
This article represents the continuation of NATAPA 1 (= SAAB 5 [1991], pp. 3-157)¹ and furthers the edition of the Neo-Assyrian private archives from Assur held in the Vorderasiatisches Museum of Berlin. As in the previous case, this article in the

¹) Cf. SAAB 5 (1991), pp. 3ff., for the history of the project since 1989. In the present contribution, FMF is again responsible for the retrieval of the tablets in the Museum (but see below), the transliterations, the translations, and the historical/philological commentary published here (except where otherwise noted), LJR for the copies of the texts (to be published in book form in the series Neuassyrische Rechtsurkunden, care of the Deutsche Orient-Gesellschaft), and KHD for a complete revision and discussion of the manuscript, based on an independent series of transliterations and collations performed during the course of numerous visits to the Berlin Museum, the products of which are noted with his initials in the following text. In addition, KHD retrieved a number of additional texts (in archives Nil, N21, N22 and N24), and provided the material for appendixes 1 and 2. The addition of Veysel Donbaz to the series of authors is particularly welcome: upon the constitution of the Committee on the study and publication of the Assur texts (cf. fn. 2, below), Prof. Donbaz very generously contributed his preliminary transliterations of the Assur texts in the Istanbul Arkeoloji Muzeleri. The Istanbul texts will constitute the object of a monographic edition in StatT², in collaboration with K.-H. Deller; however, since they present multiple and essential links with the primary materials edited in NATAPA 2, quotes of individual lines and passages drawn from Donbaz’s work have been included herein by kind permission (siglum VD). A further group of contributors has greatly aided the preparation and/or the completion of this composite publication. In December 1993, Ms. Nicoletta Bellotto, Padova, performed a set of collations which was quite useful for the preparation of the first draft of this article by FMF; she is heartily thanked. The authors are very grateful to Ms. Karen Radner, Heidelberg, for her index of names from N 33, and related texts. The indication
SAAB is to be viewed as a preliminary edition (transliteration, translation and commentary) of the materials such as they are known and classified at present through O. Pedersén’s catalogue, within the framework of the international project of study and publication of the Neo-Assyrian texts from the private archives of Assur in Berlin, fostered by the Deutsche Orient-Gesellschaft and the Vorderasiatisches Museum. Again as in the previous instalment, a parallel fascicle bearing the hand-copies of the texts given here is planned to appear care of the DOG in the near future.

The authors would like to express their warmest thanks to Dr. Evelyn Klengel-Brandt, 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. Many sincere thanks must also go to Dr. J. Marzahn, for his constant kindness and efficacious aid to the authors of the present contribution upon their frequent vists to the “tablet room” of the VAM.

The authors are also most grateful to Dr. Klengel-Brandt, and through her, to the authorities of the Berlin Museum, for kindly contributing the photographs of the texts published in the present article for study.

b. The contexts of the documents.


The present article deals with the archives numbered from N11 to N24 in Pedersén’s catalogue; however, not all such archives could be included in this edition. Two complete archives, N12 and N23, form part of the group of Assur texts which was shipped to Istanbul as part of an agreement between the Deutsche Orient-Gesell-

(KRad) implies prosopographical information derived from this source. Prof. C. Zaccagnini, Naples, kindly contributed some useful critical remarks. When the article was in proofs, a full re-check of the names and toponyms was greatly aided by a set of preliminary computer-generated indexes kindly supplied by the CNA project, directed by Prof. S. Parpola (Helsinki), to whom all thanks are due.

2) While final collation of the texts for NATAPA 2 was underway, a wider scenario for the publication of the textual material (both MA and NA) came into being, with the constitution of a Committee for the study and publication of the Assur texts and its first meeting in July 1995 in Leuven, under the chairmanship of Prof. G. Wilhelm, Würzburg (acting Chairman of the DOG). Its practical outcome was the founding of the series Studien zu den Assur-Texten (=Stat), to be published care of the DOG, the Vorderasiatisches Museum, and the Istanbul Museum, under the joint editorship of K.-H. Deller, V. Donbaz, F.M. Fales, and H. Freydank.

3) During the long period of preparation to which this article was subjected, the cuneiform copies of NATAPA 1, together with full indices, and a catalogue of relevant seal impressions appeared in L. Jakob-Rost - F.M. Fales - E. Klengel-Brandt, Neuassyrische Rechtsurkunden 1, Berlin 1996.

4) The authors wish to extend their gratitude to the administrative, scientific and technical staff of the Museum (and specifically to Mrs. B. Gaspar, Mrs. U. von Eckstedt and Mr. H. Nohka) for their concern and unfailing assistance in retrieving the tablets and subjecting them to X-ray examination (which led to the identification of many unopened tablet cases).
schaft and the Sublime Porte and is at present kept in the Istanbul Arkeoloji Müze­lери\(^5\); while N13 is an archive which does not pertain to the scope of the present edition, since it is formed by seven documents inscribed in hieroglyphic Luwian script and inscribed on strips of lead\(^6\).

Coming to the cuneiform evidence kept in the VAM, it must be recalled that each text is as a rule provided with an Assur excavation number (Assur Fundnummber), and with a double shot in the old excavation photographs (Photo Assur, refs. by double plates). Finally, the documents are also provided with an inventory number given by the Museum, i.e. the crucial V(orderasiatische) A(bteilung) T(ontafeln) number — although occasionally this number may not have been available at the time of Ped­ersén's catalogue. For this reason, some of the documents only noted by Assur Fund­nummern in Pedersén's study took longer to be pinpointed in the Museum vaults, essentially organized by VAT-numbers, and the authors were forced to forego publication of any text from archive N16 for the moment. Thus, our present edition covers in fact only ten archives, N11, N14, N15, N17-N22, and N24. Of course, also a few items belonging to these archives are in the Istanbul Museum; however, the vast majority of the documents here is in the Berlin collection\(^7\). Conclusively, our search in the nine named archives produced a total of 73 documents available in Berlin at the time of study (1993-1996), which were numbered sequentially following NATAPA 1, i.e. from no. 67 to no. 140 (plus a small number of additions in the Appendix section).

A small number of documents which form part of the archives named above was not included in the main text of this edition, for different reasons. In archive N14 which as we shall see is formed by texts centering around the oilpressers of Assur, document N14(5) corresponds to the well-known letter KAV 139, in which a group of oilpressers write to a higher-ranking (but otherwise unidentified) individual, com­plaining vehemently against the misdeeds of two people in their midst. This letter, one of the most illuminating of its type, has been subjected to a number of editions and studies, from the editio princeps by E. Ebeling\(^8\) to the recent transliteration and translation by J.N. Postgate\(^9\), to a still more recent interpretation by FMF\(^10\).

\(^5\) Cf. NATAPA 1, p. 6 on this matter. For the publication of the Istanbul texts, cf. fn. 1, above.
\(^6\) Cf. Pedersén, ALA 2, pp. 98-99, for a complete description of these materials. However, Pedersén’s bibliography for these texts is quite outdated; cf. M. Marazzi, Il geroglifico anatolico. Problemi di analisi e prospettive di ricerca, Roma 1990, pp. 345-347.
\(^7\) Despite the preliminary nature of this publication, the authors have attempted to correlate the Berlin data as much as possible with information on the pieces now in Istanbul, culling them from VD's transliterations and independent study of the Assur photographs by KHD and FMF.
\(^8\) KAV (1927), no. 197; also id., OrNS 19 (1950), pp. 397ff.
\(^9\) TCAE, pp. 363ff.
\(^10\) F.M. Fales, People and Professions in Neo-Assyrian Assur, in print for Papers of the XXXIX Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale (Heidelberg 1992).
Both in archives N17 and N18, the Assyrian texts are flanked by a smaller number of documents—all of which on clay—in Aramaic. In the former archive, characterized by the presence of one Kakkullānu, 3 Aramaic tablets are attested: two of these (N17[12] and [13]) are part of the group published in 1921 by M. Lidzbarski, while the edition of the third (N17[14]) was given some twenty years ago by H. Freydank; all three of these texts formed part of the recent collection of Aramaic epigraphs by FMF. In the latter, one tablet (N18[16]) is again part of the Lidzbarski group, while a second one is an unpublished piece, which had not hitherto been spotted as an Aramaic document.

Two very special cases constitute our last category. In the first place, a small number of texts from collections outside Germany prove to belong to one of the archives within the N11-N24 range, whether published by us or not. The vagaries of the Assur texts in various European private and public collections have been commented upon many times; the indispensable philological and prosopographical work to link such materials with the main bodies of Assur materials has only just begun. The second case is constituted by the famous “Assur ostracon”—a text written on a clay sherd which represents for the moment the sole letter in Aramaic script from Neo-Assyrian times. This text was found in the shaft of a grave chamber within a private house to the southwest of the New Palace, together with a stamp seal: it does not technically belong to archive N23, although its provenance

11) M. Lidzbarski, *Altaramäische Urkunden aus Assur* (= WVDOG 38), Leipzig 1921, resp. nos. 6 and 5.
13) F.M. Fales, *Aramaic Epigraphs on Clay Tablets of the Neo-Assyrian Period*, Roma 1986 (= AECT), nos. 50-52, with previous references.
14) Lidzbarski, *cit.*, no. 2; Fales, *cit.*, no. 49.
15) This text will be published in a future article in the SAAB. The remaining data from Aramaic documents will be subsumed in this introductory section, whenever necessary.
18) Cf. NATAPA 1, p. 7, with bibliography.
20) Pedersén, ALA 2, pp. 113-114, who correctly suspects a secondary fall for this location of the object.
21) The seal with Aramaic inscription is sketched in Andrae’s excavation diaries, but seems at present absent from the Museum.
is from an adjacent location, and —differently from the texts of the named archive—it is kept in Berlin\textsuperscript{22}.

2. Where and when.

As was made clear in NATAPA \textsuperscript{1}\textsuperscript{23}, the previously published documents from Assur belonged to two archives, which were not only quite large in themselves, but also showed many mutual links in the persons attested and in their interrelated business concerns. To the opposite, the texts belonging to this further group go back to smaller archival complexes, and present much more limited prosopographical links: this can be mainly related to the fact that the findspots for the single archives do not refer to a single area of the town—as was the case for archives N9 and N10, found in virtually adjacent private buildings of the so-called “Aussenhaken”—but are relatively widespread over the residential areas around the main public buildings of late Neo-Assyrian Assur. Specifically, archive N11 is part of a group of three archives from the area southwest of the Anu-Adad temple\textsuperscript{24}, whereas N14, N15, N17, N18, N19, N20 and N21 represent a large part of a group of archives stemming from private houses located above the ruined Middle Assyrian New Palace\textsuperscript{25}; and finally, N24 is the first of a group of archives from private houses in the area to the south of the Tabira-Gate, adjacent to the western town wall\textsuperscript{26}.

The variance that is to be found in the location of these archives has a precise reflex on the chronology of the documents included in the archives themselves. Most of the materials are—as in the case of the NATAPA 1 texts—post-canonical in date\textsuperscript{27}, but there are quite wide variations in the chronological range covered by each archive. Thus, in a nutshell, N14, N17, N18, N19 and N24 appear to present numerous pre-648 and some early post-canonical datings, N21 is evenly spread in the

\textsuperscript{22} A further group of texts from Assur which has been utilized in the preparation of the present article is the complex of 57 tablets discovered by the most recent German expedition to Assur, the one from the University and other Institutes of higher learning of Munich, which operated from mid-March to mid-May 1990. The NA tablets from this expedition are described briefly by K. Hecker, MDOG 123 (1991), pp. 111-114. Both KHD and FMF are extremely grateful to Prof. Karl Hecker for kindly putting his hand-copies of the new Assur texts at the disposal of the NATAPA team.

\textsuperscript{23} NATAPA 1, p. 6.

\textsuperscript{24} Pedersén, ALA 2, p. 96.

\textsuperscript{25} \textit{Ibid.}, p. 99.

\textsuperscript{26} \textit{Ibid.}, p. 115.

\textsuperscript{27} The eponyms between 648 B.C. and the end of the Empire, for which no “canon” exists, were placed by Margarete Falkner (AFO 17 [1954-56], pp. 100-120) in a theoretical sequence which remains for the moment unchallenged as a whole, despite some interesting modifications deriving from a quite complete assemblage of the hitherto available eponym dates recently published by A.R. Millard, \textit{The Eponyms of the Assyrian Empire, 910-612 BC}, Helsinki 1994 [henceforth = SAAS 2]. Cf. specifically the discussion by R.M. Whiting, \textit{ibid.}, pp. 72-78.
post canonical period, while N11 and N15 fit in the lower “half” (from 626 B.C. down) of the post-canonical period. Even a rare item, such as a text from the time of Tiglatphileser III (136, cf. below) is present.

An overview of all the material published in this article, gives us the following attestations (post-canonical dates following Falkner, in bold characters)28:

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Text</th>
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<tr>
<td>742</td>
<td>136</td>
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<td>698</td>
<td>73</td>
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<td>693 (or 688)</td>
<td>137</td>
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<td>691 (or 686)</td>
<td>101</td>
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<td>690</td>
<td>122</td>
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<td>688 see 693</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>686 see 691</td>
<td>71</td>
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<tr>
<td>683</td>
<td>104</td>
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<table>
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>675</td>
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<td>650*</td>
<td>71</td>
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<td>649</td>
<td>118</td>
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<td>648</td>
<td>97</td>
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28) Most of the year-dates in this article may be already found in Millard’s lists, quoted from Pedersén’s catalogue by ALA archive and relative text-number. Of the altogether few omissions—which again follow Pedersén—particularly unfortunate is the case of our text no. 75, where a problematical choice for the final part of the eponym’s name is involved (cf. fn. 29, below).

29) Cf. already E. Weidner, AFO 21 (1966), p. 69, for this text and its dating. As pointed out by KHD, this document and the following one in time, no. 73, share the characteristic of being sale documents bearing ex latere emptoris formulae, such as went out of use in the seventh century conveyance deeds.

30) The limmu of Sennacherib (687 B.C.) is attested on Istanbul tablet N20(16).

31) See the extensive discussion on this text in section b.3, below.

32) Same date for the Aramaic text N18(16) = Fales, AECT, no. 49.

33) From 654 B.C.: cfr. N18(7) and N16(14); and from 651: cfr. N18(13), all treated in b.3.

34) This is the limmu ša arki Şagab formula, which for the moment is known only from this text (= ALA N18[3]) and a further one from the same archive at present in Istanbul (= ALA N18[8b]): cf. below, ad b.3, for the attestations. The possible rationale behind the use of this eponym-formula instead of that of Bēl-Ḥarrān-šadu’a (lack of communications between cities early in the year due to the fratricidal war) is suggested by Whiting in Millard, cit., p. 68 (f).

35) Bēl-šadu’a is commonly believed to represent an abbreviated writing of Bēl-Ḥarrān-šadu’a: cf. Millard, cit., pp. 89-90, where both writings are listed. On the other hand, as suggested by Whiting (ibid.), “it is also likely that there was a post-canonical eponym Bēl-šadu’a”. According to E. Lipiński, on the basis of Bēl-šadu’a’s occurrence in a tablet from an Upper Mesopotamian (area of Guzana-Ḥarrān) archive (E. Lipiński, Studies in Aramaic Inscriptions and Onomastics, II, Leuven 1994, p. 239), the eponym should be dated between 636 and 630 B.C.
3. Main personalities and issues.

As will be shown in this section, the texts in NATAPA 2 give rise to a new and broader outlook in prosopographical and contextual problems of the Neo-Assyrian Assur material; and this statement is in no way contradictory to the observations made above in b.2. While it is certainly true that the documents in these numerous smaller archives lack the inner consistency which characterized N9 and N10, and provide us in general with a less detailed knowledge on Assur family histories and business dealings, they give proof, on the other hand, of a greater flexibility in archival buildup. As will be seen, a number of documents show prosopographical and factual connections across different archives; we are in other cases faced with cross-cultural links, between the Assyrian and the Aramaic documentation in the same

36) On the (at least two) post-canonical eponyms called Nabû-šarru-úṣur, cf. most recently Whiting apud Millard, cit., p. 109, although without specific new insights.
37) Also in an Istanbul tablet from archive N18: cf. b.3, below.
38) Cf. Whiting apud Millard, SAAS 2, p. 116. who places one of the eponyms called Sin-sarru-úṣur in the time of Assurbanipal, and another one in the age of Sin-sarru-úṣur, and a third one might be extant as well.
39) The eponym for 623 B.C., Šalmu-šarru-úṣur, is possibly attested in an Istanbul tablet from archive N18: cf. b.3, below. For attestations of this limmu, cf. Millard, SAAS 2, pp. 116-117; add also an unpublished Assur text, transcribed by R. Jas (SAAS 5) as no. 15 (l. 11).
40) The full title of Daddi given here is rare, as shown by Millard, cit., pp. 92-93.
41) See the commentary to text 94 for this eponym.
42) On Pasi, cf. most recently Whiting apud Millard, SAAS 2, p. 76.
archive; and finally, as hinted above, new text-types, such as letters in both of the main languages of 7th century Assyria, find room in these archives or around them. In brief, the less “structured” textual complexes published in NATAPA 2 manage to add some entirely new dimensions for the reconstruction of private archival activity in late Neo-Assyrian Assur — aside from adding new touches for the overall picture of society and private economy in this time and place.

Starting our brief overview from archive N11, it may be noted that the main individual in this small archive of loan-documents is Dadâyû, who appears as lender in nos. 67-70 (with Ḫubāšate in no. 69). Among the other parties and witnesses, almost all are attested only once; only Aššur-ayyali appears twice (67, 70). No family ties of Dadâyû’s are indicated. The professions attested (a kâllapu, and a ša šagatēšu of the household of the chatelaine) do not seem tied to the temple context.

On the other hand, a text not listed in ALA, VAT 9865 (= Appendix 1), was retrieved in the Museum (KHD) and shows various prosopographical links with this archive: not only is Dadâyû present as witness, but he is flanked by Nabû-šallûmûṣu (attested in no. 67), and finally the creditor is La-turamanni-Aššur, quite surely the same person as the debtor in no. 68. The post-canonical date of this text also ties in neatly with the chronological setting of N11.

Things are more interesting concerning N14, an equally small group of texts, which was discovered in a house (House 33) adjacent to, and sharing an entrance on the alleyway with, another residential unit (no. 34). In a small room off the courtyard, overlying a grave chamber, 5 widely differing tablets were discovered together: a fragment of a document of sale of a slave woman (no. 72), two complete conveyances of a house (nos. 73, 75), the already mentioned letter of protest on the part of a group of oilpressers (KAV 139), and a 4-column list of people, with names and categories by age (no. 74). In a different location, east of the house, the division of inheritance (no. 71) was found; while a fragmentary tablet case and a contract for a loan of barley were located in other parts of the residential complex (ALA N14[8] and ALA N14[1], both in Istanbul)44.

Of these texts, two (the conveyance no. 73, and the letter) present slight prosopographical interconnections, centering around a professional group of oilpressers (sāšitu), which probably had strong inner kinship ties as well, not so differently from the case of the ḫundurayyus discussed in NATAPA 1 and elsewhere45. In particular, the sale document (dating from 698 B.C.) has a number of oilpressers among the witnesses, and especially in the final part — thus possibly belonging to the buyer’s side46. The letter —as stated above— is sent by a group of 20 people named

45) Cf. Fales, People and Professions in Neo-Assyrian Assur, cit., passim.
46) One might even go as far as to identify the house being sold with the one where the archive itself was discovered, House 33.
one by one, who describe themselves as “all the oilpressers” or “oilpressers, all” (lú.l.sur.мес gab-bu)47; moreover, various passages in the letter itself point to a sense of identity as a collective body, both professionally and from the viewpoint of kinship (cf. the passage ll. 25-37 about the misdeeds to oilpressers’ widows; the reference in l. 58 to a man as la lú.pap-u-ni, “no brother of ours”). However, as implied above, these are slim connections: the letter is undated, and —despite the wealth of oilpressers’ names therein— no concrete prosopographical link seem to exist with the above-mentioned house sale. Finally, the remaining texts of the archive do not mention oilpressers48, and their connections among themselves and with the šahituš’ texts are not apparent.

A further text with interesting prosopographical connections —with implications for chronology— is no. 7549. Two groups of witnesses from this house sale document also occur in a Nineveh slave conveyance, ADD 255 (= SAA 6, 59), dated to the reign of Sennacherib (14/intercalary Addāru/684). They are:

1) the five priests Nabû-a, Šamaš-šumu-uṣur, Aḥu-lāmur, Mardi, and Unzarḫu (Rev. 24-26)50. Of these, Unzarḫu lú.sanga is listed also in VAT 8241 (= ALA N32), 7, a text from the eponymy of Am/uyānu (lú-a-a-mu), i.e. 655 B.C.51.

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47) KAV 197, 9.

48) Pedersen (ALA 2, p. 101) states that “the archival context makes it further probable” that one of the sons mentioned in the inheritance text no. 71, Mudammiq-Aššur, and an individual whose name may be made out from the photo of tablet ALA N14[1], Nabû-našid, correspond to two of the oilpressers signing the collective letter of complaint. In the latter case, more and clearer information seems required to reach a judgment; while in the case of Mudammiq-Aššur, his identification with one of the oilpressers of KAV 139 seems hardly probable, since he is named in the inheritance deed no. 71 as son of a “tailor of (the temple of) Assur” (UJ*.KA.K.ESDA sa as+sur).

49) An extensive report on the dating of this document was submitted by KHD; the relevant materials and conclusions are summarized in this paragraph and tabulated in the footnotes.

50) Comparisons are as follows:

NATAPA 2, 73
Rev. 24. 1-na-bu-u-a lú*sanga
25. ḫu-tu-μu-ḫa
PAP "
26. 1-mar-di-i "
26. 1-un-zar-q-hu "

ADD 255 (= SAA 6, 59)
Rev.6'. 1-na-bu-u-a lú*sanga ša! ʾd*
4'. ʾša-šaš-Mu-pap lú*sanga ša! ʾd*
5'. ʾmāš-la-mur lú*sanga ša! ʾdš*
8'. ʾmar-di-i lú*sanga ša! ʾgašš-an—kur-ḫa
7'. ʾun-zar-q-hu lú*sanga ša! šašš-šur.

Note that Sulmu-ahē, present in the Assur text (l. 24), is missing from the ADD deed; and the opposite goes for Gula-zeru-ibni, ADD 255, rev. 9'.

51) Cf. Millard, SAAS 2, p. 81; ALA 2, p. 131, for bibliography on this text. Homonymy should be ruled out (although the name Unzarḫu is quite common; see below, discussion ad N21), due to the fact that Nabû-šezibanni, the protagonist of our prosopographical connection no. (3), below, was clearly active in 658 B.C.
2) the four palace doorkeepers Muqallil-kabti, Banāyū, Ziziya, Aššur-le-a'nāši\(^{52}\). Two of the latter (Muqallil-kabti and Ziziya) also appear in a text, ADD 218 (= SAA 6, 152), dated to 687 B.C.\(^{53}\). And with the title LŪ.Ĭ.DUG šā Ĕ.GAL, 1zi-zi-ia appears also in the text VAT 10017 (= ALA N3:29), Rev. 4', dated to 26/VII/672 B.C.

3) The third case of prosopographical connection between no. 73 and other materials is represented by an individual “in charge of the Royal Mausoleum” (Obv. 8, IG Ilmū-a-zib-a-ni LŪ* šā UGU Ė.MAN.ŠEŠ). Now, the same Nabû-šezišanni is listed as witness in two texts from Nineveh, one—a tablet/envelope complex (ADD 48/49 = NALK 40a/b)—from 658 B.C., the other a legal document with no date preserved (ADD 805 = NALK 41), but surely from the time of Assurbanipal as well\(^{54}\).

In view of all this evidence, the interpretation of the fragmentary name of the eponym, 1man-nu-[ ] leads to a limited number of options. Of the eight eponyms that fit the reading per se\(^{55}\), four fall far too early to allow all the prosopographical possibilities above (Mannu-dan-ana-ili: 865 B.C.; Mannu-ki-Aššur, 793 B.C.; Mannu-ki-Adad, 773 B.C.; and Mannu-ki-Aššur-le-ī, 709 B.C.), and one quite surely falls too late (Mannu-ki-aḫḫē, post-canonical). This leaves three possibilities, i.e. Manzarnē (once attested with the writing man-nu-zīl\(^{56}\)), of 684 B.C., Mannu-ki-Adad, of 683 B.C., and Mannu-ki-šarri, of 665. In view of the wide prosopographical correspondence (9 people) between our text and ADD 255, the third (later) chronological option should best be excluded; and the vagaries of the writings of Manzame’s name, on the other hand, make Mannu-[ki-Adad the likelier integration, with 16/VII/683 as the suggested date for the text.

N15 represents still a different case. First of all, the archaeological information on the retrieval of this archive presents a certain vagueness, since the general findspot—located among the ruins of different private houses above the Middle Assyrian place—could be desumed only by comparing the excavation inventories and the

\(^{52}\) Comparisons again are as follows:

\begin{verbatim}
NATAPA 2 73
Rev. 35: 'mu qa-lil—IDIM
1ba-na-a
36: 'zi-zi-ia
37: 'aš+šur—zu-a-ni
\end{verbatim}

ADD 255 (= SAA 6, 59)

\begin{verbatim}
Rev. 13: 'mu qa-lil—IDIM LŪ*
14: 'ba-na-a-a LŪ *
11: 'zi-zi-ia LŪ* .DUG šā Ė.GAL
10: 'aš+šur—zu-a-ni LŪ*.DUG šā Ė.GAL
\end{verbatim}

The Assur witnesses, together with Ḫulqasu and Dadi missing in the ADD text, are summed up as MIP 6 LŪ*. DUG.MEŠ KUR in l. 38. To the contrary, Ilu-Ères and Gallulu are only present in the Nineveh document (resp. Rev. 12' and 15'); see also the next footnote.

\(^{53}\) Cf. the following witness sequence in ADD 218 (= SAA 6, 152): Rev. 4' ga-lulu .DUG 5 'zi-zi-ia 

\(^{54}\) Quotes in V. Donbaz, The “House of Kings” in the City of Ėššur, in Studies ... Alp, Ankara 1992, pp. 119ff., and esp. 122 (h-j).

\(^{55}\) Cf. Millard, SAAS 2, pp. 98-99.

\(^{56}\) In a Sultantepe text (Finkelstein, AnSt 7 [1957], p. 139).
plans. Secondly, despite the fact that all the texts in this archive were said to have been unearthed together, there is hardly any unifying feature among them: as for contents, nos. 76, 77 are conveyances of male slaves, nos. 78, 85 are texts of sale of people, no. 79 is a fragmentary and unspecifiable contract, no. 80 concerns the renewal of a loan of barley which had reached maximal accumulation of interest rates (10 times the original amount), no. 81 may be surmised as the sale of an estate (?), nos. 82, 84 are loans of silver, and no. 83 is also a loan, although too fragmentary to be defined. Most of the dates are lost: the only two clear chronological attributions cover virtually all the postcanonical period, from 646 (no. 79) to 616 (no. 80).

In this situation, it is almost rash to attempt a search for prosopographical clues of any sort. And yet, there are some small results to be gained: e.g. Rēmana/Rēmanni-Ištar, by profession LÚ.NINDA of 78, Rev. 12' (date lost) might be the same person as Rēmanni-Ištar, LÚ.NINDA of NATAPA 1, 35 (622 B.C.) and as the homonymous LÚ.GAL.‘NINDA’MES of 80 (cf. Obv. 2' and esp. Rev. 1') of 616 B.C.; in the same text 78, Kakkussu and Nabū-šumu-ukīn (Rev. 16'-17') might be identified with two goldsmiths of archive N33, but in any case they seem to turn up again in text 82 (resp. Rev. 11 and 9)59. The latter is a loan-document which has Ribāyu (su-a-a, Obv. 3) as lender, similarly to no. 85 (r)ı-ba-a-a, B.E. 9'). It is moreover interesting that all three people—Ribāyu as party to a loan, Kakkussu and Nabū-šumu-ukīn as witnesses—are destined to make their appearance again in archive N17 (see below). Further, it may be noticed that Kakkussu is also present with Qurdi-Aššur in no. 84, Rev. 4 (and Nabū-šumu-ukīn might perhaps be restored ibid., Rev. 3); this is a contract by one Eriba-Aššur, who is probably the same person as the buyer in the conveyance no. 76. And, last but not least, two witnesses, Ta'ala “the Egyptian”, and Duḫūzāyu, are present in nos. 77 and 82: in the former text, Duḫūzāyu is described as “baker”.

Although relatively small, N17’s archaeological features characterize it as a clear-cut archive: in a small room on the courtyard of a house (House 9) in the crowded residential area of the so-called “Winkelgasse”, lying on a floor which covered four graves, 14 tablets—three of which in Aramaic alphabetic characters—were found. To be noticed also is the limited number of textual typologies: we have only contract-texts for loans of commodities—the expected item in a private archive—and administrative records. Thus, nos. 86, 87, 90, 94, 95 are simple loans of silver, as are two of the Aramaic texts, N17(12) and N17(13)61; nos. 89, 92 are loans of silver against various pledges; and no. 88 is a mixed loan. On the other hand, we

57) ALA 2, p. 103.
58) On the interest rates in NA corn loans, see most recently S. Ponchia, SAAB 4 (1990), pp. 39-60.
59) The references to archive N33 are given in the notes to no. 78.
60) Description of the findspot is given in greater detail in ALA 2, pp. 104-105.
61) Most recent edition in Fales, AECT, nos. 50 and 51, resp., with previous bibliography and discussion; cf. also ibid., pl. XVI, for photographs of these texts.
62) It is possible that no. 91 represented a fragmentary loan-document as well.
have a list of sums of silver with personal names in no. 93, as well as in one of the Aramaic texts, N17(14)\(^{63}\).

This archival "profile" is however not so obvious from the standpoint of the individuals mentioned in the documents. Undoubtedly, Kakkullanu stands out as one of the archive's constituents, since it is with him as a lender that texts nos. 86, 88, 89 are concerned; however, it is impossible to establish further clear prosopographical links among these texts due to the fragmentary nature of the lists of witnesses\(^{64}\). And a further prosopographical "lead" concerns links with other archives — which only complicates matters as concerns the internal consistency of N17 itself. The first of such links was already mentioned in our previous Assur publication\(^{65}\): N17(8), i.e. our no. 92, shows an intriguing connection with a text from archive N9, no. 13. The two documents were written on the same day, 1/VI/eponymy of Nabû-sagib (628), and concern two aspects of a complex business transaction, whereby — it seems — one Šummu-Aššur, son of Mannu-ki-ahē, was supposed to obtain 10 shekels of silver from the scribe of the temple against the pledge of a slave girl (92), but was instead forced to take the money from Iqbi-Aššur, possibly the son of a weaver (cf. 35, Rev. 25), pledging his own daughter (13)\(^{66}\). The witnesses of the two texts are — not surprisingly — very much the same; but the reason for the dispersal of the two documents, or — for the matter — of their having been found in their respective archives, remains unclear from a prosopographical point of view, since no ties are at present visible with the relevant archival contexts.

A further case of the same type involves Ribāyu. As we have seen, this man was a party in two deeds discovered in archive N15; in particular, he seems to have specialized in lending sums which represented offerings to the temple of Aššur. This is the case in no. 82 seen above, and it is a trait which reappears in no. 95. The main witnesses correspond in both texts. However, differently from the case of Šummu-Aššur, seen above, the Ribāyu texts seem well contextualized in the N15 complex: should we therefore view the single example in N17 as an archaeologically intrusive find?

Even more intriguing is the problem of the connection between the two Aramaic loan-documents and the Assyrian texts in this archive. The individuals named in these two alphabetic texts (\(\text{\'psy, prbhr, nny, }\text{msry br srdr}\) in N17[12] and \(\text{bls', blzr, }\text{pldn}\),

\(^{63}\) Most recent edition in Fales, AECT, no. 52. Photograph on pl. XVII, \textit{ibid.}

\(^{64}\) This, in turn, does not allow a clear chronological framework for this part of the archive, since the only indisputable \textit{limmu} is Mušallim-Aššur (642 by Falkner's dating) in no. 88, while no. 86 presents traces which are difficult to make out, but which might lead to Nabû-tappatu-alik (617 in Falkner's chronology), and no. 89 would seem to be undated.


\(^{66}\) See discussion \textit{ad} no. 92, for the problems of (1) the business reason for the unavailability of the sum, and (2) the names and identities of the two pledged girls.
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NEO-ASSYRIAN TEXTS FROM ASSUR PRIVATE ARCHIVES PART 2

In N17[13]) do not at present show any precise relation with the protagonists of the loan-documents in cuneiform of archive N17. And, apart from a general contextualization within the Aramaic of 7th century Assyria, chronological considerations cannot be called to help out, since both alphabetic documents are dated only by month. In brief, the presence of the two Aramaic silver loans in N17 is decidedly unexplainable on archival grounds.

On the other hand, some slight proof of the inner consistency of N17 is provided by the two administrative texts: one (93) in Assyrian, the other (N17[14]) in Aramaic. In both documents, we have to do with disbursements of silver to individuals, some of which have similar names in the two writing traditions: thus 1TuAB-a-a / Kanunayu and 1na-ni-i might refer to the very same individuals as knny and nny. It must be however noticed that, once more, we lack inner clues as to the prosopographical reason for the inclusion of such texts within the textual complex N17.

N18 is a relatively large archive found in a room overlying graves in House 12, not far from the western end of the “Winkelgasse”, but less than one-half of its texts (6 — of which 2 in Aramaic — out of 17) are in Berlin at present. For this reason it has been decided to examine the available photographs and transliterations relevant to the Istanbul material in order to gain additional prosopographical and contextual data, still keeping as tightly as possible to the classification of the documents made available by Pedersén.

A large number of texts in N18 is to be dated in the late canonical and in the early phases of the post-canonical periods — let us say, straddling the date of 648 B.C. with a certain breadth. Thus, no. 99 goes back to 660 B.C. and the Aramaic text N18(16) is dated to 659 (lm šlmsr skl) — although both these documents are prosopographically quite isolated. Next in time are two tablets dated to 654 B.C.,

67) Alternative reading suggested in Fales, AECT, p. 235. Cf. footnote 72, below, for other names built with the divine name Apladad.

68) For the Istanbul texts, cf. fn. 1, above. FMF provided the identifications with the Assur excavation photographs.

69) Most recent edition in Fales, AECT, no. 49; photo ibid. on pl. XVI.

70) Also quoted in Millard, SAAS 2, p. 113, ad Silim-Assur.

71) In no. 99, the names of the parties are fragmentary and the witness list is barely preserved. In the Aramaic text, on the other hand, as has been known for some time (Fales, AECT, pp. 230-231), the name of šn[n]p, mayor (hzn) of Ekallate (tg/h), corresponds to that of Sin-na'id, hazzanu of Inner City in a few NA letters, and attested also in NATAPA 1, 39 (also perhaps 35), which however is dated to the post-canonical period (cf. NATAPA 1, p. 88). For the rest, the names are clear (šgb, 'bd', 'dsy, [?]hbn, ssrd, dd', gbmr, knny, šmdlk), but they do not find precise prosopographical links: thus, e.g., the scribe Kanunayu (knny spr') is not among the dozen or so scribes hitherto encountered in NATAPA 1 and II, and does not appear in N33 (KRad); on the other hand, he might be the same person as the recipient of the letter N18(12) [= A.2538, Ph.Ass. 1160/61, 6th down, 1st from left], which begins: 1 lm 1zalag-1 2 a-na 1til ab-a-a, "Tablet of Nurl to Kanunayu", and goes on with an interesting passage for the term egiru, 3 uk-mu šd 'egir-tú 4 ta-mar-u-ni 5 20 AŠE šE.WO 6 TA 7 ša ša ša nu-sa-hi 7 a-na 'aš+šur — za-qip 8 di-i-ni etc.
and in fact to the same day (1/VI), which are moreover contextually connected, being both memoranda on loans of silver made out by one Šēpe-šarri to various individuals. In the first case, N18(7)72, Sukkāyu (su-ka-a-a), Nagaḫī and 1man-nu—ki—uru.nīna are quoted as debtors; the clauses specify that Mannu-ki-Ninua need no more bother with repayment, whilst Sukkāyu and Nagaḫī still have to make over their shares of the debt73. Among the witnesses, we find Assur-šumu-iddina, and Mušallim-Asšur. In the second text, N18(14)74, the debtors are Nabū-šarru-uṣur, and again Sukkāyu (su-ka-a-a), and Nagaḫī: the formula notes that this is the silver ša ha-ab-lu-u-nī against these gentlemen, but that Nagaḫī and Sukkāyu have already made over their shares, and “neither a shekel nor a half-shekel is left”75. Clear witnesses are once more Aššur-šumu-iddina and Mušallim-Asšur.

From the late 650s we have identified four further texts:

1) from Istanbul, N18(13), a rectangular tablet76 with its envelope, N18(9)77, dated to the eponymy of Šagab (651 B.C.), is a loan document, involving 2 waterskin-rafts and 2 boatmen from Opis78 having as creditor Mannu-ki-aḫḫē. As in a previously published text from Assur (NATAPA I, no. 27), these boats transported barley, and the penalties concerning this “produce” (telitu) were established in silver (thus if the boat “does not land”, the debtor [II. 10-12] “will give 5 minas of silver, and Nabū-šumu-îškun will take up the ‘produce’ of the waterskin-raft”). Among the witnesses are Ūbru-Asšur (suḫuš—aššur) and Asšur-eriba.

2) our no. 98, from 650 B.C., in which Mannu-ki-aḫḫē is once more the creditor, and Ūbru-Asšur and Aššur-eriba again appear in the witness list, which comprises also sa'-al'-sa-la-a.

72) A. 2492: Ph. Ass. 1160/61, 3rd down, 3rd from left.
73) From VD’s transliteration (and from a perusal of the photograph) we obtain:5 an-nu-te ú-sa-li-mu
6 1man-nu—ki—uru.nīna 7 la ’u-sal-lim 8 1suk-ka-a-a 9 1na-ga-hi-i 10 xox ’a-na ’o1 gir.2—MAN 11 i-du-u-
u nu, etc.
74) A.2488: Ph.Ass. 1160/61, 3rd down, 2nd from left.
75) Notice the following passage (from VD’s transliteration and from a perusal of the photograph):
1 Kū.BABBAR ša 1gir.2—MAN 2 ša ina iga 3 1man—MAN—PAP 3 ša ina iga 1na-ga-hi-i 4 ša ina iga 1su-ka-a-a
5 ha-ab-lu-u-ni 6 1na-ga-hi-i 7 su-ka-a-a 8 (ina) Kū.BABBAR ana xx ] x 9 1ú-sa-li[m] 10 it-tan-nu [1 Gill
12 gin 11 la re-he ([ ]), etc.
76) A. 2519; Ph. Ass. 1160/61, 4th down, 1st from left.
77) A.2520; Ph. Ass. 1161, 4th down, 3rd from left.
78) The toponym is clear both on the tablet (Obv.2 2 kuḫ maš-kir.meš 3 2 lu*ma.laḫ₂ šā uru₂-u-[pi]) and on the envelope (where it is specified that a penalty will regard the 3šē[p] 4 1na qabo-si uru₂-u-[pi]). It is thus clear that regular river traffic took place between Assur and Opis, presumably both ways (cf. Fales, in Šulmu IV, Poznań 1993, pp. 79ff.)
3) a further Istanbul tablet, N18(8a)\textsuperscript{79}, which seems to deal with a loan of silver, 58 shekels Šēš.GAR šā MAN ša ā.GI.[MAH]\textsuperscript{80}, made out by one šANGA—15 to "ba-ri-ku, son of ra-"u-'u of another town\textsuperscript{81}. The interest rate will be of one-fourth. Witnesses to the deed are, in order (Rev. 1' ff.), Šumma-Aššur, kar-me-sa\textsuperscript{1}-a, Ubru-Aššur, Aššur-eriba, sa-al-sa-la-a\textsuperscript{82}, and Muššallim-Šamaš, the scribe. This text has no clearly preserved date, but it was probably the tablet of the following "envelope" on the basis of the sequence of witnesses.

4) a tablet case from Istanbul, N18(8b)\textsuperscript{83}, which shows the particular eponym for 650 B.C. (4' lim-mu ša egir ša-ga[b] in connection with the witnesses (in order) Šumma-Aššur (šum-ma—aš+šur), kar-me-[sa\textsuperscript{2}-a-a], Ubru-Aššur and Aššur-eriba.

The link between the protagonists of the first and second group of texts seen so far, Nagahi and Mannu-ki-ahhē, could have been that of distant relatives, professional colleagues, or merely next-door neighbors sharing courtyards, etc.: this much may be deduced from no. 97, of 648 B.C., a judicial settlement which imposes repayment on Nagahi for having been caught with a stolen donkey belonging to Mannu-ki-ahhē; it is implied, however, that others may have been party to the theft — perhaps dumping the goods on Nagahi, who is invited to settle any such matter for himself, without involving the victim of the theft. Among the witnesses, we find Sukkayu (TE-a-a), Nagahi's old crony\textsuperscript{84}.

Going down in time, a text from 636 (no. 96) attests Nagahi as debtor and guarantor in a collective loan: is it still the same man as in the previously examined cases? The answer might well be positive, considering that one Ubru-Aššur is among the witnesses.

Other documents from this archive —still from Istanbul— would seem to point to later dates in the post-canonical period. One\textsuperscript{85} is a conveyance text with 3 stamp seal impressions, by which a female slave, called 15-tu-ka-la-a-"x is sold to Aššur-dababi-"x; the date is 8/l/eponymy of Nabū-šarru-ušur, Ā.BA [KUR], i.e. 645 or

\textsuperscript{79} Ph.Ass. 1160/61, 4th down, 2nd from left. This text corresponds to A.2551, for which the concordance with ALA had not been yet spotted.

\textsuperscript{80} Cf. no. 77, Obv. 9', for another case of the same writing.

\textsuperscript{81} FMF reads uru.'a'/e"xx-a-a-a-a.

\textsuperscript{82} The name is clear as such from the photograph. One might even suspect that the same transaction as no. (2) was recorded in a previous/later phase (cf. e.g. the case of texts 13 and 92, seen above); but the shekels lent are 58, not 59, and the parties primarily involved are quite different people.

\textsuperscript{83} A. 2512; Ph.Ass. 1160, 4th down, 3rd from left; cf. Deller-Millard, AIF 32 (1985), p. 52.

\textsuperscript{84} This text falls in a specific category of judicial documents dealing with cases of theft, hitherto represented only by two published exemplars: cf. the recent study by R. Jas, Neo-Assyrian Judicial Procedures (SAAS 5), Helsinki 1996, pp. 67-71.

\textsuperscript{85} Ph.Ass. 1160/61, center right; transliteration not available. It might correspond to A.1924 = N18(5), labeled "purchase" by Pedersén.
626 B.C. Another\(^86\) is a loan document dated, as far as can be made out, \(\text{ITU.SIG, NU-M[AN-}^{\text{E}}\), \text{i.e. to Falkner's 623 B.C.}; among the witnesses are Aššur-nādin-āḫē (\('\text{aš}^{\text{P}} \text{sur-SUM-PAP.MES}) and Nabû-zēru-uṣur (\('\text{d}^{\text{PA}} \text{NUMUN-PAP}).\)

Finally, two texts are impossible to date at present. N18(6)\(^87\) is a conveyance for the sale of a field, with an interesting landscape description\(^88\) by Pusi, son of the mayor IŠtar-nāṣid, to Nagaḫī; among the witnesses are Nānī and again Aššur-nādin-āḫē. This document would thus seem to establish a clear link between the deeds which have Nagaḫī as protagonist, and the late post-canonical tablets quoted above: unfortunately, the date is merely limited to the month ([I?]) and day (23)\(^89\). And N18(11)\(^90\) is a loan document written on the “short” axis; it records a loan of 15 shekels of silver from one ta-ar-di-i to Adad-sakā (10—\(\text{sa-ka-a}\), son of ka-ni-\(\text{n}^{\text{a}}\)-a-a-a; a slave, Ḫiḏā by name\(^91\), is given in exchange (the normal ana šaparte formula has the quaint rendering \(\text{a-na ši-bir-te}\). The date is lost (only the traces of ITU.\(\text{š}^{\text{E}}\)/Addāru remain); the witnesses have basically Aramaic names like the debtor, i.e. \(\text{I}^{\text{za-za-a, 1}^{\text{ba-ra-x, 1}^{\text{O}-\text{sa-lə-me, 1}^{\text{za-bi-i-ni. The text is concluded by a risk-clause: if the slave flees, the silver owed back will increase\(^92.\)

N19 is a set of four tablets, found together in a private house — although the excavation reports have not allowed a clear-cut identification of the building itself. The possible candidates are House 9 (the locale of N17), House 12 (cf. N18) or “one of the adjacent houses to the south”\(^93\). In fact, however, no specific link with the two named archives is apparent from the texts themselves: the mention of a “house of Dilīl-IŠtar” (100: 4) is a reminder of the name of a witness from a text of Nagaḫī (96, Rev. 4), but the connection is improbable. Chronologically, moreover, the documents from N19 could not be more varied: 100 is a quaint text (a sort of receipt, dated, but with no seals or witnesses) of post-canonical date, 101 goes back to 691 or 686, 102 to the eponymy of Nabû-šarru-uṣur (645 or 626), and 103 to 639. Not surprisingly, therefore, no inner prosopographical link may be spotted among the texts of the

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86) Ph.Ass. 1160/61, 2nd down, 1st left. This one might correspond to A.2431=N18(10), as the last text remaining with no attribution in the archive as reconstructed by Pedersen (who labels it “document”).

87) A.2016, Ph.Ass. 1160/61, bottom right.

88) Combining VD’s transliterations and a perusal of the photo, FMF reads: 3\(\text{A.Ş}^{\text{A}} \text{e'-na-ša ina}^{\text{a}} \text{\text{'a-an-x}}\) 4\(\text{\text{GAB}.DU} \text{bu-ra.MES}^{\text{A}} \text{ša}^{\text{a}}\) 5\(\text{\text{S}u-\text{a-s}^{\text{e}}+\text{sur}}\) 6\(\text{țihi KASKAL ma-ši-ri}^{\text{e}} \text{țihi bu-re.ME śa}^{\text{e}} \text{\text{Man}^{\text{e}} \text{ina ugu KASKAL śa uru.ĐUG.GA}}^{\text{A}} \text{maš}^{\text{A}} \text{țihi \text{A.Ş}^{\text{A}} \text{ša}^{\text{a}} \text{\text{d}^{\text{A}}-\text{ma}^{\text{e}}-\text{te}}^{\text{e}} \text{\text{DINGIR}^{10} \text{țihi A.MEŠ ta-bi-ku-te}^{\text{11} \text{\text{a}}} \text{uru.śab-bi}^{\text{e}}\) etc.

89) The year date is lost, as is visible from photo and from VD’s transliteration; Pedersen suggests a date at 616, but the grounds for this choice are unclear.

90) A. 1055+1070; Ph.Ass. 1160/61, 5th down, 2nd from left.

91) FMF reads 5\(\text{țihi}^{\text{q} \text{a-a} \text{in-šu}}\).

92) As made clear by Postgate, FNALD, pp. 48-49, this explicit formulation of the clause is very rare in the NA documentation.

93) Pedersen, ALA 2, p. 108.
archive itself —if this actually was an archive, and not just a haphazard deposit of documents.

N20, as described by Pedersén, presents a very complex layout, in which two adjacent houses are involved, with at least five different findspots for the tablets, although at no great mutual distance. Pedersén grouped all the 40 tablets and fragments catalogued for this general location under one archival heading, essentially on prosopographical grounds: one Şarru-iqbi, and a crony of his, Bibiya, are attested in texts from most of the contiguous findspots.

Unfortunately, the inner relations within this archive cannot for the moment be adequately investigated, since the entire group of texts, with the exception of our no. 104, is in Istanbul. The main question concerning this text —a loan of copper by Şarru-iqbi— regards its date, since Nabû-šarru-uṣur, the limmu on the tablet, could be attributed to at least two post-canonical dates (Falkner’s 645 or 626) before even beginning to consider a pre-648 chronological setting, which would bring us back to 682 (Nabû-šarru-uṣur, governor of Marqasi)95. And yet, as suggested by Pedersén, the earliest date is far from implausible: in an Istanbul tablet which is part of the same archive (N20[16]96), a loan of Şarru-iqbi is dated to the year of accession of Sennacherib, i.e. to 687 (Rev. 2: lim-mu 130—PAR.MEŠ—su)97; further, the use of copper as “currency” also tends to favor the earlier date98. On the other hand, various other documents in the archive —including the ones discovered in close connection with the Berlin exemplar— present post-canonical dates99.

N21 is a medium-sized archive, found in a house (House 20) not far from a number of apotropaic clay figurines and a plundered sarcophagus. Since all of its constituent tablets appeared to be in Berlin, a widespread search was made (FMF, KHD) in order to include them in this edition, despite initial difficulties; for some, because of a lack of VAT numbering and photographic documentation, and for some others due to a confusion which, as noted in Pedersén’s study101, probably occurred

90) ALA 2, pp. 108-110.
91) In fact, the post-canonical solution is chosen by Millard, SAAS 2, p. 108, in one of the rare differences with Pedersén’s indications.
92) Ph.Ass. 1160/61, 3rd row from top, 1st left.
94) A. 1835 = N20(16) is also a loan by the copper standard (Obv. 1 10s. MA.NA URUDU.MEŠ).
95) The tablets discovered in the adjacency of no. 104 yielded the following notes at a reading of the photographs: a) A. 2494 = N20(1), Qurdı-Adad sells his weaned daughter (DUMU.SAL pir-sa-su) to Bibiya. Date: 636a (Pedersén). Among the witnesses: Mutaqqin-Assur, Nabu-na’id; b) A. 77 = N20(2), adoption(?). Date: 639 or 627 or 622 (Pedersén). Among the witnesses: Assur-bessunu, Assur-ila’a, Dur-maki-rx’; c) A. 2528 = N20(3), loan of 5 shekels of silver, ... dues/offerings of Assur by Iqbi-rx’ to Assur-balli!, son of Abu-Iamur. Date: 639 or 627 or 622. Among the witnesses: Assur-bessunu; d) A. 2537 = N20(5), loan(?). Date: 615b (Sin-šilk-pānī).
96) Ph.Ass. 1160/61, 3rd row from top, 1st left.
97) Ph.Ass. 1160/61, 3rd row from top, 1st left.
98) Ph.Ass. 1160/61, 3rd row from top, 1st left.
99) Ph.Ass. 1160/61, 3rd row from top, 1st left.
100) Full description of the findspot in ALA 2, p. 111.
101) ALA 2, pp. 112-113 ad “Critical note on texts”.
at the excavation, and which caused changes in the numbers in the Assur photo catalogue.

The 13 texts of N21 are consistently postcanonical in dating, stretching from 640 to 615, and including the recently discovered eponym Pāṣī\textsuperscript{102}. They mainly comprise loans —also a limited number of conveyance texts— and seem to center around the activities of the individual Muttaqīn-Āšur, who appears in 11 texts in one capacity or the other (106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117). This man is flanked by a number of cronies, associates, and business counterparts, especially Āšur-bessunu (108, 109, 112, 114, 115, 117), Āšur-šumu-usur (114, 115, 117), Unzarḫu (109, 114, 115, 117), Urdāyu (109, 115), Šulmu-māt-Āšur (109, 114). These names recur in other, as yet “missing” texts of the archive: thus N21(12), a contract text with the ITUMES formula, from 615, has Šulmu-māt-Āšur and as+šu−ra−ba-ə-[nī] (cf. already 109) in the witness list. Āšur-šumu-ukīn (cf. already 115) is possibly to be identified with a person lending a sum in the contract Scheil III, a dispersed Assur text, although the witness list in the latter document has nothing to do with the people involved in N21\textsuperscript{103}.

On the other hand, two of the texts published here refer to a different prosopographical horizon: the first is 105, which probably represents the product of a museographical/cataloguing mix-up, and should be ranged elsewhere\textsuperscript{104}. The second is 111, a judicial decision with river ordeal which shows tenuous —and in fact doubtful— links with the remainder of the archive.

Finally, the “hunt” in the Museum archives has yielded three further documents bearing links of different types with N21: while two texts, VAT 20394 and VAT 20409, have only a “clerical” connection with the archive, since they share the Assur Fundnummer with no. 116, and 112, resp., VAT 20409 (same find-number as 106) shows also clear prosopographical parallels with various texts of N21.

N22 is a small archive (5 texts, of which two dispersed in European museums) of contracts and conveyances from a private house, relevant to an individual named Nanunu/i\textsuperscript{105}. Of particular interest is no. 120, a fragmentary triangular docket, bear-

\textsuperscript{102} Paṣī is not only attested in no. 111, but also in Ass. 8890f (= N21[9]), according to Deller, BaM 15 (1984), p. 246. This text, previously bearing the sole excavation number, is now tentatively identified with VAT 16572 in Millard, SAAS 2, p. 112. Cf. our no. 117, below.

\textsuperscript{103} As noted by Deller, who reedited the Scheil text (BaM 15[1984], pp. 240ff.), the beginning of the latter and of 115 are almost identical, save for the fact that in our document Āšur-šumu-ukīn is at the same time lender, and part of the 3 EN.KASKAL, “expedition chiefs”, receiving the sum: for this term and its implications, cf. NATAPA 2, no. 12 and passim.

\textsuperscript{104} Full explanation of this case is given ad no. 115, footnote.

\textsuperscript{105} On this archive, cf. O. Pedersen’s comments and philological work in ALA 2, p. 113, and his more recent effort in SAAB 3 (1989), pp. 69-74. The latter work will be used for the inner numbering of the texts of the archive, as stated below, ad no. 118.
ing the record of a loan of wine$^{106}$; the half-preserved name of the lender was the main clue for its being ranged with archive N22.

N24 is part of a group of seven archives (N24-N30) which, as explained by Pedersén$^{107}$, were discovered in private houses built around and over the ruins of the inner town wall, southwestern sector, during the latter part of the Neo-Assyrian period. Specifically, N24 is an archive of 31 tablets, almost all discovered in a room of one of the houses, on a floor above a grave chamber.

All but one of these texts (N24[1]$^{108}$) appear to be in Berlin at this time. Of the texts in the archive presenting a VAT number, 16 have been traced (121-136), i.e. all except VAT 8972 (between N24[5] and N24[6]), VAT 8924 (between N24[7] and N24[8]), and a Neo-Babylonian tablet$^{109}$. In addition, 4 further tablets, not present in the ALA catalogue (137-140) were found to be relevant to the archive, either on the basis of the Assur Fundnummer, or of prosopographical considerations (or of both). Chronologically, the archive has the widest breadth of all the NATAPA archives, since it comprises the earliest dating (Nabû-da²inanni, 742 B.C., 136), a couple of good early 7th-century eponyms (Nabû-kênu-usur, 690 B.C., 122 and Šamaš-kâşid-ajjâbi, 669 B.C., 123), plus the usual fair number of post-canonical dates, in any case no later than the 620s.

The prosopography of the texts has few points to rest upon, since a very wide range of persons appears to be involved in this archive. An individual, Sagib-Âsûr by name, is the protagonist of four documents (124, 130, 131; witness in 121), in which he resp. buys a female slave, lends silver and wine. Two conveyance texts are particularly interesting, in that they concern the circle of the priesthood of the Âsûr temple, and the profession of šélapâpû: notice specifically the presence in both texts of a priest named Qibit-Âsûr (127, Rev. 18; 136, Rev. 13$^{110}$). Another individual making his appearance in and out of the texts of this archive is Nabû-šar-âhēšu (party in 121, 124, 125, 128, 129$^7$, 135, 138$^7$ 140), to whom various cronies and associates are tied, e.g. Minu-âhî-ana-îli (witness in 126, 129), Ša-Âsûr-dubbû (party in 124, 132), Rêmanni-Âsûr (witness in 125, 126, 129, 132), and Ťusî (121, 129, 139). Finally, text 134 gives evidence for a group of witnesses from the city of

$^{106}$ Notice that this seems to be the first piece of evidence for the use of a triangular docket in loans not regarding barley in the NA period (on the subject in general, cf. FNALD, pp. 5-6; AECT, pp. 18-24).
$^{107}$ ALA 2, p. 115 and ff.
$^{108}$ A.1906 = Ass.Fd.Nr. 13999, Ph.Ass. 3949. This text (from transliteration by VD), written on a rectangular tablet (40×30×16 mm), bearing 20 lines of script, is the record of a loan (ana pâhî) of 2 1/2 minas of silver by two individuals to Nabû-šezib, son of Nabû-šar-âhêšu. Three individuals (the women lûr-kit—a-a-li, ëm—a-mur, and the man lîn—lu—tl.â) are given as pledge. Date: 21/V, eponym possibly to be read as Sin-âlík-pâni (Falkner 615).
$^{109}$ VAT 9004.
$^{110}$ Notice, however, that in no. 127 the god to which the priest is tied is Nabû, in 136 the much more obscure ëbu-ru.
Kannu?, a few of which have names also built with the divine name Apladad, characteristic for individuals coming from this city on the east bank of the Tigris, probably not too far from Assur itself\footnote{111}. And it may be noted that the onomastic attestations of Apladad in this sale document constitute an interesting connection with one of the Aramaic tablets discovered in archive 17\footnote{112}.

\footnote{111}{Cf. E. Lipiński, \textit{Apladad}, Or NS 45 (1976), pp. 53-74, for the cult and the localization of Kannu?}.
\footnote{112}{N17(13): cf. footnote 50, above.}
Archive N 11.

Envelope, unopened, tablet enclosed. Light brown clay. 4.5×3.2×1.5 cms. Rather shallow script. 5+2+6+1 lines.
Loan of silver.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 618)

Obverse
1. NA₄.KISIB ¹DINGIR—BĀD—PAP
2. ša TŪG.sa-ga-te-šū
3. ša ḫ. ML.GAR-te
Two stamp seal impressions
4. 6 GĪN KŪ.BABBAR
5. ša 'da-da-a-a

Bottom Edge
6. ina IGI ¹DINGIR—BĀD—PAP
7. 'KŪ.BABBAR' ana 4-ut-ti-šū

Reverse
8. GAL-bi
9. ITU. 'DŪ₆ UD-4-KĀM *
10. lim-mu ša-i-lu₄
11. IGI ši-rit-tū
12. IGI mu qa-il—IDIM
13. IGI šašt šur—a-a-‘lī'

Left Hand Edge
14. IGI ša—Silim-ši-nu

Translation
"Seal of Ilu-dūru-ušur, the man in charge of the sacks of the household of the chatelaine.
6 shekels of silver, belonging to Dadāyu, at the disposal of Ilu-dūru-ušur. The silver will increase by one-fourth. Month of Tašritu (= VII), the 4th day, eponymy of Sailu.
Witness: Girittu; witness: Muqallil-kabti; witness: Aššur-ayyāli; witness: Nabû-šallimšunu."

Notes
L.H.E. 14: the same name appears in the witness list of VAT 9865, 10 (= Appendix 1, below).

Envelope, tablet enclosed. Yellowish clay. 3.5×2.2×2.0 cms. Very clear, deep script. 1+5+1+4 lines.
Loan of silver.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 639/622).

Top Edge
1. \(\text{\texttt{NA}_4.\texttt{KISIB} \text{\texttt{1la-turu-man-ni-aš+šur}}}\)

Obverse
2. \(\text{\texttt{DUMU \text{\texttt{1}i aš a ni mu}}}\)
3. \(\text{\texttt{4 GIN KU.BABBAR SAG aš+šur'}}\)
4. \(\text{\texttt{ša \text{\texttt{1}da-da-a-a}}}\)
Two stamp seal impressions
5. \(\text{\texttt{ina \text{\texttt{1la-turu-man-"ni"-aš+šur}}}\)
6. \(\text{\texttt{\texttt{<ina> pu-u-hi i-ti-ši}}\)

Bottom Edge
7. \(\text{\texttt{ana 4-ti-šú GAL-bi}}\)

Reverse
8. \(\text{\texttt{ITU.SIG4 UD-4-KĀM*}}\)
9. \(\text{\texttt{lim-mu \text{\texttt{1}30-MAN—PAP A.BA KUR}}}\)
10. \(\text{\texttt{IGI aš+šur IGI 4UTU}}\)
11. \(\text{\texttt{IGI \text{\texttt{1la—te-gi—ana—aš+šur}}}\)

Translation
"Seal of La-turammanni-Aṣṣur, son of ...
4 shekels of silver, (offerings of) the first-fruits of Aṣṣur, belonging to Dadāyu, at the disposal of La-turammanni-Aṣṣur; he has taken it as a loan. It will increase by one-fourth. Month of Simānu (= III), the 4th day, eponymy of Šin-šarru-uṣur, scribe of the land.
Before Aṣṣur and Šamaš.
Witness: Lā-teggi-ana-Aṣṣur."

Notes
Obv. 1: the name Lā-turammanni-Aṣṣur is the same as that of a "captain-of-fifty" of Egyptian origin who divides his estate among his sons before his death in the Copenhagen text from Assur CTNM, no. 68 (= Postgate, FNALD, no. 18), of the same year as the present text. This individual also appears (KRad) in two further texts: as GAL—50
in BaM 16, pp. 371ff., Rev. 15', and with no professional title in VAT 15465 (= N33, 10), resp. dated by M. Falkner to 618 and 623. Interestingly enough, on the other hand, he also appears in VAT 9865, given below as Appendix 1 to this article, which bears an eponym dated by Falkner to 641. Thus, while seems likely that we are dealing in all cases with one and the same individual, the chronological range of his operations bears further investigation.

2: this patronym is strange indeed; the i is clear (cf. l. 6); undoubtedly an āš precedes the sign a; and the next-to-last sign looks like ni. FMF's suggestion here was to understand the name as a badly written i+a₁-sa₁-mu; KHD suggests a possibly Egyptian name, in view of the son's identity.

3: aš+šur is written with two obliques between the āš and the šur.

10: the presence of gods as witnesses represents a rare, though by no means impossible, formula: cf. FNALD, § 1.4.


Pillow-shaped envelope, tablet enclosed. Yellowish clay. 4.5x2.5x1.5 cms. Small, clear and deep script. 1+5+2+8+2+1 lines.
Loan of silver.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 626).

Top Edge
1. NA₄.KIŠIB ₁mil-ki—DINGIR

Obverse
2. DUMU ₁₃₀—PAP—PAP
3. LŪ.kal-la-pu
4. 14 GĪN.MEŠ KŪ.BABBAR
5. ša 15 šā URU.arba-il
Two stamp seal impressions
6. ša ₁ḫu-ba-šā-te

Bottom Edge
7. ša ₁da-da-a—a
8. ina IGI ₁mil-ki—DINGIR

Reverse
9. ITU.KIN UD-23-KĀM
10. lim-mu ₁₆₄.PA—MAN—PAP A.BA (KUR)
11. KŪ.BABBAR ana 4-tū-šū GAL.-bi
12. ₁KĀ—šā—Igi.LAL MI-šū ana šā-parr-te
13. kam-mu-sa-at ūš ZĀH ina UGU EN-šā
14. IGI 1'man-nu—ki—EN—KUR.KUR
15. IGI 1aš+šur—bal-lit
16. IGI 1bm—a-rême—šuk-na
17. IGI 1bm—AG—ZI

Top Edge
18. IGI 1aš+šur—KUR—u-ni

Left Hand Edge
19. IGI 1ba-su-u-a

Translation
“Seal of Milki-ili, son of Sin-aḫu-usur, by profession kallapu.
14 shekels of silver, of Ištar of Arbail, belonging to Ḫubāšate, belonging to Dadāyu, (are) at the disposal of Milki-ili. Month of Ululu (= VI), the 23rd day, eponymy of Nabû-šarru-usur, ‘palace’ scribe. The silver will increase by one-fourth. The woman Bāb-ša-(l)āmur, his wife, is placed as pledge. If she dies or flees, the responsibility will lie upon her owner.

Notes
B.E. 7: the last -a might have been omitted, by analogy with the “cut” of the kur in the professional title of the limmu in line 10 (KHD); on the other hand, the writing da-da-a is clear as such elsewhere (cf. esp. no. 70, below).

Tablet (A) and envelope (B). Yellowish clay. 113
A: 3.0x2.2x0.9 cms. 1+3+2+4+1 lines.
B: 3.5x3.0x2 cms. 1+4+2+5 lines.
Loan of silver.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 616).

A:
Top Edge
1. 50 'gîn.meš' KU.BABBAR

Obverse
2. šā 1'da-da-a
3. ina IGI 'qi-ma-ia

113) The writing on the inner tablet, though clear and deep, is in general slightly squeezed from the enclosing within the envelope (KHD).
4. *ana 6-su-i-šú*

Bottom Edge
5. *GAL-bi*
6. *ITU. DU₆ UD-25-'KÁM*"

Reverse
7. *lim-mu ¹EN—E*
8. *IGI+¹rém-ana—15*
9. *IGI+¹da—a—NUMUN—AŠ*
10. *IGI+¹aš+ašur—a-a—li*

Top Edge
11. *IGI+¹qur-di—'15*

B:

Top Edge
1. *NA₄.ĮK[ŠIB ¹gi-ma-ia/a—a]*

Obverse
2. *Ala-x[x]*
3. *50 GI₂N.MEŠ KU₂[BABBAR]*
4. *ša ¹da-d[a—a]*
Two rectangular stamp seal impressions
5. *ina IGI ¹gi-ma—a—a*

Bottom Edge
6. *ana 6-si-šú GAL-bi*
7. *ITU. DU₆ UD-25-KÁM*

Reverse
8. *lim-mu ¹EN—iq-bi*
9. *IGI+¹rém-ana—15*
10. *IGI+¹da—a—NUMUN—AŠ*
11. *IGI+¹aš+ašur—a-a—li[
12. *IGI+¹qur-di—15*

Top Edge
One blank line

Translation

A:
"50 shekels of silver, belonging to Dadāyu, at the disposal of Qimāyu. It will increase by one-sixth. Month of Tašritu (= VII), the 25th day, eponymy of

B:
“Seal of Qimayu son of La-[…].
50 shekels of silver, belonging to Dadayu, at the disposal of Qimayu. It will increase by one-sixth. Month of Tašritu, the 25th day, eponymy of Bel-iqbi. Witness: Remanni-Ištar; witness: Nabû-zēru-iddina; witness: Aššur-ayyali; witness: Qurdi-Ištar.”

Archive N 14.

Rectangular tablet, join of two pieces, gap in the center/left half. Yellowish clay.
9.6x4.9x1.7 cms. Clear, deep script. 13+1+21+5+4+4+3+3 (=54) lines.
Division of inheritance.
650 B.C.

Obverse
1. [NA₄,KIŠIB] 1aš+šur—z]U NA₄,KIŠIB 1mu-SIG₅—aš+šur
2. [NA₄,KIŠIB] LASU—re-ú-a
3. PAP 3 ‘DUMU’ MEŠ š[a 1šum-m]u—aš+šur LÚ*].KA.’KEŠDA’ šá aš+šur

Stamp seal(?) impressions

4. [x x] ‘pašt MEŠ a-nu-ut’ É
5. [x]x MEŠ sa-a-eru₄(UURUDU,MEŠ) DUG.kal-lu
6. [d]UŠAH-ŠA-ru ša INA IG AD-šú-nu
7. ina TIL.A-šú-ú-ram-mu-u-ni
8. ur-ki AD-šú-nu a-na ḫA.LA is-sak-nu


9. ’tab-alax-a-a 20 ANŠE ŠE.PAD,M[EŠ]
10. 1/2 MA.NA 2 GIN KÜ.BABBAR ša e-gir-a-te
11. ’PAP’ an-ni-tú ḫA.LA ša 1mu-sig₅—aš+šur


12. ’ur-kit—LUGAL—PAP 20 ANŠE ŠE.PAD.MEŠ
13. [1/2 MA.NA 2] GIN KÜ.BABBAR ša e-gir-a-tí

Bottom Edge
14. [PAP an-ni]-tú ḫA.LA ša 1aš+šur—zu
Space of one line uninscribed
Reverse
15. [x x x 'tab]-ala,-a-a
16. [x x x f'[ur]-kit—LUGAL—PAP
17. [x x S]a 1aš+ šur—zu
18. [x x f''UTU’”—SIPA-ú-a
19. [x x x x M]EŠ ú
20. '20 ANŠE šE.PAD.MEŠ' 1/2 MA 2 GÍN KÛ.BABBAR
21. PAP an-ni-tú šA.LA šA šA.UTU—SIPA-ú-a

22. [HA].’LA’ par-sa-at TA* IGI a-ḫe-iš ut-ṭu-ru
23. [mám-mu TA* mā]m-mu la i-dāb-bu-ub
24. [man-nu ša ina ur]-’kiš ’ ina ‘ma-te’-m[a] ’BAL-u’-ni
25. [x x x x]x EN dPA d’KURNUN
26. fd’[x x x]’lu EN’ de-ni-šu
27. a-de-e šA LUGAL ina šU-šU lu-ba-i-u

28. f’d ur-kit—a-na—de-ni-ia a-na AMA-šú-nu
29. it-tan-nu
30. fše-ru-u-a—ta-di-nat—ru-ug/g-pi
31. fdUTU—SIPA-ú-a ina UGU šA.LA-šú úł
32. l’x šā 1DINGIR—a-ka-i 3 MA KÛ.BABBAR
33. [x x x x]-šu-nu is-sak-nu

34. [IGI l’x x x x LÛ]. A.BA É.DINGIR
35. [x x x x x x]x 3-u

Top Edge
36. [x x x x x x x x]-di
37. [x x x x x x x x L]’lāh-ḫi-nu
38. [x x x x x L. G]AL—pil-ka-ni
39. [x x x x] mu x LÛ*_]. SANGA d’a-num
40. [x x x x]-na-a LÛ*_]. SANGA d’30’

Left Hand Edge
Col. I
41. [IGI l’x x x]-an in an n[i IGI 1x (x)]—še-zib-a-ni
42. [IGI l’x (x)]—tab-ni—PAP GAL 10+x[x IGI 1aš]+šur”—LAL-a-ni
43. [IGI l]—DINGIR [(x) IGI 1]g-bi—aš+šur
44. [IGI l’]mu-še-zib—aš+šur [(x) IGI 1]aš+šur—Aš

Col. II
45. ITU.KIN.DIRIG UD-9*-[KÁM*]
Translation

"Seal of Assur-ile'i; seal of Mudammiq-Assur; seal of Šamaš-re'ēpa: in all, three sons of Šummu-Assur, tailor of (the temple of) Assur. The ...s, the objects of the house; ..., the rings, the pots and the pans, which are at the disposal of their father, and which they leave to him during his lifetime, after (the death of) their father they have placed in the estate.

The man Tabalāyu, 20 homers of barley, half a mina and 2 shekels of silver of the debt-documents: all this is the share of Mudammiq-Assur.

The woman Urkittu-šarru-usri, 20 homers of barley, half a mina and 2 shekels of silver of the debt-documents: all this is the share of Aşšur-lē'ē.

... Tabalāyu, ...the woman Urkittu-šarru-usri ... of Aššur-le'i, ... Šamaš-re'ēpa... took (...).

20 homers of barley, half a mina and 2 shekels of silver: all this is the share of Šamaš-re'ēpa.

The share is divided; they are mutually paid off. Nobody will litigate with anybody else. Whoever, in the future or at any time, will contravene, Aššur, Šamaš, Bel, Nabû, Tašmētu, Sin will be his opponents in court. The loyalty oath of the king will hold him responsible.

The woman Urkittu-ana-dēniya they gave away to their mother; Šamaš-re'ēpa took the woman Šērūa-tadinat-ruq/gpi above his share. ... of Ilu-aka'i as (?) 3 minas of silver ... of theirs they established.

Witness: PN, temple scribe; witness: PN, third man; witness: PN, ...; witness: PN, temple steward; witness: PN, the chief of the work-squad; witness: PN, ... the priest of Anum; witness: .... na, the priest of Sin.
Witness: ... aninanni; witness: ... šezibanni; witness: ... tabni-usur, chief ...; witness: Aššur-taqqinanni; witness: Naṣid-ulu; witness: Iqbi-Aššur; witness: Mušezib-Aššur; witness: Aššur-iddina.
The month of Ululu (= VI), the ninth day, eponymy of Bēl-šadu²a. Witness: Aššur-bessunu; witness: Iaqiru.
15 shekels, Mudammiq-Aššur gave: 1/2 mina of (his) share, Aššur-le²i gave: in all, one mina of silver, in lieu of Ilu-aka²i, in lieu of Šil-Aššur, Šamaš-re²u²a took. Witness: Urdul-Aššur, weaver².”

Notes
T.E. 25: the sign is relatively clear as ṳš.
Rev. 23: the complex -dāb-bu is relatively clear; the value dāb appears e.g. in the word dappassu, pl. dappasāte (KHD).
24: the third-to-last sign, quite fragmentary, might also be ‘Nine’ (KHD). In effect, nabalkutu and parâku N fit equally well here: cf. FNALD, §2.1.3b, ad 2.
25: Tašmētu is much less frequently mentioned than other gods as a potential legal antagonist; but the signs are relatively clear, and the witnesses in Rev. 25-26 show precise ties with the religious complexes of the city (such as the bit Anim, etc.). For Tašmētu’s role in Assur, cf. Menzel, Assyrische Tempel, I, pp. 74-76.
29: it-tan-nu appears also in A.313 = ALA N14(1), 11, while A.2015, the relevant tablet, has i-ta-nu (1. 9).
34: for the title, cf. the alternative rendering DUB.SAR É.DINGIR.MEŠ in NATAPA 1, 14 (= VAT 20352), 7. As for possibilities of integrating the missing name, notice id₃pa—KUR-ni lū*.A.BA É.DINGIR below in no. 126, Rev. 10, a text of 647 B.C. For an earlier date, less probable on the whole, cf. Marduk-šallim-abhe in NALK 41, 7, of 659 B.C. (KRad).
T.E. 40: although flattened, the sign 30 may be made out.
L.H.E. II, 46: discussion of the eponym’s name and the ensuing date in the introduction, 1.b.2 and fn. 35, above.
R.H.E. II, 52-54: or perhaps pītu našū = “to bear responsibility for ...”? 
56: the professional title is very difficult; FMF’s rendering (last collation 12/93) was lū*.‘uš₃.BAR’ (text: Āš); KHD sees rather (12/95) KID₃+BAR = SANGA (?)
Conveyance. Sale of a slave woman (or a field?).

Obverse
1. ]-x'.MEŠ-ia
2. DUMU\[1\l[1]\]-luṭ mu-kil—PA.MEŠ šá GAL—AZLAG
3. EN GEM][E\_] SUM-a-ni

One or more stamp seal impressions
Remainder broken off

Reverse
1. ]x
2. ]—sa-gib
3. ]da-da-a-a
4. ] x x e là ḫi i
5. ]x pa lū.A.BA
6. ša]-bit ṭup-pi

Top Edge
7. -g][ab—d15
8. ]-x’ dNIN.LİL
9. ]-x’ dakes+ṣur
Blank space of one line

Translation
"Seal of . . . . . . -ahhe’-ka, son of Liblu’t, the reinholder of the chief fuller, owner of
the slave woman which is sold here. ( . . . )

. . ; witness: . . . . -sagib; witness: Dadāyu; . . ; witness: . . pa, the scribe who took the
tablet.

Witness: . . . gab-Ištar; . . Mullissi; . . Aṣṣur."

Notes
Obv. 2: cf. CAD A/2, p. 447a, quoting this text (which is not MA!). Undoubtedly one
may wonder why the chief fuller would have had a reinholder — and therefore a
chariot — at his disposal. In this light, we might be led to perceive a different title under
the writing GAL—AZLAG than the one commonly understood (cf. a detailed analysis of
the matter in the forthcoming study by K. Radner, Die Goldschmiede der Aṣṣur-Tempel
[= Studien zu den Aṣṣur-Texten, I], and see also the following text).

3: only two small Winkelhakens are visible at the end; thus the object of the deed could
equally well have been aša,g]ā’ (suggestion KHD) — all the more so since no further
element in the extant tablet is proof of one or the other hypothesis.
Rev. 4: the authors can make nothing definite of this sign complex, but bi-i might be understood as bir (suggestion KHD).

T.E. 8-9: the three divine names might be components of personal names, but not exclusively so.

Rectangular tablet, complete. Yellowish clay. 12.0×6.5×2.2 cms. 18+29+4+3 lines.
Sale of a house.
698 B.C.

Obverse
1. NAD.KISIB 1aš+šur iqi-bi LÚ.ŠÁ—UGU—URU ša URU.ŠÁ.URU
Cylinder seal impression
2. é ep-šu a-di GISH.UR.MEŠ-ŠU GISH.IG.MEŠ-ŠU
3. é dan-ri é KI.NÁ TUR é-a-ri
4. é 2-e é TUR é mu-ša-lu-tu
5. é-ŠU 2 ina šlä-bi é-ŠU 2 ina TUR é-e
6. KÁ NINDU é ubu-sa-a-te *tihi é IURUDU²-a-nu
7. *tihi é 1a-₄-din 15 *tihi har-bu-u-tu ša é
8. 1a-bu *tihi su-qa-qu la-pi-u
9. é šu-a-tu ša 1aš+šur—MU—AŠ ĺDUMU 1nu 1ki ša
10. ina MU.AN.NA ša 1 MA.NA URUDU
11. 2-BÁN šE.PAD.MEŠ DU-u-ni ū-pi-šu-ma
12. ina ša-bi 1 lim 1-me (MA.NA) URUDU.ḪI.A.MEŠ
13. a-na 17.Š.[H]—PAP—AŠ A 1mu-da-bir-a-a
14. i-šim ŠU ša-tu up-pu-uš
15. la-a-qa za-rip na-ši kas-pu ga-mur
16. ta-a-din tú-a-ru de-nu KA.KA la-šú
17. ina ur-kis ina ma-te-me lu-1 aš+šur—MU—AŠ
18. lu-u DUMU.MEŠ-ŠU lu-u DUMU.ČDUMU.MEŠ-ŠU lu-u PAP.MEŠ-ŠU

Bottom Edge
Uninscribed

Reverse
19. ([l]u-u qur-ub-šú-nu lu-1 (text ša) mám+ma-ou-šú-nu ša de-nu
21. ube-ta-ú-ni ma-a é AD-ni šu-u
22. 1 MA.NA KU.BABBAR 1 MA.NA KU.ḪI.dat ana ĺNIN.LÍL SUM-an
23. 2A ANŠE.KUR BABBAR.MEŠ ina ĻR.2 1aš+šur KEŠDA
24. DUMU.ŠU GAL-ŠU ANA ĺHA-am-ri ša ĺIM GĪBIL
25. kas-pu a-na 10. MEŠ a-na EN-šú GUR
26. ina de-ni-šu KA. KA.-ma la TI

27. IGI 1qu-gu-u-a A 1PAP—la-mur GAL—NINDA
28. IGI 1SUHUS—U.U. A 1PAP—la-mur "
29. IGI 1IR—aš+šur LÚ. NINDA ša. É. DINGIR
30. IGI 1aš+šur—1 A 1LMES-e-a
31. IGI 1da-da-a-a A 1"
32. IGI 1UTU—še-zib A 1"
33. IGI 1kal-bu A 1bu-ni-ia
34. IGI 1aš+šur—rēme-ni A 1AD—SU ša-rip
35. IGI 1SU—DINGIR. MEŠ A 1mu-SILIM—dMAŠ
36. IGI 1EN—PAP—AŠ LÚ. AZLAG
37. IGI 1gIR. 2—aš+šur—aš-bat A 1ha-an-da-sa-ni
38. IGI 1.5—BÁD A 1mu-ŠAB-ŠI—aš+šur
39. IGI 1aš+šur—i-din A 1—DINGIR
40. IGI 1EN—PAP—AŠ A 1x—DINGIR. MEŠ
41. IGI 1mu-ša—UD-u-a A 1PAP—DINGIR-a-a
42. IGI 1UTU—PAP—AŠ A 1le-ši-ru
43. IGI 1aš+šur—ti-su—ig-bi A 1bi-bi-ia
44. [IGI 1x]—AŠ—PAP IGI 1gIR. 2—15
45. [IGI 1x]—dU+GUR "A 1tAN—GAL—DÚ-UŠ IGI 1EN—PAP—IR
46. [IGI 1]MAN—nu—ki—dIM A 1gIN—aš+šur
47. [IGI 1]EN—SU A 1SUHUŠ—aš+šur LÚ*. I. SUR

Top Edge
49. ITU. DU.6 UD—24-KÁM lim-mu 1šuL—mu—MAN. "ME"
50. IGI 1AD—MAN? (text: ES)-ni—aš+šur IGI 1PAP—U-A—SU
51. A 1SUHUŠ—aš+šur IGI 1aš+šur—AŠ IGI 1IM—aš+šur
52. IGI 130—AD—PAP A 1gIR. 2—aš+šur 1—(aš)—SUR

Left Hand Edge
On left
53a. 1 šu-pur 1aš+šur—MU—AŠ
54a. EN é
Three nailmarks

On right
53b. "4" ANŠE ŠE. PAD. MEŠ 2-BÁN GIŠ. GEŠTIN. MEŠ
54b. 10 MA. NA URUDU ša šu-pur-šú GU? (text KA)
55. IGI 1šI—me—aš+šur IGI 1SUHUŠ—aš+šur
Translation

"Seal of Aššur-iqbi, the city overseer of Inner City.
A fully built house with its beams and its doors, a main building, a bedroom, a courtyard, private quarters, a service building, a bathroom, an afternoon building, a service building therein, a service building in the courtyard, a ... , a storehouse — adjacent to the house of Eriānu, adjacent to the house of Tadin-Ištar, adjacent to the ruins of the house of Šabu, adjacent to the circular road.
This house belongs to Aššur-šumu-iddina, son of ... In the year in which one mina of copper was bought for 2 sātī of barley, they contracted (it) and they sold it for 1,100 (minas ?) of copper to Sibitti-ahu-iddina, son of Mudabirāyū. The house is made over, acquired, bought, taken; the silver is given over entirely. There is to be no revocation, lawsuit or litigation. (Whoever), in the future or at any time, be it Aššur-šumu-iddina, or his sons or his grandsons, or his brothers, or a neighbor of theirs or their prefect, will seek lawsuit or litigation, with Sibitti-ahu-iddina or his sons, saying: 'This is the house of our father', will give one mina of silver and one mina of gold to Mullissu, will tie 2 white horses at the feet of the god Aššur, will burn his eldest son in the hamru-precinct of the god Adad. The silver he will return tenfold to its owner; in his lawsuit and litigation he will not succeed.

Month of Tašritu (= VII), the 24th day, eponymy of Šulmu-šarrānī.

Fingernail of Aššur-zēru-iddina, owner of the house.
15 homers of barley, 2 sātī of wine, 10 minas of copper for his fingernail he took for himself. Witness: Išme-Aššur; witness: Ubru-Aššur."
Notes
Obv. 1: the divine element in first name is difficult to make out, though a slightly abraded "aššur seems the best possibility, with idšu- a good second choice. On the other hand, as pointed out by KHD, one idAMAR.UTU-iq-bi lúšâ-UGU-URU appears in the text ND 1120, of 714 B.C., as well as in VAT 10430 (date lost, but late 8th century); from VAT 10762:1 we also know that the ša muḫḫītu-āli of Asšur in 692 B.C. was one Asšur-ballit.

4: mušša-lu-tú is not a hapax, as might be concluded from the dictionaries: it is also attested in one of the newly discovered Assur texts, i.e. the division of inheritance Ass. 107 (cfr. K. Hecker, MDOG 123 [1991], p. 113) as part of a sequence of domestic features which has many parallels with our text[14]. FMF considers it derived from muššalu, "middle, afternoon, siesta time", in the NA form muššallu, i.e. *muššallatu. The suggested translation is consequent, ad sensum.

6: the second sign is unclear: both TÚL or NINDU, "oven, tannur" seem possible. The structure named here is uncertain: the syllabic counterparts 𒃲 ti-nu-ri and 𒃴 ti-nu-ri[15] and the personal name KÂ-tinurâyu (cfr. below 1.13, T.E. 12) might be relevant.

8: for the adjective lamû in the NA form lâbiu, cf. CAD L, p. 77a.

9: the reading of the end of the line has not been completely solved through collation. On the basis of ll. 11 and 14, where the verb is in the plural, with a correspondence to the -šu-nus occurring in Rev. 1 and to AD-ni of Rev. 3, we are to deal with more than one seller. Now, after the quite clear name Asšur-šumu-iddina, there might be a "šes" (FMF) or a complex "DUMU+"(FMF) or a complex "DUMU+", maybe even 'u' (KHD); what follows is either a masculine name beginning with PAP- (FMF) or an initial NU-, or even a badly written MI (KHD) followed by two more signs (possibly ki and ša or š). [After a final collation (1/96), KHD suggests the reading 'aššur-šu-MU-šes (erasure) šes-KIN.

10: the initial sign is actually a horizontal crossed by a small vertical, and ending in a larger vertical.

12: the price of this —undoubtedly vast— property poses a number of problems. If we follow through the implication of the Getreidekursangabe of ll. 10-11 and the reference to minas of copper in l. 53b, the integration <MA.NA> would seem the obvious choice: but the resulting total is quite astonishing, since 1100 minas correspond to 18 talents and 20 minas of copper, roughly equivalent to 555 kilos of the metal (by the light


[15] Resp. VAT 20391, 3' and VAT 10823, 3' (KHD, who interprets it as "bakery").
This enormous amount\(^{116}\) seems to the authors to have no real parallel (although high prices in copper are documented for the early part of the 7th century, \textit{i.e.} in texts contemporary to ours: cf. e.g. SAA 6, 123; 125; 155; 186; and cf. also VAT 10430, 12', where 400 minas of copper are the price of a field with a number of other agricultural fixtures). On the other hand, by integrating \(\text{GiN}\), “shekels”, we would obtain 18 minas, 20 shekels — a much more reasonable alternative, although slightly on the low side (cf. e.g. SAA 6, 19; 22; 32; 176; etc.): the sole problem being, that a calculation in shekels by the hundreds has no parallel, nor does it seem plausible, since it could have been easily broken down by the scribe in minas.

18: in the first occurrence of the personal pronoun, KHD sees a possibly “very squeezed -šú-nu”, and in the second a šú followed closely by a horizontal, “more than 0, less than -šú-nu”. The third occurrence might present a -šú-[mi] partly on the edge.

Rev. 27: \textit{NINDA} is a possibility for the last sign squeezed on the edge, which however shows only three wedges (KHD).

31-32: the writing \(\text{I}^\text{"}\) (\textit{i.e.. “Mr. ditto”}) is unusual.

40: the first sign of the patronym resembles a \(\text{KA}\), but has some peculiarities; no decided interpretation is given.

T.E. 49: Thé sign ‘\text{me}’ is clearly visible; but all other attestations of the name of the eponym of 698 B.C. lack this final element. On the other hand, no other known eponym’s name seems to fit the evidence; and the currency in copper as well as the clause \text{uppišūma ... isimmū} are relatively good concurrent indicators of a date various decades earlier than what may be called average for the corpus.

50: the second sign of the PN is decidedly “30”; but no other solution than a name involving the interrogative pronoun \text{mannu}, and meaning “Aššur is the father of whom?” is readily apparent.

52: a badly written \text{I} \text{SUR} seems to be intended here.

L.H.E. left/right 53-55: the practice of an additional fingernail on the part of the buyer (and not by the person who seals, \textit{i.e.} the seller) is decidedly unusual, even in texts conceived \textit{ex latere emptoris}: cf. FNALD, 8-9, § 1.3.2, and see CAD \(\S\), pp. 252a-b. The exact meaning of the sign \text{KA} is unclear: however, in view of the clause \(\text{n GiN KU.BABBAR ša šu-pur-šu-nu GU7}\), VAT 9361 (= ALA N29, 4), L.H.E. 2, it is quite probable that \text{KA} was a scribal mistake for \text{KAXNINDA}. Only a tentative translation of the clause has been given, in view of its rarity. In any case, the 10 minas of copper as payment for the fingernail find a parallel e.g. in TCL 9, 58 (= SAA 6, 31), T.E. 31, a text of 709 B.C.

\(^{116}\) Which, by the market rate indicated in the text itself, would have allowed the purchase of 2,200 \text{sāti} (approx. forty thousand five hundred liters!) of barley.
[for VAT 9326 = ALA N14(5), cf. Introduction, b1].


Rectangular tablet, almost complete (scoured during excavation). Reddish-clay. 12.4×6.9×1.8 cms. 22+20+18+14 lines

Four-column list of people.
No date.

Obverse
Col. I

1'. \[x\]x x x x
2'. PAP \[3\] A \[x x x x\]
3'. \[aš+šur\] \[x \]x
4'. \[aš+šur\] -HAL \[x x x\]
5'. \[suHUš-aš+šur\] A 'x'
6'. \[da-gil\] -DINGIR A 4
7'. \[LAL-iš\] -DINGIR A 3
8'. PAP 5 \[aš+šur\] -[x]-a-ni
9'. \[muše\] -[zi-b-d] P A ŠA
10'. A \[aš+šur\] -[x] -AŠ
11'. \[ku\] -[x x]-a ŠA
12'. A \[m[ u' x x x x x] sa]
13'. \[aš+šur\] -[x x].MEŠ
14'. \[aš+šur\] -[x x x x x]
15'. \[x x x aš]+šur'
16'. \[x x x x x x x\]
17'. \[x x x x x x x x\]

Approx. 3 lines' space lost

20'. \[A]\[r\]GIL[N x x x x x]
21'. \[IR\] -DINGIR [x x x x]
22'. A \[aš+šur\] -[x x x]
23'. \[ki-ma\] -[ma x x]
24'. \[aš+šur\] -SAG -[i '-šitu]

Col. II

Space of approx. 6 lines lost

1'. \[x x x x x x\] A 4
2'. PAP 2 A \[aš+šur\] -SAG -i-ši
3'. \[aš+šur\] -[re-eš-tú] -PAP A ŠA
4'. 1 A 4
5'. 1 A GA
6'. PAP 3 A \[aš+šur\] -SU
7'. 1aš+ šur—KUR-u-a
8'. 1dPA—šá-kin—ARHUŠ 1 A-šú ŠA
9'. 1aš+ šur—a-a-li A-šú ŠA
10'. 1a—ta-šī-at—ana—aš+ šur ŠA
11'. 1aš+ šur—ŪŠ—TI ŠA
12'. 1tar-di-tū—aš+ šur ŠA
13'. PAP 5 A 1aš+ šur—KUR-u-a
14'. 1da-gil—DINGIR ŠA
15'. 1qi-bit—dUTU
16'. 1 A 1TUKUL-ti—aš+ šur
17'. 1bgar-ru-šu
18'. x x a-a A-šú ŠA
Rest (2 or 3 lines) lost

Reverse
Col. III
1'. 1IGI—aš+ šur—la-mu]r²
2'. 1aš+ šur—SAG-i-ši
3'. 1 rém-ut—aš+ šur
4'. PAP 3 A 1aš+ šur—kil-a-ni
5'. 1 A-šú 4
6'. 1 A-šú 3
7'. PAP 2 A 1IGI—aš+ šur—la-mur
8'. PAP 5 A 1aš+ šur—kil-a-ni
9'. 1šuma4-ma—dPA
10'. 1—aš+ šur
11'. PAP 2 A 130—AD—PAP
12'. 14-īl—(erasure) DINGIR-a-a
13'. 1 A pir¹
14'. PAP 2 A 1šuma4-ma—dPA
15'. 1aš+ šur—kit-ri
16'. 1SUHUŠ—dPA
17'. PAP 2 A 1aš+ šur—rém-a-ni
18'. 1aš+ šur—KAL—in—MAN
19'. A 1aš+ šur—PAP-ir
20'. x x x x
Rest lost

Col. IV
1. 1dPA—PAP—AŠ ŠA [x]
2. A 1SU-a-t[e (x)]
3. 1ki-šir—[F]A
Translation

"...[...], in all six sons of [PN]; Aššur-...[...]; Aššur-iddina²; Ubru-Aššur, a son of n spans' height; Dāgil-ilu, a son of 4 spans' height; Tariš-ilu, a son of 3 spans' height: in all, 5 (sons) of Aššur-danninani.

Mušezip-Nabû, adolescent, son of Aššur-ɑhû-iddina; Ku...a, adolescent, son of Mu...; Aššur-...; Aššur-...; Aššur-...; Aššur-...; Aššur-... (3-4 lines lost or untranslatable); son of Kên-..., Urda-ilu..., son of Aššur-...; Kima...; Aššur-rēš-išî.

... a son of 4 spans' height, in all 3 sons of Aššur-rēš-išî.

Nabû-rebtu-usur, an adolescent son; one son, of 4 spans' height; one suckling son: in all, three sons of Aššur-erîba.

Aššur-šadû'a; Nabû-šakin-reme², one adolescent son; Aššur-ayyâli, one adolescent son; La-tašiâš-ana-Aššur, adolescent; Aššur-mîtu-ballît, adolescent; Tardîtu-Aššur, adolescent: in all, five sons of Aššur-šadû'a.

Dāgil-ilu, adolescent, son of Qibit-Šamaš. One son of Tukulti-Aššur; Garruşu.

...aya, an adolescent son (2-3 lines lost)

... Pān-Aššur-lâmûr; Aššur-rēš-išî; Rêmuţ-Aššur: in all, 3 sons of Aššur-killanni. One son of 4 spans' height; one son of 3 spans' height; in all two (text: 3) sons of Pān-Aššur-lâmûr; in all, 5 sons of Aššur-killanni.

Šumma-Nabû; Naţid-Aššur: in all, two sons of Šîn-abû-usur. Arbaţ-ilâpa; one weaned son: in all, 2 sons of Šumma-Nabû.

Aššur-kitari; Ubru-Nabû: in all, two sons of Aššur-rēmnanni. Aššur-(mu)dašin-sharri, son of Aššur-naṣirî;... (rest lost)

Nabû-ɑhû-iddina, adolescent, son of Ribate; Kišir-Nabû, one suckling son: in all, two sons of Mardî.

Aššur-šezipibanni;... son, adolescent; one son of 4 spans' height: in all, three sons of Urda-ilâyya.

Dāgil-ilu, one adolescent son; Nabû-kurbušunu; Takilšu-ul-îbâš, one son of 5 spans' height: in all, 4 sons of Mutakkil-Aššur."
Notes
I, 7': the broken sign might be restored as [KALAG] (KHD).

10': the last sign might of course also be understood as ŠA, but a similar notation appears also in line 11'.

10': “Do not be negligent against Aššur!” (reading KHD): this name could be usefully added to CAD Ş/2, pp. 374b-375a.

III, 13': pir is a common abbreviation in such census-type lists for pirsu, “weaned”: cf. Fales, CCENA, passim.

IV, 9: reading KHD; alternative readings are ḫub—'na''-<<na>>-a-a (KHD), or b'a-na'a-a-a (FMF).

Rectangular tablet, join of two pieces. Yellowish clay. 12.2×7.0×2.2 cms. 14+28+1 lines.
Sale of a house.
683 B.C. 117

Obverse
1. NA₂.KIŠIB ḫEN—a-na—ma-ru-qī LŪ.GAL ḫ.GAL
2. ḫa URU.ŠA.URU
Seal impressions
3. *tiḫḫi ḫ.GUD *tiḫḫi ḫ.UR
4. *tiḫḫi ḫ.ŠU.2 *tiḫḫi ḫ.KA.DINGIR-a-a
5. *tiḫḫi ḫ.ŠUM-MU—aššur
6. *tiḫḫi ḫ.ŠUM-MU—aššur
7. ḫ.ŠU-a-tū ḫ.EN—'a-na—ma'-ru-qī
8. LŪ.GAL ḫ.GAL ḫ.ŠA [U]RU.ŠA.URU
9. up-piš-ma ḫ.ŠUM-MU—aššur
10. ina ḫ.A-BI 30 GĪN. MES (erasure) KUL.BABBAR
11. ḫ.AD-šū ina ḫ.A-BI il-k[i-šū ina ta]'r'-ṣi
12. ḫa ḫ.da-gan [i][I]-qe
13. kas-pu gam-mur ta'-din' (cavity: [tu-a])-ru
14. ḫ.de'-e-nu ḫ.KA.[KAL la-aš-š]u'117

Bottom Edge
Uninscribed

117) Cfr. introduction, b.3, for this date.
Reverse
15. man-nu šá ina ur-kiš ina ma-ti-me  
16. lu-u LÚ.GAL.É.GAL lu-u LÚ.GAL.É.GAL  
17. egi-rú šáv de-e-nu kA.kA  
18. *tu 1šum-mu—aš+šur u DUMU.MEŠ-šú  
19. ub-ta-šu-ni  
20. 1 MA.NA KÚ.BABBAR 1 MA.NA KÚ.GI ana 4NIN.LÍL SUM  
21. 2 ANŠE.KUR.RA.MEŠ BABBAR.MEŠ ina GÍR.2 'aš+šur' i-rak-kas  
22. kas-pu a-na 10.MEŠ-ti ana EN.MEŠ-šú ú-tar  
23. ina de-ni-šú kA.kA-ma NU TI  

24. IGI 1na-bu-u-a LÚ*.SANGA 1šúl-mu—PAP.MEŠ "  
25. IGI 1dUTU—MU—PAP " 1PAP—la-mur "  
26. IGI 1mar-di-i " 1un-zar-ḫu "  
27. IGI 1EN—IGI—LÁL LÚ*.2-u ša É.GAL  
28. IGI 1dPA—šé-zib-a-ni LÚ*.šá UGU É.MAN.MEŠ  
29. IGI 1EN—"KUR"—DINGIR LÚ*.GAL 50  
30. IGI 1dPA—x (x)’ LÚ*. ‘DUMU.KUR’  
31. IGI 1EN—BÁD LÚ*.MUŠEN.DU x ‘KUR’  
32. IGI 1IM—aš+šur LÚ*.KA.’KEŠDA’ "  
33. IGI 1da-a+a+a+a LÚ*. kal-la-pu  
34. IGI 1aš+šur—a—PAP LÚ* "  
35. IGI mu-qa-li—IDIM IGI 1ba-na-a  
36. IGI 1ḫul-qu-su IGI ‘zi-zi-iq  
37. IGI 1aš+šur—zu-a-ni IGI 1da-di-i  
38. PAP 6 LÚ*.L.DUG.MEŠ KUR  
39. IGI 1dMAŠ—PAP—PAP IGI 1AD—IGI  
40. IGI 1qaq-qa-da-nu IGI 1dše-š-es—URU-ES  
41. IGI 1EN—A—aš IGI 1ku—[x x]  
42. IGI 1dPA—u-a DUMU [1]ka—[x x x]

Top Edge
43. IGI 1EN—[x x x]  
44. IGI 1dPA—u-a DUMU [1]ka—[x x x]

Translation
"Seal of Bēl-ana-marruqi, palace superintendent of Inner City.  
A<fully built> house, with its beams, (and) a door, 20 (cubits') length and 9  
(cubits') width, adjacent to the slaughterhouse, adjacent to the corral, adjacent to  
the service building, adjacent to the house of Bābilāyu, adjacent to the house of  
Šūmmu-Aššur. This house, belonging to Bēl-ana-marruqi, the palace superinten­  
dent of Inner City, Šūmmu-Aššur bought for 30 shekels of silver. It is his paternal
estate; its ilku-duty before the temple of Dagan he took. The silver is entirely handed over (erasure); there is no lawsuit or litigation. Whoever, in the future or at any time, be it the palace superintendent, or a future palace superintendent, will seek out lawsuit or litigation with Summu-Aššur or his son, will give one mina of silver and one mina of gold to Mullissu; he will tie 2 white horses to the feet of (the statue of) Aššur; he will give back tenfold to its owners. In his lawsuit and litigation he will not succeed.

Witness: Nabû’a, the priest, (and) Šulmu-aḫḫē, ditto; witness: Šamaš-šumu-ušur, ditto, (and) Aḫu-lāmur, ditto; witness: Mardī, ditto (and) Unzarḫu, ditto; witness: Bēl-(l)āmur, the deputy of the palace; witness: Nabû-šezibanni, the man in charge of the royal mausoleum; witness: Adi-māti-ili, commander-of-fifty; Nabû-, son of the palace; witness: Bēl-dūri, bird-catcher of the palace; witness: Šār-Aššur, tailor, ditto; witness: Dayānu, kallapu-soldier; witness: Aššur-aplu-ušur, ditto-man. Witness: Muqallil-kabi; witness: Banā; witness: Ḫulqusu; witness: Ziziya; witness: Aššur-le₂āni; witness: Dadi; in all, 6 gate-guards of the palace. Witness: Ninurta-aḫu-ušur; witness: Abu-lāmur; witness: Qaqqadānu; witness: Še₂e⁻ērēš; witness: Bēl-aplu-iddina; witness: Ku-; witness: Nabû’a son of Ka..... Month of Araḫšamma (= VIII), the 16th day, eponymy of Mannu-ki-Adad.”

Notes
Obv. 2: two horizontal lines are drawn before and after the seal impressions.

3: an ḫep-šu should be understood as inadvertently left out by the scribe. Notice the (relatively rare) calculation of the dimensions of the structure, obviously in cubits as in other explicit cases.

4-5: it is not clear whether the adjacent structures were originally part of the complex up for sale, or should be understood as communal quarters, e.g. of the oilpressers’ guild, etc.

10: the number of shekels, 30, is written over a previous 60. The erasure would seem to involve the sign URUDU.MES, erroneously traced in lieu of KU.BABBAR, which was added after it.

11-12: the integration of the line with ina ta₃-si was one of a number suggested by KHD. If confirmed, it would point to the less frequent spatial meaning of ina tarṣi, although it may be disputed whether a physical or cultic “before” is meant (cf. AHw., 1332a, and see LAS 187, 11), resp. referring to the seller’s house or to the ilku (FMF would prefer the latter solution). In any case, our text adds to the mentions of the Bit Dagan at Assur: this structure has been considered a part of the palace reminiscent of an ancient link of Assyrian kingship with the cult of Dagan of Terqa, and thus destined to the cult of the dead kings in some connection with the bit kimahṭi (cf. Menzel, Assyrische Tempel, I, pp. 50-53), but more recently it has been connected, when not
utterly identified, with the Ê LÚ.MU.MEŠ = bêt huršê, i.e. the slaughterhouse and the kitchen of the Temple of Aššur (cfr. Deller, BaM 16 [1985], pp. 362ff.)

14: laššu is required by the formula, but the end sign is neither šlj nor šjú (KHD).

Rev. 24ff.: The witness list is here of particular importance, for its prosopographical links and its implications for dating the document: cfr. Introduction, b.3, above.

28: the bêt šarrâni (Ê.MAN.MEŠ as here, but also Ê.LUGAL.MEŠ) is discussed by V. Donbaz, Studies ... Sedat Alp, Ankara 1992, pp. 119-125 (and esp. 122), with the aid of MA and NA materials from Assur and Nineveh; cf. also K. Deller, BaM 24(1993), p. 221, on an early NA source (Assurnasirpal II); also ibid., pp. 231-232. The exact meaning of the term as "royal mausoleum" has been ascertained through the contiguity of Ê.KI.MAH (cf. ad no. 77, below).

31: after the DÙ, a further sign is visible (KHD).

Archive N15.


Rectangular tablet, formed by two joining pieces; reverse rather effaced. Reddish clay. 10.2×5.1×2.2 cms. 17+4+17+2 lines.

Sale of a slave.

Post-canonical date (?).

Obverse

1. [NA₄].KIŠIB ẖaš+šur—ib-ni A ẖaš[šur]—x x
3. [D]₄[MU] [p]a—q—a—n—a—d₄₅
4. [E]₄[N LÚ SUM—a—n]i

Four stamp seal impressions

5. ẖs[ ] x x ur-da*—šù—nu
6. ša ẖaš+šur—ib-ni
7. ša [d]₄₄—SAG—iš-ši
8. ú-piš-ma ẖsu—aš+šur
9. ina šā 37 GIN KÚ.BABBAR TA* IGI ẖaš+šur—DÙ
10. TA* IGI [d]₄₄—SAG—iš-ši
11. il-qe LÚ šu—a—tú
12. up-pu—šu za-ar-pat
13. la-qe tu—a—ru de-e—nu
14. KAK.KA—bu la—dš—šú man-nu šá ina ur—’kiš
15. ina ma—te—me lu—u ẖaš+šur—DÙ
16. lu¹d₄-a—SAG—iš-ši
17. ša de-e-nu [KA].’KA’-b[u]

Bottom Edge
18. TA*SU—aš+ [šur]
19. ub-ta’-u’-[ni]
20. ma nü a’-pat’-[tar]
21. kas-pu a-na 10[(x)]-a-[r(e)]

Reverse
22. ina EN-e-šù GUR-[ra]
23. a-na de-e-ni-šu
24. KA (KA) ma la i”-laq”-gé
25. dšš+šar ”EN dUTU” d[PA]
26. ’lu” EN de-e’-ni-šú”
27. šib-tú bec-nú a-na 1-me ’UD’.ME [( ])
28. sa’-ar’-tu ana kāla [MU.AN.NA.MEŠ]
29. še-eḫ-ḫu bi[r’].te/ti ITU.MEŠ’

Top Edge
30. IGI ITU.ŠU’-a-a IGI x x
31. IGI ITU.ĀB-a-a IGI ’[x x x]
32. IGI [x x] x x
33. [x x x x x]
34. [IGI]’man’-nu’—lu—’ḪA.LA”
35. [IGI] x x
36. [IGI] URU.arba-il-a-a
37. [IGI] aš+šur—MU—’PAP”
38. [IGI] l5’— x x
39. [IGI] l5’IM— x x
40. [IGI] x a lu’ x

Translation
“Seal of Aššur-bāni, son of Aššur—.; seal of Nabū-rēš-iši, son of Pāqa-ana-Istar, owner of the man being sold.
Eriba-Aššur bought and contracted Si..., their slave’ of Aššur-bāni and of Nabū-rēš-iši, for 37 shekels of silver from Aššur-bāni and Nabū-rēš-iši. This man is made over, he (text: she) is acquired, taken. There is to be no revocation, lawsuit or litigation. Whoever, in the future or at any time, either Aššur-bāni or Nabū-rēš-iši, will seek out lawsuit or litigation with Eriba-Aššur, saying: ‘I will redeem the
man’ will return the silver tenfold to his owners; in lawsuit or litigation he will not succeed. May Aššur, Bēl, Šamaš, Nabû be his opponents in court. (Guarantee against) seizure and epilepsy — 100 days; (against) fraud — for all time; (against) possession between months.

Notes
Obv. 5: suggestion for restitution by KHD. Due to a horizontal crack, the reading of the slave’s name is impossible.
12: notice the erroneous feminime form, in lieu of *zarip.
Rev. 29: for the formula here, cf. NATAPA 1, 39, rev. 3; CAD Š/2, p. 266b (with quotes exclusively from NA Assur). The same formula in no. 78, Rev. 4’.
T.E. 41-42: in these lines, the date might have been given.

Rectangular tablet, break at top. Reddish clay. 16.8×3.7×1.5 cms. 1+13(+3)+3+16 lines.
Sale of male slave.
Date lost.

Top Edge
1. [NA₄.KIŠIB ³ra-si—DINGIR]

Obverse
1’. ‘DUMU* [x x x x]
2’. EN LÚ [SUM]-a-[mi]

Cylinder seal impressions
____________________________________
3’. [³a’-tar—ZALÁG IR-ŠU
4’. ša ku-um US.MEŠ ša ³TU.ŠU-a(-a)
5’. LŪ*.NU.GIŠ.SAR URU.su-mu-gi-ti
6’. na-ši-la-a-ni
7’. ú-PIŠ-MA ³šku-sa-su
8’. ina ša-bi 30 GÎN.MEŠ KU.BABBAR (8“) gi-nu-cu ša aš+šur
(8“)a-su-du
9’. TA* IGI ³ra-si—DINGIR il-qē
(9“) ša ĜI.MAJ
10’. kas-pu gam-mur ta-din
11'. Lû šu-a-tû za-rip
12'. la-ge tu-a-ru
13'. de-e-nu KA.KA-bu

Bottom Edge
1. la-ás-šû man-nu ša ina ur-kiš
2. ina ma-te-me ib-bal-kát-‘u’-ni
3. lu-u ‘ra-si—DIN[GIR]

Reverse
1. lu-u DUMU.MEŠ-šû
2. lu DUMU.DUMU.MEŠ-šû
3. lu šá-kan-šû
4. lu EN.MEŠ-šû
5. ša de-e-nu KA.KA-bu
6. TA* ku-sa-su
7. ub-ta-u-ni
8. 2 MA.NA KÜ.BABBAR SUM-an

9. IGI 'aš+šur—tab-ni—PAP Lû* A.BA
10. IGI 'man-nu—ki—Arba-il Lû* SAG
11. IGI 'na-bu-ti DUMU a-mat <KUR>
12. IGI 'DINGIR—SUM-na Lû* DAM.GAR
13. IGI 'ta-al-la Lû* mu-suš-ar-aš-a
14. IGI 'aš+šur—bal-liš Lû* NINDA
15. IGI 'TUŠU-ac-aš Lû* "
16. [IGI x x x x]

Translation
"Seal of Rasi-il, son of ..., owner of the man being sold.
Kusasu bought Atar-nârî, his slave—who had been handed over as ‘blood­money’ for Duâza(yu), the gardener of the town of Sumuqiti—for 30 shekels of silver from Rasi-il, and contracted him.

(in smaller script, on right edge, parallel to main text:) regular offering for Assur; ašudu-offering for the (royal) tomb.
The silver is entirely given over; this man is acquired, taken. There is to be no revocation, lawsuit or litigation. Whoever, in the future or at any time, will contravene, be it Rasi-il or his sons or his grandsons, or his prefect, or his lords, and will seek out lawsuit and litigation with Kusasu, will pay 2 minas of silver.
Witness: Aššur-tabni-usur, scribe; witness: Mannu-kt-Arba'il, eunuch; witness: Nabuti, son of a <palace> handmaid; witness: Ilu-iddina, merchant; witness:
Ta'alla, Egyptian; witness: Aššur-ballit, baker; witness: Du'uzāyu, same profession; witness: ..."

Notes
4': the fourth visible sign is uncertain as PAP or ūš, although the latter seems semantically more likely. For the kūm dāme formula, cf. FNALD, p. 160; Kwasmann, p. NALK, 129; SAA 6, no. 264.

8'-9': for the ašūdu-offering, of an edible nature, cf. Menzel, AT, I, p. 60. In l. 9', the ī.gl мех must stand for ī.klmēh — a rare logographic writing presumably influenced by the current pronunciation of kimēhhu as gimēhhu (cf. CAD K, pp. 370b-371b for some slight syllabically-written evidence); for a possible parallel from Assur, cf. Introduction, b.3, and fn. 54, above. A good-sized list of food and drink offerings for the kimēhhu of Inner City is ADD 1016 (see now Fales-Postgate, SAA 7, no. 197).

Rev. 11: Cf. the more frequent writings Dumu ē. gal/kur: in the Assur texts, cf. e.g. NATAPA 1, 35, Obv. 6.

Rectangular tablet, fragmentary (join of five pieces). Reddish clay. 9.2×4.2×1.9 cms. 17+19+1 lines.
Sale of people.
Date lost.

Obverse
1. NAA.KIŠIB ld[im]-iš/mil-ku—KAM-eš
2. A ʻaš+šúr—I [LÚ.AZLAG]
3. EN UN.MES ṭa-ʻda-ni

Cylinder seal impressions

4. Ši-ti—KAL-at ld[im]-aš+šúr—ūš—TLA DUMU-šá
5. PAP 2 ZL.[ME]š LUM.MES-ni
6. ša ld[im]-iš/mil-ku—KAM-eš
7. A ʻaš+šúr—I LÚ.AZLAG
8. ū-p[iš]-ma ʻSU—aš+š[ur]
9. ina šà-[bi n]+1/2 MA 4 GIN KU.BABBAR T[A* IGI]
10. ld[im]-iš/mi]l-ku—KAM-eš i{l-[qe]
11. [kas-pu ga(n)]-mur ta-din UN.M[ES]
12. [š]u-[a-tú-(nu)] ʻup]-[pu]-šū za-rıppı
13. [la-q]i-ʻu tu-a-ru de-nu
14. [KA].KA la-āš-šú man-nu ša ina ur-kiš
15. [ina ma]-te-me lu-u ld[im]-iš/mil-ku—KAM-eš
17. [x x x x] [x x x x]
Rest (= approx. 1-2 lines) lost

Reverse
Approx. 1-2 lines lost at beginning
1′. [ina deni]-šù [KA]. KA-šù la'[x x x]
2′. ['aš+šur dUTU] [EN u 4] lu-u [EN] [de-ni-šú]
3′. [sibṭu bennu] ina 1-me [U] D.ME sa-ar-tú
4′. [ana] kal M[U]. ME še-ḫu ina bir-te ITU. ME

5′. IGI 1[x x] x a LÚ2. NINDA3
6′. IGI 1[x x x] ’x x’
7′. IGI 1[x x x x]
8′. IGI 1[x x x] ’x x’
9′. IGI 1[ar-d]i-tú—x [x]
10′. IGI 1[x (x)] qa bur IGI 1[nu-ri]2—x [x]
12′. [IGI] 1[ré]m-ana—d15 LÚ. NINDA
13′. [IGI] 1[bi-su-u-a-a]
14′. [IGI] 1[ti-st-i]
15′. IGI 1[ITU, AB-a-a]
16′. IGI 1[kak-ku-su]
17′. IGI 1[PA—MU—GIN]
18′. IGI 1[qur-dí—aš+šur IGI 15—NUMUN—Aš
19′. IGI 1[aš+šur—SAG—iš-ši]

Top Edge
1. ITU. ŠU U[= x x x x]

Translation
"Seal of Adad-iš/milku-ereš, son of Aššur-na'id, whitewasher, owner of the people being sold.
Eriba-Aššur bought and contracted the woman Šiti-dannat and Aššur-mítu-ballit her son, in all 2 people, serfs of Adad-iš/milku-ereš son of Aššur-na'id, whitewasher, for n+1/2 minas, 4 shekels of silver from Adad-iš/milku-ereš. The silver is entirely given over. These people are made over, acquired, taken. There is no revocation, lawsuit, or litigation. Whoever, in the future or at any time, be it Adad-iš/milku-ereš or his sons or his grandsons, ...

(about 4 lines lost)
... in his lawsuit and litigation he will not succeed. May Aššur, Šamaš, Bēl and Nabû be his opponents in court. (Guarantee against) seizure and epilepsy — 100 days; (against) fraud — for all time, (against) possession between months. Witness: ..., baker; witness: ...; witness: ...; witness: ...; witness: ...; witness: ...; witness: Nuri-...; witness: Aššur-lēši son of Tukultu-Aššur; witness: Rēmana-Ištar, baker; witness: Būšāyu; witness: Tuši; witness: Kanūnāyu; witness: Kak-kusšu; witness: Nabû-šumu-ukīn; witness: Qurdi-Aššur; witness: Ištar-zēru-iddina; witness: Aššur-rēš-iši.

Month of Dušūzu (= IV), the nth day, eponymy of ...

Notes
Rev. 16'-17': as stated in the Introduction (b.3), these two people are attested in other texts of this archive and N17; they are also presumably the same individuals as a pair of goldsmiths occurring in the witness list VAT 10007 (= Deller-Millard, AfO 32 [1985], p. 49; = ALA N33[44]), Rev. 6-12.

79. VAT 9689. ALA N15, no number (between (3) and (4)). Ass.Fd.Nr. 8520c. Fragmentary envelope around totally destroyed inner tablet. Yellow-reddish clay. 5.2×3.1×0.8 cms. 1+9 lines. Contract text. Post-canonical date (Falkner 646 B.C.).

Obverse
Totally lost

Bottom Edge
1'. x x]x lu IGI DUMU 'NUMUN-ti-(on edge)'i'

Reverse
2'. [x x] 'pa'ša 'ūšaš-a
3'. [a] 'mušuš-zib—aššū SUM-an
4'. [ITU] NE UD-23-'KAM'-lim-mu I 1 1 1PA—MAN—'PAR.MEŠ-šū
5'. IGI]+1 'puša-a-a IGI+1 'na-nu-u
6'. IGI]+1 'aššū-šu—zu IGI+1 'aššū-šu—KI-ia
7'. IGI]+1 'aššū-šu—bi-sūn IGI+1 'a-ta-n[a-a]h—DINGIR
8'. IGI]+1 'EN—A—Aš IGI+1 'mu-x[x x x]
9'. [z]zi-[z]I GI+1 'x—MAN—nu' [x x]
10'. ] DUMU I[ Rest lost

Translation
"... before ... or before the son of Zērutī, ... he will release from the pledge, (and) will give to Mušezib-Aššur."
Month of Abu (= V), the 23rd day, eponymy of Nabû-šar-ahhēšu.
Witness: Puṣāyu; witness: Nanû; witness: Aššur-lēši; witness: Aššur-issēia; witness: Aššur-bēssunu; witness: Atanah-ilu; witness: Bēl-aplu-iddina; witness: Mu...; witness: Zizi; witness: ...mannu' ... son of ... (rest lost)"

Notes
Rev. 9': the second name might also be understood as ₄DN'-MAN—Di[NGIR,MEŠ] (KHD).

Rectangular tablet with rounded edges. Reddish clay (= B), with fragmentary envelope (= A).
A: two non-joining fragments, with stamp seal impressions. 2.4×1.2×1.2 cms. Remnants of 8 lines.
B: 3.9×2.2×0.9 cms. I+6+2+8+3+1 lines.
Loan of barley.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 616).

A
Obverse
Beginning lost
Frg. a
1'. [š]a ina UGU LŪ.NI[NDA,MEŠ]
Two stamp seal impressions
2'. [₄rem]-a-ni—15 ina UGU 10-[e]
3'. [ina IGI]₂MAŠ up-ta-si-[iš]
4'. [e-g]f-r-tú in-ta-a[t-ha]
5'. il [x]
6'. Rest lost

Left Hand Edge
Frg. b
1'. IGI 'SUHUŠ—₄PA A.BA
2'. IGI ₄la-qi-pu"

B
Top Edge
1. ₄rem-a-ni—15 LŪ.NINDA

Obverse
2. ina UGU e-gir-te šá ŠE.BAR
3. ša ₄im'—di—a—KUR
4. $\text{ša} \text{ 'ina UGU} ^{\text{n}} \text{LÚ.NINDA.MEŠ}$

5. $\text{šu'ma} \text{ 'réma-ni} ^{\text{n}} 15 \text{ 'ina IGI} ^{\text{b}[\text{MAŠ ū}]} \text{-pa-si-is} ^{\text{b}}$

6. $\text{e-gir-tú} \ [\text{ina UGU} \ 10\text{-te}]$

7. $\text{e-''gir''-[tú intatha]}$

Bottom Edge

8. $[x \ x \ x] \ iIL \ [x \ x]$

9. $[x \ x \ x] \ ù-x \ [x]$

Reverse

10. $\text{šu'ma} \text{ 'réma-ni} ^{\text{n}} 15 \text{ 'ina IGI} ^{\text{b} \text{NINDA.MEŠ}}$

11. $\text{it-ti-ti-iz} \ (\text{erasure}) \ ŠÉ.BAR$

12. $\text{a-di ru-bé-sá SUM-an}$

13. $\text{ITU.ŠÉ.DIRI UD-7-KÁM*}$

14. $\text{lim-mu} ^{\text{b} \text{EN}} \text{-iq-bi}$

15. $\text{IGI} ^{\text{b} \text{aš} + \text{šur}} \text{-SAG-i-ši}$

16. $\text{IGI} ^{\text{b} \text{IR}} \text{-DÚ-tí}$

17. $\text{IGI} ^{\text{b} \text{bi-su-u-a}}$

Left Hand Edge

18. $[x \ x \ x] \ \text{gín KÚ.BABBAR}$

19. $5 \ \text{gín ma-ki-x} \ [x \ (x)]$

20. $[\text{šE'}] \text{.BAR} \ \text{it-ta-ša}$

Right Hand Edge

21. $\text{IGI} ^{\text{b} \text{ha-nu-nu}}$

Translation

A:  
"... concerning the loan-document which was upon the bakers —Rēmǎnni-Ištar, (since) it was in excess of tenfold (interest), annulled it before the god Ninurta. He took the loan-document up. ...

Witness: Ubru-Nabû, the scribe; witness: Laqûpu, ditto."

B:  
"Rēmǎnni-Ištar, the baker. Concerning the loan-document of the barley of Imdi-amat, (responsibility of) which was upon the bakers —Rēmǎnni-Ištar annulled it before the god Ninurta. The loan-document was in excess of tenfold (interest); he took the loan-document up. ...

If Rēmǎnni-Ištar will remain/be available as chief of the bakers, he will give the barley back together with its interest.

Month of intercalary Addaru (= XIII), the 17th day, eponymy of Bēl-iqbi. Witness: Aššūr-rēš-iši; witness: Urda-Baniti; witness: Bisūpā.
Of the (?) n+2 shekels of silver (available), 5 shekels (are for) the tax-collector:
(he) brought in the barley.
Witness: Ḥanûnu.”

Notes
A/B, 1ff.: This text seems to open quite an interesting perspective on a) the economic (and implicitly temporal) limits of NA loans, and on b) the factual destiny of documents recording debts upon a lack of repayment, especially if c) one of the Assur professional “brotherhoods” was involved. First of all, the clause in l. 2 qualifies quite clearly the egirtu as the essential NA legal term for “contract” / “agreement”, i.e. a bilateral legal obligation of sorts, from loans to judicial decisions, etc.118. This indication tallies perfectly with:
— the Aramaic endorsements on NA clay tablets, which present ˒grt in loan texts, as opposed to dnt (= NA dannutu), “deed”, in conveyance (sale) texts (cf. Fales, AECT, pp. 6ff., 15 ff.; J. Hoftijzer - K. Jongeling, Dictionary of the North-West Semitic Inscriptions, I, Leiden 1995, p. 12);
— the previously known NA evidence from legal texts (cfr. CAD E, p. 46b ad 2; FNALD, nos. 47, 48) which ties the term to loans and judicial decisions or settlements119;
— the evidence published in NATAPA 1 and herein, where the connection of the word egirtu and a condition of credit/debit is manifest in all cases120: viz. NATAPA nos. 1 (transfer of property in lieu of payment of debts, with foreseen consequent smashing of

118) A similar view was already put forth in 1992, going into much greater detail, by C. Zaccagnini in his contribution to the XXXIX RAI (Heidelberg 1997, forthcoming); FMF is grateful to Prof. Zaccagnini for providing a copy of his text during the preparation of this article. Of course, NA also (and far from infrequently) uses egirtu to refer to a letter-tablet, or more in general to epistolary “correspondence”, whether self-referentially or talking about others (exx. in CAD E, pp. 45a-46b, ad 1). This double acceptation will be passed on to Aramaic, as the Elephantine evidence shows: agreeing with S.A. Kaufman, The Akkadian Influences on Aramaic, Chicago 1974, p. 48, the etymology of the term must be Akkadian (cf. also Postgate, BIOr 37 [1980], p. 68); as such, it might be surmised that the basic meaning of egirtu, “to be crosswise, across”, might be behind the two meanings, both implying some “correspondence” and/or “mutuality” (contra, Zaccagnini, cit., who brings forth evidence for a verb *eĝēru, “to write”).

119) Zaccagnini, cit., speaks of “some occurrences of the term egirtu denoting conveyance-documents”, quoting “e.g.” SAA 6, 177, Rev. 12’ (purchase of slaves), and SAA 6, 336, 10’ (purchase of an estate). However, the latter text shows e-gir-rā,meš-te in a fragmentary part of the text where the price is expected, leaving us to surmise that a number of “debt-notes” could have formed part of the deal, and not described the deed itself. As for the former text, it may be noticed that the lô.a.â.bâ qa-bit e-gir-te is one of three scribes witnessing the slave sale; and, while in this case a confusion or a lax use of tablet terminology can certainly not be ruled out, we might on the other hand surmise that the named egirtu represented the previous (unrepaid) debt-note which had led the sold people to their present unhappy condition, similarly to the case described in KAV 139, 27-30, for which cf. below.

120) N.B. (FMF): some of the descriptions of the NATAPA 1 texts given here present newer interpretations of the documents themselves, reached through comparisons or discussion.
the egirtu), 5 (addition to an egirtu with further specification of debts), 38 (loan of silver against restitution of a deed of sale, i.e. a dannitu, with foreseen consequent smashing of the egirtu), 62 (loan of silver, with foreseen consequent smashing of the egirtu), 71 (division of inheritance with specification of quantities of barley and silver which are written on the egirâte), and the letter KAV 139, where egirtu is used to denote a forged debt-note, which the "baddies" of the text write out and serve legally to a distraught widow, thus enabling them to sell the dead man’s property and take the widow herself into slavery (ll. 27-30).

This stated, the present text adds some new information concerning the mechanisms of NA debts. Specifically—if our interpretation is acceptable—it is said in the double text that the egirtu, originally made out to a generically described group of “bakers”, was by now ina ugu 10-te, i.e. its interest rate was “over 10 times”: an enormous rate, considering that NA contracts indicate 100% interest (ina mithar) for failure of repayment in corn loans as maximal (cf. FNALD, pp. 41-42)121. Since temporal expectation for a repayment of barley was usually governed by the season of the harvest (cf. ibid.) it is not to be ruled out (though by no means certain) that the original egirtu had been written out 10 years prior to the present date.

In any case, at this point, having passed 1000% interest, it is annulled (pasåsu) by one Rêmanni-Istar “before the god Ninurta”; and one may wonder whether this may be considered a hint to a judicial decision in which the god himself was called upon to act as “judge”, as in at least three known cases (see now R. Jas, SAAS 5, p. 4). However as it may be, it is thereupon stated that the same Rêmanni-Istar “took the loan-document up” (e-gir-tu in-ta-at-ḫa, combining A and B): this clause is of particular importance, because: a) it provides a new specification for the meaning(s) of the verb matiibu (cfr. CAD M/I, pp. 403ff.), in the realm of NA law and administration; b) it allows us to provide a new and more precise interpretation for a difficult expression in NATAPA 1, no. 59, L.H.E. 2-3: ıgi ašš-šur—sag—iš-ši / [(Lû*)]a]. ‘ba’ ša in dan-nu-tū mat-ta¬“ah”-u-ni, “witness: Assur-riš-iši, the scribe who took up the sales document”; c) it allows us to surmise further that matiibu could have represented —here and in the parallel Assur context— some sort of synonym for the verb sabatu, such as is often associated in NA (also in NB) with tuppu or other terms for tablet (cf. CAD S, p. 18b, ad i), in the sense of “to take into safekeeping” (pace Postgate, FNALD, p. 10).

Then comes the repayment clause, only attested in B, Rev. 10-12. The verb izuzzu, “to stay, stand, etc.” seems here used in an absolute sense, presumably in connection with

121) Notice however MAH 20613, recently republished by R. Jas, SAAS 5, no. 46, a text possibly connected to Assur archive N9 (see SAAB 5, p. 47), where it is clearly stated that a debt of 1 MA 30 ān kû.babbar a-na 3 1/2 MA / it-tu-ar, “One mina and thirty shekels of silver has turned into 3 1/2 minas” (B.E. 10-11). In other words, two minas of interest (the 2 MA ru-bu-u are explicitly mentioned in B.E. 11) have developed, corresponding to the one and one-third of the original sum (133% with rounded-off numbers).
the professional name LÚ.GAL—NINDA.MEŠ: "to remain (in office) as", "to enter (office) as", "to be available as" all seem more or less equivalent possibilities (cfr. AHw., pp. 408ff.). The implications are, in any case, relatively clear: having taken up the tablet, Rémmanni-Istar is called upon to pay back the barley together with (1000% !) interest, provided that he will izuzu as chief of the bakers.

A, frg. b, 2': KHD regards the " as the end part of a sign from the other side, probably šum/tak.

B, Obv. 3: the last part of an im is quite clearly visible (FMF/KHD): for names built with Indu- as their first component, cf. AHw., p. 375b.

5: the last sign is decidedly not -is, but looks more like a -qa or badly written -ru.

L.H.E. 19: the integration as the professional name makisu is obviously conjectural, although a subject is no doubt required here.

20: this line is crossed by the final -si-is of Obv. 5.

Upper left-hand fragment (approx. one-fourth in length) of rectangular tablet. Reddish clay. 2.2×3.2 (complete width)×1.2 cms. 2+3+2 lines.
Sale of house.
Post-canonical date (Nabû-nādin-aḫi).

Obverse
1. NA4.KIŠIB i-su-u-a

Cylinder seal impressions

2. É.SUMUN 20+4 [x x]
Rest lost

Reverse
1'. IGI
2'. IGI GIŠ.BAR—
3'. IGI l'EN'—

Top Edge
1. ŠTU.APIN UD-[n-kám]
2. lim-mu Id[p]AŠ—PAP

Translation
"Seal of Bīšû'a.
An old house, 24 cubits in length, ... (rest lost).
Witness: ...; witness: ...; witness: Bēl-..."
Month of Araḫsamna (= VIII), the nth day, eponymy of Nabû-nadin-ahi.”

Notes
Obv. 1: the presence of this individual is noted by Deller, BaM 15 (1984), p. 237.
2: Cf. ēdan-ni la-be-re in the division of inheritance Ass. 107 (quoted ad no. 73, above).
T.E. 1: the month name is uncertain: "ITU.AB" is also a possibility (KHD).

Pillow-shaped tablet (= B), still enclosed to a small extent within envelope casing (= A).
Further joining fragment of the envelope extent. 3.8x2.3x1.2 cms. A: 11+2 lines; B: 2+4+1+6+1 (= 14) lines.
Loan of silver.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 617)

A

1’. [n GI]N. ‘MEŠ’ [KU.BABBAR ginû ša Aššur(?)]
2’. [a-š]u-du [ša Š.K[GI.GI.MA]]
3’. ša [su-a-a]

Rectangular stamp seal impressions

4’. ina IG11 [a-gib—aš+šur]
5’. ina pu-u-[hi it-ti-ši]
6’. KU.BABBAR [ana 4-tù-šú GAL-bi]
7’. ITI
8’. li[m-mu]
9’. IG1
10’. IG1
11’. IG1

Left Hand Edge

1. IG11 ša-šu—MU—G[IN]
2. IG11 [IR-a-a]

B

Top Edge

1. [x x x] ‘GIN.MEŠ’ KU.BABBAR
2. [gš]-nu-uo šá aš+šur iš.GAR

Obverse

3. [šš]a [su-a-a
4. ina IG11 [sa-gib—aš+šur
5. [ina] pu-u-ši it-ti-ši
6. a-na 4-tù-šú GAL-bi
7. [ITU.OU]D (over erasure) UD-24-KAM*

Reverse
8. [lim-mu] I₄PA—tap-pu-ti—a-li[k]
9. [IGI 1₄P]A—‘MU’—G[IN]
10. [IGI 1]TU.ŠU-a-a
11. [IGI 1₄k]ak-ku-su
12. [IGI 1x x x]—aš+šur
13. [IGI 1x x x]—aš+šur

Left Hand Edge
14. x x

Translation
A: “n shekels of silver, regular offering for Aššur, ašudu-offering for the royal tomb, of Ribayu, (credited) to Sagib-Aššur, he took as a loan. The silver will increase by one-fourth. Month of Ayyāru (= II), the 24th day, eponymy of ... (three lines lost)
Witness: Nabû-šumu-ukin; witness: Urdāyu.”

B: “n shekels of silver, regular offerings of Aššur, offering-quota of Ribayu, (credited) to Sagib-Aššur, he took as a loan. It will increase by one-fourth. Month of Ayyāru, the 24th day, eponymy of Kanūn(?)ayu.
Witness: Nabû-šumu-u[kin; witness: Duḫūzāyu; witness: Kakkussu; witness: ...-Aššur; witness: ...-Aššur. ....]”

Notes
A, 2': for the ašudu-offering, cf. 77, 8'-9', and 94, 7'.

B, Rev. 8: among the postcanonical eponyms, Kanūnāyu seems one of the few realistic possibilities: cf. Introduction, b.2.

Rev. 9-11 are at present no longer visible or (visible in this form), as a piece of the envelope has been re-joined to the main fragment. The readings here are the product of collation in July 1993.

Rev. 9-11: notice that both names are also attested in no. 78, above, 16'-17'.

83. VAT 9706. ALA N 15, no number (between (6) and (7)). Ass.Fd.Nr. 8520k.
Right-hand fragment of a rectangular tablet. Reddish clay. 1.6×2.5×1.1 cms. 5+2+5 lines.
Loan document.

Obverse
1'. [x UD x]
2'. ]ina ugu x [
3'. ]ta- x x[
4'. ]x x -nu[
5'. ]x -re-e [()]

Bottom Edge
1'. ana šaparte j šak- na x[
2'. ūš zài [ina] ugu en-šú

Reverse
1'. {IGI} 1[DN]—ū-še-zib
2'. ]x [aš+ šur”—zu
3'. [IGI] bi-su’-[a-a]
4'. [IGI] da-[a]-a
5'. [IGI] rêm-a-[ni—DN ]

Rest lost

Notes
The text is not sufficiently preserved for translation. Notice, however, Edge 1' ff.: ‘... is given as a pledge. If he dies or flees, the responsibility lies upon his owner’.


Substantial fragment of right-hand side of grayish-colored rectangular tablet, with “pinched” corners. 3.2×2.4×0.9 cms. 1+5+1+4 lines.

Loan of silver.

Date lost (but approx. Falkner 616’).

Top Edge
1. 11’ GIN 1/4 KÚ.BABBAR

Obverse
2. SAG.MEŠ šá aš+ šur
3. šá su—aš+ šur
4. ina {IGI}+ rêm-a-[ni—aš+ šur]
5. ana 4-ut-ti-[šú irabbī]
6. ITU,NE U[D-n-KÁM/KÁM*]

Bottom Edge
7. lim-mu {IGI} x[x x]

Reverse
8. {IGI} x[x x x]
9. {IGI} 1[x x]
10. {IGI}+ kak-ku-s[u]
11. {IGI}+ qur-di—[1]5

Remainder of Rev. (1-2 lines) uninscribed
Translation

"1/4 (shekels) of silver, (offering of) first-fruits of Assur, belonging to Erība-Assur, at the disposal of Rēmanni-Assur. It will increase by one-fourth. Month of Ābu (= V), the nth day. Eponymy of ....
Witness: ...; witness: Kakkussu; witness: Qurdi-Assur."

Notes

Obv. 1-5: transliteration in Menzel, AT, II, T 182, no. 75, who however reads "3/4".

Obv. 4: Menzel's reading U+GUR—[ ] is not borne out by collation.

Rev. 11: Collation of divine element of this name as Istar, not Assur, is due to LJR.

Substantial bottom fragment of rectangular tablet. Light greyish-brown clay. 4.8x2.7x1.6 cms. 7+ 4+ 6+ 1 lines.
Sale of people to Ribayu by a group of previous owners.
Date lost.

Obverse
Beginning lost
1'. ina šā-[bi(?)] n KU.BABBAR
2'. il-qe kas-pu g[a-mur tadin]
3'. 'UN.MES zar-pu laq-q[i-ú]
4'. tu-a-ru de-e-nu 'KA'.KA
5'. [la-ás]-šú man-nu šá ina ur-kiš ina ma-te-m[a]
6'. [lu-u LÜ].MES an-nu-te
7'. [lu-u DUMU].MEŠ-šú-nu lu-u DUMU.DUMU.MEŠ-šú-nu

Bottom Edge
8'. [ša' de-e'-nu KA.KA
9'. [TA U]i-ha-aa
10'. [DUMU.MEŠ-šú] DUMU.DUMU.MEŠ-šú
11'. 'ub'-ta-u-ni

Reverse
1. [m]a-a UN.MES la SUM-nu
2. kas-pu a-na 10.MEŠ
3. 'a-na' EN.MEŠ-šú ú-ta-ra
4. 'aš+šur' DUTU lu-u EN de'-ni-šú' [nu']
5. [sibtu] 'be-e'-nu a-na 1-[me U₄.ME]
6. [sartu a-n]a kàla [MU.AN.NA.MEŠ]
Rest lost
Left Hand Edge
1. IGI 1

Translation
"...bought for n minas' of silver. The silver is entirely given over. The people are acquired, taken over. There is no revocation, lawsuit or litigation. Whoever, in the future or at any time, either these people or their sons or their grandsons, will seek out lawsuit or litigation with Ribâyu, his sons or his grandsons, saying 'The people are not given over', will give back the silver tenfold to its owners. May Assûr and Šamaš be their opponents in court. (Guarantee against) seizure and epilepsy — 100 days; (against) fraud — for all time; ...... Witness: PN ...
"

Notes
L.H.E. 1: this minuscule fragment of a witness list was noticed by KHD.

Archive N 17.

86. VAT 9692. ALA N17(1). Ass.Fd.Nr. 8476a. Ph.Ass. 1017/18. Rectangular tablet, bad state of preservation. Two oval stamp seals on top. Brownish clay. 3.0x4.5x1.2. 9 lines on Obverse; Remainder uninscribed. Loan of silver. Post-canonical date (Falkner 617?).

Obverse
1. 3 GIN.MEŠ KÛ.BABBAR
2. ša 1kak-[kul]-la-nu
3. ina IGI 1kun-'na'-nu
4. ina pu-u-hî 'i[t]-(i-[ś])i [ITU.K]IN? 'SUM'-an?'
5. 'šum-ma la' i-din a-n[a 4'-i]ú'-šú GAL-bi
6. [ITU.X UD-n-KÂM lim]-me [IA-PA—tap-za]G?—DU" GAL? SAG?
7. [IGI] 1qaq-ga-'da-nu'
8. [x x x] x x [x x x]-a
9. [IGI] 1aš+šur—MU—PAP

Bottom edge uninscribed
Reverse uninscribed

Translation
"3 shekels of silver belonging to Kakkullânu, at the disposal of Kunna'nu; he took it as a loan. He will give it back in Ulûlu. If he fails to give it back, it will increase
by one fourth. Month of ..., nth day, eponym of Nabû-tappûtu-alik, chief eunuch (?).
Witness: Qaqqadânu; witness: ...-a; witness: Aššur-šumu-ušur.”

Notes
Obv. 6: the traces of the eponym’s name are dubious (collation FMF, 1/12/93). On the other hand, Nabû-tappûtu-alik as chief eunuch is reasonably well attested: cf. Millard, SAAS 2, p. 109.

Pillow-shaped envelope (tablet inside). Complete. Brown clay. Sealings. 4.1×2.8×1.1 cms. 5+3+7+1 lines.
Loan of silver.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 640).

Obverse
1. $\text{NA}_4\text{.KİŞIB 2} \text{ EN—KASKAL.2.MEŠ}$
2. $70 \text{ GİN. MEŠ KÜ.BABBAR}$
3. $\text{ša}\; \text{aš}+\;\text{šur}—\text{bi-sûn}$
4. $\text{ina}\; \text{IGI}\; \text{aš}+\;\text{šur}—\text{bi-sûn}$
Stamp seal impressions
5. $\text{ina}\; \text{IGI}\; \text{aš}+\;\text{šur}—\text{mu—SIG}$

Bottom Edge
6. $\text{KÜ.BABBAR ana 6-sî-šū ‘GAL’}$
7. $\text{‘ITU’.NE UD-23}$
8. $\text{lim-mu}\; \text{zd—ba₄—ba₄}—\text{SU}$

Reverse
9. $\text{IGI}\; \text{SUJUŠ—PAP.MEŠ}$
10. $\text{IGI}\; \text{JR}—\text{aš}+\;\text{šur}$
11. $\text{IGI}\; \text{rem—a-ni}—\text{aš}+\;\text{šur}$
12. $\text{IGI}\; \text{iq—bi}—\text{aš}+\;\text{šur}$
13. $\text{IGI}\; \text{ur—kât}—\text{DINGIR}$
14. $\text{IGI}\; \text{aš}+\;\text{šur}—\text{EN—DINGIR}$
15. $\text{IGI}\; \text{aš}+\;\text{šur}—\text{MU—PAP}$

Top Edge
16. $\text{ša}\; \text{15}\; \text{ša arba-il}$

Translation
“Seal of 2 expedition chiefs.
70 shekels of silver, belonging to Assur-bessunu, at the disposal of Assur-bessunu, at the disposal of Assur-mudammiq. The silver will increase by one sixth. Month of Abu (= V), the 23rd day, eponymy of Zababa-eriba. Witness: Ubru-abbe; witness: Urda-Assur; witness: Remanni-Assur; witness: Iqbi-Assur; witness: Tiškat-ili; witness: Assur-bēl-ilī; witness: Assur-šumu-uṣur. (Silver) of Istar of Arba'il."

Notes
Obv. 1: For the En—KASKAL.2.MEŠ at Assur, cf. already NATAPA 1, no. 12, Obv. 3; ibid., no. 64, Obv. 1 (also in the "seal identification" section of the text). This text is quoted with the others by Deller, BaM 15, pp. 241-242.

Rev. 13: for the name, cf. Deller, BaM 15, p. 246, fn. 69, with quote of this text.


Pillow-shaped complete tablet (= B) and envelope (= A), also virtually complete (i.e. fully restored). The seal impression section of A is occupied by nailmarks in an ornamental arrangement (image of a bird).

A: 3.2x2.7x1.9 cms. 1+3+3+9+2 lines.
B: 2.7x2.2x1.3 cms. 5+2+5+1 lines.

Mixed loan.

Post-canonical date (Falkner 642).

A
Top Edge
1. "5" UDU. "NĪTA.MEŠ [(x)-n]?

Obverse
2. 3 GĪN.MEŠ KU. "BABBAR"
3. ša 'kak-kul'-la-nu

Sealings
4. ina [I[u] 1[h]a-ti—DINGIR

Bottom Edge
5. ina ITU.ZIZ 'SAG.DU-šū-nu'
6. SUM-an šum-ma KU.BABBAR la i-din
7. KU.BABBAR ana 4-ut-ti-šū

Reverse
8. i-rab-bi
9. Ġ[d.u.n]TA.MEŠ ǔ-.lu-du
10. [ITU.]ŠU UD-19*-KĀM
11. lim-mu 'mu-šal-lim—aš+šur
12. IGI  fı r/suḫuš — "PAP.MEŠ"
13. IGI  fı e — "aš+šur"
14. IGI  fı aš+šur — SUM — PAP.MEŠ
15. IGI  fı mu-x — "aš+šur"
16. [IGI]  fı a'-a — [PAP.MEŠ]

Left Hand Edge
17. signs and nailmarks (?)
18. ı́ra-ma-nu — ı́

B
Obverse
1. 5 〈giN〉 UDU.NīTA.ME₂-ni
2. 3 GIN KŪ.BABBAR
3. ša ı́kak-kul-la-nu
Seals
4. ina IGI ı́ha-ʾti — DINGIR
5. ina ITU.ʾzīz SAG.DU-šū-nu

Bottom edge
6. SUM-an šu-ma nu 〈SUM〉
7. KŪ.BABBAR ana 4-ut-ti-šū

Reverse
8. i-rab-bi
9. ITU.ŠU UD-19*
10. lim-mu (erasure) ı́mu-šašal-lim — aš+šur
11. IGI  fı r/suḫuš — "PAP.MEŠ"
12. IGI  fı aš+šur — SUM — PAP

Top Edge
13. IGI  fı e — aš+šur

Translation
A:
"5 rams, and 3 shekels of silver, belonging to Kakkullānu, at the disposal of Ḫatti-ili. In the month of Šabatu (= XI) he will give back their capital. If he fails to give back the silver, the silver will increase by one-fourth. *The rams (sic!)* will beget (for Kakkullānu). Month of Duḫazu (= IV), the 19th day, eponymy of Mušallim-Aššur.
B:

"5 rams (and) 3 shekels of silver, belonging to Kakkullānu, at the disposal of Ḫatti-ilu. In the month of Šabātu he will give back their capital. If he fails to give back the silver, the silver will increase by one-fourth. Month of Dušūtu, the 19th day, eponymy of Mušallim-ʾAššur.


Notes
A, Top Edge 1: the line is reconstructed on the basis of the visible traces and of B, 1, where —on the other hand— a <<GIN>> was erroneously inserted by the scribe.

Rev. 9: the formula on the ownership of the offspring of animals subjected to loan is attested elsewhere in documents of mixed loan, although rarely: cf. Postgate, FNALD, no. 131 and p. 140; also, CAD A/1, p. 291a. Undoubtedly, however, we have here what seems to be a biological impossibility!

L.H.E. 7: perhaps just an IGI over an erasure; KHD would on the other hand see here a further ornamental motif. Certainly the last individual mentioned requires an IGI before his name, if a witness — unless a formula involving the substitution of nailmarks for the seal had been originally planned here.


Rectangular tablet, complete, with parts of envelope (= B) clinging to the surface, so tightly as to engender doubts as to the attribution of some lines to it or to the tablet.

Small, regular script. Grey-brown clay. 4.1×2.1×1.0 cms. 6+2+9 lines; 4+1 lines from the envelope.

Loan of silver against pledge of land.

Date lost.

Obverse
1. [NA₄].KIŠIB š-tú a kur
2. [x x]x-si-si₃ di-šil₃—x [ ]
3. [x x]mu-u
4. [x x x] zi
5. [x x x]-e bar₇ mu u
6. [x x x] tar₉

Bottom Edge
7. x x 1⁴ BAP x na’ 2a²
8. 11 MA.NA KU.BABBAR

Reverse
9. ša šakš-kul-la₄-a-nu
10. *IGI*-šu-nu ina pu-u-ḫi it'-< ta>-ṣu

11. *E 1-lim til-lit GIŠ.SAR

12. *E 1 ANŠE A.ŠA É.MAŠ

13. ina ša-pa-li-tú šak-kin ina UD-me

14. *šá KÙ.BABBAR ú-še-rab-a-ni GIŠ.SAR*

15. *A.ŠA 2 ú-še-ša ur-ki du-ra-ri

16. [1 L]ó*.MAŠ ana Dim A—10

17. *IGI* 1*man-nu—ki—A—10

B. (parallel to A, Obv.1)

1. 11 x [ ]

2. 11 2’x[

3. 11 a u

4. PAP 2’x  Erim’ PAP—[

Stamp seal impressions

Left Hand Edge

1. ]x 11 sa-ga-[te]

Translation

A: 
"Seal of ..., a son of the palace; ... (5 lines untranslatable; only PNs?)
11 minas of silver, belonging to Kakkullānu, at their disposal; they took it as a loan. A plot of 1000 stalks of vine, a plot of 1 homer of land —Bit Ninurta— is placed as pledge. On the day when he will bring in the silver, he will release the vineyard and the field (from the pledge). One male votary (is to be given) to Adad and Apladad.
Witness: Mannu-ki-Apladad."

B: 
(face untranslatable: numbers and perhaps a total; Left Edge:) "11 sacks(?)"

Notes.
Obv. 2: collation of the line by KHD.

3: the name might be linked to Bar-kam-mu-u in 92, Rev. 7, below.

5: a possible integration here (KHD) is [1na-ni]—i bar-mu-u, as in 92, Rev. 5.

Rev. 9-10: the many exclamation marks are meant to point out that the relevant results in reading and interpretation were reached only by somewhat "stretching" the unorthodox sign-shapes present on the tablet.

12: the complex *É.MAŠ has been deliberately left untranslated, in view of the many ambiguities it opens up. For cultic structures known as Bit Ninurta in various NA cities, but not Assur, cf. Menzel, AT, I, index I, 9a. But is the reference of our text to a temple
or chapel or Ninurta, either 1) as part of the estate or 2) as a complex of which the estate was part? Or is the bitu here to be understood as an "estate" tied to the god?

13: the form šapattu for šapartu does not seem attested elsewhere in NA. Confusion with the term šapattu, "15th day of the month/half a month" might be surmised, although the latter is a strictly Babylonian term (cf. CAD Š/1, pp. 449b-450b).

14: the formula given here is the one that seems to fit the faded traces best, with no claim to certainty. Cf. FNALD, no. 24, for a possibly parallel case. Notice, in any case, the singular verb, here and in the next line, as opposed to the indication of multiple debtors in Rev. 2.

15: for the (an)duhraru, "amnesty", cf. FNALD, pp. 21-22; and see J.N. Postgate - B. Kh. Ismail, TIM XI, no. 3 (IM 76899), 26.

16: clarification of the formula in this line is due to KHD. For the LÜ/MÍ.MAŠ, cf. Menzel, AT, I, pp. 246, 300; Postgate, GPA, nos. 15, 17 — two excellent cases of penalty by dedication of such individuals to deities. The meaning of MAŠ in this context is still unclear.

B, L.H.E. 1: notice the "sacks" attested in no. 67, above.

90. VAT 9703. ALA N17(6). Ass.Fd.Nr. 8476f. Ph.Ass. 1017/18. Rectangular tablet. Reddish clay. 3.1×2.0×0.8 cms. Shallow writing. 1+5+1+5+1 lines. Loan of silver. Post-canonical date (Falkner 641).

Top Edge
1. "8 GIN" KÚ.BABBAR

Obverse
2. š[a 1(x')]-pu-d[={]-mu-tu'-u?
3. ina igi'qi-ti—mu-te
4. 'DUMU' li IM—bal-liṭ
5. ina pu-u-ḫi i-ti-ši
6. '4 GIN' ina ITU.'KIN'

Bottom Edge
7. SUM-an 4 GIN

Reverse
8. ina ur-ki (<e>-) bu-ri SUM
9. ITU.NE UD-23
10. lim-mu lāšu šur—ŠU—GUR—ra
11. igi lāšu šur—NUMUN—DÜ
12. IGI 1URU.arba-il-a-a

Top Edge

13. IGI 1aš şur—ši-i [0]

Translation

"8 shekels of silver, belonging to Pudimutu(?), at the disposal of Qitti-mûte, son of Adad-ballit; he took (the sum) as a loan. He will give back 4 shekels in the month of Ulûlu (= VI); 4 shekels he will give after the harvest. Month of Ābu (= V), eponymy of Aššur-gimillu-terra.
Witness: Aššur-zêru-ibni; witness: Arbaîlâyû; witness: Aššur-ši’î."

Notes

Obv. 2: the name here is very uncertain; in particular, -tu- might be -AD, and the final -u might be a ’-šî'.

3: a similar name occurs in ADD 21 = NALK 201, 9, of 682 B.C.

Rev. 8: For a formula with urki, cf. no. 89, Rev. 7, above. For other cases of the use of urki ebûri in repayment formulas, cf. CAD E, p. 17a. Notice that the creditor requires the first half of the sum to be returned just one month (Ulûlu/VI, August-September) after the date of the contract; thus urki ebûri might in absolute terms refer to an interval of a further month later, and specifically to early Taṣritû/VII or late September, the final season for harvesting operations on winter barley. Another Nimrud text (Iraq 16 [1954], 46, ND 2342, 4) corroborates this view, since restitution is imposed in Arahşamna (= VIII, Oct.-Nov.), ša urki ebûri.


Fragmentary tablet, crumbled at edges; very cracked surface. Brown clay. 4.0×2.2 cms. Remnants of 4+4 lines.

Date lost or post-canonical (Falkner 618?).

Obverse

1'. x x x x x
2'. ]MU PAP i-šâ
3'. [x x x] x iš-šú-u-ni
4'. [x x x] x u-ni

Reverse

1'. ītu' [?

122) Cf. the useful comparative data assembled by H. Q. al-Sâmarraie, Agriculture in Iraq during the 3rd Century A.H., Beirut 1972, 64ff.
123) ALA, p. 105, 8476g; correction of siglum by KHD.
2'. ša 1sa-il
3'. ina x x x [x x]
4'. x x x [x x]

Notes
The text is not sufficiently preserved for translation. It is just possible that Rev. 1'-2' held the
date, relevant to the eponym Sailu, attributed to 618 B.C. by Falkner (AfO 17, p. 119).

Pillow-shaped tablet (= B) and envelope (= A), well preserved. Tablet extracted, but
parts of envelope still clinging to it. Two stamp seal impressions. Brown clay.
A: 4.4×3.2×1.5 cms. 1+5+2+9 lines.
B: 4.1×2.2×1.1 cms. 1+5+2+5 lines.
Loan of silver against pledge of female slave.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 628).

A:
Top Edge
1. [NA]4.KIŠIB 1MU—aš+šur

Obverse
2. [DU]MU 1man-nu—ki—PAP.MEŠ
3. [ku-un 10] GĪN KŪ.BABBAR "NG.ŠID"
4. [ša x]x A.BA É.DINGIR
Two rectangular stamp seal impressions
5. [x x x]x kur' "DUMU" GÉME
6. [x x aš+šu]r—i'-a'-li?

Bottom Edge
7. [x x x] 10 GĪN KŪ.BABBAR SUM-ni
8. [f1LAL]—IGI' LAL? "DUMU".MĪ

Reverse
9. [1aš]+šur—A—AŠ ši-i
11. [ITU.KI]N UD-1-KAM
12. [lim-m]tu 1dPA—sa-gib
13. [IGI]1a-du-si IGI šam-šá-ni— "DINGIR"
14. [IGI]1a—tēš—ana—aš+šur
15. [IGI]1aš+šur—réme—šuk-na
16. [IGI]1aš+šur—s[u']
17. [IGI]dME.ME—KAM-ēš
B:
Top Edge
1. *ku-um* 10 GIN KU.BABBAR "NIG", [šID]

Obverse
2. ša LÜ. A.BA É.DINGIR
3. *MU-AS+ŠUR (sic)LAL—IGI[LAL]
4. 2 ru-tu la-an-[šá]
5. «DUMU.GEME (erasure)» a-na 1ša+ ŠUR—A—[AŠ ši-i]
6. DUMU. M1 ša 1ša+ ŠUR—A—[AŠ ši-i]

Edge
7. ITU.KIN UD-1-KÁM
8. *lim-mu* laša—sa-gib

Reverse
9. IG1 1a'-du'—su'
10. IG1 ša[m-ša-ni—DINGIR]
11. IG1 1x[x x x]
12. IG1 1ša+[šur—x x]
13. IG1 1ša+[šur—x x]
14. IG1 1x[x x x]

Translation
A:
"Seal of Šummu-Assur, son of Mannu-kî-aḫḫē.
In lieu of 10 shekels of silver, assets of the temple scribe, ... the daughter of a handmaid(?) ... Assur-ajjali(?). If he will give back the 10 shekels of silver.
Tuqun-lâmur, she is the daughter of Aššur-aplu-iddina, of 2 spans’ height. Month of Ulûlu (= VI), the first day, eponymy of Nabû-sagib.

B:
"In lieu of 10 shekels of silver, assets belonging to the temple scribe, Šummu-Assur (pledged) Tuqun-lâmur, of 2 spans’ height, to Aššur-ayyâli; she is the daughter of Aššur-aplu-iddina.
Month of Ulûlu (= VI), the first day, eponymy of Nabû-sagib.
Witness: Adusi; witness: Šamšani-ilu; witness: ...; witness: Aššur-...; witness: Aššur-...; witness: ...

Notes
A, 1: On the writing of the name, cf. Deller, WZKM 57 (1961), p. 36. Notice that the writer of this texts uses consistently the sign-shape AŠ+PAD for AS+ŠUR.
3: for \( \text{nig.\,sid} = \text{nikkassu} \), in the meaning “assets, property”, etc., cf. CAD N/2, p. 229a-b.

3ff.: As stated in the Introduction (b.3), this text bears an interesting resemblance to NATAPA 1, 13, of exactly the same date, where Šummu-Asšur, failing to obtain a sum from the temple scribe, is forced to borrow it from one Iqbi-Asšur. The reason for the sum not being available was explained by the verbal form (with the temple scribe as subject) integrated by the authors as \( \text{la i-bu-cuk/g}\_\text{šu-}\text{nu} \), i.e. as a preterite deriving either from \( \text{puāgu} \), “to take away by force”, or from \( \text{abāku} \), “to lead away, etc.” (but rare in NA); and the pronominal suffix presumably referred to the 5 shekels of silver. In view of the lack of that sum, Šummu-Asšur was forced to give his daughter, Tarši-(or Tuqun-)

4: the sign before \( \text{A.BA} \) does not seem to be \( \text{L\_}6 \) or \( \text{L\_}6* \), as required by the parallel text, and no. 13.

9-11: notice the full parallel with no. 13, Rev 16-18.

93. VAT 9684. ALA N17(9). Ass.Fd.Nr. 8476i. Ph. Ass. 1017/18. Rectangular tablet with rounded edges, written on short axis. Brownish clay. 7.2\times 3.4\times 0.5 cms. Very clear script. 15+10 lines. Administrative list in sections with rulings. No date.

Obverse

1. \( \text{KU.\,BABBAR} \, \text{sá\,GIŠ.SAR} \)
2. \( 7 \, 4\text{-tú\,GU}\_7 \)
3. \( \text{1\,TU.\,AB-a-a} \)
4. \( \text{KU.\,BABBAR} \, \text{sá\,GIŠ.SAR} \)
5. \( 7\text{\_}1 \, 4\text{-nú\,}1\,\text{ku-n-zá-ba-}\text{ni} \)
6. \( \text{e-ta-}\text{GU}\_7 \)
7. \( \text{KU.\,BABBAR} \, \text{sá\,GIŠ.SAR} \)
8. 7₄-tú 1ta-qa-li
9. "GU₇"

10. 3 1/2 KU.BABBAR GİŞ.SAR
11. 1ta-a GU₇

12. 7 4-tú KU.BABBAR šá GİŞ.SAR
13. 1tu-pi-i GU₇

14. 7 4-tú KU.BABBAR GİŞ.SAR
15. 1pa-ḥi-me GU₇

Reverse
16. KU.BABBAR šá GİŞ.SAR
17. 16 GİN.MEŠ KU.BABBAR
18. 1kun-za-ba-ni GU₇

19. 3 1/2 GİN KU.BABBAR GİŞ.SAR
20. 1na-ni-i a 1BAR-mu-u

21. 7 4-tú KU.BABBAR GİŞ.SAR
22. 1BAR-KAM-mu-u
23. GU₇

24. 3 1/2 KU.BABBAR GİŞ.SAR
25. 1na-ni-zi GU₇

Blank space of 2 cms.

Translation
"The silver of the orchard — 7 1/4 (shekels) Kanûnâyu has taken for himself; the silver of the orchard — 7 1/4 (shekels) Kunzabani has taken for himself; the silver of the orchard — 7 1/4 (shekels) Taqali has taken for himself; 3 1/2 (shekels) of silver of the orchard — Ta’a has taken for himself; 7 1/4 (shekels) of silver of the orchard — Tūpû has taken for himself; 7 1/4 (shekels) of silver of the orchard, Palûme has taken for himself; the silver of the orchard — 16 shekels of silver Kunzabani has taken for himself; 3 1/2 (shekels) of silver of the orchard — Nani, son of Mešumû; 7 1/4 (shekels) of silver of the orchard — Mešumû has taken for himself; 3 1/2 (shekels) of silver of the orchard — Nanizi has taken for himself."
Notes
Obv. 1: For the fraction of the shekel 4\(m\text{-}(\text{limmu})\)-\(t\)u, “one-fourth”, cf. Postgate, FNALD, p. 66, with quotes. In all, there are 6 quotas of 7 1/4 shekels, 3 of 3 1/2 shekels, and one of 16 shekels — for a grand total of 70 shekels.

5: this is the only name that appears twice: see also Rev. 18.

6: the last sign is faded in the center: even \(\text{k}\)al might not be ruled out, thus yielding a fully syllabic writing.

Rev. 20: the \(\text{A}\) is set slightly apart from the previous -i, thus ruling out a reading \(\text{na-ni-ia}\) here; moreover, two recipients of a single quantity of silver — such as would be the case were one to rule out the presence of a patronymic — are not attested elsewhere in this document.

22: FMF suggests a common reading with the name of 1. 20, \(\text{Mešlumu}\), the only difference being in the determinative for ordinal numbers \(\text{KAM}\) in this case. It is to be presumed in this light that the name was perceived as meaning something like “the Midday man” (\(\text{miš}(i)\)\(l\)+\(\text{š}(i)\)\(mu\)+\(\text{t}\)) — although the further suspicion lingers, that this was an “improper encoding” (cf. Fales, OrAn 16 [1977], pp. 41-68) for a West Semitic name formed by the participle of the intensive stem of \(*\text{šlm}\) (cf. e.g. Heb. \(\text{Mišullām}\), etc.).

94. VAT 8739. ALA N17(10). Ass.Fd.Nr. 8476x.
Pillow-shaped envelope with enclosed tablet, complete. Greyish clay. Sealings. 4.5x3.0x1.9 cms. 3+4+2+7+3 lines.
Loan of silver.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 613).

Top Edge
1. \(\text{NA4.KIŠIB 2 ŠEŠ.MEŠ-e}\)
2. \(\Lambda 1\text{aš+šur-}ZU\)

Obverse
3. 12 \(\text{GİN.MEŠ} \text{KU}. \text{BABBAR}\)
4. \(\text{ES.GAR} \text{šá aš+šur a-su-du šá Ê.KL.MAJ}\)
5. \(\text{ša 1} \text{ri-ba-a-a}\)
Two stamp seal impressions
6. \(\text{ina 101} 14_{\text{PA}}-\text{šá-zi-za-ni}\)

Bottom Edge
7. \(\text{ina 101} 14_{\text{PA}}-\text{SIGS-}ig\)
8. \(\text{ina ITU.GUD}1 \text{SUM-an}\)

Reverse
9. \(\text{šum}4\text{-ma NU SUM-ni}\)
10. a-na 4-'ti-šū GAL-bi'
11. ITU.GAN UD-23-kām*
12. 'lim-mu lDU-TU—MAN—Dǜ
13. 'IGI l.x' KUR.HAL. 'zu'
14. 'IGI 'aš+šur—MU—'KAM'
15. 'IGI l'r'kak'-ku-su

Top Edge
16. 'IGI l'dpA—'tu—GIN

Left Hand Edge
17. 'IGI l'aš+šur—< DI—IGILAL
18. 'IGI l'l.x x x
19. 'IGI l'śa—'na'/qa'l-a

Translation
"Seal of 2 brothers, sons of Aššur-leqi.
12 shekels of silver, offering-quota of Aššur, asudu-offering for the royal tomb, of Ribayu, credited to Nabû-šazzizanni, credited to Nabû-udammîq. He (sic) will give it back in the month of Ayyâru (= II); if he fails to give it back, it will increase by one-fourth. Month of Kislimu (= IX), eponymy of Šamaš-šarru-ibni. Witness: ...; witness: Aššur-šumu-ereš; witness: Kakkussu; witness: Nabû-šumu-ukîn; witness: Aššur-šumu-(l)âmur; witness: ...; witness: San/qâyu."

Notes
Obv. 1-10: transliterated by Menzel, AT, II, T 183, no. 79.
5: surely the same individual as the Ribayu (su-a-a) in no. 82, above, where this particular asudu-offering is also attested.
6: for the meaning of izuzzu Ś in this name, cfr. AHw., p. 418b.
8: Month name confirmed by collation: "worn but certain" (KHD).
12: the eponym Šamaš-šarru-ibni was known to Falkner (AFO 17 [1954-56], p. 106a) only by one attestation, ADD 1160 (= AJSL 42, 181), with no titulary; cf. also Tallqvist, APN, Additions, p. 320a. At present, Šamaš-šarru-ibni has a fair-sized presence among NA linnus (cf. Millard, SAAS 2, p. 119: the two TIM XI cases may now be corrected to TIM XI, 3, 38 and TIM XI, 4, 13, on the basis of the recent edition of J.N. Postgate - B.K. Ismail, Texts from Niniveh [TIM XI], Baghdad, n.d.), once with the title turtanu.
13: this line is quite tricky: the last three signs have been interpreted as kur.hal-'zu' both by FMF (12/93) and KHD (12/95); but, aside from the fact that the eponym is not known to be connected to this province (cf. above), the initial signs present an IGi which would seem to refer to the first name of the witness list.
Pillow-shaped tablet, complete. Greyish-brown clay. 3.1x2.1x0.9 cms. 6+3+7 lines.
Loan of silver.
675 B.C.

Obverse
1. 10 GIN.MES KU.BABBAR
2. ša šá—la-ma-še-e
3. ina īgi 'man-nu—ki—15—zu
4. 'ina' ITU.NE UD-25-KAM
5. lim-mu lbP——PAP.MEŠ—AŠ
6. KU.BABBAR ana 4-tú-šú

Bottom Edge
7. i-ra-bi
8. 'ba-ni-tú——'at-kal"
9. [gē]ME-tú-šú a-na šá-par-'te"”

Reverse
10. kām-mu-sa-at
11. ūš ZAH ina UGU EN.MEŠ-šá
12. [īgi] 'r1dPa——1 ša-na-te
13. [īgi 'lA]D——IGL.LAL 1.SUR
14. 'īgi lbGAŠAN——TLLA
15. 'īgi lbDU—2a-a-ni lid 'x x'
16. īgi 'aš+šur—NUMUN—DÙ

Translation
“10 shekels of silver, belonging to Ša-lamašē, credited to Mānu-kī-Ištar-lē’tū. In the month of Ābu (= V), the 25th day, eponymy of Nabū-ajḫē-iddina. The silver will increase by one-fourth. The woman Bāntu-atkal, his female slave, stands as pledge. If she dies or flees, (it is) upon her owners. 

Notes
Obv. 5: for the date, cf. Deller, BaM 15 (1984), p. 248; the document VAT 14453 (= NATAPA 1, no. 12) was written in the same year.
Rev. 12: the last three signs are written on the edge, in smaller, sloping script.
15: Suggested readings by KHD for the last three signs: -šuk-nu NINDA or -lid-din NINDA.
Archive N 18.


Pillow-shaped envelope, with enclosed, tightly clinging tablet, almost complete. Light brown clay. 5.1×3.3×1.8 cms. 1+8+1+10 lines.

Loan of silver.

Post-canonical date (Falkner 636).

Top Edge
1. $\text{NA}_4\text{KIŠIB }\text{1} \text{ma-ti-gi-i}$

Obverse
2. $\text{A}_1\text{šil}-\text{aš+šur}$
3. $\text{NA}_4\text{KIŠIB }\text{1} \text{na-ga-ḫi-i}$
4. $\text{1 }\frac{1}{2} \text{ MA.NA }^8 \text{ GIN KU.BABBAR}$
5. $\text{ša }\text{SUJUŠ}-\text{aš+šur URUŠA.URU-A-a}$

Two stamp seal impressions
6. $\text{ina }\text{IGI }\text{1} \text{ma-ti-gi-i }\text{A}_1\text{šil}-\text{aš+šur}$
7. $\text{ina }\text{IGI }\text{1} \text{na-ga-ḫi-i}$
8. "a"-na pu-ḫi i-ta-šu
9. $\text{[a-n]}a \text{4-tū-šū GAL-bi}$

Bottom Edge
10. $[(0)] \text{1} \text{na-ga-ḫi-i }\text{ENŠU.2.MEŠ ša KU.BABBAR}$

Reverse
11. $\text{IGI SUJUŠ}-\text{aš+šur}$
12. $\text{IGI DINGIR}-\text{šu-un-ki}$
13. $\text{IGI ma-nu-ki }\text{aš+šur}$
14. $\text{IGI di-lil }\text{15}$
15. $\text{IGI ab-da-a-a}$
16. $\text{IGI ti-ku-su}$
17. $\text{IGI DINGIR-i-zi-ri}$
18. $\text{ITU.GAN UD-3-KAM}$
19. $\text{lim-mu }\text{laš-ša-maš-KALAG-a-ni}$
20. $x$

Translation

"Seal of Matiši, son of Šil-Aššur; seal of Nagaḫi.

1 1/2 minas, 8 shekels of silver, belonging to Ubru-Aššur, a man of Inner City, are at the disposal of Matiši, son of Šil-Aššur and of Nagaḫi; they have taken it as a loan. It will increase by one-fourth. Nagaḫi is responsible for the silver."
Witness: Ubru-Assur; witness: Ilu-Sunki; witness: Mannu-ki-Assur; witness: Dilil-Istar; witness: Abda'a; witness: Tikusu; witness: Ilu-iziri.
Month of Kislimu (= IX), eponymy of Šamaš-da=êrinanni, .......

Notes
Rev. 15: it is true, with Pedersén (ALA II, p. 107) that 1ab-da-=-a-a is the syllabically-written counterpart of alphabetic "bd", also a witness in N18(16) = Fales, AECT, 49, Rev. 2. However, an identity of persons (suggested by Pedersén) is probably to be ruled out, since 23 years divide one deed from the other, at least taking into account the hypothetical dating of the present text to 636 by M. Falkner.
19: the date is quoted by Falkner, AfO 17 (1954-56), 106, as well as by Millard, SAAS 2, 118.
20: this line bears one unidentifiable sign, "maybe "NAM" (KHD); it could be the beginning of the titulary, since the eponym was governor of Babylon (cf. Millard, loc.cit.).

Pillow-shaped envelope, tablet enclosed. Greyish clay. 2 stamp seals. 5.5x3.2x2.1 cms. 3+4+3+6+3+3 lines.
Judicial settlement.
648 B.C.

Top Edge
1. \textit{NA₄,KIŞIB} ¹\textit{man-nu—ka—PAP.MEŠ}

Obverse
2. \textit{ANŠE,NĪTA} ša :: qa-ša-bi-ti
3. \textit{ina šu.2} ¹na-ga-ḫi-i
4. qa-ša-bi-it-te iš-bat-tú-u-ni
Three seal impressions
5. ¹na-ga-ḫi-i ú-sa-lim

Bottom Edge
6. \textit{ANŠE,NĪTA} a-di sa-ar-te a-na ¹\textit{man-nu—ka—PAP.MEŠ}
7. ú-sa-lim i-ti-din 1 1/2 ḫIN la re-ḫe
8. šul-mu ina bir-te-šú-nu

Reverse
9. \textit{man-nu šá ib-bal-kât-u-ni}
10. aš+šur ÚTÚ lu-u EN de-ni-šú
11. ¹ub-ru šá 101 de-na-ni
12. ša LU*, SUKKAL [d]e-e-nu ina bir-te-šú-nu
13. *ip-tar-sa* ITU.AB UD-3-KÁM
14. *lim-mu* ḪEN-šú-nu IGI Ḫaš+šur—A—Aš

Top Edge
15. IGI še-lu-bu IGI la-qī-pu
16. IGI DINGIR-šū—šu-ki

Left Hand Edge
17. IGI istring-a-a
18. IGI Ḫ15—MU—Aš
19. LÚ*.*LUL.MEŠ-šu
20. Ḫa-ga-hi-i

On seal space, left hand side
21. ṣu-ba-*ṣa*
22. Ḫman-nu—ka—PAP.C.MEŠ
23. ina Ḫa-bi la qur-bu

Translation

"Seal of Mannu-ka-aḫḫē.

The donkey of *ditto*, stolen property. They seized the stolen property in the hands of Nagāḫē; Nagāḫē made compensation. He has paid in full the donkey, including compensation (for theft) to Mannu-ka-aḫḫē. Neither one shekel nor a half shekel is left over. There is judicial peace between them. Whoever will contravene — may Assur and Šamaš be his opponents in court.

Ubru was in charge of the verdict for the vizier; he decided the case between them. Month of Kanûnu (= X), the 3rd day, eponymy of Bēlšunu.

Nagāḫē will seek out his (alleged) wrongdoers (by himself); Mannu-ka-aḫḫē will not be involved in this"

Notes.

Obv. 2: The numeral "2" is in slightly smaller script; it might represent an "echo" of the two verticals in NA4 just above. The sign transliterated ".:" is ABZ no. 363.

4: the same clause appears in CTN 2, 92 (= Jas, SAAA 5, no. 39), 17-18.

B.E. 7: for this formula, cf. e.g. NATAPA 1, no. 18, and passim.

Rev. 11-12: cf. Deller, *Festschrift Volterra*, pp. 652-653, who implies that Ubru was "abhängig von dem sukkalu" in this case — which remains the only clear instance of double professional name in this context known to date.

L.H.E. 19-23: the passage is quoted in CAD S, p. 183a, with previous references, and translated "PN will lodge a complaint against those guilty of it". For qarâbu in the particular NA meaning "to be involved", cf. CAD Q, p. 231a. Notice that ll. 21-23 are in smaller script, and are proof "that the tablet was sealed first then inscribed" (KHD).


*Rectangular tablet. Brown-pinkish clay. 3.2×3.3×1.6 cms. Shallow writing, caused by the pressure of the envelope. 5+3+8 lines.*

*Loan of silver (for commercial purposes).*

**650 B.C.**

Obverse
1. 59 /gin.meš 'kù.babbar'
2. ša 'man-nu—ki—par.meš
3. ina IGI 1/PA—PAR.MEŠ—bal-lit
4. ina IGI 1/man-nu—ki—PAR.MEŠ
5. 'ina IGI 'l'im-tu—ri-mu-u-lú
6. [x x] 'SES EN—'KASKAL' .ME(S)

Edge
7. 'a'-na 1/PA—PAR.MEŠ—bal-lit
8. i-du-nu 'man-nu—'ki—PA.P<M.Eš
9. 'a-di' ru-bé-e 'SUM'

Reverse
10. ITU.BARAG UD-20-KAM*
11. lim-mu šá 'EGIR 'sa-gab
12. IGI 'pa-ši-i
13. IGI 'sa-al'-sa-la-a
14. IGI 'aš+šur—ši-i
15. IGI 'NUMUN-u-te
16. IGI 'šahuš—aš+šur
17. IGI 'aš+šur—su

**Translation**

"59 shekels of silver, belonging to Mannu-ki-ahhê, credited to Nabû-ahhê-ballî, credited to Mannu-ki-ahhê, credited to Limmu-remuttu, in all, 3(?) expedition chiefs. They will deliver to Nabû-ahhê-ballî; Mannu-ki-ahhê will deliver (it) with interest. Month of Nisannu (= I), the 20th day, eponymy following that of Sagab."
Witness: Paši; witness: Salsalâ; witness: Aššur-ši; witness: Zêrûte; witness: Ubru-Aššur; witness: Aššur-erîba.”

Notes

Obv. 4: notice that one of the debtors is the same person as the creditor, similarly to most of the texts dealing with commercial loans (i.e. involving the EN—KASKAL.MES, cf. next note). For a study of the context of these loans, cf. Deller, JESHO 30 (1987), pp. 22ff., and see e.g. no. 111 below (also, and more intriguingly, no. 112).

5-6: a difficult passage, for which the collations of all authors was involved (also K. Radner). Obv. 5 should bear a third name, which KHD reads as 1lim-tu—ri-mu-u-tû124. In line 6, the only certain sign is EN, preceded by a longish sign resembling ”šēš”, and a GAM-type sign, which might be (KHD) a “rudimentār KASKAL”. Thus we would be dealing with a recapitulation of the three debtors, e.g. [PAP 3] ”šēš” EN—”KASKAL” MEŠ.

8: the final (MEŠ) is missing from the tablet.

9: ’a-di’ is conjectural, but highly plausible.

13: for the name Salsalâ cf. also Introduction, b.3.


Obverse

1. NA₂.KIŠIB [x x] x [x x x] 2. DUMU 1šūl-mu—[x x x] 3. EN A.ŠA.GA ’ta—d[a-(a-)]ni

Two stamp seal impressions

4. 124) KHD’s further suggestion, that an Aramaic name should be involved here, implies the shift laqtal > liqtal (i.e. *lāmtur > *limtur) which seems to be exclusive of the cuneiform renderings of Aramaic names in the NB/LB period, whereas NA would rather stick to laqtal (R. Zadok, On West Semites in Babylonia During the Chaldean and Archaemenian Periods, Jerusalem 1977, p. 95).
9. *tiḫḫi A.ša.l.Ga šá 1dšú—š[u³]
10. *tiḫḫi na-[ḫ]al ri-pa-x [x x (x)]
11. *tiḥḥi qa-"bu-ra'-a-ni' x [x x]
12. A.ša.G[a (x)] a'-di' na-d[a-x x x]
13. up-"piš'-ma 'mar-[x x x x x]
14. 'DUMU,'šá'-ka-ta' [x ilqi]
15. ina ša-[bi] 6 1/2 gin K[šu.BABBAR ilqe]
16. kas-[pu] gam-mur ta-[din eqlu šuatu zarip]

**Bottom Edge**
17. 'laq"-[qi] tu-a-ru [det-e]-nu
18. [Ka].ka la-ás-[šú]

**Reverse**
20. i-[GIB-u-ni (?)]
21. lu-u 1 x [x x x x x x]
22. lu-u šeš-šú lu-u D[UMU].šeš-šú]
23. šá de-e-n[u] KA.KA[A *TA mar-x x x x x]
24. DUMU.MEŠ-šú u[b-ta]-"u'-[ni]
25. ma-a A.ša.G[a a] -pat-tar 1 [MA.NA KÜ.BABBAR]
26. 1 MA.NA KÜ.GI 'ina' bur-ki 4₃[NIN'].[LIL GAR-an]
27. kas-pu a-na 10.MEŠ-TE a-na EM.MEŠ-[šú GUR]
28. ina la de-ni-šu KA.KA-MA la 'i'-[la/laq-ge]
29. aš+šur dr[UTU'] EN [drPA] 'lu'-u EN de-ni-[šú]
30. [ITU.X UD-n-KAM/KÁM* lim-mu 1 gir]—ša-pu-n[u]

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31. [IGI 1 x x x P] AR.ME[š x x]
32. [IGI 1 x x x] 'ik' [x x]
33. [IGI 1 x x x x x x]
34. [IGI 1 x x x x] LÜ*-y [x x x x]
35. [IGI 1 x x x x x x a-a [x x x x x]
36. [IGI 1 x x x x x x x x x]
37. [IGI 1 x x x x x x x x x]
38. [IGI 1 x x x x x x x x x x]
39. [IGI 1 x x x x x x x x x x]
40. x [x x x x x x x x x]

**Translation**

"Seal of ..., son of Šulmu-..., owner of the field being sold.
A plot of 3 homers of cornland, at the sūtu of 10 qas by the Assyrian qa, under
cultivation, in the town of Bit-..., adjacent to the field of Šunu-aḫḫē-..., adjacent to
to the field of Nūr-Šamaš, ..., adjacent to the field of Marduk-eriba..., adjacent to the wadi ..., ... adjacent to the graveyard, ... The field, including ..., Mar-..., son of Šakata..., bought and contracted for 6 1/2 shekels of silver. The sum is entirely given over; this field is acquired, taken over. There is to be no revocation, lawsuit, litigation. Whoever, in the future or at any time, will contravene, either PN1,... or his brother or his son, will seek out lawsuit or litigation with Mar-... or his sons, saying 'I want to redeem the field', will place 1 mina of silver an 1 mina of gold in the lap of Mulissi. The sum he will return tenfold to its owners; in his "non-lawsuit" and litigation, he will not succeed. May Aššur, Šamaš, Bēl, Nabû be his opponents in court.

Month x, the nth day, eponymy of Gir-šapunu.
Witness: ... (eight lines of a barely preserved witness list)"

Notes

Obv. 4: for the "Assyrian qa", cf. Postgate, FNALD, p. 67f.; also ibid., for the varying number of qas in the sūtu. At Assur, notice NATAPA 1, 8, 2 (10 qas) and 49, B, 5 (9 qas); also, e.g., VAT 10430, 2' (giš. BAN ša 10 ina 1 qa URUDU). See also no. 116, below, for a further fragmentary case.


Archive N 19


Rectangular tablet, written on “long” axis. 4.2x2.1x0.5 cms. 7+2 lines (large uninscribed space on Rev.)

Receipt.
Post-canonical date (Nabu-nadin-aḥi)

Obverse
1. 2 GUD. MEŠ² (erasure) šá 1 PAP—la-mur
2. a-ki 1 MA.NA KU.BABBAR it-te-ši
3. 13 TUG. UR-na-a-ti
4. TA² di-lil—15
5. a-ki 1 MA.NA KU.BABBAR it-te-ši
6. ITU.APIN UD-2-KAM
7. lim-mu 1d-pa’—AŠ—PAP

Reverse
8. šu’ (copy ba)-u 1 rém-ana—DINGIR. MEŠ
9. LÜ*.A.ZU i-ta-šu
10. (erasure)
Blank space of 4 lines

Translation

"Two oxen belonging to Aḫu-lāmur, for 1 mina of silver, he took; 13 tunics from the house of Dilil-Ištar for 1 mina of silver he took.
Month of Arāḫsamna (= VIII), the 2nd day, eponymy of Nabû-nādin-aḫi.
He and Rēmana-ilī, the physician, took (together)."

Notes
1: the third sign is actually made of just one horizontal. All the signs in the line are widely spaced, thus giving rise to various possibilities for regrouping; it is even possible that not oxen, but other items, of clothing or of wood (Gīš etc.) were involved here.
2ff.: for aḫī in the meaning "for, as countervalue of", cf. AHw., p. 28b. Notice also the unusual writings it-te-šī and i-te-šī for *ittišī (for a good sampler of the regular writings, cf. SAA 6, p. 305b).

7: the post-canonical eponym Nabû-nādin-aḫi was already noted in a deed from Nineveh by Streck, Assurbanipal, I, p. 463; Falkner, AfO 17, p. 104 fn. 17, 108, identified the name with that of Adad-nādin-aḫi (attributed to 634 B.C.); but, as pointed out by Kwasman, NALK, p. 26, a number of clear attestations for Nabû-nādin-aḫi have since appeared. They are now conveniently assembled by Millard, SAAS 2, p. 105.

Rectangular tablet written on "long" axis. 3.2×1.9×0.6 cms. 5+2+5+3 lines.
Loan of silver.
691/686 B.C.

Obverse
1. ki-šir-te 1/2 MA.NA KÙ.BABBAR
2. šá gar-ga-miš SAG.MES šá "15" x x (x)
3. şa Gùr.2—MAN
4. ina IGI šil—EN[N—dal]-"li"
5. a-na pu-[u-ši ī]-l

Bottom Edge
6. 1/2 GIN šá ITU-šú "GAL-bī"
7. ITU." BĀR/KIN" UD-11-KĀM*

Reverse
8. lim-mu EN—IGI-a-ni "tur-tan"
9. IGI ḫUUG—IM—aš+šur
10. IGI KĀ.DINGIR-a-a
11. IGI IŞu-pu-te
12. IGI IŞw-bu-u

Top Edge
13. IGI IŞu-2-bu2-şa x[x]
14. IGI ĐINGIR’aş+şur”-x x
15. IGI Đsu”-a-x

Translation
Envelope (copy):
"1/2 mina of silver by the Karkemiş standard, first-fruits of Istar ..., belonging to Şēpā-šarri, at the disposal of Šili-Bēl-dallī. He took it as a loan. It will increase by half a shekel per month. Month of Nisannu (= I) / Ululu (= VI), the 11th day. Eponymy of Bēl-ēmuranni, turtānu. Witness: Ṭāb-šār-Aṣšur; witness: Bābilāyu; witness: Supute; witness: Ahabū; witness: Hu’busa ...; witness: ...; witness: ..."

Notes
Obv. 1-6: transliteration in Menzel, AT, II, T 182, no. 77 (as an unpublished text, from transliterations by Deller), albeit with the note “Erg.(änzung) unsicher”.
1: for kisirtu as “envelope”, or “copy of an envelope” (in texts like the present one), cf. Postgate, FNALD, pp. 121-122; and cf. also NALK, nos. 34, 388.
2: FMF saw three signs on the edge, in smaller script, possibly representing ‘gi-mu-ā’; Menzel (loc. cit.) reads KU.‘BABBAR’ here; KHD suggests “a very squeezed arba-il (on R.H.E.)”.
4: Menzel read šil—E[N—dal]-’li’, which is still a good possibility.

Rev. 8: for the two 7th century eponyms bearing the name Bēl-ēmuranni, cf. most recently Millard, SAAS 2, p. 88.

102. VAT 9696. ALA 19(3). Ass.Fd.Nr. 8473c. Ph.Ass. 1017/18. Pillow-shaped envelope (tablet enclosed)125. Light brown clay. Stamp seal impressions. 3.5×2.8×1.8 cms. 6+2+6+1 lines. Loan of silver. Post-canonical date (Falkner 645/626).

Obverse
1. NA4.KIŞIB IŞUiy[uš—x]x
2. A IŞBA’a-’a’

125) A small cavity in the casing allows a glimpse of the enclosed tablet.
3. 8 GIN.MEŠ K[Ū].BABBAR
4. kas-pu ša x șE x
   Two stamp seal impressions
5. ša ITU,AB-a-a
6. ina IGI-ššu ina šA-bi

Bottom Edge
7. ITU ša ITU.zíz
8. SUM-an

Reverse
9. šum-ma la-din
10. 1/2 GIN ša ITU-ššu GAL-bi
11. ITU,AB UDU "5*N-KÁM*
12. lim-mu I'TA—MAN—PAP
13. IGI 1aš+šur—rēm-a-ni LÚ*.ha-za-nu
14. IGI 1hi-il'/ra'-qa-na-a

Top Edge
15. ina IGI 'si-ra'-bu'-u

Translation
"Seal of Ubru-... son of Iqisayu.
8 shekels of silver, the price of mashatu-flour(?), belonging to Kanunu, (are debited) against him. He will give (the sum) back within the month of <the month> Šabatú (= XI). If he fails to give back, it will increase 1/2 shekel monthly.
Month of Kanunu (= X), the fifth day, eponymy of Nabú-sarru-usur.
Witness: Aššur-rēmanni, the mayor; Ḫil/raqānā; witness: Ṣibú'.'"

Notes
Obv. 2: The first sign of the name could be al- or di-.

4: the end part of the line should — in the opinion of all authors — represent "a commodity": FMF suggests zi.MAD.GÁ = mashatu, which is not totally unknown in NA texts (cf. AHw., p. 620a), although it seems better represented in the sphere of religious and cultic documents (cf. e.g. LKA 137, 5, most recently commented upon by W. Horowitz and V. Hurowitz, JANES 21 [1992], pp. 95ff., and esp. 99). KHD, upon collation, sees the central sign as šE, not as KUR, with TÚG as a possibility for the first one.

6: A very badly written line, requiring contextual induction: ina šA-bi was spotted by KHD, ina IGI-ššu is a suggestion by FMF (signs look like AN+GAD).
Rectangular "vertical" tablet. Dark-reddish clay. 9.5×5.0×2.4 cms. 17+18+1 lines. Sale of a slave.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 639 B.C.).

Obverse
Beginning (ca. 3 lines) lost
1'. [NA₄.KIŞIB ¹zi-zi]-ia
2'. N[NA₄.KIŞIB x x x x x]-bi
3'. N[NA₄.KIŞIB x x x x x] LUGAL ²
4'. E[N.MEŠ LÜ tadanı]

Space for seal impressions
5'. ¹ša—[gir']—ma-nu (?) ³ lr-[šu-nu]
6'. ša x [x x x x x]
7'. ú-plš-[ša]-ma] ¹aš+šur—kiš⁵ la ’-a’-mi²
8'. [LÜ*] x [x x] na ša x x
9'. ina ša [1'] MA.NA ⁴ GIN K[U.BABBAR]
10'. kas-pu [gam]-mur ta-a-d[in LÜ šuatu]
11'. za-rip laq-še tu-a-r[u de-nu KA.KA laššu]
12'. man-nu ša iš ur-kiš [ina matema]
13'. lu-u [zi-zi]-i[+a ’ x x x x]
14'. [x x] du x [x x x x x]
15'. [x x d]e-e-nu K[KA x x x]
16'. [x x x x] x [x x x x]
17'. [x x x x x] x [x x x x]

Reverse
Beginning lost
1'-7'. heads of IGIS.
8'. [IGI ¹]
9'. [IGI ¹]
10'. [IGI ¹]
11'. [IGI x [x x x LÜ.NU].GIŠ.SAR]
12'. [IGI ¹aš+šur—x x x x]LÜ*.NAR
13'. [IGI ha'-du?’-du’’ LÜ*’ GAL’’ še-lap<–a–a>
14'. [IGI ldTU—MU’’ aš še-lap-a-a(?)]
15'. ITU.NE UD-9-KÂM
16'. [lim-mu/me] ld30—LUGAL—PAP
17'. [LÜ’] EN.’ NAM’’ URL. HI-IN-DAN
18'. [IGI ¹[x x] bı’ ša x [x]}
Translation

"Seal of Ziziya; seal of ...; seal of ...: owners of the man being sold. Aššur-killanni?, the ...-man, bought Ša-ili-mannu, their slave, ... for 1 mina, 4 shekels of silver. The price is entirely given over; this man is acquired, taken over. There is no revocation, lawsuit, or litigation; whoever, in the future or at any time, be it Ziziya be it ... will seek lawsuit and litigation with Aššur-killanni (rest completely illegible)

(witness: only in 10 lines); witness: ..., gardener; witness: Aššur..., cultic singer; witness: Ḥadudu', chief architect; witness: Šamaš-šumu-iddina, architect.

Month of Ābu (= V), the 8/9th day, eponymy of Sin-šarru-usur, governor of Hindānu.
Witness: ...; ......, Mutaqqin-Aššur, son of Bēl-nāṣir-aplu, potter."

Notes
Obv. 7': the signs of the name are extremely faded.
14': doubtful, also in view of the double abbreviation; cf. the previous line.
L.H.E. 1: suggestion for the line ending by KHD.

Archive N 20.

Rectangular envelope, complete. Reddish clay. 1 stamp sealing. 3.6×2.1×0.8 cms. 1+4+2+5 lines.
Loan of copper.
682 B.C. (or, less probably, post-canonical date: Falkner 645/626 [cf. Introduction, b.3]).

Top Edge
1. NA4.KISIB 1aš+šur—PAP-ir

Obverse
2. 18 MA.NA URUDU.MEŠ
3. ša 1MAN—iq-bi
Stamp seal impression
4. ina pa-ni 1aš+šur—PAP-ir
5. ITU.SIG4 UD-25-KĀM

Bottom Edge
6. lim-mu 1Da—MAN—PAP
7. 2 MA.NA ša ITU-šú-nu
Reverse
8. i-ra-bi-u
9. IGI 'gi-bit—aš+šur
10. IGI ḫUTU—BA-Šā
11. IGI 'DIL—GIš
12. IGI ḫPA—SIPA

Translation
“Seal of Assur-naṣir.
18 minas of copper, belonging to Šarru-iqbi, credited to Assur-naṣir. Month of Simānu (= III), the 25th day, eponymy of Nabû-šarru-uṣur. They will increase by two minas per month.
Witness: Qibit-Assur; witness: Šamaš-iqiša; witness: Ėdu-lešir; witness: Nabû-reʾi.”

Notes.
Obv. 3: the MAN sign in this text presents the characteristic of two widely-spaced Winkelhakens; cf. also the eponym’s name in l. 6. In this archive, which is—with the exception of this text—entirely preserved in Istanbul, the name of the central figure Šarru-iqbi seems also to be written ḫUGAL-iq?-bi? (Pedersen, ALA II, p. 109).
4: notice the writing ina pa-ni for the usual ina IGI; for comparable occurrences in the Assur material, cf. e.g. pa-an in NATAPA 1, 3, A 4 and Ass.Fd.Nr. 8996a = ALA N22(i); and ina pa-an in VAT 14447 (unp.) and MAH 16602, 4.
Rev. 12: the last sign is actually ŠAB.

Archive N 21.

Triangular docket. Light brown clay. 5.2×4.1×1.8 cms. 7+9 lines.
Corn loan.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 626).

Obverse
1. [NA₄.KIŠI]B 1aš+šur—GIR.2—[PAP]
2. *3₇š ANŠE 8-BÁN ŠE.PAD.MEŠ
3. ša 1la—za-ka-ri
4. ina IGI 1aš+šur—GIR.2—PAP

126) On the problems of the VAT number, the N21 number, and the contextual identification of this tablet, cf. ad no. 115, and the relevant footnote.
Cylinder seal impression
5. ina ad-ri ina “SAG.DU-šá”
6. i-dan šum₄-ma
7. [I]a i-din

Reverse
8. [a-n]a mit-ḫar
9. [I]a-ra-ab-bi
10. ITU.GUD UD-2-KĀM*
11. lim-mu ḫša5-MAN—PAP GAL SAG
12. IGI ḫšu-lu-bu
13. IGI ḫšum-“mu’”—aš+r šur
14. IGI ḫṣuḫuš—aḫ₂
15. IGI ḫki-ši 현실—aš+r šur
16. IGI ḫmar-di-i A.BA

Top Edge
Uninscribed

Translation
“Seal of Aššur-šēpā-ūṣur.
3 homers, 8 serti of barley, belonging to Lā-zakari, at the disposal of Aššur-šēpā-ūṣur. He will give it back at the threshing-floor, in its capital sum. If he does not give it back, it will increase by the same amount. Month of Ayyāru (= II), eponymy of Nabû-šarru-ūṣur, chief eunuch.
Witness: Šelubu; witness: Šummu-Aššur; witness: Ubru-Nabû; witness: Kišir-Aššur; witness: Mardî, scribe.”

Notes
Obv. 2, 4: the name (“Aššur, protect the feet!”) is certainly a very rare formation, but semantically and ideologically not so different from the names in -kibsi-ūṣur.

5: the -šá (like the form tarabbi in Rev. 9) is explained by the fact that ḫš驿 MEŠ —whatever its exact reading— was a noun in the feminine singular (cf. Fales, AEICT, pp. 135-138, for discussion and references).

Rectangular tablet. Light brown clay. 3.2×2.2×0.9 cms. 5+2+5+1 lines.
Loan of silver.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 640 B.C.).

Obverse
1. "10^[n] GIN K.U.BABBAR
2. šá ᵁmu-LAL—aššur
3. ina ᵁIGI da-da-a-a
4. MI-šú šá ᵁza-ba-na-a-a
5. ina ᵁIGI ᵁDUG.GA—da-da

**Bottom Edge**
6. ina UD-1-KĀM ITU.ŠE
7. «SUM-an» SUM-nu

**Reverse**
8. šum-ma NU i-din
9. a-na 1/2 gín-šú GAL-bi
10. ITU.AB UD-4-KĀM
11. lim-mu ᵁza-ba₄-ba₄—SU
12. ᵁIGI ᵁak-ka-a-a
13. ᵁIGI ᵁAD—ḫa-ri
14. [IGI] ᵁAP—su-‘rī’

**Left Hand Edge**
15. ᵁIGI ᵁPAP-u-a—IGIL.LA[L]
16. ᵁIGI ᵁDINGIR—x X

**Translation**

"10+n shekels of silver, belonging to Mutaqqin-Assur, credited to the woman Dadayu, the wife of Zabbanayu, credited to Tab-dada. «He will give it back» They will give it back on the 1st day of the month of Addaru (= XII); if he fails to give it back, it will increase by one-half. Month of Kanûnu, the 4th day, eponymy of Zababa-erîba.
Witness: Akkâyu; witness: Abî-ḫari; witness: Aḫu-surî; witness: Ahûâ-lâmûr; witness: Ilû-..."

**Notes**

Obv. 4: the name would seem to be a gentilic meaning “he of the (divinized) rivers Zab”. It might be worth recalling the name zbn’dn which is to be found in the Assur Ostracon (= KAI 233), line 14. The whole line is strongly indented.

B.E. 7: notice the double formula, first with a singular verb, then with a plural — an addition probably born of an afterthought, upon considering that two debtors were involved. However, the next line has a 3rd person singular again.

Rev. 9: for the expression a-na 1/2 gín-šú as regular means of indicating the growth of interest by one-half, cf. Postgate, FNALD, p. 41.

L.H.E. 16: the name of the witness is “probably ᵁDINGIR—ba-nî” according to KHD; LJR’s copy shows rather ᵁDINGIR—ša—x.”

Tablet (A), and fragment of Envelope (B). $28 \times 22 \times 18$ mm. $5 + 2 + 3$ lines (A), $6 + 2$ lines (B).

Silver loan.

Post-canonical date (Falkner 635).

A (tablet)

Obverse
1. $8 \text{GIN} \text{KUL.BABBAR}$
2. $\text{sa} \text{mu-LAL-aš+šur}$
3. $\text{ina IGI} \text{a-u-i}$
4. $\text{KUL.BABBAR} \text{a-na 4-ti-šu}$
5. $\text{i-rab-bi}$

Bottom Edge
6. $\text{ITU.KIN UD-9*-KAM}$
7. $\text{lim-mu aš+šur-gar-u(a)—né-re}$

Reverse
8. $\text{IGI} \text{kim-a-a}$
9. $\text{IGI aš+šur—SIG}_5$
10. $\text{IGI aš+šur—bal-lit-sún}$

Remainder uninscribed

B (envelope fragment)

Obverse
1. $\text{NA4.KIŠIB a-u-	ext{"ia}}$
2. $\text{A li-a-qi-ri}$
3. $8 \text{GIN.MES KUL.BABBAR}$

Two stamp seal impressions
4. $\text{sa mu-LAL-aš+šur}$
5. $\text{ina IGI a-u-ia}$
6. $[\text{KUL.BABBAR} \text{a-na 4-ti}]-[šû]$

Remainder broken away

Reverse
1'. $\text{IGIIr aš+šur}$
2'. $\text{IGI aš+šur—bal-lit-su-nu}$

\textsuperscript{127} Text retrieved by KHD: formerly VAT 16568. Notice, however, that the photograph in Ph.Ass. 1162, bottom left, shows the Reverse of A embedded in B (= A, Rev. 8-10), whereas Ph.Ass. 1163, bottom left, only shows the Obverse of the envelope (= B, Obv. 1-4). At present, the two texts have been separated [FMF].
Translation

A:
"8 shekels of silver, belonging to Mutaqqin-Aššur, credited to Aḫu. The silver will increase by one-fourth. Month of Ululu (= VI), the 9th day, eponymy of Aššur-gārū’a-nēre. Witness: Kimāyu; witness: Aššur-mudammīq; witness: Aššur-ballissu(u)"

B:
"Seal of Aḫuia, son of Iaqiri. 8 shekels of silver, belonging to Mutaqqin-Aššur, credited to Aḫuia. The silver will increase by one-fourth ... Witness: Na’id-Aššur; witness: Aššur-ballissunu."

Notes
A, Obv. 3 = B, Obv. 1: The name could theoretically be understood as formed by the divine name A—10 = Apil-Addu/Apladad, but the two variants of the predicative element yield an ending -i-ia, which, while quite well attested, is nonetheless rare in connection with gods’ names (cf. R. Zadok, *On West Semites in Babylonia During the Chaldean and Achaemenian Periods*, Jerusalem 1977, pp. 153ff.).

108. VAT 20389. ALA N21(5). Ass. 8889d128.
Pillow-shaped tablet.
Loan of silver.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 639/622).

Obverse
1. 11 GIN KU.BABBAR
2. ša 1aš+šur—zu
3. [ina IGI 1]-a-a
4. Transliteration not available
5. Transliteration not available
6. 1mu-sa-la-ma-iā
7. Transliteration not available
8. [ ] SUM-an
9. [šum-ma N]U SUM-ni a-na 5-si-šu
10. i-rab-bi
11. 1mu-LAL—aš+šur EN—šU.2.MEŠ
12. ITU.NE UD-8-KĀM
13. lim-mu id30—MAN—PAP
14. LŪ.A.BA É.GAL
15. IGI 1aš+šur—bi-sūn

128) Text retrieved by KHD: formerly VAT 16570; cf. also Andrae, WHA, p. 15.
Translation

"11 shekels of silver, belonging to Aššur-lēši, at the disposal of ...āyu.

......

... he will give back. If he fails to give (the amount) back, it will increase by one-fifth. Mutaqqin-Aššur is the guarantor (thereof).

Month of Ābu (= V), the 8th day, eponymy of Sin-šarru-uṣur, the palace scribe.

Witness: Aššur-bessunu; witness: Kanūnayu; witness: Aššur-ilāši."


Rectangular tablet. Three stamp seal impressions. 13+3+18+4+1 lines.

Sale of a slave.

Post-canonical date (Falkner 615).

Obverse

1. NA₄.KISIB iIR—"PAP.MEŠ-šū"
2. DUMU i4.PA—MÍ.E.GAL—PAP
3. EN LÚ SUM-ni

Three stamp seal impressions

4. i4.man-nu—ki—ERIM.MEŠ iR-šū
5. ša iIR—PAP.MEŠ-šū up-piš-m[a]
6. i4.mu-LAL-in—aš+šur in[a šā]
7. 3 MA.NA KÚ.BABBAR ina 1 MA.N[A-e ša URU.gar-ga-miš]
8. TA* IG i4.R—PAP.MEŠ-[šū il-qi]
9. kas-pu gam-mur ta-[din LÚ šuatu]
10. up-pu-šu zā[(r)²-rip laqi]
11. tū-a-ru 'de-e-nu KA.KA la-āš-šū'
12. man-nu šā ina ur-kiš ina ma-te-ma
13. lu-u iIR—PAP.MEŠ-šū lu-u DUMU.MEŠ-šū

Bottom Edge

14. lu-u DUMU.DUMU.MEŠ-šū ša de-nu
15. KA.KA TÁ* i4.mu-LAL—aš+šur
16. DUMU.MEŠ-šū 'ub'-ta-u-ni

Reverse

17. ma-a LÚ 'a-paṭ'-tar 1 MA.NA KÚ.BABBAR

Text retrieved by KHD: formerly VAT 16510.
18. 1 MA.NA KÚ.GI ina bur-ki 4NI.NÍ.LÍL
19. GAR-an 2 ANŠE.KUR.RA BABBAR.MEŠ-te
20. ina gír.2 aš+ "šur kešda" [aplušu rabišu]
21. ina ḫa-mar 4IM [išarrapa kaspu ana]
22. 10.MEŠ-te a-na [EN.MEŠ-šú [utāra]
23. ina la de-ni-šú KA.KA-[ma là ilaqqē]
24. sib-ti be-e-ni a-na 1-ME [ūmāte]
25. sa-ar-tū a-na kāl MU.MEŠ-[te₁]

26. IGI 1aš+šur—bi-sūn x x]
27. IGI 1aš+šur—MU—P[AP x x]
28. IGI 1šuḫuš—[Pa SANGA ša ḫu [x (x)]
29. IGI 1aššur—ba-ni IGI 1šu-nu-[x x]
30. IGI 1un-zar-a-[u (x x)]
31. IGI 1šE-ra-a IGI 1EN—iš-[x x]
32. IGI 1bi-su-u-a IGI 1ta-a-a₃
33. IGI 1zi-zi-ia LÚ.NINDA
34. IGI 1aš+šur—rēm-a-ni IGI 1e—aš+š[ur]

Top Edge
35. IGI 1šI-UTU—SU IGI 1šI-UTU—še-ze-[i-ba-ni]
36. ITU.NE UD-16’ lim-mu 30—D[u—Igi]
37. [LÚ.ša]—UGU—[bētani (?)]
38. IGI 1šuš-mu—KUR—aššur

Left Hand Edge
39. IGI 1ša-gib—aššur

Translation
"Seal of Urad-aḫḫēšu, son of Nabû-ša-ekalli-ūṣur, owner of the man being sold. Mutaqqin-Aššur contracted and bought Mannu-ki-šabē, slave of Urad-aḫḫēšu, for 3 minas of silver by the Karkemiš mina, from Urad-aḫḫēšu. The silver is given in full; this man is made over, acquired. There is to be no revocation, lawsuit or litigation. Whoever, in the future or at any time, either Urad-aḫḫēšu, or his sons or his grandson, will seek lawsuit or litigation with Mutaqqin-Aššur or his sons, saying, 'I will redeem the man', will place 1 mina of silver and 1 mina of gold in the lap of Mullissu, will tie 2 white horses at the feet of the god Aššur, and will burn his eldest son in the hamru-precinct of the god Adad. The silver he will return tenfold to its owners. In his non-lawsuit and litigation he will not succeed. (Guarantee against) seizure and epilepsy —100 days; (against) fraud —for all time."

Month of Ābu (= V), the 16th day, eponymy of Šin-ālik-pāni, the official in charge of the Inner Quarters. Witness: Šulmu-māt-Aššur; witness: Sagib-Aššur.”

Notes

Obv. 2: on mî.ê.gal = ša ekalli, or perhaps even *šegalli/u, cf. Parpola, SAAB 2 (1988), pp. 73-76.

Rev. 29: 1šu-nu—[pap.ì] is a possibility for integration here; cf. ad no. 99, above; and see also 1šu-nu—pap+u-idd, NATAPA 1, 33, Rev. 12.

39: 1ša-gib—aš+šur is a relatively frequent name in the Assur archives: cf. Introduction, b.3, for the attestations within archive N21, and see also no. 82, above; for other documents, cf. VAT 8644 (= KAV 115), 15; VAT 15464, 14 (KRad); Deller, BaM 16 (1985), p. 373, 18; and the NATAPA 1 material (cf. now Neuassyrische Rechtsurkunden I, cit., p. 16a).


Tablet (=A) and central fragment of envelope (=B).

A: 6+1+8+1 lines.
B: 9 lines.

Loan of barley.

Post-canonical date (Falkner 627).

A

Obverse

1. 40 anše še.pad.mes sag.du
2. ša 1mu-lal-in—aš+šur
3. ina 1dpa—rem-a-ni
4. ina ad-ri sag.du-šá
5. sum-an šum_a ma nu i-din
6. a-na 1 anše 4bān—*šu*

Bottom Edge

7. ta-ra-bi itu.‘gān’ [ud-4-kām]

130 Text retrieved by KHD: formerly VAT 16579. On the basis of the Ass.Fd.Nr., this seems to be the tablet classified by Pedersen between N21(8) and N21(9), albeit with the erroneous correspondence to VAT 19304.
Reverse
8. \textit{lim-me} ³³⁰—\[\text{MAN—PAP EGIR-ú}
9. IGI \textit{mu-še-zib—aš+šur}
10. IGI \textit{aš+šur—še-zib-a-ni}
11. IGI \textit{10—A—Aš}
12. IGI \textit{gab-bu—DINGIR.MES—MAN—PAP}
13. IGI \textit{aš+šur—GAR—MU}
14. \textit{A.} \textit{BA}
15. IGI \textit{arba-il-a-a}

Left Hand Edge
16. \textit{ES.GAR šá MAN}

B
1'. \[\textit{ina IGI ³³PA—rém-a-ni}
2'. \[\textit{ina ad-ri} ŠAG.DU-šá
3'. \[\textit{SUM-an šum-a-m}a nu i-din
4'. \[\textit{[a-na 1 ANŠE} 4bÁN-šú tara-bi
5'. \[\textit{ITU.GÁN} UD-4-Kám
6'. \[\textit{lim-me} ³³⁰—\[\text{MAN—PAP EGIR-ú}
7'. \[\textit{IGI ³³IM—A—Aš}
8'. \[\textit{IGI \textit{mu-š}e-zib—aš+šur
9'. \[\textit{IGI \textit{gab}—bu—DINGIR.MES—[\text{MAN—PAP]}

Remainder broken away

Translation
A:
"40 homers of barley, capital sum of Mutaqqin-Assur, at the disposal of Nabû-remanni. At the threshing-floor, he will give back its capital sum; if he fails to give it back, it will increase by 1 homer, 4 sāti.
Month of Kislimu (= IX), the 4th day, eponymy of Sin-sarru-usur, the subsequent. Witness: Mušēzib-Assur; witness: Aššur-šēzibanni; witness: Adad-aplu-iddina; witness: Gabbu-ilâni-sarru-usur; witness: Aššur-šākin-šûmi, the scribe; witness: Arba-îläyu.
Offering-quota of the king."

B:
"... at the disposal of Nabû-remanni. At the threshing-floor, he will give back its capital sum; if he fails to give it back, it will increase by 1 homer, 4 sāti.
Month of Kislimu (= IX), the 4th day, eponymy of Sin-sarru-usur, the subsequent. Witness: Adad-aplu-iddina; witness: Mušēzib-Assur; witness: Gabbu-ilâni-sarru-usur (rest broken away)"
Notes
A, Rev. 10: this witness is also present in 112, Rev. 9.
Rev. 11: notice the rare attestation of the writing $d^{10}$ (usually lacking the determinative), and the variant with $d^{1}$ in B, 7.

Rectangular tablet. 7.1x4.5x2.2 cms. 9+2+11+3 lines.
Judicial decision with river ordeal.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 639).

Obverse
1. [de]-e'-nu ša $^{1}da-\text{hi}^{	ext{v}}$-[n][u] [x x x]
2. $^{\text{in}a}$ UGU$^{7}$ [U+G][UR]$^{8}$=$^{9}$ha-mu 'x (x)' $^{10}$ ku ti
3. $^{1}$ga-la-a $^{1}$kar-ru-ru' $^{11}$IM MÉŠ
4. ša $^{1}sa$-[a-a]x ta-du-ku-u-ni
5. 2 LŪ$.da$-[a]$-x [x] ta-du-ku-u-ni
6. LŪ.IR ša $^{1}da$-ma-nu-ri ta-du-ku-u-ni
7. MI.GÉME šá $^{1}$arba-il-a-a DUMU $^{1}$za-ba-an-a-a
8. ta-za-ri-qu-u-ni ina IGI $^{1}$U$^{11}$ GUR$^{12}$=ŠEŠ$^{13}$ LŪ*.x [x x]
9. $^{1}$hur-sa-an e-ti-mi-du $^{1}$man-n[u-x x x]

Bottom Edge
10. ša EN.NUN-te e-si-šú-nu pa-q[i-di]
11. $^{1}$DINGIR=a-ḫa-ri LŪ*.ša IGI [x x x]

Reverse
12. e-si-šú-nu pa-qi-[di]
13. LŪ$^{12}$UTU$^{13}$-ši $^{1}$SU DUMU $^{1}$e-x [x x]
14. URU.kal(-ha)-a-a $^{1}$PA$^{-}$x [x x x]
15. $^{1}$TU-su ša IGI de-na-[ni te x x]
16. $^{1}$da-ḫi-nu ina IGI $^{1}$UTU iq-ti-bi
17. ma-a UN.MÉŠ an-nu-ti $^{1}$AD=ra-mu
18. la i-du-ku-u-ni $^{1}$UTU-a-ra-[mis]*-x x]
19. a-na $^{4}$UTU iq-bi-ma šum-ma x [x x]
20. ina UZI.MŪD šá $^{1}$UN.MÉŠ an-nu te$^{15}$
21. [x x x] x x x qi šá MI+x [x x x]
22. [x x x] UZI.MŪD.MÉŠ a-nu [x x x]

$^{131}$ Text retrieved by KHD: formerly VAT 16507.
Left Hand Edge

23. ITU.ŠE UD-7-KAM
24. lim-mu 1'30—MAN—PAP LÜ*.EN.NA[M]
25. URU.ḪI-IN-DÁ-NA

Translation

"The case which Dabinu (brought) ... concerning Nergal-ḥamu ... (saying:?) ‘Gaḷa and Karruru, slaves of Sakā, you have killed; two ... -men you have killed; the slave of Dama-nuri you have killed; the handmaid of Arba?ilāyu son of Zabanāyu you have sprinkled (with blood?)’ before Nergal-sarru, the [sukkallu.] He imposed the river ordeal. Mannu-... of the guards was appointed with them; Ilu’a-ḥari, the man in charge of ... was appointed with them. Šāmši-eriba, son of E-..., from Kalḫu, Nabû-..., and Liqisu were in charge of the verdict. Daḥinu stated in front of the god Šamaš: ‘These men did not kill Abi-ramu’. Aramis-... stated in front of the god Šamaš: ‘If ... in the blood of these men ...’ (remainder too fragmentary for translation) Month of Addaru (= XII), the 7th day, eponymy of Šīn-šarru-uṣur, the governor of Ḥindanu”

Notes

Obv. 3ff.: a basic difficulty surrounds this text: the identification of the context and the protagonists. The verbal forms from here to l. 8 seem to require being taken as 2nd p. masc. sg., but this presupposes a declaration on the part of the plaintiff Daḥinu in direct speech, and the ma-a is visibly absent. The only alternative, to consider the verbs as reflecting a 3rd p. fem. sg., does not really seem viable, because a woman makes her appearance only in ll. 7-8. Further elements of complexity are: a) the ordeal does not seem to have been performed by Daḥinu alone, but also by a further man, Aramis-...; b) another individual, Abi-ramu, previously unattested, turns up in the declaration before the god Šamaš, being moreover exculpated by the plaintiff.

5: the professional name—if it is such—is hard to guess; a possibility might be that of a verbal adjective from damāmu, “to mourn”.

7: za-ban-a-a appears also (with the divine determinative) in 106, Obv. 3-4, where his wife, Dadāyu, is also mentioned. Presumably, thus, the individual named Arba?ilāyu would have been the offspring of this union.

8: ta-za-ri-gu-ni might require explanation as a preterite (with ZA for az), in view of the two forms of duāku which precede it. The end of this line was already quoted by Deller, Studi Volterra, p. 648, with the reading 1U+GUR—LUGAL LÜ.SUK[KAL (cf. also ibid., p. 640).

9-12: Cf. Deller, loc. cit., p. 645, for the clause on the ordeal and the following lines.

11: it is quite possible that this man was a ša pān dēnāni like the individual in l. 15.


Rectangular tablet. Pinkish-grey. 4.2 x 2.5 x 0.9 cms. 1+ 2+ 5 lines.
Loan of silver.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 620?).

Top Edge
1. 16 ǧIN.MES KÙ.BABBAR

Obverse
1. ša 1MU-LAL—aš+šur
2. ina 1IGI aš+šur—de-ni—IGI.LAL
3. ina pu-u-hi it-ti-ši
4. KÙ.BABBAR a-na 4-ut-ti-šú
5. i-rab-bi
6. İTU.ŠU UDU-1-KÁM*

Bottom Edge
7. lim-mu 1U.U-i
8. LÙ.IGI.‘DUB' GAL-ù

Reverse
9. 1IGI aš+šur—še-zib-a-ni
10. 1IGI aš+šur—bi-sún
11. 1IGI aš+šur—zu
12. 1IGI 1UTU—SU
13. 1IGI 1SUJUŠ—d PA A. ‘BA’

Translation
“16 shekels of silver, belonging to Mutaqqin-Aššur, credited to Aššur-dēni-lāmurr; he took it as a loan. The silver will accrue by one-fourth. Month of Duḫūzu (= IV), the 1st day, eponym of Daddī, chief treasurer.

132) The photograph shows a salt cover on the tablet which is now absent.
Notes
B.E. 7-8: for the attestations of Daddī chief treasurer, see Falkner, AfO 17, p. 103, s.v. Daddī133, and ibid., p. 102, s.v. Bēl-šarru-naṭid, for the writings 1u. u.-i.

8: this line is strongly indented, with LÚ beneath the PN above.

Rectangular tablet, about one-half preserved. Brown clay. 2.3x2.2x1.5. 1+6+1+7 lines.
Loan of silver.
Post-canonical date (?).

Top Edge
1. 13 GīN [KU.BABBAR]

Obverse
2. SAG.MES ša [aš+šur/15 URU.arba-il]
3. ša 1mu-L[AL—aš+šur]
4. ina IG1 I/DINGIR—[x x]
5. DUMU 1hi-ma-[ri-i (?)]
6. ina pu-u-ḫī it-[ti-šī]
7. KU.BABBAR a-na 4-u[t-ti-šū]

Bottom Edge
8. 1-r[a b-bi]

Reverse
9. ITU.KIN U[D-n-KĀM/KĀM*]
10. lim-mu 1[x x x]
11. IG1 da-a[n x x]
12. URU.ŠA.[URU-a-a ]
13. IG1 NUNUN-u-[te (x x)]
14. IG1 ITU.KIN-'a'-[a]
15. IG1 ṢAP—[tab*-ni (?)]

Translation
"13 shekels of silver, (offerings of the) first-fruits of Aššur/Star of Arbaʔil, belonging to Mutaggiqin-Aššur, credited to Ilu-izirî, son of Ḫimari; he took it as a loan. The silver will increase by one-fourth. Month of Ulūlu (= VI), the nth day, eponymy of ...

133) This quote is erroneously attributed to Menzel in ALA II, p. 112.
Witness: Dan..., from Inner City; witness: Zērūte; witness: Ulūlāyu; witness: Aḫu-tabni (?).”

Notes
Rev. 13-14: these two names are very frequent. Cf. in any case ADD 48-49 = NALK 40a-40b, where they appear together, as parties to a loan of 658 B.C.

114. VAT 14445. ALA N21(14). Ass.Fd.Nr. 8900e. Ph.Ass. 1162/63. Rectangular tablet. Brownish clay. 3.3×2.1×1.5 cms. 1+5+1+4 lines. Silver loan. Post-canonical date (Falkner 617).

Top Edge
1. 10 ǧìn KU.BABBAR

Obverse
1. ša ʾmu-LAŠ-as+šur
2. ina IGI šul-mu-KUR—as+šur
3. A DINGIR-ma—zu KU.(DIM)
4. ITU.AB UD-10-KĀM
5. ’lim’-mu IdPA—TAB-tū—a-lik

Bottom Edge
6. ana 4-tū-šū GAL

Reverse
7. IGI ʾaš+šur—bi-sun
8. IGI ʾaš+šur—MU—PAP
9. IGI ’un-zarā-ḫu
10. IGI ʾaš+šur—de-eq

Translation
“10 shekels of silver, belonging to Mutaqqin-Assur, credited to Šulmu-māt-Assur, son of Ilima-lēʾi, goldsmith. Month of Kanûnû (= X), the 1st day, eponymy of Nabû-tappûtu-ālik. It will increase by one-fourth. Witness: Aṣṣur-bessunu; witness: Aṣṣur-šumu-uṣur; witness: Unzarlu; witness: Aṣṣur-deeq.”

Notes
Obv. 2: Throughout this text, aš+šur is written with the last vertical to the right somewhat detached from the preceding ones.
the alternative possibility should not be ruled out of reading something in the faded area to the right of KU, i.e. KU. 'DIM'.

5: the authors see no break in the eponym's name, differently from the reading given in Millard, SAAS 2, p. 109.

115. VAT 9609. ALA N21(1bis)?

Envelope of reddish clay, finely written; tablet lodged inside. 3 stamp seals, very clear.

4.1\times3.0\text{Times New Roman} 'C255'\text{Times New Roman} 'C255'\text{Times New Roman} 'C255'\text{Symbol} 'C255' 2.9\text{cms.} 2+4+2+5\text{ lines.}

Loan of silver.

Post-canonical date (Paši).

Top Edge
1. NA4.KIŠIB 3 EN—KASKAL
2. \([n+]8\ GIN KU.BABBAR

Obverse
1. ša 1aš+šur—MU—GIN
2. ina 1IGI 1aš+šur—MU—GIN
3. ina 1IGI 1mu-LAL—aš+šur

Three stamp seal impressions
4. ina 1IGI 1HR-a-a

Bottom Edge
5. ana 5-si-šú GAL-bi
6. ITU.SE UD-25

Reverse
7. lim-mu 1pa-ṣi-i
8. IGI 1aš+šur—bi-sún
9. IGI 1aš+šur—MU—PAP
10. IGI 1un-zar-a-ḫu

\[134\) As stated in the Introduction (b.3), a slight confusion by Pedersén surrounds this textual item. In the index to VAT numbers (ALA II, p. 168a) Pedersén gives VAT 9609 as the corrected number for VAT 9606 = ALA N21(1) = Ass.Fd.Nr. 8711, Ph.Ass. 1258/59, 1363/64. The latter VAT number however actually refers to a quite different tablet (our no. 105, above), which moreover has no contextual links with archive N21 — nor with other Assur archives hitherto examined, as far as the authors can see. On the other hand, the prosopographical and contextual references to N21(1) provided by Pedersén in his introduction to the archive (ibid., pp. 111-112), as well as the quotes given by him to the works by Deller and Menzel in the “filecard” of N21(1), refer to the true VAT 9609, i.e. to the present tablet (ibid., p. 112). As noted by KHD, a "small piece of l.h.e. went lost after W. Andrae wrote 9609 on it", with the consequence that the number is only partially preserved: this might have had something to do with the confusion noted above.
11. IG1 °mu-šal-lim—aš+šur

Translation
"Seal of three expedition chiefs.

n+8 shekels of silver, belonging to Aššur-šumu-ukīn, credited to Aššur-šumu-ukīn, credited to Mutaqqin-Aššur, credited to Urdāyu. It will increase by one-fifth. Month of Addāru, the 25th day, eponymy of Pašī.

Witness: Aššur-bessunu; witness: Aššur-šumu-uṣur; witness: Unzarḫu; witness: Mušallim-Aššur."

116. VAT 16580. ALA N21(?). Ass.Fd.Nr. 8900a. Fragment of rectangular tablet. 6+5 lines.

Date lost.

Obverse
1. 40 ANŠE ŠE.PAD.MEŠ inaGIŠ[šā n qa (aš+sur-a-a)]
2. ša°mu-LAL—aš+šur ES.GAR š[a MAN
3. š.U.2 DINGIR—la-x [ 
4. ina IG1 ḫa-am-bu-su x[
5. ŠE.PAD.MEŠ ’a’-na x [
6. [x x x x] x x [ 

Remainder lost

Reverse

Beginning lost
1'. [x x x x] x x [
2'. IG1 ikī-sīr—aš+šur A. [ 
3'. IG1 sa-ka—DINGIR A ’x [ 
4'. IG1 ḫa-ta-a IG1 ’x [ 
5'. IG1 ’d.MAŠ-š IG1 ’x [ 

Translation
"40 homers of barley, by the sūtu of n qas, Assyrian standard(?), belonging to Mutaqqin-Aššur, offering-quota of the king, in the care of Ilu-la-..., debited to Ḫambusu ..... The barley will increase by .... (several lines lost)

135) Text not yet retrieved (possibly bears new no. VAT 20379): transliteration by KHD 1960. This is one of two tablets bearing the same Ass.Fd.Nr. 8900a, whereas Pedersén, ALA II, p. 112, catalogue, ad C, only quotes one "from plundered sarcophagus Ass. 8900". Since the other text with the same find no. (= VAT 20394) seems to have little or nothing to do with N21’s archival context, it has been given in Appendix 2.
Witness: Kišir-Assur, son of ...; witness: Saka-il, son of ...; witness: Ḥatâ; witness: ...; witness: Nurtû; witness: ...”

Notes

Obv. 1: cf. no. 99, 5, above, for a parallel attestation.

2: see no. 110, A, 16, for the “offering-quote of the king”; for other possibilities, cf. 82, B, 2; 94, 4.

117. VAT 20383. ALA N21 (?). Ass.Fd.Nr. 8890f or 8889f136.

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

Translation

“Half a mina of silver belonging to Mutaqqin-Assur, credited to Nabil-balassu-iqi. He took it as a loan. At the (prescribed) month and days, he will give it back. If he will not give it back, it will increase by one-fourth. Month of Addâru, the 21st day, eponymy of Pâšî. Witness: Aššur-šumu-uṣur; witness: Aššur-bessunu; witness: Unzarḫu: witness: ...”

Notes

5: the formula is rare, presumably indicating that a fixed date for the restitution of the silver was still to be decided at the time of the writing of the contract.

13: Mušallim-Aššur might be the name to be restored here (suggestion KHD).

For more texts possibly pertaining to archive N21, cfr. Appendix 2, below.

136) Text retrieved by KHD. Formerly VAT 16572.
Archive N 22


Pillow-shaped tablet. 5+1+4 lines.
Loan of silver.
649 B.C.

Obverse
1. 15 4*-tú KU.BABBAR
2. šaḫ na-nu-"ni"
3. pa-an 1MU—15
4. ITU.BÁR UD-1-KÁM
5. lim-mu 1PAP—DINGIR-a-a

Bottom Edge
6. <a-na> 4-tú-šú GAL-b[i]

Reverse
7. IGI 1dPA—MAN—PAP.MEŠ-šú
8. IGI ḫa-na-ni-i
9. IGI aš+šur—ZU
10. IGI si-lim—aš+šur

Translation
“15 (shekels) and one-fourth of silver, belonging to Nanuni, credited to Šumma-Ištar. The month of Nisannu (= I), the first day, eponymy of Aḫu-ila2a. It will increase by one-fourth. Witness: Nabu-šar-aḫḫēšu; witness: Ḥananî; witness: Aššur-lēr; witness: Silim-Aššur.”

Notes
Obv. 3: the use of MU for šumma is far from unknown in the onomastics from Assur cf. e.g. NATAPA 1, nos. 3, 33 and passim.
4: Collations and photographs (Ph.Ass. 1162/63, top left) show that the sign is quaint, almost like DIRI, but with no previous month name attached: KHD suggests <ŠE>DIRI as an alternative reading.

137) N.B.: the numbering of this archive follows the new classification of the relevant texts given by Pedersén in SAAB 3 (1989), p. 69.
138) Text retrieved by KHD. Formerly VAT 16583.
119. VAT 20404. ALA N22(2). Ass.Fd Nr. 8896b. Ph. Ass. 1162/63
Rectangular tablet, written on short axis. 13² + 2 + 18³ lines.
Conveyance. Sale of a female slave.
Post-canonical period (date partially lost).

Obverse
1. [Na₄.Kisi₂i₂] Ṭu₂₂₂₂-a-a
twostamp seal impressions
2. [En Gēm]E sum-[ni]
3. [(šū₂₂₂₂₂)u₄-tu Gēme₂₂₂₂₂]
4. [ša₂₂₂₂₂] Ṭu₂₂₂₂₂-a-a
5. [ú₂₂₂₂₂-pi₂₂₂₂₂] na₂₂₂₂₂-nu
6. [in₂₂₂₂₂ ša₂₂₂₂₂ bi₂₂₂₂₂ n GI]N Kū₂₂₂₂₂.Babbär il-qi
7. [kas₂₂₂₂₂-pu₂₂₂₂₂ ga₂₂₂₂₂-mur₂₂₂₂₂ ta₂₂₂₂₂-din
8. [mī₂₂₂₂₂-šū-a]tu₂₂₂₂₂ za₂₂₂₂₂-ár₂₂₂₂₂-pat₂₂₂₂₂ la₂₂₂₂₂-qi₂₂₂₂₂-at
9. tu₂₂₂₂₂-u₂₂₂₂₂-ru₂₂₂₂₂ de₂₂₂₂₂-nu
10. da₂₂₂₂₂-ba₂₂₂₂₂-bu₂₂₂₂₂ la₂₂₂₂₂-šu
11. mana₂₂₂₂₂-nu₂₂₂₂₂ ša₂₂₂₂₂ in₂₂₂₂₂ ur₂₂₂₂₂-kiš
12. in₂₂₂₂₂ ma₂₂₂₂₂-ti₂₂₂₂₂ me₂₂₂₂₂ lu₂₂₂₂₂-u₂₂₂₂₂- Ṭu₂₂₂₂₂-a-a
13. lu₂₂₂₂₂- u₂₂₂₂₂-du₂₂₂₂₂.mu₂₂₂₂₂. Me₂₂₂₂₂-šu₂₂₂₂₂ lu₂₂₂₂₂- u₂₂₂₂₂-du₂₂₂₂₂. du₂₂₂₂₂. mu₂₂₂₂₂. Me₂₂₂₂₂-šu₂₂₂₂₂

Bottom Edge
14. lu₂₂₂₂₂-u₂₂₂₂₂-gur₂₂₂₂₂-[b-šu]
15. lu₂₂₂₂₂-u₂₂₂₂₂-me₂₂₂₂₂-me₂₂₂₂₂-ni₂₂₂₂₂-šu₂₂₂₂₂

Reverse
16. [ša₂₂₂₂₂-de₂₂₂₂₂-nu₂₂₂₂₂] da₂₂₂₂₂-ba₂₂₂₂₂-bu
17. [ta²₂₂₂₂₂]na₂₂₂₂₂-ni
18. ta₂₂₂₂₂ du₂₂₂₂₂.mu₂₂₂₂₂.me₂₂₂₂₂-shu₂₂₂₂₂ ta₂₂₂₂₂ du₂₂₂₂₂ du₂₂₂₂₂.mu₂₂₂₂₂.me₂₂₂₂₂-shu₂₂₂₂₂
19. i₂₂₂₂₂-ga₂₂₂₂₂-ru₂₂₂₂₂-u₂₂₂₂₂-ni
20. An₂₂₂₂₂.sá₂₂₂₂₂ 4. Ṭu₂₂₂₂₂.Lugal₂₂₂₂₂ lu₂₂₂₂₂ en₂₂₂₂₂-de₂₂₂₂₂-ni₂₂₂₂₂-shu₂₂₂₂₂
21. 'dan₂₂₂₂₂-nu₂₂₂₂₂-u₂₂₂₂₂+gur₂₂₂₂₂ (A²₂₂₂₂₂) kun-di₂₂₂₂₂-²₂₂₂₂₂-x₂₂₂₂₂
22. En₂₂₂₂₂ Kū₂₂₂₂₂.Babbär₂₂₂₂₂ na₂₂₂₂₂-ši₂₂₂₂₂-še₂₂₂₂₂-i
23. Igi₂₂₂₂₂ Ṣi₂₂₂₂₂-li₂₂₂₂₂-i

139) Text retrieved by KHD. Formerly VAT 16577+VAT 16578, and bearing the number 8890b on the Assur photographs; thus it was classified by Pedersén as N21(8), but with some misgivings and suspicions (ALA p. 113, top and bottom). On the other hand, as no. 8896b, it was placed in N22, between 1 and 2.
140) The totals reflect the lines visible (to FMF) on Ph. Ass. 1162/63, 1st down, 2nd from left; specifically, a fragment at the top (including seal identification section and seal impressions on the Obv., part of the witness list on the Rev.) would appear to be missing at present. The lines where fuller reading has been established on the basis of the photographs are marked with an *.
Translation

"Seal of Kanūnāyu, owner of the slave woman being sold. Nanūnu contracted and bought Sulmuitu, the female slave of Kanūnāyu, for n shekels of silver. The silver is given over in its entirety. This woman is acquired, taken. There is to be no revocation, lawsuit, or litigation. Whoever, in the future or at any time, either Kanūnāyu or his sons or his grandsons, or a neighbour of his, or anybody of his, will initiate proceedings for lawsuit and litigation with Nanūnu or his sons or his grandsons, the god Aššur, the god Šamaš, and the king, will be his adversaries in court. Dannu-Nergal son of (?) Kundi-... will take up (the function) of owner of the silver.

Witness: Šill; witness: Šibû'a; witness: ...-malaka of the country Aḫīha; witness: Pindû: witness: Ṣalmu-šarru-iqbi; witness: Nergal-iddina?; witness: Ubru-Šatru. Month ..., the 11th day, the eponymy after ...

Notes
21-22: the verbal form would seem to require a singular, so it has been supposed (FMF) that a patronymic, and not a further PN, ended the line.

32*-33*: of the crucial date section, EGIR is the only quite clear sign on the photo, which show the tablet replete with salt incrustations.
120. VAT 19304. ALA N22(3). Ass.Fd.Nr. 8996e.  
Triangular docket. Sealings. Very rough script. 3.3x2.3x1.8 cms. 6+7 lines. 
Loan of wine. 
Post-canonical date (Falkner 646 B.C.).

Obverse 
1. 8-BÂN GEŠTIN 
2. *ša* 1'na-nu-'ni' 
3. *-uri* 1'SU'-a-a 
Seal impressions 
4. x x x [x x] 
5. e-'dan' [šumma] 
6. [NU] 'SUM' [0]

Reverse 
7. ina+ mit-'hār' 
8. GAL-'bi' 
9. ITU.GUD UD-[n-KÁM/KÁM*] 
10. [lim]-me 1'da-MAN—BAP.MEŠ-šú 
11. 1[GI 1] x 
Blank space 
12. 1[GI 1] x x 

Translation 
"8 sāti of wine, belonging to Nanuni, at the disposal of Ribayu. In the month of 
MN he will give it back. If he fails to give it back, it will increase by an equal 
quantity. Month of Ayyāru (= II), the nth day, eponymy of Nabû-šar-abḫēšu. 
Witness: ...; witness: ...

Notes 
Obv. 1: For the same unit of measure, cf. no. 105, 2; the writing is well represented 
e.g. in the text KAV 184, a, 17.

5: e-'dan shows a rendering of the 3rd person with initial e- in verbs other than primae 
aleph relatively well attested at Assur:cf., e.g., NATAPA 1, 22, 14 (e-bal-kât-tú-ní), 
SAAS 5, 15, 6 (e-qa-ri-bu). In a different morphological bracket, cf. e-si-šú-nu, no. 111, 
12, above. The PN 1.AL—10—e-din-an'-nu, 134, Rev. 9', should also be ranged here.

141) This tablet bore the mistaken number 8890c, and had been classified in ALA a pertaining to N21, 
between 8 and 9; the correction in the numbering and the adscription to the archive of Nanunu was 
established by Pedersen himself, SAAB 3 (1989), p. 69, ad (3).
Rev. 10: the sign -šù is on the R.H.E. (KHD). This text is erroneously attributed to Sin-šarru-ùṣur in Millard, SAAS 2, p. 115.


Archive N 24

121. VAT 9144. ALA N24, between (1) and (2). Ass.Fd.Nr. 14325a.

Rectangular tablet. Reddish clay. 3.4×2.2×1.6 cms. Fine script. 1+6+3+8 lines.
Loan of silver.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 626).

Top Edge
1. 6 "GIN" KÜ.BABBAR

Obverse
2. šá 15 šá arba-il
3. šá 1 mu-SILIM—aš+šur
4. 1d.PA—MAN—"PAP.ME"-šú
5. 1aš+šur—LAL-a-ni
6. 3 4-tú.MEŠ 1UŠ-tú—aš+šur
7. 3 4-tú.MEŠ 1GIN-i

Bottom Edge
8. PAP 4 1/2 EN.KASKAL<MEŠ>
9. ana pu-u-ḫi it-<ta>-šu
10. ITU.DU6 UD-1

Reverse
11. lim-mu 1d.PA—MAN—PAP
12. A.BA KUR
13. ana 8-tú-šú GAL-bi
14. IGI 1d.PA—MU—aš
15. IGI 1tu-si-i
16. IGI 1IGI—aš+šur—IGI-LAL
17. IGI 1sa-gib—aš+šur
18. IGI 1d.PA—LAL—IGI.LAL

Translation
"6 shekels of silver, of Ištar of Arba'il, belonging to Mušallim-Aššur: (one,) Nabû-šar-ahhešu; (one,) Aššur-taqqinanni; three-fourths, Tarditu-Aššur; three-fourths, Kēnī: in all 4 1/2 ('shares') the expedition chiefs have taken as a loan."
Month of Tašritu (= VII), the 1st day, eponymy of Nabû-šarru-ušur, palace scribe. It will increase by one-eighth.

Notes
Obv. 3: On Nabû-šar-aḫḫēšu, cf. Introduction, b.3 Notice that in an unpublished text (VAT 9742, 2') he is given as son of Šamaš-šumu-ereš, with Mulî (cf. 124), and Nabû-šumu-iddina (here, l. 13; also 125, 126, 128, 139), as co-witnesses.
5-6: the signs here are relatively clear, but the readings are somewhat uncertain; for the usual renderings of fractions, cf. FNALD, p. 66. Following KHD, we should be dealing with two identical notations of 3 4-tú.MEŠ, "three quarters"; cf. the next note.
B.E. 8: it is obvious that this total does not refer to the shekels of silver, which have already been counted as six in Obv. 1; and neither does it refer to people, i.e. the physical EN.KASKAL.MEŠ, since human beings do not come in halves. So, what is implied by the sum of 4 1/2 given here? On the basis of a good parallel to this text, VAT 10024 (= ALA N3, 31), ll. 1-8, the possibility that varied "shares" in the loan were implied, comes to mind. With this solution in mind, the grand total of B.E. 7 must have been reached through one of two options; either a) one of the two individuals in ll. 3-4 had a "share" double in value than the other's, or b) it is further implied that, as in so many other cases of commercial loans (cf. note ad no. 98, Obv. 4), one of the debtors was also the same person as the creditor, i.e. Mušallim-Aššur. In the latter case, we would be dealing with three EN.KASKAL.MEŠ with one "share" each, plus two with a 3/4 "share" per person = 4 1/2 "shares".

Envelope, partly broken, due to extraction of tablet (A), and tablet, lower edge uninscribed, complete (B).
A (VAT 8766): 4.2x3.1x2.9 cms. 1+4+3+2 lines;
B (VAT 8767): 3.6x2.3x1.5 cms. 5+6 lines.
Loan of silver for first-fruits. 690 B.C.

A
Top Edge
1. NA₄.KIŠIB ₁ sal-me

(Transliteration provided by KHD).
Obverse
Cylinder seal impression
2. [50] MA.NA URUDU.MEŠ
3. [SAG.MEŠ ša qa-ri-ti
4. [ša d]5 ša URU.arba-ıl
5. [ša i]dPA'-u-a

Bottom Edge
Break of approx. 3 lines (but space is also occupied by seal impression)

Reverse
1. [l]im-mu lPA—GIN—PAP
2. [IGI] l'ki'-sir—aš+šur
3. [IGI] lmu-LAL—aš+šur

Top Edge
1. IG ltar'-di'-tú—aš+šur
2. IG lPA—CURU-ES

B
Obverse
1. 50 MA.NA URUDU.MEŠ
2. SAG.MEŠ ša qa-ri-ti
3. ša d]5 ša URU.arba-ıl
4. ša lPA-u-a
5. ina IG lšal-me

Reverse
6. ITU.NE UD-14-KÁM
7. lim-me lPA—GIN—PAP
8. IG lmu-LAL—aš+šur
9. IG lki'-sir—aš+šur
10. IG ltar'-di'-tú—aš+šur
11. IG lPA—CURU-ES

Translation
A:
"Seal of Šalme.
50 minas of copper, (offerings of) first-fruits for the qaritu-festival of Ištar of Arba'il, belonging to Nabû-pa ... Month of Abu (= V), eponymy of Nabû-kēnu-uṣur. Witness: Kišir-Aššur; witness: Mutaqqin-Aššur; witness: Tarditu-Aššur; witness: Nabû-ereš."
B:
"50 minas of copper, (offerings of) first-fruits for the qaritu-festival of Istar of Arba'il, belonging to Nabû'a, credited to Şalme. Month of Âbu (= V), eponymy of Nabû-kênu-uṣur.
Witness: Mutaqqîn-Âşur; witness: Kîşir-Âşur; witness: Tardîtu-Âşur; witness: Nabû-ereš."

Notes
Lines 1-5 of both A and B are transliterated by Menzel, AT, II, T 188, 103a-b.

A, Top Edge 1/B, R ev. 5: in both cases, the traces do not seem to fit exactly the requirements of the otherwise expected name Tardîtu-Âşur.

123. VAT 8955. ALa N24(3). Ass.Fd.Nr. 14325c.
Rectangular tablet. Reddish-brown clay. 2.4×1.9×1.3 cms. 1+4+1+5+2 lines.
Loan of silver for first-fruits.
669 B.C.

Top Edge
1. 6 GIN.ME KÜ.BABBAR

Obverse
2. SAG.ME šá 15 arba-il
3. ša tukul-ti—"aš+šur"
4. ina+IGI 1.GÂL—DI[NGIR?]
5. a-di ITU UD.ME

Bottom Edge
6. 1/2 GIN KÜ.BABBAR ina muḫ-ḫi

Reverse
7. GAR-an SUM-an
8. šúm-mu NU i-din
9. 1 GIN ša ITU-šú GAL-bi
10. ITU.GUD UD-17-KÂM
11. "lim"-mu 1.luTU—ka-šiḏ—a-a-"bi"

Top Edge
12. IGI šul-mu
13. IGI 1.KÂ—NINDU-a-a

Translation
"6 shekels of silver, (offerings of) first-fruits of Istar of Arba'il, belonging to Tukulti-Âšur, credited to Ibašši-ili. Up to the month and to the very day, he will set aside and give in addition 1/2 shekel of silver. If he fails to give (the amount)
back, it will increase by a shekel per month. Month of Ayyāru (= II), the 16th day, eponymy of Šamaš-kāšid-ajjāši.
Witness: Šulmu; witness: Bāb-tinurāšu.”

Notes
T.E. 1-Rev. 9 are transliterated by Menzel, AT, II, T 184, no. 86. Notice the consistent use of ME for MEŠ by this scribe.

T.E. 13: a syllabically written version of this name is in ADD 255 (= SAA 6, 59; NALK, 171), 14', 1kā—ti-nu-ra-a-a; due to the multiple prosopographical links of this text with the Assur material (cfr. introduction, b.3, ad no. 75), an ultimate origin of it in Assur itself is by no means implausible. Thus, despite a gap of 15 years, the possibility exists that this was one and the same person as the 1u*.lāh-hi-nu in the ADD text (suggestion KHD). As for the meaning of the name, cfr. no. 73, Obv. 6, above, for the building to which it possibly referred.

Rectangular “vertical” tablet, slight breaks on Obv. left. Reddish-brown clay. 6.9x3.7x2.4 cms. 8+3+13+3+2 lines.
Sale of a female slave.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 639 B.C.).

Obverse
1. [NAK.KIŠIB] šé-ri—ZALʿAG
2. [DUMU] 1a-di—KUR—DINGIR.MEŠ
3. [EN G]E ŚME SUM-an

Sealings (2 stamp)
4. [(x)]gad-ia-ta-a GÉME-šú
5. ū—piš-ma 1sa-gib— aš+šur
6. šá—aš+šur—du-bu 1̃pa—MAN—PAR.MEŠ-šú
7. ina šá 1/2 MA.NA 8 GIN KÜ.BABBAR TI
8. kas-pu gam-mur ta-ad-din

Bottom Edge
9. GÉME šú-a-te zar4-pat
10. TI-at tu-a-ru
11. de-ni KA.KA

Reverse
12. la-šu ša b[AL]-u-ni
13. 10 MA.NA KÜ.BABBAR LUJ-i
14. 5 MA.NA KÜ.GI [z]ak-rū
15. a-na 430 a-šib URU.KASKAL
16. SUM-an ina dec(-ni)-šú KA.KA-ma
17. la ti šib-tu be-e-nu
18. a-na 1-me UD-mu sa-ár-te
19. a-na kàla M[U].AN.NA.MES-te

20. IGI \text{‘}mu-\text{‘}li-i\text{’}
21. IGI \text{‘}aš+sùr—iq-bi
22. IGI \text{‘}aš+sùr—Ki-ia
23. IGI \text{‘}hal-za-a-a
24. IGI \text{‘}sa-gibi—aš+sùr
25. IGI \text{‘}GIN-i

Top Edge
26. IGI \text{‘}ka-ku-u-a
27. IGI \text{‘}Iš—aš+sùr LÚ*.NAGAR
28. [IGI \text{‘}Iš—aš+sùr LÚ*.SIMUG

Left Hand Edge
29. ITU.APIN UD-25-KAM
30. \text{‘}lim-me ld30—MAN—PAP LÚ*.GAR K[UR.b]j-rin-dan’
31. IGI \text{‘}Ix x x

Translation
"Seal of Šeri-nûrî, son of Adi-mâti-ilâni, owner of the slave woman being sold. Sagûb-Asûr, Ša-Asûr-dubbu, and Nabû-šar-aḫḫēšu bought the woman Gadîati‘î, his female slave, for 1/2 mina 8 shekels of silver. The sum is entirely given over; this woman is acquired, taken over. There is to be no revocation, lawsuit or litigation. Whoever will contravene, will give 10 minas of refined silver, and 5 minas of pure gold to Sin, whose seat is Ḫarrān. In his lawsuit and litigation he will not succeed. (Guarantee against) seizure and epilepsy — 100 days; (against) fraud — for all time.
Month of Arûš₂₃₃ (VIII), the 25th day, eponymy of Sin-šarru-uṣur, governor of Ḫindânu.
Witness..."

Notes
Obv. 1: both the name built with the Moon-god dŠēr(u) and the penalty clause in l. 15, referring to Sin, make a Ḫarranian origin of the debtor very likely.
20: in the text VAT 9742 (cf. ad 121), Rev. 3', *mu-li-i* is attested as son of *Id₄*; the same patronymic is given to Nabū-šumu-iddina (Rev. 4'), thus possibly the same individual as in 121, 126, 128, 139.

25: possibly the same individual as in no. 121, 6.

125. VAT 9145. ALA N24, 1st text between (4) and (5). Ass.Fd.Nr. 14325d. Rectangular tablet, complete. Reddish-brown clay. 4.1×2.6×1.6 cms. 1+5+1+5+1 lines.

Loan of silver. Post-canonical date (Falkner 631 B.C.).

Top Edge
1. '100+[n] GIN KU.BABBAR

Obverse
2. ša *Id₄*-MAN-PAP.MES-ŠU
3. ina IGI *Id₃*-SU A 13/30"—x
4. ina pu-u-ḫi i-ḫi-ši
5. a-na 4-tú-šú GAL
6. ITU.AB UD-4-KÁM*

Bottom Edge
7. lim-mu 'pa-qa—<<ana>>URU.arba-il

Reverse
8. IGI 'U+GUR—AŠ
9. IGI 'rém—ana—'aš+šur'
10. IGI 'r₄-PAP'—SU
11. IGI 'man-nu—ki—PAP.'MES' BUR
12. IGI 'ITU.KIN-a—a
13. IGI *Id₄*—MU—AŠ

Left Hand Edge
14. IGI *Id₃*-x [ ]

Translation
"... shekels of silver, belonging to Nabū-šar- akku, credited to Marduk-eriba, son of ...; he took it as a loan. It will increase by one-fourth. Month of Kanûnu (= X), the 4th day, eponymy of (U)pāqa-ana-Arba'il. Witness: Nergal-iddina; witness: Rēmana-Aṣṣur; witness: Aḫu-eriba; witness: Mannu-ki-'akku, seal-cutter(?); witness: Ulûlûyu; witness: Nabû-šumu-iddina; witness: Marduk-..."
Notes
Obv. 3: the patronymic is written on the edge, and is therefore quite difficult to make out.

B.E. 8: notice that this spelling is not attested among the ones given for the name by Falkner, AfO 17, p. 106, but it appears in a further Aššur text, quoted by Millars, SAAS 2, p. 124.

Rev. 11: the final BUR is interpreted by KHD as BUR.<GUL>> or perhaps as a badly written Lú*·NINDA.

126. VAT 9148. ALA N24, 2nd text between (4) and (5).
Fragment of Reverse of “vertical” tablet. Other face flaked out. Dark-red color. 6.1x4.4x2.4 cms. 9 lines.
Sale of slave woman.
No date left.

Reverse
1'. [ma-a M][a-p]at-tar [(x x)]
2'. [še-e]-ḫi ina bir ITU.M[ES]
3'. [sa]-ár-tú ina šat-te [šat-te(?)]
4'. [IGI] śin-qī-‘aš+ sur śe-[lap-a-a]
5'. [IGI] İdPA—NUMUN Aš[]
6'. [IGI] İPA—mu-sig []
7'. [IGI] mi-nu—ah-ṭi—[ana—ili]
8'. [IGI] rēm-ana—DINGIR[]
9'. [IGI] İG[1]
Rest lost

Translation
"... saying, ‘I will will redeem the woman’. (Guarantee against) possession between months, (against) fraud for all time.
Witness: Sinqi-Aššur, architect; witness: Nabû-šumu-iddina, ditto; witness: Nabû-mudammiq ...; witness: Minu-aḫṭi-ana-ili; witness: Rēmana-ili; witness: ...

Notes
2': the guarantee formula is clear, although KHD reads rather [x.x]še ina bir ITU.ME[$], with še as presumed abbreviation for še-e/ḫe-ḫu. For bir as an abbreviation of birtu/e, cf also an unpublished Assur text given in SAAS 5, 27 (l. 6: šul-mu ina bir).
5': is this the same individual as the İdPA—NUMUN—Aš of 121, Rev. 13, above (also in the light of the next two notes)?
7'-8': for these individuals, cf. above, *Introduction*, b.3.

9': a restoration as $\text{[:aš+ sur]}$ $\text{[IL]}$, in the light of 121, Rev. 17, is not to be ruled out.

### 127. VAT 8915. ALA N24(5). Ass. 14325f.

*Rectangular vertical tablet, complete. Light brown clay. 8.6x4.5x2.2 cms. 16+20+2+2 lines.*

*Sale of a slave.*

*Post-canonical date (Falkner 639).*

**Obverse**
1. $\text{NA₄} \text{ KIŠIB ¹NUMUN-i}$
2. $\text{DUMU ¹ta-a-ta}$
3. $\text{TA* ŠA URU.ŠA.URU}$
4. $\text{EN LÚ SUM-ni}$

_____ Two stamp seal impressions _____
5. $\text{¹AŠ—bal-li₄ īr-ŠU}$
6. $\text{ša ¹NUMUN-i A ¹ta-a-t[a]}$
7. $\text{ú-piš-ma ¹qur-dî—dgu-la}$
8. $\text{DUMU ¹bu-sa-su}$
9. $\text{LÚŠ-ŠE-LAP-pa-a-a}$
10. $\text{ina ŠA 1 MA.NA 1/2 MA.NA KÚ.BABBAR}$
11. $\text{il-gé kas-pu gam-mur}$
12. $\text{ta-din LÚ ŠU-₄-te zar-pi}$
13. $\text{laq-ge tu-a-ru de-e-nu}$
14. $\text{KA.KA la-₄š-ŠU man-nu}$
15. $\text{ša ina ūr-kiš ū ma-te-ma}$
16. $\text{i-zaq-qup-an-ni i-gib-u-ni}$

**Bottom Edge**

*Uninscribed*

**Reverse**
17. $\text{lu-u ¹NUMUN-i lu-u DUMU MEŠ-ŠU}$
18. $\text{lu-u DUMU.DUMU MEŠ-ŠU lu-u ŠEŠ MEŠ-ŠU}$
19. $\text{lu-u DUMU ŠEŠ MEŠ-ŠU lu-u LÚ.GAR-nu-ŠU}$
20. $\text{lu-u qur-ub-ŠU lu-u mám+m-NU-ŠU}$
21. $\text{ša TA* ¹qur-dî—dgu-la}$
22. $\text{DUMU MEŠ-ŠU DUMU.DUMU MEŠ-ŠU De-E-nu}$
Translation

"Seal of Žēri, son of Tāta, from Inner City, owner of the man being sold. Qurdi-Gula, son of Busasu, by profession architect, bought and contracted Aššur-ballit, slave of Žēri, son of Tāta, for 1/2 mina of silver. The sum is entirely given over. This man is acquired, taken over. There is to be no revocation, lawsuit, or litigation. Whoever, in the future or at any time, will stand up and make opposition—whether Žēri or his sons or his grandsons or his brothers or his nephews, or somebody appointed over him, or somebody related to him, or anybody of his— will seek lawsuit or litigation against Qurdi-Gula, his sons, or his grandsons, will place 10 minas of refined silver and one mina of pure gold in the lap of Istar whose seat is Nineveh; he will return the silver tenfold to its owners; he will not succeed in his 'non-case' and litigation. (Guarantee against) seizure and epilepsy — 100 days; against fraud — for all time.

Witness: Mušēzib-Aššur, priest of the god Marduk; witness: Aššur-abu-usur, ditto-man; witness: Nabû-remmanni, ditto of the goddess Belat-nipha; witness: Aššur-šēzibanni, ditto-man of Istar of Nineveh; witness: Qibit-Ăššur, ditto-man of ...; witness: ...i, chief architect; witness: Kabti; witness: Aššur-ballit; witness:
Dilil-Ištar; witness: Nabû-aḫu-iddina; witness: Ḫadi-lipušu; witness: Kēnī; wit-
ness: Aššur-rēme-šukna; witness: Tukulti-ilānī; witness: Barḫu-...
Month of Aršamsamna (= VIII), the 9th day, eponymy of Šin-šarru-ūṣur, governor
of Ḫîndan."

Notes
Obv. 5: notice the rare writing for the name of the god Aššur.
Rev. 32: despite the lack of the divine determinative, the goddess ḠAŠAN.—KUR =
Belat-nīṣa is surely meant here (KHD).
34: A priest named Qibit-Aššur appears also in 135, Rev. 13, but tied to the cult of Nabû.
39: KHD’s collation has rather ɪbar/maš en ɪx’.

128. VAT 8908. ALA N24 , between (5) and (6). Ass.Fd.Nr. 14325 q (S)143.
Rectangular tablet. 3.7x3.7x1.3 cms. 1+6+2+5 lines.
Loan of barley.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 624).

Top Edge
1. 1 ANŠE 5-BÁN ŠE.[P AD.MEŠ ]

Obverse
2. ŠA IMA-PÅ MAN-[P A P MEŠ-SU ]
3. ina IGI ɪaš+šur—AŠ—[P A P 0 ]
4. ɪ mu-tak-kil—aš[+šur]
5. ina pu-u-ḥi ‘IL’-ši
6. ina ad-ri URU.AN[ŠE’]
7. SUM-an ŠUM-ma ‘NU SUM’ -[ni]

Bottom Edge
8. a-na 1 ANŠE 5-BÁN]-ŠA
9. GAL-bi

Reverse
10. ITU.ŠE UD-6-KA[M ]
11. ‘lim”-mu ɪaš+šur—KUR—LA[ L(-in)]
12. IGI IMA-PÅ—MU—AŠ
13. IGI ṬU-ŠI-i
14. IGI ɪšum-ma—ū-se-[zib]

143) Text retrieved by FMF, but transliterated by KHD.
Translation

"1 homer, 5 sāti of barley, belonging to Nabû-šar-aḫšēšu, credited to Aššur-nādin-aḫi, son of Mutakkil-Aššur. He took it as a loan. At the threshing floor of the city ... he will give it back; if he fails to give it back, it will increase by 1 homer, 5(?) sāti. The month of Addaru (= XII), the 6th day, eponymy of Aššur-mātu-tuqqu. Witness: Nabû-šumu-iddina; witness: Ṭusî; witness: Šumma-ussezzib."

Notes

B.E. 8: the restoration as 5 sāti is of course conjectural, but it would bring the penalty rate to be the equivalent of the initial amount — a factual correspondence to the situation elsewhere described by the expression ana mithar irabbi.

129. VAT 8936. ALA N24, between (5) and (6). Ass.Fd.Nr. 14325r*. Rectangular horizontal tablet (= A), fragmentary on lower right hand corner, with small fragment of envelope (= B), largely unincised. Darkish brown clay.
A: 2.2×4.2×1.4 cms. 5+1+5+2+1 lines.
B: 2.4×2.1 cms. 1 line
Loan of silver.
Date uncertain (658 B.C.?).

A
Obverse
1. 13 1/2 MA.NA KU.BABBAR KUR.gar-gar-[mis]
2. SAG.MEŠ ša 15 ša 'uru'.[arba-il]
3. ša ʾdpa—MAN—p[ARMEŠ-šú]
4. ina IGI gab-bu—a-n[a—aš+.šur²]
5. ina IGI ʾEN"—[x x x x]

Bottom Edge
6. ina IGI ʾdpa"—[x x x x]

Reverse
7. PAP 3 L[ū] x x x ina pûḫi]
8. i-ta-šu [x x x]
9. ITU.ŠU UD-6²-[KAM/KÂM]
10. lim-mu ʾša—[Nabû-šû]
11. IGI ʾmi-nu—aḫ-ḫi—'a-na"—[ili³]

Top Edge
12. IGI ʾtu-si-i [0]
13. IGI ʾREM-an-ni—[aš+.šur³]
Left Hand Edge
14. IG[1 x x x x]

B
1'. [i]GI 'man-nu—ki—"arba"-[il]
Stamp seal impression

Translation
A:
"13 and one-half minas of silver by the Karkemish standard, (offerings of) first-fruits of Istar of Arba‘il, belonging to Nabû-šar-ahḫēšu, credited to Gabbûana-Ăşšur, credited to Bel…..., credited to …: in all, 3 expedition chiefs took it as a loan …
Month of Du‘ūzu (= IV), the sixth day, eponymy of Ša-Nabû-šū.
Witness: Minu-aḫti-ana-ilî; witness: ‘Uṣi; witness: Rēmanni-Ăşšur²; witness: …"

B:
"… witness: Mannu-ki-Arba‘il."

Notes
Rev. 7: KHD suggests that E[N.KASKAL.MEŠ might be integrated in the break.
10: of the different possibilities for the eponym’s name, Ša-ilima-damqa of 679 B.C. (SAAS 2, p. 117) seems totally out of the question; while Ša-Ăşšur-dubbu (ibid., of 707 B.C.) has some plausibility. All in all, however, also in view of the parallels to the witnesses’ names (see next note), Ša-Nabû-šû, of 658 B.C., seems the most plausible choice. This text should thus be added to the quotes in SAAS 2, p. 120.
11-13: the names here have various parallels elsewhere in the archive: cf. Introduction, b.3.

130. VAT 8937. ALA N 24, between (5) and (6).
Rectangular tablet with rounded edges (“pebble”-shaped). Dark red clay. 2.5x3.7x1.1 cms. 5 lines on Obverse; Reverse uninscribed.
Loan of silver.
Post-canonical date (Kanûnûyu).

Obverse
1. '2'2 ţIN KÛ.BABBAR
2. šâ 'sa-gîb—aš+šûr
3. ina IG[1 x x]—MAN‘—PAP
4. ITU.NE UD-10—'Kâm*'

Bottom Edge
5. lim-mu ITU.AB—'a'[—a]
Translation
"22 shekels of silver, belonging to Sagib-Aššur, credited to Nabū-šarru-uṣur. Month of Ābu (= V), the 10th day, eponymy of Kanūnāyu"

Notes
5: a blank space of 2-3 lines' follows on the Obverse.

Rectangular tablet, complete. Reddish-brown. 2.4×3.1×1.8 cms. 5+3+5+3+4 lines.
Loan of wine with pledge of a donkey.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 639/622 B.C.).

Obverse
1. I ANŠE 1-BÁN GEŠTIN
2. ša 1sa-gib—aš+šur
3. ina IGI šul-mu—pap.meš
4. A ldpa-u-a
5. URU.pu-ra-ta-a-a

Bottom Edge
6. EN 4 UD.MEŠ
7. [GEŠTIN.MEŠ ub-ba-la
8. [x x x+] [x [?]a' še+ina IGI DINGIR

Reverse
9. 't'-ma-da-da
10. ANŠE.NÎTA ina šā-par-te
11. šā-kin šūm-ma EN 4 UD.MEŠ
12. GEŠTIN.MEŠ la-a na-ša
13. ANŠE.NÎTA za-rip na-ši

Top Edge
14. IGI 'x x [x]
15. IGI 'si-lim—'aššur'
16. IGI 'ki-šir—dpa

Left Hand Edge
17. [IGI ']15—i
18. [IGI ']hal-di—rēm-a-ni
19. 'tU.TU.ŠU UD-7-KAM'
20. lim-mu ld30—MAN—pap
Translation

"1 homer, 1 sūtu of wine belonging to Sagib-Aššur, credited to Šulmu-aḫḫē, son of Nabû-pa, of the city of Purattu. Within 4 days he will bring the wine. ... he will measure out in front of the god. He will place a donkey as pledge. If, within 4 days he has not brought the wine, the donkey will be taken over and away. Witness: ...; witness: Šilim-Aššur; witness: Kišir-Nabû; witness: Ištar-naṣid; witness: Ḥaldi-rēmanni.

Month of Dušūzu (= IV), the 7th day, eponymy of Sīn-šarru-usur”.

Notes

B.E. 6: this expression has been taken as a temporal measure, which covers however a very short span of time; and one may wonder whether 4 UD.MES might not be read/interpreted differently, perhaps in connection with the problem of the “shares” in commercial loans (cf. 3 4 UD.MES in no. 121, there understood as “three-fourths”).

8: this line may be understood in a variety of ways, none of them totally satisfactory for the time being: KHD suggests the possibility of [ina ur]u² x (x) bu ši an, i.e. that the line specified the locale where the “delivery/measuring” (cf. next note) of the wine took place. On the other hand the conclusive ina IGI DINGIR might be a fitting expression in case this was a loan issuing from an offering to the temple, as in various cases in this group of texts as well as in NATAPA 1.

9: cfr. CAD M/1, pp. 5ff., noticing that the expected meaning here, i.e. “to pay, deliver staples measured in capacity measures” has no previous attestations in NA, while it is well documented both in MA and NB; on the other hand, the meaning “to measure (length), to survey” has many cases in NA documentation.

L.H.E. 19: the expected KAM is here substituted by an IGI-type shape.

Rectangular, “vertical” tablet, quite badly preserved on the Obverse. Brown-yellowish clay. 9.5×4.7×2.5 cms. 10+2+18 lines.
Sale of a slave woman.
Post-canonical date (Nabû-nādin-ahī).

Obverse

Beginning lost

1'. [NA₄.KIŞIB x x] 'PAP'.MEŠ
2'. [NA₄.KIŞIB x x]-ni
3'. 'NA₄.KIŞIB' [x x]-ša²—aš+šu r A¹PAP²—IgL.LAL
4'. NA₄.KIŞIB [ša²]—aš+šu r—du-ub-'bu'
5'. A¹brasUTU—AŠ²
6'. EN M [t]a-da-a-ni
Two or more stamp seals

7. [x x x] x gēm[šu-mu']
8. [ša] uru.dingir' [x x]

Approx. 2 lines flaked off

10. 1' x x x { }
11. x x te x { }
12. [x x] x x { }

Approx. 5 lines flaked off

Bottom Edge

1. man-nu 'ša ina ur-k[iš ]

Reverse

1. a-na ma-te'-e'-[ma]
2. ib-bala-kāt-[t]i-ū-nī [(x x x)]
3. ma-a mi a-'paš-tar" [kas-pu]
4. a-na 10.mēs a-na en. 'mēs'-[šu gur]"[x x x x x x x]
5. a-na de-e-n[i]-šū 'ka.kā-ra-
6. la i-laq-[q]i 'aš+šur 4.UTU"
7. lu en de-e-ni-šū

8. šib-tū be-ni a-na 1-me UA ME
9. s[a-a]-tū a-na kāla MU.AN.NA.MEŠ

10. IGI+ IBD—MAN—DU LŪ*-GAL.ZADIM?
11. IGI+ BĀD—AŠ+ŠUR
12. IGI+ DILI—GIŠ
13. IGI+ Šum-ma—US-SE-ZIB
14. IGI+ ŠÉM—A-NA—AŠ+ŠUR
15. IGI+ da-da—PAP MEŠ
16. IGI+ śU-SE UD-4-KAM
17. IGI+ lim-mu PA—AŠ—PAP
18. IGI+ aš+šur—št-i

Translation

"Seal of ...-ahhē; seal of ...ni; seal of ...ša-Asšur, son of Ahū-lāmur; seal of Ša-Asšur-dubbu, son of Šamaš-iddina, owner(s) of the woman being sold.

(rest of Obv. untranslatable)

... whoever, in the future or at any time, will contravene, saying, 'I will redeem the woman', will return the silver tenfold to its owners; in his lawsuit and litigation he will not succeed; may Asšur and Šamaš be his opponents in court."
(Guarantee against) seizure and epilepsy —100 days; (against) fraud— for all time.
Month of Addāru (= XII), the 5th day, eponymy of Nabû-nādin-āḫi.
Witness: Aššur-ši’ī.”

Notes
Rev. 10: the text shows clearly d5 as first element of the PN.

“Pebble”-shaped tablet. Reddish-brown color. 2.2×3.3×255×2.0 cms. 2 lines on Ob­verse, Reverse uninscribed.
Note on expenditures for mixed commodities.
No date.

Obverse
1. ‘2° 1/2’ GIN ša UDU. Nīţa
2. 1° GIN ša zu-ur-‘zi”
Remainder of Obverse missing

Translation
“2 1/2 shekels—the ram; 1 shekel—the pack sack.”

Notes
2: The digit 1 has a small “tick” at bottom, almost like the number 11. For zurzu, cf.
CAD Z, pp. 167b-168b; Postgate, TCAE, p. 329, II, 15.

Rectangular “vertical” tablet, fragmentary in its top half. Brown-reddish color.
6.2×4.2×2.1 cms. 9+13+1 lines.
Conveyance (sale of a slave woman).
Date lost.

Obverse
Beginning lost
1. ‘TA* IGI [x x x x] N GIN’ KU. BABBAR
2. ’TI kas-pi [gammur tadin issu šuātu]
3. ’zarâ-pat TI-a[t tuāru]
4. ’de’e-nu KA.A.K[I A laššu]
5. ’man’-nu šā ina ur-kīš ū m[a-te-ma]
6. ’i’-zaq-qup-an-nu GIB-‘u’-ni
Translation

"...PN bought for ... and contracted. The silver is entirely given over. This woman is acquired and taken over. There is to be no revocation, lawsuit or litigation. Whoever, in the future or at any time, will contravene and make opposition—be it Nabû-šezib or his sons or his grandsons or his nephews or his grand-nephews or anybody of his—will seek lawsuit and litigation, will place 10 minas of silver and n minas of gold in the lap of Istar, who resides in GN. He will return the sum tenfold to its owners. In his ‘non-lawsuit’ and litigation he will not succeed. ... guarantee (against) seizure and epilepsy: 100 days; (against) fraud—for all time. Witness: Apladad-lāmur, son of Bēl-iddina; witness: Apladad—... son of Apladad-edinānu; witness: Zērūte son of Adad-šallim; witness: Bākī, son of Kabar-ī; in all, n people from the city of Kannū. ...... Witness: Nabû-kenu-ibni, scribe."
Notes

Obv. 1': the price is written on the edge, sloping upward.

7': the fourth sign before the end is an erroneous (<DUMU>) (the “grandsons” are repeated on the next line, while here “sons” are expected).


9': Cf. Menzel, AT, II, 124*-125*1731. Individuals with names built with the god Apladad present as usual a clear link with the city Kannu² in the eastern part of Assyria. Cf. Introduction, b.3, above.


Pillow-shaped tablet, reverse fully missing, although possibly uninscribed (cf. no. 120, above). Dark red clay. 5.0×3.2×0.9 cms. 6 lines.

Loan of barley.

Post-canonical (Falkner 639/627 B.C.).

Obverse

1. 25 ANŠE ŠE.BAR
2. TA* IGU lDPA—MAN—PAR.MEŠ-ŠU
3. 'su-ka-a-a A lIR—PAR.MEŠ-[ŠU]
4. É—ŠA—DINGIR'—DO'—a—a' x x'
5. l'l' ITU 'x' UD-16
6. lim-mu 130—MAN—PAP

Reverse broken away

Translation

“25 homers of barley: from Nabû-šar-aḫḫēšu, Suk(k)ayu, son of Urda-aḫḫēšu, from Bit-ša-ili-bāni ... took (it). Month of ..., the 16th day, eponymy of Sin-šarru-usur.”

Notes

Obv. 4: for this crucial line, Ebeling’s copy is on the whole reliable; KHD believes that the gentilic denoting the place of origin of the debtor may be given here.

136. VAT 9749. ALA N24(11).

Rectangular tablet, obverse almost entirely defaced, possibly intentionally. Reddish-brown. 9.8×6.4×2.0 cms. 7+22+2 lines.

Sale of field.

742 B.C.

Obverse

1'. [x x] x [x x x x]
Translation

"... in the year that ... barley ... they bought... and sold to Baba-šumu-iddina ... The field is acquired, taken; the price is entirely given over. There is to be no revocation or litigation. In the future or at any time, «either» the sons of Dan'-Aššur and Erība-Aššur, who will seek out lawsuits or litigation with Baba-
šumu-iddina and his sons, saying 'This is the field of our father', will give one mina of silver and one mina of gold to Mullissu, will tie 2 white horses at the feet of (the statue of) Aššur, will burn his eldest son in the hamru-precinct of the god Adad. In his lawsuit and litigation he will not succeed.


Month of Ayyâru (= II), the 1st day, eponymy of Nabû-da'pinanni.”

Notes
Rev. 1: Notice the slight variation on the usual penalty formula beginning with mannu ša, perhaps simply due to scribal omission: in this line, we must also deal with a redundant lu-u.

21-22: these same two witnesses appear in the unpublished text VAT 10975, Rev. 8'-9', with patronymics, unfortunately fragmentary.

T.E. 2: Nabû-da'pinanni has, of course, a post-canonical homonym (cfr. SAAS 2, p. 104); but an 8th century date seems preferable (KHD) on the grounds of the sale formula ex latere emptoris, similarly to no. 73, above. Further, it may be noted that none of the individuals mentioned in this text has any counterpart in the post-canonical texts of this archive.

137. VAT 8925. ALA N24(?). Ass. 14325 cu.

Rectangular tablet. 2.8x2.0x1.4 cms. 4+2+4 lines.
Loan of silver.
693 or 688 B.C.

Obverse
1. 10 GÌN KU BABBAR
2. ša 1A—10—SU
3. ina IG I gab-bu—a-mur
4. 1/2 GÌN ša ITU GAL-bi

Bottom Edge
5. ITU ŠU UD-21

Text retrieved by KHD; the number might alternatively be Ass. 14325 au. The text was described by E.F. Weidner as “Notizzettel”.

[144] Text retrieved by KHD; the number might alternatively be Ass. 14325 au. The text was described by E.F. Weidner as “Notizzettel”.
6. *lim-mu*[^4]_AŠ—*pa₉*MEš

**Reverse**

7. [IGI]¹EN—il-[x x]
8. 'IGI¹*ki-gi-la-nu*
9. [IGI]¹*ka/ka-bu-*'x'
10. [IGI]²*x*[x x]

**Translation**

"10 shekels of silver, belonging to Apladad-eriba, credited to Gabbu-āmur. It will increase by one-half shekel per month. The month of Du₇uzu (= IV), the 21st day. Eponymy of Iddina-āhē.  
*Witness:* Bēl/Adi-il...; witness: Kiqillānu; witness: Kapu/Dubbu-...; *witness:* ..."

**Notes**

B.E. 6: cf. Millard, SAAS 2, p. 95, for the two attestations of the eponym Iddin(a)-āhē.

138. VAT 8931. ALA N24(?). Ass.Fd.Nr. 14325 db!^{45}. Envelope with inner (unreadable) table. 3.4×3.2×2.2 cms. 1+6+1+6+1 lines. Loan of silver. Date lost (but presumably post-canonical).

**Top Edge**

1. *NA₄.KIŠIB*[^1]_x x x x_

**Obverse**

2. 1/2 *MA.NA*³'[+n GIN KU₉.BABBAR]
3. *SAG* 15 _u[RU.arba-il_]
4. ša[^2]*_pA—*MAN—_PAP₉.M[EŠ-ŠU]

**Stamp seal impressions**

5. *ina* IGI¹*mu-SILIM—*[aŠ+ŠUR]
6. *ina* IGI¹*mu-tak-k[il—*aŠ+ŠUR]

**Bottom Edge**

7. *DUMU*¹*l—a—*TEŠ—*ana—*[aŠ+ŠUR]

**Reverse**

8. *ina* pu-u-*hi si-ta-s[u]
9. *a-na* 6-si—*_SU* [GAL-bi]

[^4]: Text retrieved by KHD, who described the condition of the document as follows: "Hülle mit eingeschlossener Tafel; linke obere Ecke der Hülle lose; Hüllenrest könnte von Frau von Eckstedt [cf. fn. 4, above] losgesprengt werden. Von der Tafel ist derzeit praktisch nichts lesbar".
10. ITU.GUD UD-‘20’[+n-KÂM]
11. lim-mu ['
12. [IG]i 'x'
13. [IG]i 'I'

Left Hand Edge
14. IGI Ix'-SUM x ['

Translation

"Seal of ... 1/2 mina, 3 (+n) shekels of silver, capital sum of Ištar of Arba’il, belonging to Nabû-šar-aḫḫēšu, credited to Mušallim-Ăššur, credited to Mutakkil-Ăššur, son of Lâ-tubâšanni-Ăššur. They took it as a loan. It will increase by one-sixth.

Month of Ayyāru (= II), the 20(+n)th day. Eponymy of ... Witness: ...; witness: ...

Notes
Obv. 5: the name is reconstructed on the basis of no. 121, above, where Mušallim-Ăššur and Nabû-šar-aḫḫēšu are joined in a business venture.

139. VAT 8983. ALÂN24(?). Ass. 14325 ad $^{146}.
Rectangular tablet, written on "short" axis; top, bottom, and right edges missing. 5.5×4.4×2.4 mm. 11+12 lines
Sale of people.
Date missing.

Obverse
Beginning lost
1'. £ZÂ-la-
2'. ša IŠUḪUŠ—PAP.[MEŠ
3'. ū-piŠ-ma ['
4'. ina šÂ-bi 2 'MA'.[NA
5'. ina 1 MA.NA š[a
6'. il-qe kas-pu ‘gam’-[mur tadin]
7'. UN.MEŠ za-áŕ-pu [laqqeŠU
8'. tu-a-ru de-Š-e’-[nu
9'. da-ba-bu la-ú[š-šú
10'. man-nu šá ina ur-kiš [ina matēma

$^{146}$ Text retrieved by KHD.
11’. lu-u 1šuḫš—P[AP.MEŠ]
Remainder of Obverse broken away

Reverse
Beginning lost
1’. ’x’ x’ sa x [ ] x
2’. IGI 1šin-qi—[ ]
3’. IGI iM₃—gab-bu—[ ]
4’. IGI 1tu-su-[i
5’. IGI 1ašš+šur—bal-liṭ-x[
6’. IGI iM₃—MU—[aš
7’. IGI iM₃—u-a [ ]
8’. IGI iM₃—NUMUN—[ ]
9’. IGI iTU.KIN-a—a
10’. IGI 1ašš+šur—mu—[
11’. IGI iM₃—[ ]
12’. *IGI *[
Remainder of Rev. broken away

Translation
“... the woman ZAla...: in all, n people, slaves of Ubru-aḫḫē, PN bought and contracted for 2 minas of silver by the mina of ...... The sum is given over entirely. The people are acquired, taken. There is to be no revocation, lawsuit or litigation. Whoever, in the future or at any time, be it Ubru-aḫḫē, ... (rest of Obv. lost) ... witness: Sinqi-Aššur-ilu, witness: Nabû-gabbu...; witness: Ṭusî; witness: Aššur-ballit-...; witness: Nabû-šumu-iddina; witness: Ahûa-...; witness: Nabû-zerû-...; witness: Ululayu; witness: Aššur-mu-...; witness: Nabû-...; witness: ...”

140. VAT 9146 & 9149. ALA N24(?). Ass.Fd.Nr. 14325??
Tablet (= A), and fragments of envelope (= B).
A: 2+4+2+4+1 lines.
B: 5 lines.
Work-contract for the preparation of bricks.
Post-canonical date (Falkner 640).

A
Top Edge
1. [2 lim] SIĜ₄.MEŠ

147) Text retrieved by KHD, who described the condition of the envelope VAT 9149 as follows: “Vier Fragmente der Hülle zu VAT 9146 bewiesen durch Abdruck der Innenseite der Hülle, hergestellt von Frau von Eickstedt [cf. fn. 4, above] am 07/10/92, der klares la id-di-nu (entsprechend der Z. 7 der Tafel) ergibt”.


2. [ša]₁₄^{1d}PA—MAN—PA.R MEŠ-ŠU

Obverse
3. [ina igi]₁{šum-ma—}aš+šur
4. [ina] igi ₁^{1r}—P.A.R MEŠ-ŠU
5. [ina] igi ₁{kan-nun-na-a-a}
6. šum-ma la iš-ḫu-ṭu

Bottom Edge
7. la id-di-nu
8. pu-tu-ḫu é īl

Reverse
9. ITU.NE UD-22
10. lim-mu ₁{za-ba₄-ba₄—SU
11. [ig] ₁{mu-še-‘x x’}
12. [igi] ₁{‘x’ SUM ‘x’}

Top Edge
13. [IG] ¹GAG.ŠE—X

B

Obverse
1. [NA₄,KIŠIB ₁]{šum-ma—}[aš+šur]
2. ₁^{1r}—P.A.R MEŠ-ŠU
3. ₁{kan-nun-na-a-a’}
4. 2 lim SIG₄[MEŠ]
5. ša ₁^{1d,v}[PA—]PA.R MEŠ-ŠU]

Rest lost

Translation
A:
"2000 bricks, belonging to Nabû-šar-ahḫēšu, charged to Šumma-Asšur, Urad-ahḫēšu, and Kanunayu. If they will not deliver them glazed, he will take the house in exchange.
Month of Ṭabu (= V), the 22nd day, eponymy of Zababa-eriba. Witness: Muše-...; witness: ...; witness: ...
"

B:
"Seal of Šumma-Asšur, of Urad-ahḫēšu, of Kanunayu.
2000 bricks, belonging to Nabû-šar-ahḫēšu .... (rest lost)"

Notes
A, 6-8: this crucial clause makes it clear that the present text, which has the same formal "layout" as a loan document, is in fact a work-contract for the preparation of 2000
mudbricks and their glazing (šahāt/šu), on the part of three individuals. A partially parallel, but in fact more explicit, clause from Assur (forwarded by KHD) is in VAT 8683 (= Ass.Fd.Nr. 14231f = ALA N4(460)), 11-14: 11ina UD-1-KĀMŠ ĪTU.ME 12SIG,ME I-MA-NU-U SUM-NU 13SUM-MU NU SUM-NU 14pu-tū-ḫu ʾi-NA-ŠI, "on the 1st of Abu, they will deliver, give over, the bricks; if they fail to give them over, he will take the house in exchange". The total of bricks here is 11,000.

Appendix 1.
A text related to N11.

VAT 9865 (not in ALA)
Post-canonical date (Falkner 641).
1. 10 ǦIN ǦU.BABBAR
2. [SAG].ME šaʾaš+šur
3. šaʾaš-TUR-man-ni—aš+šur
4. ina ǦIŠ-ŠI-da-a+a
5. a-na 4-tū-šū GAL
6. ITU.GUD UD-26
7. lim-mušaš+šur-ŠU—GUR
8. ǦIŠ-da-da-a+a
9. ǦIŠ.PA—"SIG"
10. ǦIŠ.PA—SILIM-šū-NU
11. ǦIŠ.PA—PAP—Aš
12. 5 E Gir.MEŠ

Translation
"10 shekels of silver, first-fruits of the god Aššur, belonging to La-turamanni-Assur, debited to Ešidāyu. It will increase by one-fourth. Month of Ayyāru (II), 26th day, eponymy of Aššur-gimillu-terra. Witness: Dadāyu; witness: Nabū-mudammīq; witness: Nabū-šallimšunu; witness: Nabū-aḫu-iddina. Five (people) acting as surety."

Notes
12: cf. Postgate, FNALD, p. 27 and no. 13:30 for a similar formula in more explicit terms (PAP 3 LŪ.ur-ki-ū.MEŠ).
Appendix 2

Texts possibly pertaining to N21

VAT 20394. Ass.Fd.Nr. 8900a

Rectangular tablet. 2.6x2.1x1 cms. 1+4+2+3 lines.

Loan of silver.

659 B.C.

Upper Edge

1. 2 gín 3-su KÚ [BABBAR]

Obverse

2. A₁U+GUR—Aš
3. ina IGI x [x x x] x (rubbed out)
4. 'KÚ.BABBAR' [a-na 4-ut-t]i-šú
5. GAL-bi

Bottom Edge

6. ITU.ŠE UD-11
7. lim-mu 1si-lim—aš+šur

Reverse

8. IGI li[t]-DU ([ ])
9. IGI 1iš-qu-du'
10. IGI 1sujuš—aš+šur

Translation

"2 shekels 1/3 of silver, belonging to Nergal-iddina, at the disposal of ... The silver will increase by one-fourth. The month of Addāru (= XII), the 11th day. Eponymy of Silim-Aššur. Witness: Šamaš-ibni; witness: Iṣqdu; witness: Ubru-Aššur."

VAT 20409. Ass.Fd.Nr. 8889a (erroneous)

This virtually complete text bears a silver loan by Mutaqqin-Aššur, with attached pledge of a man and a woman (Rev. 11: ina ša-pár-te šak-nu). Among the witnesses are: Aššur-gabba-[ ], Aššur-šumu-ušur, Šulmu-māš-Aššur, Šunu-ahhēya.

148 Text retrieved by KHD; formerly VAT 16574 or 16580. This text bears the same Ass.Fd.Nr. as no. 116, above, q.v.
149 Text retrieved by KHD, but requiring further study. Formerly VAT 16582. The Ass.Fd.Nr. is surely wrong, since it is the same as the one for VAT 14443 = no. 106, above. But the relevance to the N21 archive is quite clearly borne out by the names of the parties.
VAT 20388. Ass.Fd.Nr. 8900b (erroneous)\textsuperscript{150}.
The Obv. of this text is largely effaced. The document could have been a receipt (the formula PN\textsubscript{1} ana PN\textsubscript{2} ussalim ittidin is barely legible in ll. 5-7). Creditor is possibly \textsuperscript{1}E—\textit{aššur} (ll. 1, 6). B.E. 8 has 1 1/2 g[in] \textit{la re-he}. The date is \textit{itu.ne UD}-6 \textit{lim-mu} \textsuperscript{130—DU—IGI} (Falkner 615 B.C., as in no. 109, above).

\textsuperscript{150} Text retrieved by KHD, but requiring further study. Formerly VAT 16571. Again, the Ass.Fd.Nr. is wrong, since it is the same as the one for VAT 14442 = no. 112, above. The relevance with N21 is not altogether proved in the present state of investigation of the text.
# TEXT CONCORDANCE

(Bold characters refer to the NATAPA 2 progressive numbering of texts or to the Introduction or Appendixes therein)

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