

# Texte und Materialien

der Frau Professor

## Hilprecht Collection

of Babylonian Antiquities

im Eigentum der Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena

Herausgegeben von  
Manfred Krebernik

Band 10

2016

Harrassowitz Verlag · Wiesbaden

Anne Goddeeris

The Old Babylonian  
Legal and Administrative Texts  
in the Hilprecht Collection Jena

with a contribution by Ursula Seidl

2016

Harrassowitz Verlag · Wiesbaden

Publication of this volume has been made possible by the generous funding of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation).

Bibliografische Information der Deutschen Nationalbibliothek  
Die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek verzeichnet diese Publikation in der Deutschen Nationalbibliografie; detaillierte bibliografische Daten sind im Internet über <http://dnb.dnb.de> abrufbar.

Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek  
The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available on the Internet at <http://dnb.dnb.de>.

For further information about our publishing program consult our website <http://www.harrassowitz-verlag.de>

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Printed on permanent/durable paper.  
Printing and binding: ⊕ Hubert & Co., Göttingen  
Printed in Germany  
ISSN 0232-3001  
ISBN 978-3-447-10651-1

## VORWORT DES HERAUSGEBERS

Band 10 der Reihe „Texte und Materialien der Frau Professor Hilprecht Collection“ (zur Bandzählung siehe Vorwort zu Band 6) enthält die Publikation und Bearbeitung der altbabylonischen Wirtschaftstexte durch Frau Dr. Anne Goddeeris. Die Siegelabrollungen wurden von Frau Dr. Ursula Seidl bearbeitet. Diplom-Restauratorin Carmen Gütschow führte die erforderlichen Reinigungs- und Restaurierungsmaßnahmen durch.

Die altbabylonischen Wirtschaftstexte waren bei der maßgeblichen Inventarisierung, welche der heutigen Anordnung der Sammlung zugrundeliegt, offensichtlich gezielt in einer Abteilung zusammengestellt worden, weshalb die meisten der hier edierten Texte Inventarnummern von HS 2016 bis HS 2477 tragen. Die Abteilung enthält allerdings auch ein paar phänotypisch ähnliche Texte und Fragmente, welche sich als nicht zu der hier zu publizierenden Textgruppe gehörig erwiesen. Umgekehrt fand sich im Nachhinein noch eine zugehörige Tafel in der mittelbabylonischen Abteilung (HS 159); sie wird demnächst in einem Aufsatz "nachgereicht". Nicht aufgenommen wurden kleinere und kleinste Fragmente aus der Abteilung mit hohen Inventarnummern, die (möglicherweise) von altbabylonischen Wirtschaftstexten stammen, aber nicht gejoint oder zugeordnet werden konnten.

Ich danke den Mitarbeiterinnen herzlich für ihren Einsatz und für die gute Zusammenarbeit. Ebenso gilt mein Dank der Deutschen Forschungsgemeinschaft, die das Editionsprojekt gefördert hat, indem sie 2008 bis 2011 eine Mitarbeiterstelle finanzierte sowie Mittel für Reisen und Restaurierungsarbeiten bereitstellte. Der Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena und ihrem Kanzler Dr. K. Bartholmé danke ich für einen großzügigen Druckkostenzuschuss.

Dass sich die Fertigstellung des Bandes verzögert hat, liegt einerseits an seinem Umfang, andererseits aber auch daran, dass die Sammlung 2012 wegen Bauschäden evakuiert werden musste und erst Ende 2013 in ihrem neuen Domizil – das nun sehr viel bessere Arbeitsmöglichkeiten bietet – wieder zugänglich wurde.

Jena, im April 2016

M. Krebernik

## PREFACE BY THE AUTHOR

*“There’s Treasure Everywhere”*

Bill Watterson

Studying the Old Babylonian legal and administrative documents in the Hilprecht-Sammlung has been an honour and a pleasure for me. Nearly each of the neatly cleaned and restored (thank you Carmen!) tablets contains a surprise of some kind: an unexpected turn in a family history, a pretty or funny name, .... However, it did require time and effort to fully appreciate these surprises, and many of them keep defying me. Even so, time has come to share the documents and my interpretation of them with the wide world, and to allow you, my dear readers and colleagues, to appreciate them and to throw light on the matters I could not (completely) grasp.

Financial support of the project was provided by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (KR 1114/7: Edition der altbabylonischen Wirtschaftstexte in der Hilprecht-Sammlung, Jena, 2008-1011). Additional funding to finish the manuscript was offered by the programme on inter-university poles of attraction (Belgian Science Policy, IAP-Phase VII/14 : ‘Greater Mesopotamia, Reconstruction of its Environment and History’).

Das Projekt wurde angeregt von Manfred Krebernik, Hochschulprofessor für Altorientalische Philologie an der Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena und Kurator der Hilprecht-Sammlung, einem grosszügigen Menschen, mit einem ausserordentlichen Blick für Details. Ich kann ihm nicht genug danken für die Gelegenheit, die er mir gab, und für die Ideen, die er mit mir bei einer Tontafel beziehungsweise bei einem Bier geteilt hat. Vielleicht konnte ich meinerseits Manfred die Schönheit der Wirtschaftsurkunden beweisen. Desweiteren möchte ich auch Frau Ursula Seidl meine Dankbarkeit ausdrücken, weil sie die Herausforderung angenommen hat, die beschränkten ikonographischen Spuren auf den Siegelabrollungen der hier publizierten Tafeln zu verfolgen.

Grant Frame, associate curator of the Babylonian section of the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, owes my gratefulness for facilitating my visits to the collection where I could consult other parts of the Old Babylonian archives excavated by the Babylonian Expedition. Thanks also to Marten Stol and Ricardo Dorado for their invaluable comments. Thanks to Hendrik, for his help with the use of the Portable Light Dome of the KU Leuven. And of course, I would not have kept going without the friendship of friends and colleagues in Jena, Leuven and Ghent.

En tenslotte mijn familie: mijn ouders en schoonouders, voor het bijspringen tijdens de verblijven in Jena, maar meer nog voor het begrip dat ze opbrengen voor dit vreemde project. En Karlijn, Edward en Johan: dankzij hun kan ik mezelf een schatrijk persoon noemen.

Jena, January 2016

Anne Goddeeris

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## 1. The texts

The selection of the documents to be published in this volume was made at the outset of the project on the basis of the provisional catalogue and arrangement of the tablets in the collection. During the initial phase of the project, it became clear that some of the tablets of this section do not belong to the corpus of Old Babylonian legal and administrative documents: one fragmentary tablet turned out to be an Elamite incantation; several lists of personal names are to be classified as school exercises; and some administrative documents date from the Ur III and Middle Babylonian periods. For a few texts published in this volume, the date and genre might be debated, an issue that is addressed in the commentaries to the individual texts. Furthermore, current cataloguing may bring to light some more texts and fragments belonging to our corpus. They will be published in separate articles.

### a. The Provenience of the Texts

Nearly all of the cuneiform tablets in the Hilprecht Sammlung have been excavated by the Babylonian Expedition in Nippur, and the Old Babylonian texts are no exception to this rule.

However, this publication includes several documents which do not originate from Nippur:

In 1925, shortly before Hilprecht's legacy arrived in Jena, Ungnad published seven Old Babylonian documents belonging to the University of Jena, which are republished here. These documents have been acquired on the antiquities market and originate from different sites, which cannot all be identified. Text n° 75 (Ungnad 1925 n° 6) originates from Larsa, and forms part of the archive of Šēp-Sîn, a well-documented entrepreneur. Because of the personal names, which contain the elements Marduk and Babylon, text n° 89 (Ungnad 1925, n° 4) probably comes from Babylon. Since text n° 90 is dated to the reign of Abi-ešuh, after the abandonment of the south in the course of the reign of Samsuiluna, it must originate from northern Babylonia. The origin of texts n° 85 (Ungnad 1925, n° 1), n° 88 (Ungnad 1925, n° 5), n° 184 (Ungnad 1925, n° 3) and n° 210 (Ungnad 1925, n° 7) cannot be determined.

Several documents (texts n° 125, n° 204, n° 205 and n° 209) bear year-names belonging to rulers of Uruk. The texts have the same characteristics as the texts excavated in the so-called "Scherbenloch" (Cavingneaux 1996). The box of text n° 213 contains a note "Baghdad-559 1900", which implies that Hilprecht may have bought this tablet in Baghdad. Moreover, its paleography points to a late Old Babylonian date. Text n° 69 must have been acquired on the antiquities market as well, because its year name and formal characteristics show that it comes from Kisurra (Goddeeris 2009).

Hardly anything is known about the archaeological context of the finds of the Babylonian Expedition, since the directors of the mission did not stay at the site continuously. The Old Babylonian archives are said to have been recovered for the greater part from the southwest section of Mound IV, also named "Tablet Hill" (Poebel 1909, 1; Gibson, Hansen and Zettler 1998-2001, 549). This part of the tell has been further investigated by the Joint Expedition of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago and the University Museum of the University of Pennsylvania.

The finds of the Babylonian Expedition have been divided between the Ottoman Museum in Istanbul, the University Museum of the University of Pennsylvania and Hermann Volrath Hilprecht himself. Thus not only are different parts of all archives dispersed over different continents and are tablets separated from their cases and duplicates, occasionally, fragments of

one single tablet may be located in different collections as well (e.g. texts n° 13, n° 14, n° 18c). Most of the documents now in Istanbul and Philadelphia have been published in various forms (Charpin 2004, 419): The legal documents in the Ottoman Museum are available in copy (e.g. part of BE 6/2 and ARN), whereas a large part of the administrative texts are published in tabular or in a summarized form (Kraus 1959, and Çiğ 1992). The legal tablets in the University Museum in Philadelphia have been published as copies (e.g. BE 6/2, PBS 8/1 and 8/2) and as microfilm (Stone – Zimansky 1976). The administrative texts are available as photo, in transliteration or in tabular form (Robertson 1981 and 1984, Van Lerberghe 1989).

Thus, the documents from Jena are the last large unpublished parts of the Old Babylonian archives excavated by the Babylonian Expedition.

## b. The Chronological Distribution

Having ruled earlier than or contemporary to Sumu-el of Larsa (Charpin 2004, 74), Ubāja of Kisurra is the earliest ruler attested in this volume. The most recent documents (texts n° 89 and n° 90) do not come from Nippur either, being written after the abandonment of southern Babylonia under the reign of Abī-ešuḫ.

The earliest document from Nippur published in this volume dates from the reign of Ur-Ninurta (text n° 12, Ur-Ninurta g), who is the earliest Old Babylonian ruler attested in Nippur (ARN 1, and others, cf. Sigrist 1988, 29).

In the following table, the newly published texts are situated in the chronology of Nippur as it has been established by Sigrist (1977). For a detailed discussion of the political fate of Nippur, I refer to that article. As the table shows, the newly published texts confirm the established chronology.

Isin	Nippur		Larsa	Babylon
		New attestations		
Ur-Ninurta (1925- 1897)	<b>Ur-Ninurta</b>	TMH 10 12	Gungunum (1932- 1906)	
	<b>Gungunum</b>			
Bur-Sîn (1897-1876)	<b>Bur-Sîn</b>	.	Abi-sare (1905-1895)	
		..	Sumu-el (1894-1866)	
Lipit-Enlil (1875- 1971)	<b>Sumu-el 22-28<sup>1</sup></b>	TMH 10 26		
Erra-imitti (1870- 1863)		.	Nūr-Adad (1865- 1850)	
	<b>Erra-imitti</b>	.		
-Enlil-bāni (1862- 1839)	<b>Enlil-bāni</b>	TMH 10 23, 28, 35, 36, 37		
	<b>Sîn-iddinam 7</b>		Sîn-iddinam (1849- 1843)	
	<b>Sîn-erībam</b>	.	Sîn-irībam (1842- 1841)	..

<sup>1</sup> Thanks to text n° 26, Sumu-el's control over Nippur can now be advanced from his 24th regnal year (most recently: Reculeau 2008) to his 22nd year. The table also leaves room for Sumu-el's temporary control over Nippur between his 10th and his 13th regnal year, as postulated by Reculeau, during the reign of Bur-Sîn. New information on the urge for expansion of Sumu-el and his conflict with Erra-imitti, who eventually succeeds in reconquering Nippur and Kisurra, is currently being published (Chambon 2015).

Isin	Nippur		Larsa	Babylon
		New attestations		
.	<b>Sîn-iqīšam</b>		Sîn-iqīšam (1840- 1836)	
Zambia (1838-1836)	<b>Zambia?</b>			Sabium (1844- 1833)
..	<b>Sabium 9</b>			
			Šilli-Adad (1835)	
Īter-pīša (1835-1832)	<b>Warad-Sîn 1</b>		Warad-Sîn (1834- 1823)	
.	<b>Īter-pīša</b>	TMH 10 1, 29, 38, 92, 183		
	<b>Warad-Sîn 4-5</b>	TMH 10 40		
Ur-Dukuga (1831- 1828)	<b>Ur-Dukuga</b>			
Sîn-magir (1827- 1817)	<b>Warad-Sîn 7-12</b>	TMH 10 14		
	<b>Rīm-Sîn 2 – 9</b>	TMH 10 15 TMH 10 30	Rīm-Sîn (1822-1763)	
Damiq-ilīšu (1816- 1794)	<b>Damiq-ilīšu 4</b>			
	<b>Rīm-Sîn 14</b>	TMH 10 31		
	<b>Damiq-ilīšu 8 – 13</b>	TMH 10 39		
	<b>Rīm-Sîn 22</b>	TMH 19 42, 43 and passim		Hammurabi (1792-1750)
	<b>Hammurabi 30 – 42</b>	..		
	<b>Samsuiluna</b>	passim		Samsuiluna (1749-1712)
	<b>Rīm-Sîn II</b>	TMH 10 184	Rīm-Sîn II (1741)	
	<b>Ilī-ma-ilum</b>	TMH 10 54	Ilī-ma-ilum (Sealand)	

The documents from Uruk chronologically fit under the reigns of Warad-Sîn and Rīm-Sîn of Larsa.

## 2. Organization of the volume

In the first part of this publication, after the catalogue arranged according to publication number and a concordance of the HS numbers and the tablets from other collections discussed in this volume, all the texts are transcribed and translated. The texts are arranged according to type, and chronologically within this typological arrangement.

Next, the iconographic parts of the seal impressions are published by Frau Ursula Seidl. Because of the sealing practices of Old Babylonian Nippur – preferring burgul seals containing only a legend on many occasions – the number of personal seals, seals that are kept by the owner, is rather small.

The part “Studies” comprises a discussion of the formal aspects of the Old Babylonian documents from Nippur, and an introduction to the most important Old Babylonian archives discovered by the Babylonian Expedition of the University of Pennsylvania are introduced. Previous discussions and reconstructions of family trees (Kraus 1959, Robertson 1981, Stone 1987, Stone/Owen 1991, Huber-Vuillet 2006) are briefly reconsidered in the light of the newly published texts.

This volume contains extensive indexes, of the personal names, the professions, the deities, the toponyms, a glossary and a list of year-names. An attempt is made to provide function, date and/or context of the lemma treated, in order to facilitate further investigations.

The plates, in the second part of this volume, offer handcopies of all the texts and of the seal-impressions found on them. In addition, a CD-rom containing digital images made with the “Portable Light Dome”<sup>2</sup> is included.

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<sup>2</sup> Hameeuw – Willems 2011.