

THREE TABLETS FROM THE VICINITY OF EMAR

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Several years ago I examined seven cuneiform tablets in the possession of a New York City antiquities dealer. Five of these were later published by John Huehnergard.¹ As a supplement to his work I present here copies and brief treatments² of the remaining tablets (nos. 1 and 2, below), as well as of an additional piece of similar type now in the possession of a private collector in California (no. 3).

No. 1. Syrian type³; 8.8×5.8×1.9 cm.

obverse

^mAz-me-te DUMU A-na-an-ti
ša URU.A-ti-ra ^mKa-an-za-e
DAM-šú <a-na> 22 ĠIN KÙ.BABBAR <<DIŠ>>
ŠAM.TIL.LA

a-na SAG.DU a-na GEMÉ-ut-ti

5. ša ^mKUR-ba-ni DUMU Agⁿ-na?

it-ta-din-ši BA.UG₆ TIL.LA

GEMÉ ša ^mKUR-ba-ni ši-it

šúm-ma i-na EGIR u₄-mi.MEŠ

1. "Five Tablets from the Vicinity of Emar," RA 77 (1983) 11-43. Other scattered texts of this sort newly published are M. Sigrist, "Miscellanea," JCS 34 (1982) 242-46; J.-W. Meyer and G. Wilhelm, "Eine spätbronzezeitliche Keilschrifturkunde aus Syrien," Damaszener Mitteilungen 1 (1983) 249-61; A. Tsukimoto, "Eine neue Urkunde des Tili-Šarruma, Sohn des Königs von Karkamiš," AcSum 6 (1984) 65-74; and D. Arnaud, "La Syrie du moyen-Euphrate sous le protectorat hittite: L'administration d'après trois lettres inédites," Aula Orientalis 2 (1984) 179-88. The latter author's edition of the Sumerian-Akkadian texts excavated by the Emar expedition is now available: Recherches au pays d'Aštata—Emar 6/1-3 (Paris, 1985).

I would like to express my thanks to John Huehnergard and Dominique Beyer, who read earlier drafts of this paper and made many helpful comments, as well as to Maureen Gallery, who brought text no. 3 to my attention. I employ here the abbreviations listed in CHD 3/1 (Chicago, 1980) xxi-xxx and 3/2 (1983) cover.

2. In particular, prosopographic study is best postponed until the appearance of indices to Emar 6.

*lower edge**ma-am-ma i-bá-qa-ar-ši*10. DIŠ MUNUS.SIG₅ *li-din lil-qè'-ši*NA₄.KIŠIB

(seal)

*reverse*IGI¹ *Ma-zi-ya* DUMU *Zu-ḫu-ra*IGI^m *Ka-ma-lal* DUMU *Ša-ya-si*IGI^m *Pa-za-ka* DUMU *Ki-la-e**ša URU.A-ti-ra*

Azmete, son of Ananti, of the town of Atira, has voluntarily⁴ sold his wife, Kanzae, into the service of Dagan-bani, son of Agna³, <for> a full price of twenty-two shekels of silver.⁵ Dead or living,⁶ she is⁷ the servant of Dagan-bani.

If in the future someone should redeem her, let him give one healthy woman (in compensation to Dagan-bani), (and) let him take her.

Witnesses: Maziya, son of Zuḫura; Kamala, son of Šayasi; (and) Pazaka, son of Kilae, (all) of the town of Atira.

The seal impression on this tablet is of a Hittite cylinder featuring the Hittite Storm-god and Sun-god, facing one another across the illegible name of the seal's owner,⁸ as well as the Tutelary Deity armed with a bow

3. On the typology of the Emar texts, see Arnaud, "Catalogue des textes cunéiformes trouvés au cours des trois premières campagnes à Meskéné qadimé Ouest," AAAS 25 (1975) 87-88.

4. For this rendering of *ana* SAC.DU, cf. Arnaud's translation of the similar *ištu* SAC.DU, "Humbles et superbes à Emar (Syrie) à la fin de l'âge du Bronze récent," in A. Caquot and M. Delcor (eds.), *Mélanges bibliques et orientaux en l'honneur de M. Henri Cazelles* (Neukirchen-Vluyn, 1981) p. 6 with n. 2.

5. Line 3 is not entirely in order: First the scribe has omitted the preposition before the numeral, and secondly he has placed a single vertical wedge before ŠĀM.TIL.LA. Although one might read DIŠ as *ana*—cf. contemporary texts from Boğazköy—this would be both unusual for the Emar corpus and syntactically unexpected.

6. For the Sumerographic expression BA.UG₆ TI.LA in similar contexts, see Emar 6/3 7:7 and 121:8.

7. On the use of the Assyrian pronoun *šit* at Emar, see Huehnergard, RA 77 (1983) 38.

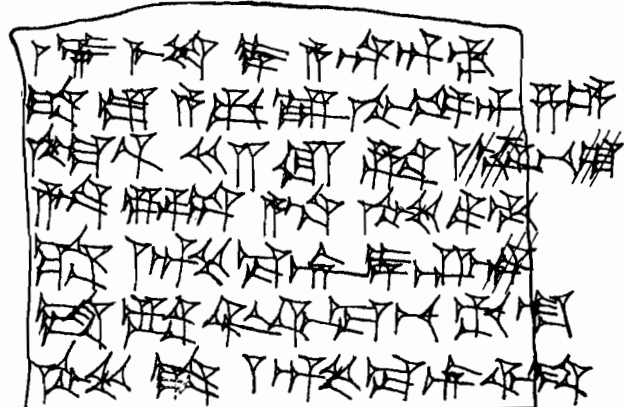
8. This motif is discussed by Beckman, "A Hittite Cylinder Seal in the Yale Babylonian Collection," AnSt 31 (1981) 131-32, 134-35.

and standing upon an animal, probably a stag.⁹ None of the hieroglyphs are clear enough to be read with certainty.

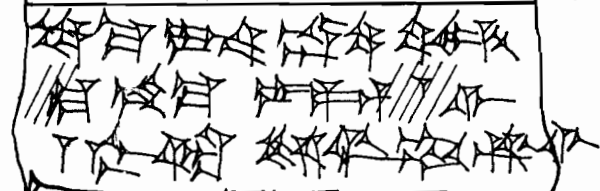
For the sale of family members by the head of an Emarite household, see Arnaud, *Mélanges Cazelles* pp. 5-6.

1.

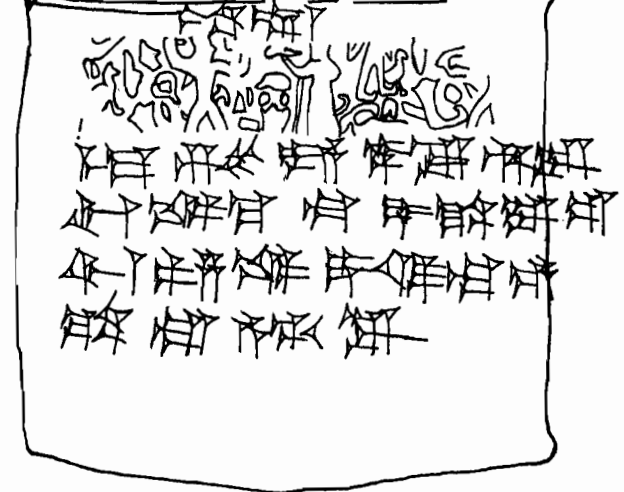
obv.



lower edge



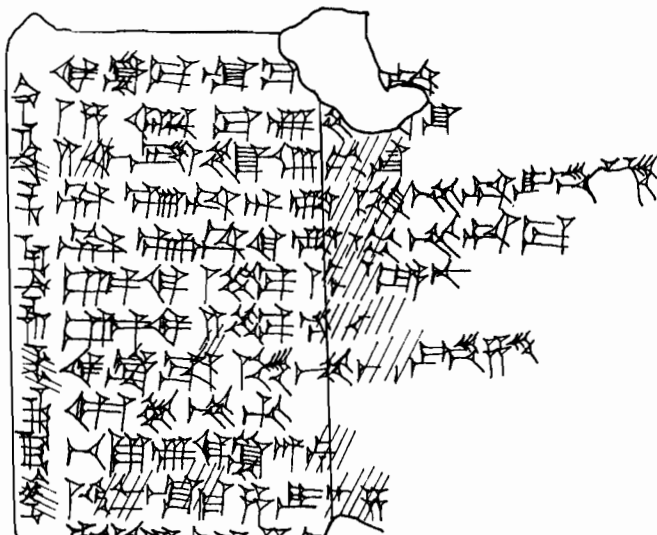
rev.



9. C. G. von Brandenstein examines the iconography of this deity in *Hethitische Götter nach Bildbeschreibungen in Keilschrifttexten* (Leipzig, 1943) pp. 78-82.

2.

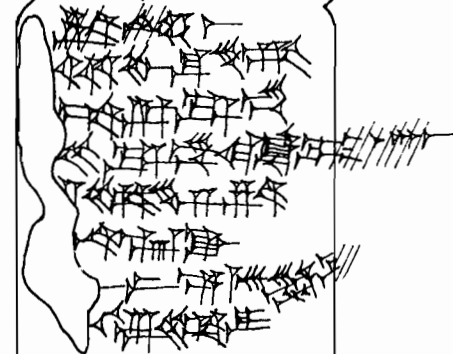
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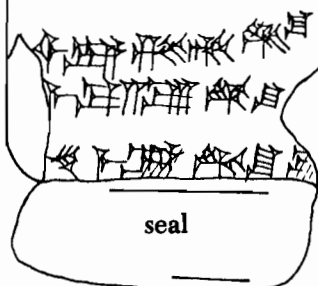
edge



rev.



seal



No. 2. Syrian type; 8.0×6.0×2.1 cm.

obverse

- KI.KÁ *ma-la ma-[šú-ú A]Š ÚS'*
 1 *sà-ar-ma-ú G[ĪD.D]A-šu*
 2 *št-id-dú ru-up-šu*
 ÚS.SA.DU AN.TA *ᵐKam-mu-du DUMU Am-[z]a-ḫi*
 5. ÚS.SA.DU KI.TA *ᵐKam-mu-du-ma*
 SAG.KI.1.KAM-*ma ᵐM[a]'-ya-nu*
 SAG.KI.2.KAM-*ma KASKAL-nu*
 KI.KÁ *ša ᵐKam-mu-d[u D]UMU Am-za-ḫi*
 KI' *ᵐKam-mu-ti*
 10. *be-lu-ú KI.KÁ an-ni'*
ᵐEḫ'-la-ku-sà DUMU x-za
a-na 15 GĪN KÛ.BABBAR

lower edge

[Š]ÁM.TIL.LA
 KI.KÁ *i-ša-am*

reverse

15. KÛ.BABBAR *maḫ-rù*
ŠÀ-bu-šu DÛG.GA
ša ur-ra-am
še-ra-am KI.KÁ i-ba-qá-rù
 2 *li-im KÛ.BABBAR*
 20. [a-]na É.GAL
 Ì.LÁ'.E.MEŠ
 [IGI] *El-li DUMU Píl-s[ú-ᵐKUR]*
 IGI *Ya-št-ᵐKUR ŠEŠ-šu*
 [I]GI *Zu-zu ŠEŠ-šu*
 25. [IG]I *Ḫi-me-ya ŠEŠ-šu-m[a]*

left edge

IGI *Iš-ᵐDa-gan LÛ.DUB.SAR*

The “place of the gate,” as far as it ex[tends i]n expanse¹⁰: Its

10. I owe this reading of the end of line 1 to John Huehnergard, who cites the opening of a similar text in private possession: KIRI₆.NUMUN.MEŠ *ma-la ma-šú i-na i-tá-ti*. . . . It should be noted that the well-attested scribe Iš-Dagan wrote both tablets, and that the first four witnesses of this unpublished document are identical to those of text no. 2.

length is one *sarma²u*; (its) breadth is two “sides.”¹¹ Its upper border is (the property of) Kammudu, son of Amzaḫi. Its lower border is also (the property of) Kammudu. On one side is (the property of) Mayanu²; on the second side is the road. The “place of the gate” of Kammudu, son of Amzaḫi, Eḫlakusa,¹² son of . . . za, has purchased from Kammudu, the owner¹³ of this “place of the gate,” for fifteen shekels of silver, its full price. The silver has been received; his heart is satisfied. Whoever in future should make a claim on the “place of the gate” shall pay two thousand (shekels) of silver to the palace.

Witnesses: (King) Elli, son of Pils[u-Dagan]; Yaṣi-Dagan, his brother¹⁴; Zuzu, his brother; Ḫimeya, also his brother; (and) Iṣ-Dagan, the scribe.

Although it is certain from context that this tablet records a real estate transaction, the expression KI.KÁ is otherwise unknown to me.¹⁵ My literal rendering of the Sumerogram is intended only as a temporary expedient. The measure *sarma²u*, if correctly read, is likewise unattested elsewhere.

11. For *šiddu* as a surface measure, see W. von Soden, AHW 3 1230b (B.5) and compare Emar 6/3 3:2, etc. The writing *ru-up-šu*, without genitive pronoun, is also found in Emar 6/3 8:12, 19, 26, and elsewhere.

12. Although the individuals are probably not identical, this Hurrian proper name is the same as that appearing elsewhere in Syrian cuneiform material as Eḫli-kuša (e.g., Emar 6 12:28 and 144:3)—see E. Laroche, “Les hiéroglyphes de Meskéné-Emar et le style ‘Syro-Hittite,’” *Akkadica* 22 (1981) 11, and Arnaud, *Annuaire V^e section* (1981-82) 212. A cylinder seal impression bearing this name in hieroglyphs (*E-ḫal-ku-sá*) is found on Msk 75.9 (Emar 6 123), a drawing of which is published in D. Beyer (ed.), *Meskéné-Emar, Dix ans des travaux, 1972-1982* (Paris, 1982) p. 67 fig. 13. [I wish to thank Professor Laroche for providing me with a photograph of this impression.] In addition, the metal seal published by me in *AnSt* 31 (see n. 8 above) belonged to *E-ḫa-ku-sá*, although there (p. 133) I read the initial sign, L 209 = M 171, inexactly as *I-*.

13. The writing *be-lu-ú* in the phrase *itti bēlu X* is found, for example, in Emar 6/3 94:9f. (KIPN₁ DUMU PN₂ *be-lu-ú ki-ir-ṣi-t[u₄]*), and Emar 6/3 138:8f. (KIPN₁ DUMU PN₂ *be-lu-ú A.ŠA.ḪI.A*), as well as in other unpublished Emar-vicinity texts I have studied. See Huehnergard, “Akkadian Evidence for Case-Vowels on Ugaritic Bound Forms,” *JCS* 33 (1981) 199-202, for examples of unexpected vowels in construct forms in Western Peripheral Akkadian, although in most of Huehnergard’s data the attested vowel is that appropriate for the grammatical context. Note also *ŠA-bu-šu* in line 16 here.

14. The Sumerogram here, as well as in Huehnergard’s text 1 (RA 77 [1983] 14) lines 38 and 39, is clearly ŠEŠ, not IR. For this shape, see also Emar 6/3 2:32 and 33, as well as *passim* in this corpus.

15. Pointing out that the scribes of the periphery seem on occasion to have pronounced Sumerograms (note, for example, *a-na ḪA.LI* for *ḪA.LA* in PRU 6 49:15’), John Huehnergard very tentatively suggests that KI.KÁ might be an error for KI.KA(L) = *maškanu*, “threshing floor; empty lot.” He also considers a reading KI.KÁ-*an-ni* in line 10.

The scribe of this text, Iš-Dagan,¹⁶ also wrote the texts published as RA 77 (1983) 14 no. 1 and 16 no. 2. The seal impressed on the upper edge of our text no. 2 is the same as that found on those pieces, but since I have seen this seal on unpublished material from the Emar region produced by other scribes, it is unlikely that this is the impression of the seal of Iš-Dagan.¹⁷

No. 3. Syro-Hittite type¹⁸; 7.3×5.4 cm.

obverse

[] x
 [ša⁷] mA-bi-^aKUR
 [UGU⁷ Z] i-im-ri-^aKUR LÚ URU.Sa-r[a⁷-]
 [] x
 5. [uṣ-ša-a] b⁷
 [] x

lower edge

[š] a⁷ 30 UD.MEŠ

reverse

[] x ma-la! (seal)
 [] KÛ.BABBAR.MEŠ ú-ma-la
 10. [] NA₄.KIŠIB mI-túr-^aKUR!
 (overlapping impressions of a single ring seal)
 DUMU A-bu-ni

This text is too badly damaged for translation, but line 9 shows that it documents a silver loan: KÛ.BABBAR.MEŠ *umalla*, “he shall (re-)pay the silver in full.” Certainly the most interesting feature of this tablet is the repeated impression of a Hittite ring seal.¹⁹ This impression—note also the partial impression of a different seal on the upper right of the reverse—

16. See Arnaud, “Les textes d’Emar et la chronologie de la fin du bronze récent,” *Syria* 52 (1975) 90.

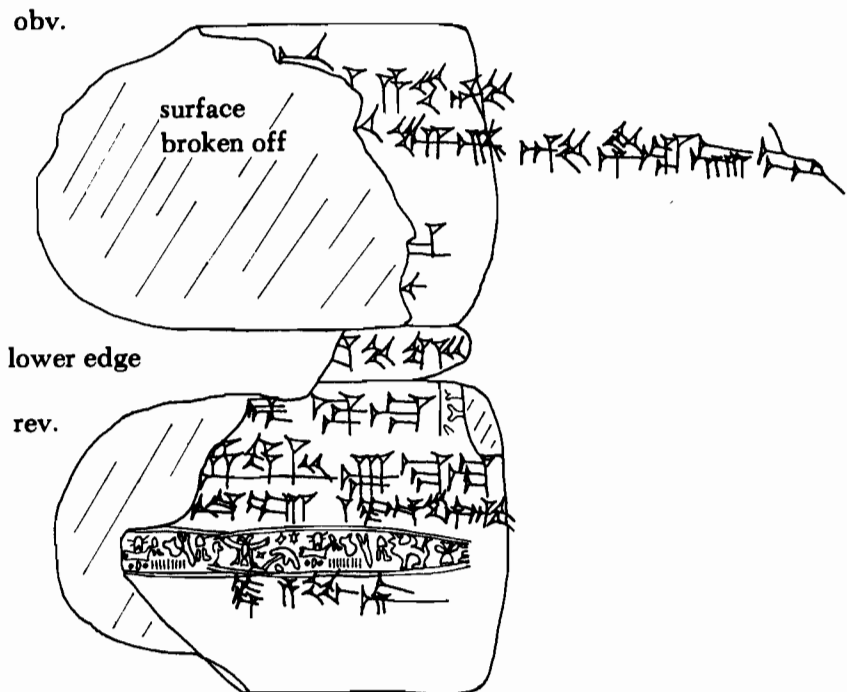
17. I suspect that this design, of which I have examined a number of nearly-identical impressions made by at least two different cylinders, is that of the seal of the Emarite royal family. Further study is needed, however.

18. Although inscribed in such a manner that the greatest dimension is horizontal, this piece differs from the usual Syro-Hittite tablet from Emar by its relative thinness, especially near the edges. From its photograph in Beyer, *Meskéné-Emar* p. 57 fig. 5 (see also Laroche, *CRAI* [1983] 17 fig. 8), the tablet Msk 73.128 (*Emar* 6/3 61) seems to be of comparable format.

19. See Güterbock, *Boğazköy* 5 73f.

bears two names in hieroglyphic script, each marked by the signs L 370—L 386 as male²⁰: on the left *I-tu+r-Dà-ga*, and on the right *À-bu-nu*. Lines 10-11 of the cuneiform read: NA₄.KIŠIB =*I-tūr-^dKURⁱ DUMU A-bu-ni*, “seal of Itūr-Dagan, son of Abuni.” Laroche lists the name Abunu/i among those contained in his hieroglyphic material from Emar.²¹

3.



20. Akkadica 22 (1981) 10.

21. On this type of glyptic at Emar, see Beyer, *Meskéné-Emar* p. 68, and Laroche, *CRAI* (1983) 16. Few examples of Hittite ring seals were available before the discoveries at Meskeneh. For the convenience of the reader I give here a list of those known to me: SBo 2 nos. 222, 225-27, 229-32, 233(?); Boğazköy 3 pl. 30 no. 36; Boğazköy 5 p. 55 no. 10, p. 57 no. 15; H. Goldman, *Excavations at Gölü Kule, Tarsus 2: Plates* (Princeton, 1956) pls. 405 no. 16, 408 no. 58; D. Hogarth, *Hittite Seals* (Oxford, 1920) pl. 7 no. 195 (from Konya?); Ugar. 3 figs 54 and 78; H. Gonnet, *Hethitica* 6 69-73 (AO 28064, from Ugarit). L. Messerschmidt, *CIH* pl. 40 no. 1 = D. Kennedy, *RHA* 65 (1959) 161 no. 41; I. J. Gelb, *AnAraş* 2 (1965) 225 fig. 8.