI.MEŠ
16. 3-su ša Š.E.GIBIL[l (x)]
17. HA.LA ša 1AS₄+šur-A[D]
Reverse
1. *kal-*lu *sa-*ha-*ru
2. šá *é-AD-šú-nu *ib-*ta-a[t-qu]
3. tā* ıgi *a-he-iš *ut-țu-[u]
4. man-nu šá *ib-*bal-kār-u'ni*
5. Aš+šur *ātu* tu-*u* en de-ni-šā

---
6. ıgi ıSu-u-su gaš-hu-dir-a
7. ıgi ıAš+šur–a–giš ıDa-da-hi
8. ıgi ıAš+šur–de-nu–ig šu.la š Da-da-hi
9. ıgi ıMu-tak-kil–āšū šu₄ *lu₄* ıMU
10. ıgi ıAš+šur–a–aš ıpa₄–su
11. ıgi ıAš+šur–zi–bi₄–lu₄* ıMU
12. ıgi ıpa–s[u] ıAš+šur–Aš
13. ıgi ıTu kul-ti–[Aš+šur] ı A₄-si–i
14. ıgi ıAš+šur–ka Ka–né–re ı Pa–qa’–ana’–Aš+šur
15. ıgi ıAš+šur–ad–pa₄ ıSa–k-li–ia
16. ıgi ıBa–tu–tu
17. ıPa₄–r-na–a
18. ıgi ıBa–si–ia ıAš+šur–de-nu–ig šu.la š
19. iti.kin ud-2₄ lim-mu ıEn–pa₄–pa₄p
20. lu₄ ša–igit–ku r

Translation

"Seal impressions of 6 brothers, sons of Mudammiq-Asšur, hundurayyu, owners of the share being divided up.

A new house, inclusive of its mud-brick structure.

Asšur-(u)pahhira, the woman Urkittu-ummi; the woman Urkittu-bel-uṣur: total, 3 people, plus 1/3 of the new house is the share of Nabu-eriba, the second son.

Mannu-ki-Asšur, the woman Urkittu-... , the woman IStar-bel-uṣur: total, 3 people, plus 1/3 of the new house is the share of Asšur-ballissun.

Asšur-duri, the woman IStar-kilili-uṣr —and a copper bowl in addition to her: total, 2 people, plus 1/3 of the new house is the share of Asšur-abi.

(Down to) the pots and pans of their paternal estate they have (now) divided up. They are mutually paid off. Whoever will contravene —may Asšur and Šamaš be his opponents in court.

garu'a-nere, son of Paqa-ana-Aššur; witness: Aššur-abu-ušur, son of Šakilya; witness: 
Baṭatu, son of Biraná; witness: Basiya, son of Aššur-denu-lamur. Month of Ululu (= VI), 27th day, eponymate of Bel-ahu-ušur, palace superintendent. Witness: Mudam-
mīq-Aššur, the scribe, keeper of the tablet”.

Notes

If.: duplicate and related texts to the present document are Ass. Fd.Nr. 9573b and 9573“e” (actually 9573c), of which a transliteration is offered in Appendix 2. The existence of these texts was pointed out in Menzel, AT, 2533422; see also Deller, BaM 15, 233, ad (t). Notice also the text VAT 20375 for the witness sequence (cf. below).

1: quoted by K. Deller, BaM 15, 233.
5: here, and in Obv. 9, the feminine names show a difficult sign or cluster of signs, in the position where a predicative element is expected. The possibility of reading this cluster as AMA = ummu, with a shape already tending to resemble the Neo-Babylonian one, should be taken in account on paleographical as well as on onomastic grounds (cf. e.g. APN, 268b).

14: the first sign is problematical; KHD would read "dur", yielding a “band for a 
diğaru-pot” which the woman would have physically borne; while the authors believe that ina muhhi might here be understood in the transferred sense of an (economic) addition, cf. English “on top of ...”. On the other hand, the reading of the first sign as URUDU is by no means sure.

R. 1-2: Cf. K. Deller, OrNS 34, 261; id., WZKM 57, 34.
3: quoted by K. Deller, BaM 15, 239. For the clause, cf. Postgate, FNALD, p. 57. For further examples, see also SAA 6, 66, r. 5-6; 178, 6.
9ff.: the names given here find counterparts in the texts of Appendix 2, but also in the document VAT 20375 (references KHD).

53. VAT 15501. ALA N9(84). Ass.Fd. 9755; Ph. Ass. 1367/68.

Rectangular tablet. Faded (“watered”) Obverse114; Rev. clearly legible. Lower half of Obverse; upper half of Reverse. 4.9×6.3 cms. 11+4+14 lines.

Conveyance. Date lost (but post-canonical)

Obverse
1'-3'. faded surface.

114 Not “unbaked” (Pedersén).
4'. [x x] \(\text{tu}/\text{pap}\) \(\text{mes}\) [x x]
5'. [(x)] \(\text{Bal}\) [x x]
6'. \(\text{TA}\) \(\text{IGI}\) \(\text{qi-bi-bu}\) [x x]
7'. \(\text{LO}\) \(\text{za-rip}\) [\(a\) \(q\)]
8'. \(\text{tu-ru de-n}\) [\(u\) \(dababu\) \(la\)]
9'. [\(m\)an-\(nu\) \(\text{sa}\) \(\text{ina}\) \(ur-\text{ki}\) [\(s\) \(u\)] \(\text{ina}\) \(\text{matema}\)]
10'. [\(\text{lu}\) \(\text{u}\) \(\text{en}\)-\(\text{dingir}\)-\(\text{en}\)-\(\text{u}\)-\(\text{ni}\)]
11'. [\(\text{lu}\) \(\text{u}\) \(\text{ka}\) \(\text{x}\) \(\text{a}\)-\(\text{a}\)

Lower Edge
12'. [\(\text{lu}\) \(\text{u}\) \(\text{dum}\)-\(\text{sh}\)-\(\text{nu}\) \(\text{lu}\) \(\text{u}\) \(\text{dum}\) [x x]
13'. [\(\text{lu}\) \(\text{u}\) \(\text{dum}\)-\(\text{sh}\) \(\text{lu}\) \(\text{u}\) \(\text{sh}\)-\(\text{ak}\)-\(\text{nu}\)]
14'. \(\text{lu}\) \(\text{u}\) \(\text{sa}\) \(\text{qin}\)-\(\text{ni}\)-\(\text{sh}\) \(\text{lu}\) \(\text{u}\) \(\text{qur}\)-\(\text{u}\) [\(b\)-\(\text{sh}\)-\(\text{nu}\)]
15'. \(\text{sh}\) \(\text{de}\)-\(\text{e}\)-\(\text{nu}\) \(\text{ka}\) \(\text{x}\) [\(\text{a}\) \(\text{a}\)]

Reverse
1. TA \(\text{IM\text{-dingir}}\) \(\text{ut}\) \(\text{dumu}\)-\(\text{sh}\) [x x]
2. \(\text{ut}\) \(\text{dumu}\)-\(\text{sh}\) \(\text{ub}\)-\(\text{ta}\)-\(\text{u}\)-\(\text{ni}\)
3. \(<\text{ub}\)-\(\text{ta}\)-\(\text{u}\)-\(\text{ni}>\) \(\text{ma}\)-\(\text{a}\) \(\text{lu}\) [\(\text{e}\)]
4. \(\text{a}\)-\(\text{pat}\)-\(\text{tar}\) \(\text{kas}\)-\(\text{pu}\) \(\text{a}\)-\(\text{na}\) \(\text{vu}\) \(\text{me}\) [x x]
5. \(\text{a}\)-\(\text{na}\) \(\text{en}\)-\(\text{sh}\) \(\text{en}\)-\(\text{sh}\)
6. \(\text{ina}\) \(\text{de}\)-\(\text{ni}\)-\(\text{sh}\) \(\text{ka}\) \(\text{ka}\)-\(\text{ma}\)
7. \(\text{la}\) \(\text{i}\)-\(\text{laq}\)-\(\text{e}\) \(\text{e}\)
8. 15 \(\text{u}\) \(\text{tu}\) \(\text{en}\) \(\text{pa}\) \(\text{lu}\) \(\text{en}\) \(\text{de}\)-\(\text{ni}\)-\(\text{sh}\)
9. \(\text{sh}\)-\(\text{tu}\) \(\text{be}\)-\(\text{nu}\) \(\text{1}\)-\(\text{me}\) \(\text{ud}\)-\(\text{me}\) \(\text{sa}\)-\(\text{a}\)-\(\text{r}\)-\(\text{tu}\)
10. \(\text{ina}\) \(\text{k}\)-\(\text{a}\)-\(\text{la}\) \(\text{mu}\)-\(\text{an}\)-\(\text{na}\)
11. [\(\text{IGI}\) \(\text{utu}\)-\(\text{man}\)-\(\text{pap}\) \(\text{ku}\)-\(\text{u}\) [x x]
12. [\(\text{IGI}\) \(\text{Q}\)-\(\text{di}\)-\(\text{tu}\) [x x]
13. [x x] \(\text{sh}\)-\(\text{e}\)-\(\text{nu}\) [x x]
14. [x x] [x x] [x x]
15. [x x] [x x]

rest lost

Translation

"... Son of Bal... from Qibi... he contracted. The man is acquired, bought. there is no revocation, lawsuit or litigation. Whoever, in the future or in all time, be it Adi-ili-iqbuni, be it Dibbayu, be it their sons, be it their nephews, be it his son, be it their prefect, be it a relative of his, be it a neighbour of theirs, who seeks lawsuit or litigation with Šar-ili and his son and his grandson, saying: ‘I will release that man’ —he will return the money tenfold to its owner, and he will not succeed in his lawsuit and
litigation. May Ištar and Šamaš, Bel and Nabû, be his opponents. (Guarantee against) seizure and epilepsy —100 days; (against) fraud —for all time.

Witness: Šamaš-šarru-ušur, son of Kur-…; witness, Qurdi-Ištar, …” (remainder fragmentary, then lost)

Notes

1'-3’: only barest traces of “heads” of signs preserved.

13’: a scribal error (repetition of DUMU-šu in the wrong place) seems to occur in this line.

R. 1: the presence of Šar-ili in the texts points to a date in the general range of 625-620 BC.

3: notice the ditography of ubta’ūni.

5: notice the erroneous use of šu.GUR for Gur = turru; perhaps deriving from the frequent attestation of the personal name DN-gimillu(šu)-terra(GUR) ?

10: to judge by CAD K, 88-89, and SAA 6, 299a, the writing ka-la is decidedly unusual in this particular formula and in NA legal documents in general, and perhaps reflects Babylonian influence.

Archive N9: uncertain or unattributed texts.

54. VAT 20340. Former number on tablet: VAT 16504. Ass.Fd.Nr. 9571. Not listed under VAT no. in ALA.

Fragment, brown-grayish clay. 3.2×1.5×1.8 cms. 3+8+2 lines.

Sale of a plot of bare ground. No date.

Obverse

1. NA₄.KIŠIB [ ]
2. NA₄.KIŠIB [ ]
3. NA₄.KIŠIB [ ]

rest lost

Reverse

1’. ʼIGI [ ]
2’. ʼIGI [ ]
3’. ʼIGI [ ]
4’. ʼIGI ʼM[u]?
Translation

"Seal of PN, mayor; seal of PN, city-overseer; seal of PN, commander-of-ten of ..." (rest of Obverse lost)

"Witness: ...; witness: ...; witness: ...; witness: Mu...; witness: ...; witness: Mu...; witness: Zer-... Month of Arahsamnu (= VIII), day $n$.

... by profession hundurayyu, owner of the plot of bare ground being sold".

Notes

LHE 1-2': these two lines are crucial for the understanding of the small right-hand fragment, for which a join has not been found at present, despite extensive search: their interpretation has benefited from collations and extensive philological remarks by KHD.

LHE 1': we have here a further case of the professional name of the protagonists of archive N9, provided with a rendering hu-u$\r$n-dar-a-a (cf. introduction, b5).

LHE 2': here the object of the conveyance is specified through the final verbal form tadiini: it is kl.me$\r$sh babbar.me$\r$sh, which is to be made out as the logographic writing for qaqqiri pu$\r$še, found at Assur also in VAT 8270, 2 (KHD). It follows that this entire section refers to the identification of the seller of the plot, who is one of the hundurayyus of our archive; whereas the three na$\r$sh.ki$\acute{s}$i$\acute{b}$ at the beginning of the document (Obv. 1-3) cannot but refer to the same three municipal authorities (hazannu, sa muhhi āli, rab $\acute{s}$arre of the scribes[?]) as appear in their function as guarantees at the beginning of texts nos. 33 and 35 (cf. Introduction, b4, and see also text no. 42).

55. VAT 20359. Formerly VAT 16526. Ass.Fd.Nr. 9571. Not listed under VAT no. in ALA.

Light brown clay. 6.0×3.0×1.1 cms. 8+5 lines.

Conveyance. Sale of female slave. 657 BC.

Obverse

1. na$\r$sh.ki$\acute{s}$i$\acute{b} 1tt[x x]
2. **EN MÉ SUM-[ni]**

**SPACE FOR SEALINGS**

3. "ME ME-"Dû" [x x x]
4. up-piš-ma x [x x]
5. \textsuperscript{1}U-U-DINGIR-a-a x [x x]
6. "ina" šā 10 ĝin KU.B[ABBAR (x x)]
7. [kas-p]u gam-mur [tadin]
8. [t]u-a-ru "de"-[nu dababu laššu]

Rest lost

Reverse

(about 5 lines lost)

1'. [IGI \textsuperscript{1}Mi-)x x x]
2'. IGI \textsuperscript{1}AP-x-x x x]
3'. IGI \textsuperscript{1}Mu-še-x x x]

**SEALINGS**

4'. ina ITI.ŠU UD-11[+n'-KAM]
5'. lim-mu \textsuperscript{1}La-Î[Îs]

Translation

"Seal of ..., owner of the woman being sold.

The woman Gula-banitu, PN\textsubscript{1} ... and Dada-ila'a contracted ... for 10 shekels of silver. The silver is given in its entirety, there is no reneging, lawsuit or litigation"

(rest of Obverse lost)

"... witness: Mi-...; witness: Ahu-...; witness: Muše... Month of Du'u'uzu (= IV), day 11[+n]th, eponymate of Lab[aši]".

Notes

3: KHD suggests a possible reading -"ni"- for the last visible sign, but with doubts.

R. 5': the writing of the eponym's name seems unusual; cf. A. Unlad, RIA 2, 449b, s.v. Eponymen."
56. VAT 20343. Formerly VAT 16513, Ass.Fd.Nr 9571f. Not listed under VAT no. in ALA\textsuperscript{115}.

*Pillow-shaped tablet. 2.1×1.9×1.8 cms. 6+2+6+1+3 lines.*

*Loan of silver with work agreement. Post-canonical date (626)*\textsuperscript{9}.

Upper Edge

1. 1/2 MA 8 2/3 ĝn

Obverse

2. ša 10 \textit{I}I\textit{T}I.\textit{MEŠ}
3. \textit{Ra-ū-}zu\textsuperscript{'}
4. TA* \textit{IGI} \textit{UTU–MAN–PAP}
5. TA* \textit{IGI} \textit{IM–DINGIR}
6. TA* \textit{IGI} \textit{M}u(text be)-\textit{qa-līl–IDIM}
7. fl 10 \textit{ITI.\textit{MEŠ}}

Lower Edge

8. \textit{i-pa-laḥ-šú–nu}
9. \textit{u₄}\textit{mu' e-tī-gi}

Reverse

10. \textit{ra-na} \textit{IM–DINGIR} x [x (x)]
11. KU.BABBAR \textit{e₆š}-\textit{šip} \textit{SUM}\textsuperscript{71}
12. \textit{ITI.DU₄}, UD-1-KĀ[M]
13. \textit{lim-mu₄} [x x x-\textit{P}]AP
14. \textit{IGI} \textit{Aš+šur–AD–GIŠ}
15. \textit{IGI} \textit{Aš+šur–AD–PAP}

Left Hand Edge

16. [x x x]-\textit{ka}²
17. \textit{IGI} \textit{nu–TEŠ–ana–Aš+šur}
18. \textit{IGI} \textit{BE₃–x–Aš+šur}

Translation

"Half a mina, 8 and 2/3 shekels (of silver), for 10 months, Rauzu took from Šamaš-šarru-uṣur, from Šar-iii, from Muqallil-kabti. For 10 months he will serve them;

\textsuperscript{115} Pedersén (ALA, p. 90) states that, in archive N9, "About 9 documents ... are work contracts for several months ...", and provides numbers (N9) 7, 16, 25, 70, 74, 76, 77, 79, 80; none of these, however, seem to correspond to the present text."
if he will have been negligent for (just one) day, he will give back the money double to Šar-ili ... Month of Tašritu (= VII), the 1st day, eponymate of Nabû-šarru-ūṣur. 

Witness: Aššur-abu-lešir; witness: Aššur-abu-uṣur; witness: ...-ka; witness: Latubašanni-Ašṣur; witness: Dur-maki-Ašṣur”.

Notes

6: the mistaken BE instead of Mu- was probably due to the need to write BE/IDIM at the end of the name.

9-11: For this expression, cf. Deller, WZKM 57, 36 ff. The last sign in line 10, beginning with two obliques, is of uncertain interpretation.

12-13: the eponymate of Nabû-šarru-ūṣur (626 BC according to Falkner, 119) is very likely here, in view of the other dates of Šar-ili and his group of associates.

18: after the BE, it is uncertain whether one or two closely written signs precede the predicative element -AŠ’Tūr.

57. VAT 20356. Not listed under VAT no. in ALA\textsuperscript{16}. 

Fragment. 2.1 x 3.3 cms. Brown clay. 5+2+6 lines.

Contract. Loan of straw with lease of a field. Eponym lost.

Obverse
(begging lost)
1'. \( x [x \ x \ x \ x] \)
2'. \( i^\cdot x^3 [x] \)
3'. \( ku-um \ SE.[n,n] \)
4'. 12 ANŠE A.ŠA \( D[a-da-hi/pap.mes] (?) \)
5'. \( a-na \ upa-rēm-a-ni [0] \)

Lower Edge
6'. \( i-ti-din e-ra-āš \)
7'. \( e-si-di A.ŠA [(x x)] \)

Reverse
8'. \( ina \ IG\ I\ EN-šū \ ū-ra-[ma] \)

\textsuperscript{16} A note accompanying the tablet in the Museum, from the hand of K. Deller, indicates this tablet as “VAT 16515. Ass Fd Nr 9571”.
Translation

"......, in lieu of the corn ..., he has given 12 homers of cornland ... To Nabû-remanni. He will cultivate, harvest, and will restitute the cornland to its owner. The field has no straw tax and no corn tax. .... Month of Simanu (= III), eponymate of ...”.

Notes

4': the integration of the name was suggested by KHD: unfortunately, since the limmu-date is lost and the opposing party, Nabû-remanni, is otherwise unknown, a confirmation, linking this contract to the Dada-ahhe group, is impossible.

8': For rammû, “to leave”, with many nuances according to the context, cf. Deller, OrNS 30, 345ff..

10': the sign after nu-sa-ḫi looks like "a", but finds no immediate explanation.

58. VAT 20355\textsuperscript{117} + VAT 20358\textsuperscript{118}. Not listed under VAT no. in ALA.

Join (FMF) of two fragments, now 9.0×5.2 cms. Rev.: 8[+n]+9 +3 lines; other face (= Obv.) totally lost, except for 3 ends of lines. Brown clay.

Conveyance tablet. Uncertain object (sale of a slave?). Date lost.

Obverse (VAT 20358)
(a abrasion of approx. 20 lines in length)
1.'-2.' illegible

\textsuperscript{117} The new VAT numbering has solved not a few ambiguities in the case of this text. This fragment used to bear the no. VAT 16528, which however, corresponds to the work-contract N9(74), not retrieved for inclusion here (cf. notes \textit{ad text} no. 5, above). On the other hand, its Assurfind number, Ass.Fd.Nr. 9571\textsuperscript{p}, given by Deller in BaM 15 (1984), 236, was the same as that assigned to the joining fragment 20358, as well as to ALA N9 (41) = VAT 14428 = our no. 29, above. Cf. the next footnote.

\textsuperscript{118} A further problem of correspondences (cf. the previous footnote) has been cleared by the new VAT numbering. This fragment used to bear the no. VAT 16549 = Ass.Fd.Nr. 9571\textsuperscript{p}, according to a note accompanying the tablet in the Museum, by K. Deller. Notice however that VAT 9571\textsuperscript{p} is attributed by ALA to VAT 14428 = no. 29, above, as well as to VAT 20355 (which is the other fragment forming this text). Further, VAT 16549 does not appear at all in ALA, index.
1991]
NEO-ASSYRIAN TEXTS FROM ASSUR: PRIVATE ARCHIVES 119

3. ' [x x x x me]-me-ni-šu

Reverse
1. [x x x x]-Aš+šur
2. [x x lu DUMU].MEŠ-šú
3. [x x x x me]-me'-ni-šú
4. [x x x x] KA.MEŠ
5. [x x x x] lu DUMU.MEŠ
6. [x x x x] KŪ.BABBAR
7. [x x x x L]šu-ú SUM
8. [x x x] gur² a[n² x x]

(space of ca. 3 lines)

(VAT 20355)
9. ' ina de-[ni KA.K]A$-ma² la² i²-laq²-qi²

10. IGI 1šanga-15 GAL-un-ma-ni
11. IGI 1AD-pa-pa-la-sha-ši
12. IGI 1ad-Pa-MU-iš-kun NAGAR
13. IGI 1Aš+šur-za-qip IGI 1ir-AL-la-te
14. IGI 1Lu-šá-kín IGI 1Qi-bit-15
15. IGI 1Du-gul-DINGIR LU*.GAR.U.U
17. [x x x x] x x [x x x x]

Left Hand Edge
1. ]-a-a IITI.AB lim-m[u
2. ]-Aš+šur IGI 1Ki-x[
3. ]-x-ni IGI [

Translation
"...Aššur, ... be it his sons, ... be it anybody of his; ...; be it his sons, ... silver, ...; ... will give this man, ...

(break)

... in his lawsuit and litigation he will not succeed. Witness: Šangû-Ištar, chief scholar; witness: Abu-ahu-lamašši; witness: Nabû-šumu-iškun, carpenter; witness: Aššur-zaqip; witness: Urad-Allate; witness: Lu-šakin; witness: Qibit-Ištar; witness: Dugul-ili, stoneborer; witness: Iluma-lidgul, bowmaker; ... .

...ayyu. Month of Ab (= V), eponymate ...; witness: ...-Aššur; witness: Kittu-Aššur; witness: ...-ani, witness ..."
Notes


Archive N10.


Rectangular (“vertical”) tablet, reddish clay, complete, some abrasions. On right-hand edge: six fingernail impressions. 7.0×3.7×1.1 cms. 14+3+19+3+3+3 lines.

Conveyance. Sale of a plot of bare ground. Post-canonical date (621).

Obverse

1. NA₄.KIŠIB ¹PAP-lam-ma
2. A¹Uš-tū–Aš+šur šá e Za₅-x₇
3. EN qaq-ri pu-še SUM-an

SEALINGS

4. 16' <KUŠ> GID.DA 10 'KUŠ' DAGAL
5. qaq-[ri] pu-še tihi BAD
6. tihi e¹Aš+šur–SU
7. tihi¹ Tar-di-i
8. tihi su-qa-qu Ṝ²-ú
9. qaq-ri šu-a-tū šá ¹PAP⁻lam-ma
10. ū-piš-ma Aš+šur–SU
11. ina šA-bi 12 GIN KU.BABBAR il-qi
12. kás-pu ga-mur SUM-ni
13. tu-a-ru de-e-nu KA.KA
14. la-žš-su man-nu <šá> ina ur-kiš

Lower Edge

15. ina ma-te-ma q[IL?] u-ni
16. lu-u ¹PAP-lam'-ma [lu DUM]U.MEŠ-šú
17. lu-u DUMU.DUMU.MEŠ⁻šú³ PAP.ME<š-šú>
Reverse
18. [I]Ju-u me-me-ni-šú ša de-e' (text: nì)-nu
19. KA.KA TA* 1Aš+šur-SU
20. DUMU.MEŠ-šú ub-ta'-u-u-ni
21. 1 MA KÜ.BABBAR 1 (erasure) MA KÜ.GI
22. ina bur-ki 4NIN.LÍL GAR-nu
23. 2 ANŠE.KUR.RA.MEŠ BABBAR GEŠ.MEŠ
24. ina GIr.2 Aš+šur i-ra-<ka->sa
25. a-de-ni-šú KA.KA<-ma> NU il-qi
26. Aš+šur *UTU.EN de-ni-šá
27. a-de-e šá MAN ina šU.2-šú
28. lu-u-ba'-u IJ.API N UD-13
29. lim-mu 1Aš+šur-rém-a-ni
30. IGI 1Šá-kil-ī ē GI 1Šá-la-Aš+šur-man-nu
31. IGI 1Bi-su-u-a ē GI 1Mu-sig-Aš+šur
32. IGI 1Su-u-su ē GI 1EN-DINGIR-*E (text: ni)²-uni
33. IGI 1Tukul-tū-Aš+šur ē GI 1Aš+šur-AD-giš
34. IGI 1Aš+šur-²x x x' ē GI 1U+GUR-Aš
35. IGI 1Aš+šur-KA.KA-ne-re
36. IGI 1Aš+šur-ttí²-E *GI 1PAP-*SU²²

Upper Edge
37. IGI 1Mu-x²-x²-a *GI 1x²-x²
38. IGI b²-x²-Aš+šur r²ša/IGI²² ¹PAP-lam-MA
39. IGI b²-x²-*DINGIR IGI 1NU-*x²-ZALĀG²²-*RU²

Left Hand Edge
1. [IGI] 1Ba-tu-tu IGI 1Du-na-a x²
2. [IGI] b²-Aš+šur-SILIM-PAP.MEŠ IGI 1Aš+šur-SAG-ūš-ši
3. [((LÚ*.)LA] BA ša IM dan-nu²-tū² bat-ta²-ag²²-uni 1Aš+šur-*SU²

Translation
"Seal of Ahulamma, son of Tarditu-Aššur, of Bit-Za..., owner of the bare ground being sold.

16 <cubits> in length, 10 cubits in width, a plot of bare ground adjacent to the fortification, adjacent to the house of Aššur-eriba, adjacent to Tardi, adjacent to the exit alley: Aššur-eriba contracted and purchased this area, belonging to Ahulamma, for 12 shekels of silver. The sum is entirely given over; there is no reneging, lawsuit or litigation. Whoever, in the future or whenever, will obstruct, whether Ahulamma, or his sons, or his grandsons, or his brothers, or anyone of his, who will seek lawsuit and litigation with Aššur-eriba —they will place 1 mina of silver and 1 mina of gold in the lap
of Mullissu; he will tie 2 horses, white and black, at the feet of the god Aššur. In his lawsuit and litigation he will not succeed; (may) the gods Aššur and Šamaš be his opponents in court; may the oath by the king call him to account.


Notes
1 ff.: this conveyance is in relatively good state of preservation (only the bottom edge has abrasions of more than one sign’s length) but presents a number of scribal particularities, some omitted signs, and some complexes of shapes of difficult interpretation. The authors’ work on this text has been followed up by collations on the part of KHD, Anais Schuster and Petra D. Gesche, and this substantial effort has brought many results on difficult points—although a number of them still fail to yield their full meaning.

2: the last sign is difficult: was a geographical reference given? In this case, cf. no. 35, 7, above.

3: the writing qaqa-ri seems to be an idiosyncrasy of this scribe; see lines 5, 9 below.

5: for the dâru, by which the very portion of the Assur town fortification near the houses of the hundurayyus was presumably meant, cf. already no. 33, 8 (bâd.na₄).

9: the sign ša is written with too many horizontals (KHD).

14: the middle vertical in ur- is so far to the right as to make the sign rather resemble ib- (KHD).

18: the use of -ni- in lieu of -e- occurs also in l. 32, below—i.e. it is a further idiosyncrasy of our scribe.


22: gar-nu is a scribal lapse for gar-an (KHD).

23: according to Menzel, AT, 209, we are here facing the “einzige Beleg für pasi’u šalmu als Farbbezeichnung der Aššur-Pferde”.

25: for some reason the scribe wrote the preterit il-qi, as he had in l. 11, instead of the present *ilaqqi (KHD).

27-28: on the meaning of adê in this particular context, cf. the interpretations reviewed in K. Watanabe, Die adê-Veredigung anlässlich der Thronfolgeregelung Assar-haddons, Berlin 1987, pp. 6-8; to which must be added further recent works such as A. Lemaire - J.M. Durand, Les inscriptions araméennes de Sfiré et l’Assyrie de Shamshi-iliu, Paris 1984; S. Parpola - K. Watanabe, Neo-Assyrian Treaties and Loyalty Oaths (SAA

34: the first name is written over an erasure. For the second name, cf. the $^1$U+GUR $^-$AŠ $^-$I.DU₂₈ of no. 23, 10.

37-39: three difficult lines, in which the names are marred by slight abrasions.

LHE 3: after many attempts at reading/interpretation of the next-to-the-last word, the authors believe that bat-ta-$^2$aq-$^7$-u-ni, suggested by KHD as a possibility after renewed collation of the text (and interpreted as corresponding to battuq-uni with pretonal -$^-$a), stands the best chances so far of yielding an intelligible sense for the relevant clause. As for the beginning of the line, the authors believe that the mention of a “scribe” as subject of the subjunctive is plausible—provided, of course, that the object of the clause, i.e. the central man dan-nu-tú, be interpreted in the light of a document with a specific (ephemeral) legal function, such as seems to be illustrated by the opposition dannatu-egirtu e.g. in no. 38, A, 4-6; B, 6-8. So, in brief, the individual called Aššur-reši-ši would have been the “man” (or perhaps, more technically, the “scribe”) who as a matter of custom used to break the (expired and repaid) dannatu in pieces. Whether (and in case, wherefore) this occupation had something to do with the case at hand, is not per se clear.

60. VAT 20372. ALA N10(2). Ass.Fd.Nr. 9644b; Ph. Ass. 1371/72, right, 2nd from top.

Light brown clay. Pillow-shaped tablet. 3.6×2.4×1.1 cms. 5+2+6+1 lines. Seals.

Loan of silver. Post-canonical date (621).

Upper Edge
1.  NA₄.KIŠIB $^1$TIH.AB-a-a

Obverse
2. $^1$Man-nu–ki–NINA
3. 5/6 $^7$GÎN KÛ.BABBAR
4. ša $^1$Aš+šur–A–Gîš

SEALINGS

5. ša $^1$Aš+šur–Sû
6. ša $^1$Ba-sî-i
Lower Edge
7. ina ı̈GI ı̈̄TI.AB-a-a
8. ana 4-ut-ti-šú GAL

Reverse
9. ı̈Na-na-te EN-šU.2
10. ı̈TI.APIN UD-11
11. lim-mu ı̈Aššur-rém-a-ni
12. ı̈GI ı̈BI-su-u-a
13. ı̈GI ı̈BAD-Aš<šur>

Translation
"Seal of Kanunayu, son of Mannu-ki-Ninua.
5/6 shekels of silver, belonging to Aššur-aplu-lešir, belonging to Aššur-eriba, belonging to Basi, are credited to Kanunayu. (The sum) will increase by one-fourth. Nanate is guarantor. Month of Arahsamnu (= VIII), 11th day, eponymate of Aššur-remanni. Witness: Bisu'a; witness: Dur-Aššur; witness: Mudammiq-Aššur".

Notes
3: the first sign has a slight abrasion; possibly 5 is the correct number (recollated).
6: for Basi, cf. ALA, 94.
12-13: the possibility that Aš was an intentional abbreviation for Aššur — albeit an unusual one in personal names in NA texts — must be taken into account, as suggested by KHD. Cf. Appendix 1, tablet, r. 14.


Rectangular "vertical" tablet, reddish clay. 9.1×4.3×1.5 cms. 16+3+16 lines. Stamp seals.


1. NA₄,KIŠIB ı̈La-ṭeš-a-ni—Aššur
2. DUMU ı̈PA-ka-šír
3. LÚ*.TUR šá ı̈PA-su(text: šU)
4. EN MÍ SUM-a-ni

SEALS
5.  
6.  
7.  
8.  
9.  
10.  
11.  
12.  
13.  
14.  
15.  
16.  
17.  
18.  
19.  
20.  
21.  
22.  
23.  
24.  
25.  
26.  
27.  
28.  
29.  
30.  
31.  
32.  
33.  
34.  
35.  

Translation

"Seal of La-tubāšanni-Aššur, son of Nabū-kašir, dependent of Nabū-eriba, owner of the woman being sold."
The woman Rahimā, his female slave: Aššur-eriba bought and contracted (her) for one and one-half mina of silver at the mina of Karkemiš from La-tubašanni-Aššur. The sum is fully given over. This woman is acquired, taken. There is no reneging, lawsuit or litigation. Whoever, in the future or at any time, be it La-tubašanni-Aššur, or his sons, or anyone of his, who seeks lawsuit or litigation with Aššur-eriba or his sons, saying: ‘I will redeem the woman’ — he will return the sum tenfold to its owners; in his lawsuit and litigation he will not succeed. May the gods Aššur, Šamaš, Bel, Nabū, Istar of Arba’īl be his opponents in court. (Guarantee against) disease and epilepsy — for 100 days; (against) fraud — for all time.


(blank space) Month of Ayyaru (= II), 11th day; eponymate of Bel-ıqbi of the land of Zaman”.

Notes

3: cf. K. Deller, BaM 15, 237, who quotes the passage and suggests, even if with reservations, the equation LŪ.TUR = šuhāru. This qualification would tally with that of no. 12, 1. Notice the unusual scribal mistake (šu for su) in the name of the owner.

8: cf. also no. 18, 2, above, for the mina of Karkemiš.

24: a further scribal mistake (-ni or -nu expected).

32: correct reading of the traces by KHD.


Pillow-shaped tablet. Brown clay. 4.3×3.2×1.6 cms. 4+8+2+5 lines.

Loan of silver. Post-canonical date (621).

Upper Edge

1. NA₄.KIŠIB ¹Aš+šur-su

Obverse

2. DUMU ¹Kak-kul-a-ni

3. 30 GN.MEŠ KŪ.BABBAR

4. ša ¹Pu-u-li̯ı̯ (erasure)

2 STAMP SEALS
5. ina IGI Aš+šur-SU

Reverse
6. ina UD-1-KĀM šā ITL.ŠE
7. SUM-an MU NU SUM-ni
8. ana 4-tū-šū GAL-bi
9. ITL.APIN UD-4
10. lim-mu IGI Aš+šur-rém-a-ni
11. IGI Šā-la-maš-e
12. IGI IdpA-MU-AS
13. IGI IdpA-NIGIN-re

Upper Edge
14. IGI Kī-šir-IPPA

Left Hand Edge
15. e-gir-tū šā qu un na rūtu/šītu
16. ina SU.2 IdpA-NUMUN-AS
17. ina SU.2 IGI Aš+šur-SU GIM KŪ.BABBAR
18. i-ti-din e-gir-tū
19. i-mar-ra-qa

Translation
"Seal of Assur-eriba, son of Kakkullanu.

30 shekels of silver, belonging to Puli, are credited to Assur-eriba. He will give it back on the first day of the month of Addaru (= XII); if he fails to give it back, it will increase by one-fourth. Month of Arahsamnu (= VIII), the 4th day, eponymate of Assur-rimanni. Witness: Ša-lamaše; witness: Nabu-sumu-iddina; witness: Nabu-upahhira; witness: Kišir-Nabû.

The egirtu-document ... is in the hands of Nabû-zeru-iddina and in the hands of Assur-eriba. As soon as he gives back the silver, he will smash the egirtu-document".

Notes
18-19: cf. CAD M/1, 267a; Postgate, FNALD, 32-33, for this expression. The passage is quoted by Deller, WZKM 57 (1961), 37.

LHE 15: a line —possibly crucial for legal terminology— which must be considered for the moment unsolved. The authors suggest reading šā kum dan'-na-tū?, "in lieu of the dannutu-text", linking this passage to the particular value of dannutu in texts nos. 38 and 59, above. It is true, however, with KHD, that kum for kūmu, "in lieu of" lacks real parallels in NA, and that the sixth sign is -un, although the confusion between the two signs seems not entirely foreign to the Assur scribal horizon (cf. no. 21, r. 5; 22,
21). Further, the last sign is uncertain: an oblique (or a horizontal written with an oblique slant) crosses two verticals, which show a slight abrasion at the bottom. Tentatively, also taking in account possibilities for hitherto unknown lexical items, KHD suggests “die Schuldurkunde ist deponiert(??) bei PN₁ und PN₂”.

63. VAT 14446. ALA N10(7). Ass. Fd.Nr. 9644g. Ph. Ass. 1371/72, middle row, 3rd from top.

Reddish clay. 2.9×2.5 cms. 6+2+6 lines.

Loan of “first-fruits” of Aššur. 672 BC.

Obverse
1. [n] AGUN.SIM? ME?
2. ša Aššur
3. ina IGI x i-a-tú-nu
4. a-na pu-hi šl
5. IGI.GUD <UD>-6-KĀM

Lower Edge
7. lim-mu IGI.PA-EN-FA-PAP�
8. [i]na IGI.BĀRA SAG.MEŞ

Reverse
9. sum-an šum-mu
10. la-dIN-ni GAL-bi
11. IGI IGI.PA-MU-AŠ
12. IGI IGI Qu-qu-wa
13. IGI IGI.DINGIR-IGI=x
14. IGI IGI.NINDA

Translation
“n talents of ..., (offerings of the) first-fruits of the god Aššur, belonging to Mannu-ki-Istar-le’i, credited to ...a’tunu,, he has taken on loan. Month of Ayyaru (= II), the 6th day, eponymate of Nabu-belu-uṣur. Within the month of Nisannu (= I) he will give back the first-fruits. If he fails to give back, it will increase.
Witnes: Nabu-šumu-iddina; witness: Ququ’a, baker; witness: Ilu-...”.
Notes

1-2: on the nature of the text, cf. the remarks by Menzel, AT, II, T 183, no. 81:
"Sicher in einer der drei Kategorien (SAG.MEŠ, ginū, aššušiškaru) zuzuordnen; es
handelt sich aber offenbar nicht um eine 'Geld'Schuld; die betreffende Materie kann
ohne neue Kollation nicht festgestellt werden". In fact, despite renewed collation, the
very nature of the ‘first-fruits’ remains elusive: while the signs šē and šim would per se
point to plant products, the fact that the item was “weighed in minas” (KHD) and not in
dry capacity units, points to an entirely different sphere of goods.

7: a date to 672 BC is not only quite high in itself for the material from the Assur
NW corner (cf. Introduction, 2), but seems to be the earliest by approx. 30 years for the
N10 archive: cf. ALA, 94, mentioning only post-canonical eponyms. On the other hand,
KHD confirms his note in BaM 15, 250, on the occurrence of Nabû-šumu-iddina in the
list VAT 8270, 39, of 663 BC, adding that “Ququ’a (without profession)” is attested
there also, in line 42. Thus the most plausible solution appears to be that of a random
presence of this tablet in the houses of N10.

10: suggestion for reading by KHD, although the required verticals of -ni are
abraded. For a similar formula, in any case, cf. no. 8, 9 (mu la sum-ni tar-bi).

64. VAT 20362. ALA N10(8)\(^\text{119}\). Ass.Fd.Nr. 9644h. Ph. Ass. 1369/70. Published photo:
FWA, Taf. 107.

Pillow-shaped tablet. Light brown clay. 4.7×3.3×1.8 cms. 6+2+9+2+1 lines.

Loan of silver of Istar of Arba’iil. Post-canonical date (619).

Upper Edge
1. na₄.kišib 3 en–kaskal

Obverse
2. 6 ma₄.na KU BABBAR ina+1 ma₄.na–šú
3. ša d₁₅ šá Arba-il
4. “ša”₁ DIL₁–le–šir
5. ina IGI 1Aš+šur–ti–su–E
6. A 1Aš+šur–silm–IGI–LAL
7. ina IGI 1Aš+šur–su

\(^{119}\) Formerly VAT 16501 (number not given in ALA).
Lower Edge
8. A\textsuperscript{1}Kak-kul-a-ni
9. \textit{ina} IG\textit{I} Aš+šur-AD-GIš

Reverse
10. PAP 3 EN-KASKAL a-na KAR
11. \textit{it-ta-su} ana 6-su-šú GAL
12. ITI.DUG\textsubscript{6} UD-28
13. \textit{lim-mu} \textit{EN-PAP-PAP}
14. IG\textit{I} \textit{UD}-5-KĀM-a-a
15. IG\textit{I} \textit{Lu-šá-t}\textit{k}in\textsuperscript{n}
16. IG\textit{I} \textit{PA-DIL-} bal-\textit{Γ̄}\textit{t}
17. IG\textit{I} \textit{PA-PAP-} Aš\textsuperscript{7}
18. DUG.SAB GEŠTIN \textit{ina} muh-hi SUM-nu

Left Hand Edge
1. ša kar-me-u-ni
2. SUM-an

Translation
“Seal of three expedition chiefs.

Six minas of silver and a half, of Ištar of Arba'īl, belonging to Edu-lešir, are credited to Aššur-balassu-iqbi, son of Aššur-sulmu-amur, and are credited to Aššur-eriba son of Kakkullanu, and are credited to Aššur-abi-lešir. In all, three expedition chiefs have taken it for a business venture. It will increase by one-sixth. Month of Tašritu (= VII), 28th day, eponymate of Bel-ahu-uṣur. Witness: Hanšayu; witness: Lu-šakin; witness: Nabû-edu-ballit; witness: Nabû-ahu-iddina.

They will give a jar of wine on top of this.
(on right-hand edge):
Whoever will be the latest, will pay”.

Notes
1: Cf. no. 5, above. KASKAL is written here with broken (i.e. redoubled) horizontals, somewhat like UB.
6: the name is presumably to be read Aššur-sulmu-(l)amur, i.e with D\textit{I} = S\textit{IL\textsc{M}}, following APN, 46a (cf. SAA 6, 321b). Notice however that (a) this would be the only occurrence of the name (cf. index, below) as against the many cases of Aššur-denu-amur; and that (b) the relatively uncommon NA value D\textit{I} for dēnu is used in our corpus, no. 17, r. 14.
10: KAR is clear, but the equivalence of the sign in this context escapes us. The suggested translation is \textit{ad sensum} (KHD).
18: Line quoted by Deller, BaM 15, 243, with parallels.
LHE 1-2: the formula is studied by Postgate, FNALD, p. 46, and—with reference to 2nd millennium forerunners—by Dalley-Postgate, CTN 3, 96. As noted by KHD, the formula ša karmūnī usallam occupies exactly the same position on the tablet in NALK 199a, also from Assur (limmu of Dadi).

65. VAT 20370. ALA N10(11). Formerly VAT 16502; Ass.Fd.Nr 94661; Ph. Ass. 1371/72, 2nd from top. left.

Pillow-shaped tablet; fragment of the Envelope (tablet embedded). 4.0×2.1×1.2 cms. 4+1+5+2 lines.

Loan of silver. Post-canonical date (617).

Upper Edge
1. ṢA₄.KIŠI₂₄ ⅟₃Ba-s[i-i]
2. ṢA₄+šur-de-nu-[GI.LAL]

Obverse
3. ⅟₃Ma KŪ.BAB[BAR]
4. ša ṢA₄+šur-[s[u]
5. ina IGIN ⅟₃Ba-s[i-i]

SEALS
6. ana 8-ut-ti-ršū [irabbi]

Lower Edge
7. ITI.SU UD-20[+n7(-KAM?)]

Reverse
8. lim-mu ṢA₄<ł>PA-tap-pu-[t-alik]
9. IGIN ṢA₄+šur–a–[GIŞ]
10. IGIN ṢA₄-hu-lam-m[a]
11. IGIN En–DINGIR–E-U–[ni]
12. IGIN ṢA₄+šur–ŠU–G[UR-ra?]

Translation
"Seal of Basi, son of Aššur-denu-amur. One and a half minas of silver, belonging to Aššur-eriba, are credited to Basi. (The sum) will increase by one-eighth. Month of Du’uzu (= IV), 20th day, eponymate of Nabû-tapput-alik. Witness: Aššur-aplu-leṣîr; witness: Ahulamma; witness: Adi-ili-qbûni; witness: Aššur-gimillu-terra".
Notes
1-2: although the reading of the last visible sign in l. 1 is difficult, notice that the same name and patronymic are given in the witness lists of no. 52, r. 18.
8: For the name of the eponym see Deller, BaM 15, 245.


Pillow-shaped tablet. 6.1×3.8×2.1 cms. Reddish clay. 21+2 lines.

Judicial decision. Post-canonical date (626).

Obverse
1. NA₄,KIŠIB¹DINGIR-pa-rak-ka
2. DUMU¹TAR-da-ni TA* URU-šu
3. sa-ar-ta ša ina шибка
4. ša¹Aš+šur–A–GIŠ ša¹Aš+šur–SU
5. ša¹Ba-si-a ep-ša-tu-ni

SEALS (3 stamp)

6. sa-ru-te ša-bu-te

Lower Edge
7. ¹DINGIR-pa-rak-ka ur-ki-šá-nu
8. ¹PAP+u-a 1Ú,šá¹UGU–URU
9. ina¹ bir-ta-šu-nu ip-ta-ar-su
10. ¹Sa-la-me-i¹Nu-ri-x x

Reverse
11. ku-um sa-ar-te i-tan-nu
12. ššl-mu ina bir-ta-šu-nu
13. man-nu ša ina ur-kiš ina ma-te-me
14. i-pa-ri-ku-u-ni 10 MA KŪ.BABBAR id-dan
15. ITI.ZĪZ UD-14¹ lim-mu¹PA–MAN–PAP
16. IGI¹BE’-a 1GI¹Iš-man-ni–Aš+šur
17. IGI¹Mu-še-zib–Aš+šur
18. IGI¹PA–KAR–Ir-a-ni
19. IGI¹Ra-hi-me-e-zi² x

Upper Edge
20. IGI¹Ki-šir-tum
Translation

"Seal of Ili-barakka, son of Hashdani, from his city. The theft which was performed in the storehouse of Assur-aplu-lešir, of Assur-eriba, of Basiya—the criminals were caught. Ili-barakka is guarantor for them. Ahu'a, the city-overseer, gave a decision between them. The woman Salame'i, the man Nuri,..., were given over in lieu of a fine. There is judicial peace between them. Whoever in the future or whenever will make obstruction, will pay 10 minas of silver. Month of Šabatu (= XI), day 14, eponym ate of Nabu-sarru-usur. Witness: Ahu'a; witness: Issanni-Assur; witness: Muszezib-Assur; witness: Nabu-etirani; witness: Rahime-...; witness: Kisirtum; witness: Hirahi; witness: Kanuti; witness: Tardiatuni".

Notes

6: the clause is quoted in CAD S, 183a, from K. Deller, OrNS 30, 255.
8: cf. K. Deller, Studi ... Volterra, Milano 1970, VI, pp. 642, 648, for the name, read as 'īš-ē-a. At present however, KHD would rather envisage a ligature 1̅PAP+u-a, here and in l. 16, below.

APPENDIX 1: Two texts related to no. 18 (transliterations by K. Deller).

From letter by KHD to FMF 26/04/92:

"No. 18 is a financial transaction in which Bisu'a and Mudammiq-Assur act in close cooperation. The same situation is found in TCL 9, 62. This interesting text should, therefore, be edited in your article, aptly as an appendix to no. 18".

TCL 9, 62 (AO 4515)

Tablet (not mentioned by Pedersén, ALA II, 93)

Obverse
1. 34 GIN KU.BABBAR
2. șa 1̅Bi-su-u-a
3. șa 1̅Mu-sig-Aš+šur
4. șa SĀM ša 1̅Aš+šur-SU EN-šu.2.MEŠ
5. a-na \textsuperscript{1}Aš+šur-su i-ta-nu
6. i-lak a-na
7. \textsuperscript{1}Na-am-a-nu sum-an

Reverse
8. MU là-din KÚ.BABBAR e-šip sum-an
9. ITI.ŠU UD-11-KAM
10. \textit{lim-mu} \textsuperscript{1}EN–KUR-u-a
11. IGI \textsuperscript{1}Na-ni-i IGI \textsuperscript{1}Aš+šur–DÚ
12. IGI \textsuperscript{1}Na-a-sí IGI \textsuperscript{1}Ša-gib–Aš+šur
13. IGI \textsuperscript{1}Šá-kil-ia
14. IGI \textsuperscript{1}SU\textsuperscript{2}–AŠ
15. šá 14 3-su gín du-a-ni i-ta-ni

Lower Edge
16. ša \textsuperscript{1}2/\textsuperscript{1}MA.NA KÚ.BABBAR
17. du-a-ni i-ta-nu

Case/Envelope

Obverse
beginning broken away
1'. traces only
2'. [š]a\textsuperscript{7} LÚ* ŠÁM \textsuperscript{1}Aš+šur–SU
3'. i-ha’šu’u-ni
4'. KÚ.BABBAR \textsuperscript{1}Bi-su-u\textsuperscript{2}a \textsuperscript{1}Mu’–SIG–Aš+šur
5'. a-na \textsuperscript{1}Aš+š[ur–SU i-ta-nu]
6'. i-lak a-[na \textsuperscript{1}N]a’–am’–a-[nu]

Reverse
7'. i-dan [MU là]-din
8'. e-šip sum-[an ITI].ŠU UD-18
9'. \textit{lim-mu} \textit{EN–KUR-u-a}
10'. IGI \textsuperscript{1}Na-ni-i IGI \textsuperscript{1}Aš+šur–DÚ

Lower Edge
11'. ša 14 gín [
12'. 3-su du-a-[ni i-ta-nu

[SAAB V/1-2]
Notes

Tablet, 4: ŠAM written NINDÂ×(ŠE.A.AN).
7-8: SUM-an MU là-din: same spelling 49 B 7’.
9: copy 10+1 error for 10+9’?
17: du-a-ni (<duñani?) in legal documents from Aššur —to my knowledge— attested only here.
Case, 1’-3’: must be something like 1'[Aš + šur-eriba ša qāte] 2’ša šīmi Aššur–eriba 3’iḥḥāšāni (<iḥḥāšāni) (describes the function of EN–šu.2.MEŠ).
8’: copy 10+8 error for 10+9?

Closely related to no. 18 and TCL 9, 62 is Ass.Fd.Nr. 9661b (formerly VAT 16558, not mentioned in ALA II):

1. 3 GIN KU.BABBAR
2. ša 1'Mu-siğ–Aš + šur
3. ina IGI 1'Na-a-si
4. DUMU 1'U+GUR–MAŠ
5. ana pu-u-hi il
6. ana 4-tū-[šù GA]L
7. ITI.DU₆ UD-4
8. lim-mu 1'ITI.AB-a-a
9. IGI 1'Ba-ba₄–PAP–AŠ
10. IGI 1'Pa–x–IGI.LAL?
11. IGI 1'Bi-su-u-a
12. IGI 1'Mu-qa-li–IDIM

Notes

3: See TCL 9, 62, tablet, 12 (witness).
8: See notes to 37, BE 1.
12: this spelling also 19, 3

To me it is evident that this document belongs to Pedersen’s archive N9 whatever its Ass.Fd.Nr may be. The relationship of this text with TCL 9,62 and with your no. 19 and no. 18 cannot be denied".
APPENDIX 2: Two texts related to no. 52 (transliterations by K. Deller)

Ass.Fd.Nr.9573b

Obverse
1. [NA₄, KIŠIB 4+]2 PAP.[MEŠ]-r'e'
2. DUMU ¹Mu-sig–Aš+šur hu-di[r-ₐ(-a)]
3. EN (erasure) HA.LA ba-[a-qi]

3 STAMP SEALS

rest broken away

Reverse
beginning broken away
1'. [IGI] ¹Tukul-[i-Aš+šur A ¹A-si-i]
2'. [IGI] ¹Aš+šur–KA.KA–né-re A ¹Pa₇-q[a–ana–Aš+šur]
3'. [IGI] ¹Aš+šur–AD–PAP A ¹Ṣa-kil-ia
4'. [IGI] ¹Ba-tu-ú-tu
5'. A ¹Pi-ir-a-na-a
6'. [IGI] ¹Ba-si-ia A ¹Aš+šur–de-nu–IGI.LAL
7'. [ITI]. BA₂₂ UD-27 li₅₃ mu ¹E[N–PAP–PAP]
8'. [(blank)] LU.Ša–IGI–[KUR (rest blank)]
9'. [IGI ¹Mu-si]G–Aš+šur ṛA.BA₂₃ ša-[⁵repid-⁵pi]

Left Hand Edge
1'. [ša E] AD-ša-nu ib-[a-at-qu]
2'. [ša] ib-bala-kā[t-u-ni]
3'. [a-d]e“ë” ša LUGAL ina šU.2-[šu lu-ba’-i-u]

Notes
1-3: parallel to no. 52, 1-3.
R. 1'-9': parallel to no. 52, r. 13-21.
LHE 1-2: parallel to no. 52, r. 1-2, 4.
3: lacking in no. 52.
Ass.Fd.Nr. 9573e (e error for c)

Side A

beginning broken away

1'.  

2'.  

3'.  

4'.  

5'.  

6'.  

7'.  

8'.  

9'.  

10'.  

11'.  

12'.  

13'.  

14'.  

15'.  

Side B

beginning broken away

1'.  

2'.  

3'.  

4'.  

5'.  

6'.  

7'.  

8'.  

9'.  

10'.  

11'.  

12'.  

Notes

A, 1ff.: join with Ass. 9773b.
No. 1.
VAT 14451, Obverse. (Scale 2:1)
No. 1.
VAT 14451, Reverse. (Scale 2:1)
PLATE III

Obverse

No. 2.
VAT 20345.
(Scale 2:1)

Reverse
No. 11.
VAT 20339.
(Scale 2:1)
PLATE V

No. 12.
VAT 14453.
(Scale 2:1)

No. 15.
VAT 20384.
(Scale 2:1)
No. 16. VAT 14444. (Scale 2:1)

No. 19. VAT 20335. (Scale 2:1)
PLATE VII

Obverse

No. 25.
VAT 14441.
(Scale 2:1)

Reverse
No. 27.
VAT 20354, Obverse. (Scale 2:1)
PLATE IX

No. 27.
VAT 20354, Reverse. (Scale 2:1)
No. 35.
VAT 9398, Obverse. (Scale 1:1)
No. 35.
VAT 9398, Reverse. (Scale 1:1)
Obverse

No. 38,
VAT 9400, Tablet.
(Scale 2:1)

Reverse
PLATE XIII

Obverse

No. 38.
VAT 9400, Envelope.
(Scale 2:1)

Reverse
No. 51.

VAT 15500,

Obverse.

(Scale 2:1)
No. 51.
VAT 15500,
Reverse.
(Scale 2:1)
No. 52. VAT 14436, Obverse.
(Scale 2:1)
No. 52.
VAT 14436, Reverse. (Scale 2:1)
No. 59.
VAT 14454, Obverse. (Scale 2:1)
No. 59.
VAT 14454, Reverse. (Scale 2:1)
PLATE XX

No. 66.

VAT 14438.

(Scale 2:1)

Obverse

Reverse