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MINOR ARCHIVES FROM FIRST-MILLENNIUM BCE BABYLONIA, PART II: THE BALĪḤŪ ARCHIVE

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Abstract

The article presents editions of all known texts belonging to the archive of the Sipparean prebendary Marduk-bēlšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, that is, the Balīḥû archive. It is the second part of a series of articles that aims to make available the so-called satellite archives of the Šāḫiṭ-ginê A archive (“Marduk-rēmanni archive”) and related and unrelated smaller archives from Sippar, all dating to the long sixth century BCE.

1. Introduction

The Balīḥû archive or, more precisely, the archive of Marduk-bēlšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi,¹ is but one of two known archives that sheds light on the family affairs and business activities of members of the Balīḥû family, the other one being part of the so-called Maštuk group.² While the latter centers on intermarriages between the Maštuk and Balīḥû families (Waerzeggers 2002: 321–36), the text group related to Marduk-bēlšunu is one of the seven small archives that Assyriology has come to call the satellite or

L. Cecilia’s work on the topic has been conducted at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and supported by a Fellowship for Doctoral Research in the Humanities of the Dutch Research Council (NWO). J. Hackl provided sections 1, 2 and 3, L. Cecilia section 4 and the appendix; section 5 is the joint work of the authors. We are indebted to M. Jursa and C. Waerzeggers for information on unpublished texts that they identified as certain or probable components of the archive, to M. Krebern timer and R. Zadok for comments on personal names, and to a peer reviewer for criticism and corrections. Responsibility for errors is ours. Unpublished texts from the British Museum are cited with the kind permission of the Trustees of the British Museum. Abbreviations are those of *AfO* 48/49 (2001/2002: 311–505) and Jursa 2005: 153–55. Note furthermore: *BR* + page number = text published in Jursa 1999; *MR* + number = text published in Waerzeggers 2014. Measurements are given in centimeters, width × height × thickness. When incomplete, they have an asterisk added. Uncertain translations and restorations are in italics. Signs written over an erasure or other sign traces are marked with *. Conversion from Babylonian to Julian dates follows Parker and Dubberstein 1956. Hand copies of the Balīḥû texts will be published separately, together with those of the remaining texts of the series (see Pirngruber 2020, the first in this series of articles).

1. See the summary discussions of the archive by Bongenaar 2000: 83–84; and Jursa 2005: 121–22. Waerzeggers 2014: 13–15 provides additional information on prosopographical and social ties to other Sipparean archives (see below).

2. In earlier literature, the second Balīḥû archive is referred to as the archive of Ardia, son of Nergal-iddin (Beaulieu 1994: 6, 89; and Bongenaar 2000: 84). On the “Maštuk group,” see Waerzeggers 2002 and the summary in Waerzeggers 2014: 111. An edition of this group of texts is currently being prepared by M. M. Groß.

shadow archives of the Šāḫiṭ-ḡinê A archive (Marduk-rēmanni archive), on grounds of their museum-archaeological and prosopographical interconnections.³ As a member of the Balīḫû family, Marduk-bēlšunu belonged to an old and prestigious priestly clan of Sippar,⁴ harking back to at least the seventh century BCE (Nielsen 2015: 53–54 with references). Two of his close relatives deserve particular mention (Bongenaar 1997: 466–68; 2000: 83). His grandfather Nabû-nipšāri, son of Nabû-mukīn-zēri, was on the board of temple scribes and thus a member of the upper echelons of the Ebabbar administration. As a prebendary priest with a background in goldsmithing, he owned both a temple enterer's and a brewer's prebend of Šamaš. The same holds for his son and Marduk-bēlšunu's uncle, Mušēzib-Marduk, even though it remains open to question whether he too pursued a career as a temple scribe (*ṭupšar Ebabbar*; Bongenaar 1997: 92 and 466).

By the conventional standards of attribution, that is, connections of prosopography, form, function, and contents, eighteen (perhaps nineteen)⁵ excavated and unexcavated pieces are the available sample from an original deposit of an unknown number of Balīḫû texts. Hence, the archaeological context of the archive is irretrievably lost, and so is its original composition. All of the surviving texts are connected with Marduk-bēlšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, who frequently used a nickname or second name, Bēlšunu, as did many other Babylonians at the time. This also holds for his father who repeatedly figures as Nidintu in filiations (see Waerzeggers 2001: 28–29). Marduk-bēlšunu's career as a direct party to business transactions spanned at least Dar I 12–34 (510–487 BCE). As an indirect party, he recurs in texts of related types

Table 1. The Descendants of Balīḫû.

3. Waerzeggers 2014: 14–15. Summaries are presented in Bongenaar 2000: 80–90; and Jursa 2005: 120–29.

4. The term “priest” follows the definition outlined in Waerzeggers 2010: 34 n. 192.

5. Jursa 2005: 121 makes mention of nineteen texts, but does not provide a complete list of the items attributed to the archive.

from a slightly longer interval (see §4). Although the lifespan of the archive only covers a single generation, the wet-nursing agreement (no. 13) shows that Marduk-bēlšunu had at least one son. Judging by the date of the text, this Marduk-šumu-iddin would not have followed in his father's footsteps until the later reign of Xerxes, that is, well after the so-called end of archives phenomenon (484 BCE). It therefore comes as no surprise that the extant textual record is silent on his later affairs. What is more, neither his brothers nor any other close family members occur in texts from the archive (see the stemma in table 1).⁶

As touched upon above, almost all the relevant texts come from controlled excavations conducted by H. Rassam in the late 1870s and early 1880s on behalf of the British Museum.⁷ Together with thousands of other texts, they are registered in the large AH 82-9-18 collection, which in accordance with its prefix largely includes items found at Sippar (modern Abū Ḥabbah).⁸ The remaining texts are registered in the Bu 89-4-26 and 1911-4-8 collections. While the former comes from E. A. W. Budge's expedition to various Iraqi sites in 1887–1891, the latter derives from purchases from the dealer I. E. Gejou. As a result, the only indication of their provenance is the circumstantial evidence of dates, names, and locations. The museological information again underscores the fact, that with a single exception (no. 14), the texts of the *Balīḫū* archive are registered in the same museum collections as those of the *Šāḫiṭ-ginē A* archive (see Waerzeggers 2014: 108–9 and 415–22).

2. Onomastics

When it comes to onomastics, the most noteworthy name occurring in the archive is, of course, Marduk-bēlšunu's family name *Balīḫū*. The interpretation of the underlying spellings offered in A. C. V. M. Bongenaar 1997: 464–65 is widely accepted and need not be repeated here.⁹ However, a little additional information can be distilled from the spelling found in no. 17, which is exceptional in form among the other known occurrences of the family name. It reads ^lEN-*e-eḫ-ḫi-ú* and thus represents the only spelling that is largely written syllabically. This gives rise to three observations. First, this semisyllabic spelling alleviates Bongenaar's trace of hesitation in reading ^ldKASKAL.KUR-*ú* and the like as *Balīḫū*. Second, it shows that spellings with initial EN (rarely also ^dEN and 1+*en*)¹⁰ do not reflect the form *Bēl-Balīḫū*, "Lord is (the god) *Balīḫū*" (*pace* Bongenaar 1997: 465), but in fact include a phonetic complement to disambiguate the multiple readings of KASKAL.KUR. Third, it throws light on the pronunciation of the family name at the time the documents of the archive were drafted.

After the Babylonian revolts and the ensuing Persian reprisals in 484 BCE, not only the Sipparean (priestly) archives, but also other written sources from that city came to an end.¹¹ As a result, there is no documentation of the later history of the Sipparean *Balīḫū* branches. Of the documents drafted after the end of archives phenomenon, however, at least three make mention of the family name. Two of them, AOAT 222, 105–7, no. 33; and AOAT 222, 101–5, no. 32, are dated in the reigns of Artaxerxes I and II, respectively. A third one, CT 49, 131, is considerably later and comes from the reign of Seleucus II Callinicus. While the first and third documents were drawn up at Cutha, the second one does not indicate the place at

6. Partial stemma after Bongenaar 1997: 46, with corrections and additions. On his cousin Bunene-ibni, see §4.

7. See, in general, Walker and Collon 1980. Furthermore Reade 1986 and 2007.

8. On the collection, see the summary by J. E. Reade *apud* Leichty 1986: xxxiii.

9. The family name occurs with various spellings of which ^ldKASKAL.KUR-*ú* and -*i* are the most common. On the manifold variants, see Bongenaar 1997: 464–65.

10. Spellings including the ligatures ^dEN and 1+*en* for EN occur repeatedly in the Neo-Babylonian textual record and reflect simple lapses on the part of the scribes (see, e.g., no. 9:1, 5).

11. An exception is *TBER* pl. 1, AO 1729 (Xer 6 = 480 BCE). On the archaeological record, suggesting a continuity of settlement, see Baker and Jursa 2009: 536, §4; and Gasche and Tanret 2009: 543, §2.1 and 544, §2.4.

which it was drafted, but the archival context allows it to be confidently attributed to Borsippa.¹² Needless to say, none of these documents can be assigned to specific family branches. Yet they attest to the longevity of the family name, albeit outside of Sippar.

Given the priestly context of the archive, it comes as no surprise that many documents mention three-tiered names (proper name, patronymic, family name), the prerogatives of the Babylonian urban elite, and of those aspiring to the bourgeoisie. Likewise, in almost all cases, the names of the individuals who appear in the documents are Babylonian, and so are their patronyms and family names. The few non-Babylonian proper names are West Semitic (Abī-qām, Ḥannā, Zabdī, and possibly Sam[ak-II] and Kinnē) or probably West Semitic (Ḥariṣānu), and most of them were reasonably common among Babylonians.¹³ Two more names also found in the archive (Kamuš-šarru-ušur and Arad-Ḥattu) are noteworthy for their rare theophoric elements, the Moabite deity Kamuš (also Kemosh) and the (North)west Semitic deity ‘An(a)t.¹⁴

3. Business Activities

Information provided by Marduk-bēlšunu’s documents and the Ebabbar archive makes it clear that he belonged to the circle of prebendaries and, as such, carried out the temple service attached to the corresponding priestly offices. Although pertinent conveyances of property are absent from the Balihū and other archives, administrative documents from the Ebabbar archive suffice to show that he owned a brewer’s prebend (Bongenaar 1997: 215; Jursa 2005: 121). Furthermore, the prebendary portfolio of his family and forebears fosters the conjecture that he too held a temple enterer’s prebend (Bongenaar 2000: 83). Following similar considerations, it was also suggested that he had a background in goldsmithing (Bongenaar 2000: 83). Slave ownership, plain from nos. 3 and 17, is in keeping with the property portfolios of other well-to-do members of the Sipparean bourgeoisie.

Marduk-bēlšunu’s business activities, as reflected in his archive, can best be described by fusing the surviving texts—essentially, short-lived (ephemeral) documents—into dossiers. The first dossier consists of six (perhaps eight) documents and affords glimpses of Marduk-bēlšunu’s activities within the prebendary sphere of Ebabbar. The key items for judging his role appear in nos. 6 and 12, two lease agreements concluded in Dar I 23 (499 BCE) and 31–33 (491–488 BCE), respectively. Both documents record the lease of prebends to contractors. What makes them interesting is that these prebends belonged to Bēl-ittannu, the son of the well-known temple official Ina-Esangila-lilbir of the Ša-nāšišu family (see §4), who had pledged them to secure debts owed to a certain Nabû-bullissu, son of Šākin-šumi of the Ea-eppēš-ilī family,¹⁵ and that Marduk-bēlšunu held the right to lease them to third parties.¹⁶ The latter’s relationship to Nabû-bullissu does not emerge from the documents. Bongenaar (2000: 84) surmised that he might have been a partner of Nabû-bullissu, but it seems equally possible that the relationship was contractual, with Marduk-bēlšunu acting as an agent or as a tenant and sublessor. Whatever the case, nos. 4 and 11 indicate that he also held at least two prebends as pledgee. In no. 4, Iqīšāya (= Iqīša-Marduk? [see §4]), son of Marduk-šumu-ušur of the Ea-Eppēš-ilī family, puts up his brewer’s prebend as security for a debt of twenty shekels owed to Marduk-bēlšunu. By contrast, the prebend in no. 11 remains unspecified. It belonged to one Nidintu, son

12. The document belongs to the dossier on ‘Lurindu and the scribe Bēl-ittannu (Stolper 1999).

13. Most of these individuals appear simply as witnesses. Only two of them, Ḥannā, son of Abī-qām, and Ḥariṣānu, son of Marduk-šumu-ibni, figure as active parties to contracts (debtor in no. 9; sublessee in no. 12). On Ḥariṣānu, see the comment to no. 12 and §4.

14. Note, however, the comment to no. 17:2.

15. The attribution of CT 4, 21a and ArOr 33, 19–21 to the dossier on Bēl-ittannu, suggested with reservations in Bongenaar 2000: 84 n. 38, seems doubtful, since Bēl-ittannu figures not as debtor, but as guarantor for third parties.

16. On the lease of pledged items, see Petschow 1956: 106–7.

of Šamaš-šumu-lišir of the Ile''i-Marduk family, who may be identical with the Sipparean prebendary Nidinti-Marduk.¹⁷ The document records a quitclaim, guaranteeing that the third-party claims (*paqāru*) lodged by Nidintu's sister 'Re'indu are invalid.

Since the prebends in question do not reappear in the textual record, it remains open to question whether they too were subject to a lease.¹⁸ Further transactions of this type, however, are implied by some of the promissory notes from the archive, most importantly by no. 5 drafted in Dar I 22 (500 BCE). The debtor is the same man who later subleased from Marduk-bēlšunu the prebends of Bēl-ittannu in no. 6. Assuming that the unspecified debt (fifteen shekels of silver) arose from a partial payment of an annual rent (note the ninety shekels in nos. 6 and 12), it follows from the dates of the documents that a similar agreement was drawn up before the agreement recorded in no. 6 was concluded. Further additions to the dossier are more speculative. They arise from the observation that the contractors in nos. 6 and 12 belonged to priestly families who obviously sought to increase their prebendary income through the instrument of lease agreements. By extension, the same may have been true of the debtors in nos. 1 and 10, though no direct evidence exists. Seen in the light of the texts adduced here, at any rate, it is inviting to speculate that Marduk-bēlšunu engaged in granting loans to indebted prebendaries and (sub)letting their pledged prebends on a regular basis. The wider (adverse) impacts of this business model, in the broadest sense of that term, are neatly illustrated by no. 15. That document, drafted in Dar I 33 (489 BCE) and thus shortly after no. 12, stipulates that the rations (*kurummatu*, i.e., salary paid in kind) of Bēl-ittannu were seized from a certain Mušēzib-Nabû by Marduk-bēlšunu. This leads to some further observations. First, Bēl-ittannu had forfeited his prebendary income (*pappasu*)¹⁹ and consequently received rations from the temple, a type of remuneration that otherwise was issued to craftsmen, stable hands, herdsmen, plowmen, and other (dependent) workers, but not to priests.²⁰ Second, he had pledged this secondary income right to Mušēzib-Nabû, presumably to secure another debt. Third, Marduk-bēlšunu acquired the right to collect these rations, obviously to convert unpaid debts that Bēl-ittannu had incurred.

The second, larger dossier consists of eight documents, unless nos. 1 and 10 mentioned above are to be added here. Most of them are promissory notes and receipts that call for or confirm unspecified payments of rather small amounts of silver, barley, or dates: 270 l of dates (no. 2), 180 l of barley (no. 9), 8 shekels of silver with interest (no. 14) and 720+ l of barley or dates (no. 16).²¹ Exceptions are nos. 7 and 8. They not only involve larger amounts earmarked for specified payments, but also reflect Marduk-bēlšunu's dealings with third parties on behalf of debtors. In no. 7, he is the payer of assets invested in a business venture (see below); and in no. 8, he figures as guarantor for the payment of 3240 l of barley resulting from a tax obligation²² encumbered on a member of the propertied urban upper class. In contrast to the documents of the first dossier, the purpose of these transactions is not clear. The only promissory note for silver at interest (no. 14) does not suffice to suggest a background in moneylending. Although it is conceivable that at least some loans were meant to earn no monetary yield but to provide creditors with nonmonetary benefits, a much simpler explanation is that debts like those recorded in the documents of the second dossier arose from property acquisition and management.²³ If so, they are comparable with the contractual relationships visible through the first dossier. Different considerations, however, apply to nos. 7 and 8 in which Marduk-bēlšunu figures not as creditor, but as payer and guarantor. A similar situation underlies

17. See the discussion in Jursa 1999: 37.

18. But note the comment on BM 77929 (= Bertin 2187) in n. 36 below.

19. Compare the situation of the debtor in no. 4.

20. Jursa 2010: 531. On the *kurummat šatammi*, see Waerzeggers 2010: 328–29; and Jursa 2010: 168.

21. The names of both parties are lost; the attribution to the dossier is thus open to question.

22. The text reads *kurummat amāti šarri*, literally “rations of the royal maidservants.” Similar obligations are found elsewhere in archives from Sippar (Jursa 2010: 250 n. 1490).

23. See, in general, Jursa 2010: 240–42.

no. 18, a document recording a deposition before a group of freemen (*mār-bānê*). Marduk-bēlšunu denies under oath the receipt of barley and claims that it was wrongfully debited against him. If his statement is correctly understood, then the original transaction likewise involved three parties (creditor, debtor, payer). In this case, however, Marduk-bēlšunu is said to have served as an agent receiving a payment of 450 l of barley on behalf of a third party. As with nos. 7 and 8, it remains a question of why he was party to the contract, at least from an economic perspective.

Finally, mention should be made of the remaining item, no. 3, an agreement creating a business venture (*ḥarrānu*). If the proposed restorations are correct, it records a situation in which Marduk-bēlšunu was the source of capital but was not directly involved in the investments made by the other parties to the contract (i.e., the three managing partners) or in the conduct of the venture. At first glance, the clause stipulating that the parties have one-third shares of the profit implies that Marduk-bēlšunu did not benefit directly from the eventual return. However, one of the managing partners is Nabû-ina-Esangila-lūmur, a slave of Marduk-bēlšunu, who apparently did not act on his own account. This inference gains strength from the fact that only the other managing partners assume warranty for the silver invested in the business venture. The purpose of the *ḥarrānu* company created by this investment is unclear, since contextual support and pertinent added clauses are lacking. But Marduk-bēlšunu's prebendary background at least raises the possibility that the company, like many other business ventures, was geared towards brewing and selling beer. Cases in point are the investments made by Borsippean prebendary brewers (Jursa 2010: 269), even though such companies usually engaged in brewing date beer (Jursa 2010: 212–23), not barley beer, which was earmarked for offerings presented to the gods.

4. Extended Social Network

As stated in the introduction, the archive of Marduk-bēlšunu is one of the seven archives that scholarly literature calls satellite or shadow archives of the Šāḫit-ginê A archive (Marduk-rēmānni archive).²⁴ The protagonists of these smaller text groups belonged to various branches of the well-to-do families of Sippar that, despite different social backgrounds, formed the elite of the city. Members of the Bālīḫû, Rē'i-sisê, Šangû-Šamaš, and Ša-nāšišu families had mainly prebendary and temple-related interests, while Iššar-taribi, son of Bunene-ibni,²⁵ and Arad-Bēl of the Adad-šamê family mostly engaged in trading activities. These men appear frequently in this cluster of archives, revealing a well-established network of social interactions based on kinship ties, common professional backgrounds, and business interests.

The study of the Bālīḫû archive indicates that Marduk-bēlšunu was embedded in this network of contacts. As expected, the majority of the people recorded in his archive belonged to traditional Babylonian families whose names reappear in other private archives but especially in the closer circle of the prebendary families related to Marduk-rēmānni and the other protagonists of the satellite archives.

The Bālīḫû family tree must be assembled on the basis of prosopographical data culled from the Ebabbar and other archives, because to date, Marduk-bēlšunu's archive reveals no direct interactions between him and his kin (see §1 above). Only in one instance, Marduk-bēlšunu appears together with his brother Iddin-Nabû;²⁶ both men are witnesses to *BRL* 4, 20–21 (BM 55784, [Dar I] 30 = 492/491 BCE), a document belonging to the Ea-eppēš-ili B archive. His other brother, Nabû-aplu-iddin, who may have owned a temple enterer's prebend in the Ebabbar temple (Bongenaar 1997: 163 and 466–67; Jursa 1999: 69 n. 286),

24. For references, see §1 above.

25. His archive is studied in Pirngruber 2020, the first in this series of articles.

26. He recurs in more texts: as a scribe in *BR* 139 (BM 42332+) and *BR* 183 (BM 42433; note that Šullumāya, son of Nergal-ēṭir and owner of the Ša-nāšišu A archive, is the creditor); otherwise, as a witness in *MR* 85 and *MR* 105a and probably in *Iraq* 44, 85–86.

is mentioned only once as a witness (CT 2, 2). In the archive of Marduk-bēlšunu, besides the mention of his son (no. 13), the only other attested Balīḫū member is his cousin Bunene-ibni, son of Mušēzib-Marduk, who is a witness in no. 7.²⁷ Although at present no archives can be assigned to Mušēzib-Marduk²⁸ and his sons Bunene-ibni and Šamaš-aplu-iddin (= Aplāya),²⁹ these men are particularly well attested in the Šangū-Šamaš A and Šāhit-ginē A archives and in other unassigned texts, indicating that this branch of the family had close relationships with other families and was particularly active within the community. At least in one instance, recorded in MR 9 (Camb 2 = 528 BCE), Mušēzib-Marduk witnesses a transaction together with his other brother Nabū-nāšir.

In an attempt to better understand the network of contacts cultivated by Marduk-bēlšunu, some inferences can be drawn from the frequency of interactions. A closer look at the evidence furnished by the archive reveals that with some individuals Marduk-bēlšunu interacted more than once, possibly indicating a more intimate relationship between him and these men. For instance, he apparently had a close connection with the Ša-nāšišu family (Bongenaar 1997: 470–75; Jursa 2005: 126–27). As discussed in the previous section, Bēl-ittannu, son of Ina-Esangila-lilbir, stands out in this regard. This branch of the family (Ša-nāšišu I [Bongenaar 1997: 474]) is well attested in the sources, but very little is known about Bēl-ittannu; so far, the clearest evidence comes from the Balīḫū archive.³⁰ In contrast, much more can be said about his father Ina-Esangila-lilbir.³¹ He was a highly influential member of the Sipparean elite, as he was successively appointed *šangū* of Sippar (521 BCE), as governor of Babylon (510 BCE), and as *šatammu* of Esangila (497 BCE). He appears in almost all of the archives mentioned above, indicating strong ties between him and the protagonists of the satellite archives, on whom he may have exercised significant influence (Waerzeggers 2014: 14–45). As already noted by C. Waerzeggers (2014: 15), the common ground between Marduk-bēlšunu and Ina-Esangila-lilbir was the temple at Sippar, where the two men must have come into contact. In the light of this, it comes as no surprise that his son Bēl-ittannu did business with Marduk-bēlšunu. Furthermore, it should be noted that after the death of Ina-Esangila-lilbir, his equally well-known brothers Gūzanu and Nabū-balassu-iqbi (appointed governor of Babylon and *šangū* of Sippar, respectively) also disappear from the sources.

On two occasions, other members of the Ša-nāšišu family operated as scribes for Marduk-bēlšunu: Nergal-ēṭir, son of Taqiš-Gula,³² wrote no. 1, while Šullumāya, son of Nergal-ina-tēšī-ēṭir³³ and owner of the Ša-nāšišu A archive (another satellite archive), wrote no. 13. Šullumāya and Marduk-bēlšunu appear together as witnesses in JCS 28 58 (Dar I 29 = 493 BCE), a document from the archive of Ardia, son of Nergal-iddin of the Balīḫū family (Maštuk group; see §1).

Another protagonist of a satellite archive who offers a glimpse of the social network of Marduk-rēmanni is Šamaš-iddin, son of Rēmūt. He and his father Rēmūt, son of Nabū-ayyālu, are the owners of a small archive with ties to the archive of ^fAqūba, daughter of Ardia. These two text groups have been linked to

27. Other occurrences of Bunene-ibni: BR 133–34 (BM 42302); BR 156 (BM 42357); BR 190–91 (BM 42504+); BR 192–93 (BM 42523+); BR 245 (BM 43727+); VS 3, 135a = BR 258–59; VS 4, 145 = BR 263–64; and CTMMA 3, 90. On Mušēzib-Marduk, see also §1.

28. Other occurrences: BR 140 (BM 42334); BR 141–42 (BM 42336+); MR 9; Ner. 40; BM 60834; CT 57, 43; BM 60808; ZA 84, 216; Nbn. 983; BM 74383 (= Bertin 1628); CT 57, 186 (col. III); CT 55, 73; CT 55, 195; BM 75243; Camb. 240; BM 42606+; Dar. 113; Dar. 162; CT 57, 792; BM 74763; and AuOr 15, 164–65, no. 13.

29. He recurs in more texts: as a payer in BR 151–52 (BM 42352+); and BR 165–66 (BM 42373); as a debtor in BR 249–50 (BM 79055); otherwise, as a witness in BR 131–33 (BM 42301); BR 144–45 (BM 42343+); BR 164–65 (BM 42371); BR 179–80 (BM 42423); BR 189 (BM 42484); BR 212 (BM 42591+); BR 249–50 (BM 79055); CT 44, 75 = BR 253–54; VS 5, 109 = BR 264–65; MR 70; MR 111; MR 132; MR 165; and CTMMA 3, 92.

30. Other occurrences of Bēl-ittannu: ArOr 33, 19–21; and CT 4, 21a. See also n. 15.

31. On Ina-Esangila-lilbir, see Bongenaar 2000: 79–80; and Waerzeggers 2014: viii–x, 14–15, and 53–56.

32. Other occurrences: BR 146–47 (BM 42345+); and BR 161–62 (BM 42365).

33. Other occurrences: BR 183 (BM 42433); LOS 56; BM 74631 (= Bertin 2687); and BM 74570 (= Bertin 2746).

the Šāḥit-ginê A archive on the basis of prosopographical connections and museum archaeology.³⁴ In the Baliḥû archive, he figures as a witness in no. 8.

In addition, more men appear repeatedly in the archive, and sometimes in different legal roles. This is, for instance, the case for three members of the Nappāḥu family: Ḥariṣānu, son of Marduk-šumu-ibni, is the contractor (sublessee) in no. 12 and a witness in nos. 5 and 7; Mušeziḥ-Marduk, son of Sîn-kēšir, is the debtor in no. 1 and a witness in nos. 3, 5, and 10; and Nabû-bullissu, son of Šākin-šumi, is the pledgee in nos. 6 and 12. Similarly, Bēl-asû'a, son of Ea-aplu-iddin of the Mandidi family,³⁵ is the debtor in no. 7 and a witness in nos. 5, 9, and 16; and Iqīšāya, son of Marduk-šumu-ušur of the Ea-Eppēš-ilī family, who may be identical with the goldsmith Iqīša-Marduk (see Bongenaar 1997: 387–88 with references), is the debtor in no. 4 and a witness in no. 7.³⁶ Other men who witnessed at least two transactions are Balāṭu, son of Mušeziḥ-Marduk of the Išparu family³⁷ (nos. 1 and 11); Bēl-iddin, son of Ubār of the Bēl-eṭēri family³⁸ (nos. 4, 11 and 18); Niqūdu, son of Šāpik-zēri of the Itinnu family³⁹ (nos. 4 and 15); Šullumāya, son of Eribāya of the Ea-Eppēš-ilī family (nos. 4 and 5); and Tabnē'a, son of Nabû-nāšir of the Bābūtu family (nos. 11 and 14).

A similar picture can be drawn for scribes. Of particular interest are two instances in which the scribe was also one of the parties involved in the transaction. The first scribe is Bēl-uballit, son of Bēl-iddin of the Balāṭu family.⁴⁰ He wrote both no. 5 and no. 6, in which he also figures as debtor and lessee, respectively. The second scribe is Bēl-uballit, son of Nabû-nāšir of the Šangû-Akkad family. He wrote no. 17 in which he is also the seller.

Another scribe who is attested several times is Bēl-ittannu, son of Uballissu-Gula of the Šangû-Ištar-Bābili family. He wrote no. 11 and witnessed both nos. 7 and 9.⁴¹ Three more scribes known from the archive belong to the same family, namely the two brothers Iddin-Nabû⁴² and Mūrānu,⁴³ sons of Bēl-uballit (no. 8 and no. 7, respectively; Bongenaar 1997: 436), and Iddināya, son of Marduk-nāšir (no. 16). Mūrānu also figures as a witness in no. 2. Evidence from other archives suggests that Iddināya may be identical with Iddin-Nabû, son of Marduk-nāšir (Nāširu? [Bongenaar 1997: 437]), a prebend owner who was active as a scribe between Dar I 2 and 34 (520–488 BCE) and who recurs several times in the Šangû-Šamaš A, Šāḥit-ginê A, and other archives.⁴⁴

Concerning women in the Baliḥû archive, the evidence is scarce: 'Lā-qīptu, daughter of Iqīša-[...] and spouse of Iqīšāya (= Iqīša-Marduk?), son of Marduk-šumu-ušur of the Ea-Eppēš-ilī family, appears as a witness (no. 4); 'Re'indu, daughter of Šamaš-šumu-līšir of the Ilē'i-Marduk family, figures as a plaintiff (no. 11);⁴⁵ and her namesake, 'Re'indu, daughter of Ṭābia and spouse of a certain Šamaš-[...] is employed by Marduk-bēlšunu to act as a wet-nurse for his son Marduk-šumu-iddin (no. 13).

34. Waerzeggers 2014: 112 n. 523; furthermore, Bongenaar 2000: 74 n. 6; and Jursa 2005: 129–30. Certain and probable components of the archives are listed in Hackl forthcoming a, appendix 1.

35. See Bongenaar 1997: 290. Other occurrences: *BR* 148–49 (BM 42348); *BR* 223–24 (BM 43098+); BM 60255; BM 75012; *AfO* 36/37, 52, no. 7 (= Bertin 2689); and Peek 20.

36. He recurs in more texts: as a creditor in BM 77822 (= Bertin 2429); as a debtor in *ABC* 34 (BM 79708); *CT* 55, 104; *CT* 55, 93; and BM 77846 (= Bertin 2730); as other contracting party in BM 77929 (= Bertin 2187; in view of the prebend mentioned in no. 4, line 4 is probably to be read ... *u*₄-*mu*^{MES} ^{LU}LÜNGA¹-*u*-*tu*); and *CT* 4, 43a; otherwise, as a witness in *Dar.* 433; BM 74631 (= Bertin 2687); *MR* 172; and *MR* 180.

37. Other occurrences: *BR* 137–38 (BM 42330); *BR* 138 (BM 42331); *BR* 192–93 (BM 42523+); and *BR* 223–24 (BM 43098+).

38. Other occurrences: *BR* 244–45 (BM 43715+); and BM 77855 (= Bertin 2491).

39. Other occurrences: *BR* 148–49 (BM 42348); *BR* 200–201 (BM 42554); *BRL* 4, 20–21 (BM 55784); *VS* 3, 208 = *BR* 260; and *MR* 187.

40. Other occurrences: *MR* 164; BM 74631 (= Bertin 2687); and *CT* 55, 116.

41. Other occurrences: *MR* 132; *MR* 139; *MR* 168; BM 77929 (= Bertin 2187); and *CT* 55, 89.

42. He recurs in *MR* 175.

43. Other occurrences: *BR* 151–52 (BM 42352+); *MR* 109; and *CT* 55, 192.

44. Other occurrences: *BR* 146–47 (BM 42345+); *BR* 183 (BM 42433); *BR* 185–86 (BM 42436); *MR* 16; *MR* 25; *MR* 132; BM 75894 (= Bertin 3046); *VS* 3, 89; BM 74527 (= Bertin 2043); BM 64056 (= Bertin 2126); BM 77929 (= Bertin 2187); *VS* 4, 144; and BM 74563 (= Bertin 2671); possibly *MR* 146 and *Dar.* 397.

45. On the underlying situation, see §3.

Finally, a few words should be said on the occurrences of Marduk-bēšunu outside the Balīḫū archive. In addition to the aforementioned documents, *JCS* 28, 58 (Dar I 29 = 493 BCE) and *BRL* 4, 20–21 (BM 55784, [Dar I] 30 = 492/491 BCE), Marduk-bēšunu appears as a witness in three documents from other well-known archives, that is, in *BR* 186–87 (BM 42438, Šangû-Šamaš A, Dar I [x] = ca. 520–486 BCE) and *MR* 145 (Šāḫit-ginē A, Dar I [x] = c. 505–486 BCE), and presumably in *BR* 133–34 (BM 42302, Šangû-Šamaš A, Dar I 19 = 503/502 BCE). Unassigned documents in which Marduk-bēšunu figures as a witness are BM 75046 (Dar I 20+ = 502 BCE or later), *CT* 4, 32a (Dar I 20 = 501 BCE), *CT* 4, 43a (Dar I 25 = 497 BCE), Strassmaier, *8e Congrès* no. 21 (BM 60599, Xer [acc] = 486 BCE), and *CT* 55, 89 (Xer 2 = 484 BCE).

Altogether, the evidence collected in this section sheds light on the social relationships of Marduk-bēšunu, illustrating the socio-economic connections between him and certain other families (e.g., Šanāšišu, Šangû-Ištar-Bābili) and individuals (e.g., Bēl-asû'a, son of Ea-aplu-iddin of the Mandidi family, and Bēl-uballit, son of Bēl-iddin of the Balātu family). The results of this analysis fit well with what has already been presented at the beginning of this section and discussed by other scholars, that is, the existence of a network of interactions among the members of the Sipparian elite, largely built upon familial ties and common business interests.

5. Text Editions

No. 1

The debtor, Mušēzib-Marduk, son of Šin-kēšir of the Nappāḫu family, recurs as a witness in nos. 3, 5, and 10. Note that the scribe is not the father of Šullumāya who wrote no. 13 (*pace* Waerzeggers 2014: 14 n. 71), since the latter's grandfather bears the name Lābāši, not Taqīš-Gula (Bongenaar 1997: 472–73). See also §4.

BM 61484 (AH 82-9-18, 1458)

Sippar, Dar I 2.6.12 (9 Sept 510 BCE), promissory note

Obv. 8 GÍN KÙ.BABBAR šá gin-na šá na-da-nu'
u ma-ḫa-ri <šá> ¹EN-šú-nu A-šú
šá ^{1d}AG-TIN-su-E A ¹KASKAL.KUR-i
'ina muḫ-ḫi ¹KAR-^dAMAR.UTU' A-šú
5 *šá ^{1d}30-ke-šir A ^{LÜ}SIMUG*
UD.1.KAM šá ^{1m}DU₆ KÙ.BABBAR a₄
8 GÍN KÙ.BABBAR šá gin-na šá na-da-nu *u ma-ḫa-ri*
ina SAG.DU-šú i-^cnam'-din
Lo.E. { x } *lu ú-il-ti lu GÍD.DA*
10 { x } *šá ina É ¹EN-šú-nu il-la-a'*
'šá ¹KAR-^dAMAR.UTU ši-^ci
Rev. ^{LÜ}*mu'-kin-nu ^{1d}AMAR.UTU-'MU A'-šú*
šá ¹lib-luṭ A ^{LÜ}SANGA-^dBAD
¹ba-la-ṭu A-šú šá ¹KAR-^dAMAR.UTU A ^{LÜ}UŠ.BAR
15 ¹SUM.NA-[a] *'A-šú šá ^{1d}AG-A-MU*
^{1d}EN-it-tan-nu A'-šú šá ^{1d}30⁷¹-T[IN]-^ciṭ A ¹šá-na-ši-šú'
^{LÜ}*UMBISAG ^{1d}U.GUR-SUR A-š[ú]*
šá ¹ta-qiš-^dgu-l[a]
A ^{LÜ}*SANGA-^dUTU UD.KIB.NUN^{KI}*

20 ^{ITI}KIN UD.2.KAM MU.12.KAM
 U.E. ¹da-ri-i'-a-muš
 LUGAL E^{KI} LUGAL KUR.KUR

⁽¹⁻⁵⁾Eight shekels of *ginnu*-marked silver of the kind commonly used for transactions is owed to Bēšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, descendant of Balīḫû, by Mušēzib-Marduk, son of Šin-kēšir, descendant of Nappāḫu—

⁽⁶⁻¹¹⁾He will pay that eight shekels of *ginnu*-marked silver of the kind used for transactions in its full original amount on day 1 of month VII. Any promissory note or copy that may turn up in the possession of Bēšunu belongs to Mušēzib-Marduk.

⁽¹²⁻¹⁶⁾Witnesses: Marduk-iddin, son of Libluṭ, descendant of Šangû-Ea; Balāṭu, son of Mušēzib-Marduk, descendant of Išparu; Iddināya, son of Nabû-aplu-iddin; Bēl-ittannu, son of Šin-uballiṭ, descendant of Ša-nāšišu.

⁽¹⁷⁻²²⁾Scribe: Nergal-ēṭir, son of Taqīš-Gula, descendant of Šangû-Šamaš. Sippar, month VI, day 2, year 12 of Darius (I), king of Babylon and the lands.

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (4.7 × 4.2 × 2.2 cm), laid out in landscape orientation (almost square), with tapered and flattened edges, unsealed; parts of the reverse broken off.

No. 2

The last witness, Mūrānu, son of Bēl-uballiṭ of the Šangû-Ištar-Bābili, wrote no. 7. Although prosopographical observations are inconclusive, the mention of Marduk-bēšunu (Bēšunu) and this Mūrānu favors a date in the later reign of Darius I.

BM 74640 (AH 82-9-18, 365a); Bertin 2454

Sippar, Dar I 2.9.[x] (ca. 510–487 BCE), promissory note

Obv. 1 GUR 2 (PI) '3 BÂN ZÚ'.LUM.MA
 šá ^{Id}EN-šú-nu 'A-šú šá' ^{Id}AG-TIN-su-E
 A ^{Id}KASKAL-'KUR'-i ina 'muḫ'-ḫi
 ^{Id}UTU^o-DÛ^o A-šú šá ['x]-'x - x'
 5 ina ^{ITI}ŠE' [i-na]m-d[in]
 pu-ut e-ṭè-r[u]
 šá ZÚ.LUM.'MA a¹₄
 Lo.E. ^{Id}UTU-DÛ 'A'-[šú šá¹ x - x - x]
 na-'šī'
 Rev. ^{LÚ}mu-kin-nu 'x'-[x - x]
 A-šú šá ^{Id}EN-A-Û[RU A¹ x - x]
 'mu-ra-nu A-šú šá'
 ^{Id}EN-TIN-'iṭ' A ^{LÚ}SA[NGA-^dINNIN-E^{KI}]
 'na-'dī'-[nu] ^{LÚ}UMBISAG A-šú šá
 15 'DUB-NUMUN sip-par^{KI}
 ^{ITI}GAN UD.2.KAM
 U.E. MU.[x.KAM¹]da-ri-iá-'muš
 LUGAL E^{KI} u KUR.KUR

⁽¹⁻⁴⁾One *kurru*, two (*pānu*), (and) three *sūtu* of dates is owed to Bēšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, descendant of Balīḫû, by Šamaš-ibni, son of [...]—

⁽⁵⁻⁹⁾He will p[ay] (those one *kurru*, two *pānu*, [and] three *sūtu* of dates) in month XII. Šamaš-ibni, son [of ...], assumes warranty for the full payment of those (one *kurru*, two *pānu*, and three *sūtu*) of dates.

⁽¹⁰⁻¹³⁾Witnesses: [...], son of Bēl-aplu-u[šur, descendant of ...]; Mūrānu, son of Bēl-uballit, descendant of Ša[ngû-Ištar-Bābili].

⁽¹⁴⁻¹⁸⁾Scribe: Nādi[n], son of Šāpik-zēri. Sippar, month IX, day 2, year [...] of Darius (I), king of Babylon and the lands.

Commentary

4. A reading [iR]-^rd*gu-la*, establishing another prosopographical connection to no. 7, is improbable in the light of the preserved traces.

13. Restored after no. 7:23.

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (4.5 × 3.2 × 2.0 cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered edges, unsealed; lower right corner broken off.

No. 3

On form and character of the contract, see §3. The reasons for the extensive restorations are detailed in the commentary section.

BM 63804 (AH 82-9-18, 3772); Bertin 3079

[Sippar], [Dar I? x.x.x] (ca. 510–487 BCE), partnership agreement (*ḥarrānu*)

Obv. [30 GUR ŠE.BAR *u* 19 GÍN KÛ.BABBAR x x]
 [x x x x x x x x x x šá]
 [1^{EN}-šú-*nu* A-šú šá 1^dAG-TIN-*su*-E A 1^dKASKAL.K]UR-^r*i*^r
 [*ina muḫ-ḫi* 1^dUTU-TIN-*iṭ* A-šú šá 1^x - x]-^r*x*^r
 5 [A] 1^L[^U x - x 1^dEN-NUMUN A-šú šá] 1^dEN-NIGIN-*ir*
 [A] 1^L[^U x - [x - x 1^dA]G-*ina*-É.SAG.ÍLA-*lu*-mur
 [1^L] *qal-la* 1^r šá 1^dAMAR^r.UTU-EN-šú-*nu* *mim-ma ma-la*
 [*in*] a URU *u* EDEN *ip-pu-uš-šu-u* 1^r *ina ú-tur*
 10 1^r 3^r-šú *a*-<*ḫa*>-*ta* šú-*nu* *pu-ut* ŠE.BAR *a*₄ 30 GUR
 1^d *pu-ut* SAG.DU KÛ.BABBAR *a*₄ 19 GÍN
 Lo.E. 1^r 1^dUTU-TIN-*iṭ* *u* 1^dEN-NUMUN *na-šu-ú*
 Rev. 15° GUR ŠE.BAR *ina* UD.KIB.NUN^{KI} 1^d *a-nu*-^r*ni-tu*₄^r
i-nam-din-nu-u 1^r 15 GUR ŠE.BAR
ina UD.KIB.NUN^{KI} *ina* É 1^{EN}-šú-*nu* *i-nam-din-nu-u* 1^L *mu-kin-nu*
 15 1^dAG-NUMUN-SI.SÁ DUMU šá 1^r *gu-za-nu* A 1^L SANGA-^dINNIN-E^{KI}
 1^r *mu-še-zib*-^dEN DUMU šá 1^r *la-a-ba-ši* A 1^r *su-ḫa-a*
 [1^r] ŠEŠ^{MEŠ}-šá-*a* DUMU šá 1^r *ba-ni-ia* A 1^L SANGA-*a*-ka^{KI}
 [1^r x - x - x] DUMU^r šá 1^r NUMUN-*ia*
 [1^rKAR-^dAMAR.UTU DUMU šá] 1^r 30-*ke-šir* A 1^L SIMUG

- 20 [¹ x - x - x DUMU šá ¹ i] b-¹ na'-a-a
 [x x x x x x x x x] 'x x'
 [x x x x x x x x x x x]
 [x x x x x x x x x x x]
 L.E. ¹ hu-ud-d[a-a DUMU šá ¹ x - x - x]
 25 'A x'-[x]

(¹⁻⁷) [Thirty *kurru* of barley and nineteen shekels of ... silver are owed to Bēšunu, son of Nabû-uballit, descendant of Bal]iḫû, [by Šamaš-uballit, son of ..., descendant of ..., Bēl-zēri, son of] Bēl-upaḫḫir, [descendant of ..., and Na]bû-ina-Esangila-lūmur, the slave of Marduk-bēšunu, (for a business venture).

(⁷⁻¹¹) Whatever (profit) they make (from it), be it in or out of town, they each have one-third shares of the profit. (⁹⁻¹¹) Šamaš-uballit and Bēl-zēri assume warranty for that thirty *kurru* of barley and the full original amount of that nineteen shekels of silver. (¹²⁻¹⁴) They will pay fifteen *kurru* of barley in Sippar-Anunitu and fifteen *kurru* of barley in Sippar, at the estate of Bēšunu.

(¹⁴⁻²⁰) Witnesses: Nabû-zēru-lišir, son of Guzānu, descendant of Šangû-Ištar-Bābili; Mušēzib-Bēl, son of Lâbâši, descendant of Suḫāya; Aḫḫēšāya, son of Bania, descendant of Šangû-Akkad; [...], son of Zēria; [Mušēzib-Marduk], son of Sîn-kēšir, descendant of Nappāḫu; [...], son of] Ibnāya; (²⁴⁻²⁵) Ḫudd[āya, son of ...], descendant of [...].

(²¹⁻²³) [Scribe: ..., son of ..., descendant of] ... [Sippar, month ..., day ..., year ... of Darius (I), king of Babylon and the lands].

Commentary

1–6. The restoration of these lines rests on the assumption that the document records a unilateral business venture (*ḥarrānu*) or, more precisely, a commenda, with the investing partner contributing the capital and the managing partners none. On this kind of contract, see Lanz 1976: 73–78; and most recently Hackl forthcoming b, §3.1.9.2.1. For a bilateral business venture, one would expect the phrase *itti aḫāmeš ana ḥarrāni iškunū* at the end of the first clause. Note also the clause requiring the managing partners (without the investing partner's slave) to assume warranty for the capital.

2. If the number of lines is correctly restored, this line would indicate the quality of the silver.

19. Restored after no. 1:4, 11; and no. 5:10.

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (7.9 × 5.1* × 2.5 cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered edges, unsealed; upper half of the tablet lost, most of the left edge broken off.

No. 4

The debtor, Iqīšāya (= Iqīša-Marduk?),⁴⁶ son of Marduk-šumu-ušur of the (Ea-)Eppēš-ili family, recurs as a witness in no. 7. The document may be from the hand of the scribe who wrote no. 15, or the one who wrote no. 18. The character of the contract is discussed in §3. Transliteration courtesy Waerzeggers.

46. Bongenaar 1997: 387–88. See also §4.

BM 61123 (AH 82-9-18, 1099)[Sippar], Dar I [x].12a.[x] (ca. 508–487 BCE),⁴⁷ promissory note

- Obv. ⅓ MA.NA KÛ.BABBAR BABBAR-ú šá ina 1 'GĪN bit'-[*qa nu-uḫ-ḫu-tu*]
 šá la gín-nu šá ^{ld}AMAR.UTU-EN-šú-nu A-šú šá ^{ld}AG-TIN-su-[*iq-bi*]
 A ^{ld}KASKAL-KUR-i ina muḫ-ḫi ¹BA-šá-a A-šú šá ^{ld}AMAR.UTU-MU-^{ur}URU
 A ^{ld}DÛ-eš-DINGIR 2-ta u₄-mu^{MEŠ} ^{LÜ}LÜNGA-ú-tu
- 5 ina É.BABBAR.RA É ^dUTU EN UD.KIB.NUN^{KI} UD.13.KAM
 mi-šil šá ki-iš u₄-mu šá ^{ITI}KIN UD.5.KAM UD.6.KAM
 šá še'-e-ri šá ^{ITI}ZÍZ PAB ina MU.AN.NA 2-ta u₄-mu^{MEŠ}
^{LÜ}LÜNGA-ú-tu ina É.BABBAR.RA É ^dUTU EN UD.KIB.NUN^{KI}
 maš-ka-nu šá ^{ld}AMAR.UTU-EN-šú-nu šá EN ^{GIS}ŠUB.BA
- Lo.E. ia-a-nu UR₅.RA KÛ.BABBAR ia-a-nu a-di-i
- Rev. muḫ-ḫi šá KÛ.BABBAR a₄ ⅓ MA.NA ¹BA-šá-a
 a-na ^{ld}AMAR.UTU-EN-šú-nu i-nam-din-nu ki-i
 <a-na> ^{ld}AMAR.UTU-EN-šú-nu pap-pa-su šá u₄-mu^{MEŠ} a₄ 2-ta la it-tan-nu-ú
 UR₅.RA KÛ.BABBAR a₄ ⅓ MA.NA ¹BA-šá-a a-na ^{ld}AMAR.UTU-EN-šú-nu i-nam-din
- 15 ^{LÜ}mu-kin-nu ¹ŠEŠ-šú-nu A-šú šá ¹šad-din-nu A ¹ZÁLAG-^d30
¹ni-qu-du A-šú šá ¹DUB-NUMUN A ^{LÜ}ŠITIM ¹ḫaš-da-a-a
 A-šú šá ¹bul-lu-ṭa-a A ^{LÜ}SIMUG ¹šul-lu-ma-a 'A-šú' [šá ¹SU-a]
 A ^{ld}DÛ-eš-DINGIR ¹ḫa-ba-ši-ru A-šú šá ¹dEN'-[x - x]
^{ld}EN-SUM.NA A-šú šá ¹ú-[bar A ^{ld}EN-e-ṭè-ru]
- 20 ^{ld}é-a-MU A-šú šá ¹[x - x - x A ¹x - x]
- U.E. ¹ni'-din-tu₄ ^{LÜ}UMBISAG [A-šú šá ¹x - x - x A ¹x - x sip-par^{KI}]
^{ITI}<ŠE>.DIRI.ŠE.KIN.TAR UD.[x.KAM MU.x.KAM]
¹da-ri-ia-muš LUGAL 'TIN'.[TIR^{KI} u KUR.KUR]
- LE. [ina] a-šá-bi šá ^{Ml}la-qip-tu₄ DUMU.MUNUS šá ¹BA-šá-^d[x - x]
- 25 ^{LÜ}DAM ¹BA-šá-a

(1–4) One-third mina of white, [hacked], unmarked silver, with one-eighth alloy, is owed to Marduk-bēšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-[iqbi], descendant of Balīḫû, by Iqīšāya, son of Marduk-šumu-ušur, descendant of Eppēš-ilī—

(4–14) Two days of the brewer's prebend in Ebabbar, temple of Šamaš, lord of Sippar: half (a day) on day 13 of month VI, in the evening; (1 full day) on day five (of month XI); (half a day) on day six of month XI, in the morning. In total: two days per year of the brewer's prebend in Ebabbar, temple of Šamaš, lord of Sippar, are pledged to Marduk-bēšunu. There will be no (prebendary income) for the owner of the prebend (and) no interest on the silver. (No other creditor will have power over that two days of the brewer's prebend) until Iqīšāya has paid that one-third mina of silver to Marduk-bēšunu. If he does not pay the prebendary income for those two days to Marduk-bēšunu, Iqīšāya will pay interest on that one-third mina of silver to Marduk-bēšunu.

(15–20) Witnesses: Aḫūšunu, son of Šaddinu, descendant of Nūr-Sîn; Niqūdu, son of Šāpik-zēri, descendant of Itinnu; Ḫašdāya, son of Bulluṭāya, descendant of Nappāḫu; Šullumāya, son [of Erībāya], descendant of Eppēš-ilī; Ḫabašīru, son of Bēl-...; Bēl-iddin, son of U[bār, descendant of Bēl-eṭēri]; Ea-iddin, son of [...], descendant of [...].

47. During this interval, an intercalary Addaru (XIIa) occurs in years 13, 16, 22, 24, 27, 29, and 32.

⁽²¹⁻²³⁾Scribe: Nidintu, [son of ..., descendant of ... Sippar], month XIIa, day [..., year ...] of Darius (I), king of Bab[ylon and the lands].

⁽²⁴⁻²⁵⁾(The matter was concluded) [in] the presence of ¹Lā-qīptu, daughter of Iqīša-[...], wife of Iqīšāya.

Commentary

17. Restored after no. 5:18.

19. Restored after *BR* 244 (BM 43715):15. See also no. 11:13.

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (7.3 × 5.9 × 2.8 cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered edges, unsealed; lower right corner broken off.

No. 5

The debtor, Bēl-uballit, son of Bēl-iddin of the Balātu family, is also the scribe who drew up the document recording the transaction. The function of this practice was to demonstrate that the principal party agreed to the terms of the contract and that the document was authentic and legally valid.⁴⁸ Furthermore, he figures as the contractor (sublessee) in no. 6, which he also wrote.

BM 74593 (AH 82-9-18, 317a); Bertin 2475

Sippar, Dar I 9.4.22 (27 June 500 BCE), promissory note

- Obv. 15 GÍN KÙ.BABBAR BABBAR-ú šá ina 1° GÍN bit-qa
 šá ^{1d}AMAR.UTU-EN-šú-nu DUMU šá
^{1d}AG-TIN-su-E DUMU ^{1d}KASKAL-KUR-i
 ina muh-ḫi ^{1d}EN-TIN-iṭ DUMU šá ^{1d}EN-MU
 5 DUMU ¹ba-la-tu šá ^{ITI}APIN <šá ITI>
 1 ma-ne-e 1 GÍN KÙ.BABBAR
 ina muh-ḫi-šu i-rab-bi
 Lo.E. Traces of incomplete erasures
 Rev. ^{1LÜ}mu'-kin-nu ^{1d}EN-a-su-^rú'-a
 DUMU šá ^{1d}BAD-MU DUMU ¹man-di-di
 10 ¹mu-še-zib-^dAMAR.UTU DUMU šá ^{1d}30-ke-šir
 DUMU ^{1LÜ}SIMUG ¹ḫar'-ri-ša-nu DUMU šá
^{1d}AMAR.UTU-MU°-DÛ DUMU ^{1LÜ}SIMUG
^{1LÜ}DUB.SAR ^{1d}EN-TIN-iṭ DUMU šá
^{1d}EN-MU DUMU ¹ba-la-^rtu'
 15 ^ršip'-^{par}^{KI} ^{ITI}ŠU UD.9.KAM MU.22.KAM
¹da-^rri'-ia-muš LUGAL E^{KI}
 U.E. LUGAL KUR.KUR
 L.E. ¹šul-lu-ma-a DUMU × šá ^{1r}SU-a'
 A ¹DÛ-eš-DINGIR

48. See, e.g., Petschow 1956: 11 n. 28.

⁽¹⁻⁵⁾Fifteen shekels of white silver, with one-eighth alloy, is owed to Marduk-bēšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, descendant of Baliḫû, by Bēl-uballiṭ, son of Bēl-iddin, descendant of Balāṭu—

⁽⁵⁻⁷⁾As of month VIII, (interest on that fifteen shekels of silver) will accrue against him at a monthly rate of one shekel per mina.

⁽⁸⁻¹²⁾Witnesses: Bēl-asû'a, son of Ea-aplu-iddin, descendant of Mandidi; Mušēzib-Marduk, son of Sîn-kēšir, descendant of Nappāḫu; Ḫarišānu, son of Marduk-šumu-ibni, descendant of Nappāḫu; ⁽¹⁸⁻¹⁹⁾Šullumāya, son of Eribāya, descendant of Eppēš-ilī.

⁽¹³⁻¹⁷⁾Scribe: Bēl-uballiṭ, son of Bēl-iddin, descendant of Balāṭu. Sippar, month V, day 9, year 22 of Darius (I), king of Babylon and the lands.

Commentary

11. Ḫarišānu: presumably a West Semitic hypocorism, with the suffix *-ān*. See most recently Tavernier 2007: 526, §5.5.1.21.

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (5.9 × 4.6 × 2.2 cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered edges, unsealed.

No. 6

The contractor (sublessee), Bēl-uballiṭ, son of Bēl-iddin of the Balāṭu family, is also the scribe who drew up the document recording the transaction. See the comment to no. 5. The character of the contract is discussed in §3.

BM 74550 (AH 82-9-18, 273); Bertin 2720-1

Babylon, Dar I 12.6.23 (17 Sept 499 BCE), lease agreement

Obv. *u*₄-*mu* 1 BÂN 3 *qa* NINDA.HI.A 1 BÂN 3 *qa* KAŠ.HI.A IGI ^dUTU
 EN É.BABBAR.‘RA’ <<*u*₄-‘*mu*’>> ITI 6 *pi-ir-ri* šá UZU
 ù *ma-ak-ka-su* ITI 1+*en* ^{UZU}ÚR 1+*en* *ši-bit* UDU.‘NITA’
ina MU.AN^o.NA 21 *u*₄-*mu* GÍR.LÁ-ú-*tu* ITI 20 *u*₄-*mu*
 5 ^{LÚ}NI.GAB-ú-*tu* *ina* É.BABBAR.RA É ^dUTU
*u*₄-‘*mu*’ 3 *qa* KAŠ^{sic}.HI.A 3 *qa* ‘KAŠ’.HI.A É ^d*gu-la*
 IGI ^d*gu-la-di-i* šá GU₄ UDU.NÍTA MUŠEN.HI.A ‘SILA₄.HI’.A { x }
 ‘UZU’ *ba-‘áš-lu u la’ ba-áš-lu* ‘IGI ^d*a-nu-ni’-[tu₄]*
 šá ^{URU}UD.KIB.NUN^{KI} ^d*a-nu-ni-‘tu₄’* šá *kal* M[U.AN.NA]
 10 *gab-bi* ^{GIŠ}ŠUB.BA ^{Id}EN-*it-‘tan’-n[u]*
 ‘DUMU šá’ ¹*ina*-É.<<É>>.SAG.ÍLA-*lil-bir* DUMU šá-*n[a-ši-šú]*
 ‘šá ^{URU}UD.KIB.NUN^{KI} šá *ina* IGI ^{Id}AG-*bul-liṭ-su*
 Lo.E. ‘DUMU šá’ ¹GAR-MU DUMU ^{Id}*é-a-DÛ-eš-DINGIR ku-‘um’*
 Rev. 7 ½° MA.NA KÛ.BABBAR BABBAR-ú *maš-ka-nu iš-ku-nu*
 15 ¹EN-šú-*nu* DUMU šá ^{Id}AG-TIN-*su-E* DUMU ^{Id}KASKAL-KUR-[*i*]
 ‘*a-na’* MU.AN.NA 1 ½ MA.NA KÛ.BABBAR BABBAR-ú šá *ina* 1 GÍ[N *bit-qa*]
 ‘*nu-uh-ḫu-tu a-na* BURU₁₄’ *a-na* ^{Id}EN-TIN-‘*iṭ’*
 DUMU šá ^{Id}EN-‘*MU’* DUMU ¹*ba-la-ṭu id’-[din]*
 ITI *a*₄ ‘KÛ.BABBAR *i-nam-din’* TA UD.1.KAM šá ^{ITI}KIN

- 20 ^{GiŠ}°SUB.BA^{MEŠ} *ina* IGI° ^{Id}EN-TIN-*iṭ* ^{°LU}*mu*’-kin-nu
 ^{Id}SILA-a-a DUMU *ša* ^{Id}*ni-din-tu*₄ DUMU ^{Id}IR-^dBAD ^{Id}AG-^r*bul-liṭ*’-su
 DUMU *ša* ^{Id}AMAR.UTU-MU-MU DUMU ^{Id}ZÁLAG-^d30 ^{Id}+AG-MU DUMU *ša*
 ^{Id}ú-qu-pu DUMU ^{Id}e-tel-pi ^{Id}AG-MU-GIN
 DUMU *ša* ^{Id}KAR-^dŠÚ DUMU ^{Id}IR-^dGIR₄.KÙ
 U.E. ^{LU}UMBISAG ^{Id}EN-TIN-*iṭ* DUMU *ša* ^{Id}EN-MU DUMU ^{Id}TIN’
 E^{KI}ITI^{TI}KIN UD.12.KAM MU.23.KAM
 ^{Id}da-ri-ia-muš LUGAL E^{KI} u KUR.KUR

(1–14) Daily, nine *qû* of bread, nine *qû* of beer (from the offerings) before Šamaš, lord of Ebabbar; monthly, six meat portions and *makkasu* meat; monthly, (the right to) a thigh (and) *šibtu* of mutton; yearly, twenty-one days of the butcher’s prebend (before Šamaš); monthly, twenty days of the gatekeeper’s prebend in Ebabbar, the temple of Šamaš; daily, three *qû* of bread (text: beer), three *qû* of beer (from the offerings) of the temple of Gula before Gula, including (the meat portions) of beef, mutton, fowl, lamb, boiled or raw meat, before Anunītu of Sippar-Anunītu, of the whole y[ear]: all the income rights (belonging to) Bēl-ittannu, son of Ina-Esangila-lilbir, descendant of Ša-n[āšišu] of the Sippar (branch), which he put at the disposal of Nabû-bullissu, son of Šākin-šumi, descendant of Ea-eppēš-ilī, as pledge in lieu of seven and a half minas of white silver—

(15–20) Bēlšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, descendant of Balīhū, gave (all this) to Bēl-uballit, son of Bēl-iddin, descendant of Balāṭu, in usufruct for one and a half mina of white, hacked silver, with one-eighth alloy, per year. *This* month, he will give silver (to Marduk-bēlšunu). As of day 1 of month VI, (these) income rights are at the disposal of Bēl-uballit.

(20–24) Witnesses: Sūqāya, son of Nidintu, descendant of Arad-Ea; Nabû-bullissu, son of Marduk-šumu-iddin, descendant of Nūr-Sîn; Nabû-iddin, son of Uqūpu, descendant of Etel-pī; Nabû-šumu-ukīn, son of Mušēzib-Marduk, descendant of Arad-Nergal.

(25–27) Scribe: Bēl-uballit, son of Bēl-iddin, descendant of Balāṭu. Babylon, month VI, day 12, year 23 of Darius (I), king of Babylon and the lands.

Commentary

2–3. On *pīru*, *makkassu*, and *šibtu*, see the discussion in Jursa 1999: 66–77.

7. Perhaps not a scribal lapse, but a sandhi for ^d*gu-la a-di-i*. The spelling could also be explained as a form of the word *dī’û*, a type of offering (see Waerzeggers 2010: 529 and *passim*), but the absence of any spelling without the *aleph* sign makes this unlikely; at the end of the line, *puḥādu* is expected (see, e.g., *AchHist* 15, 35:1), but the reading is not entirely clear.

19. The collocation ITI *a*₄, literally “said, aforementioned month,” also occurs in *AchHist* 15, 221:9, for which Waerzeggers (2010: 683) proposes a translation “every month.”

Extrinsic Features and Miscellaneous

Pillow-shaped tablet (7.3 × 6.2 × 2.5 cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered and flattened edges, unsealed; parts of the right edge broken off. Lines 1–10 were also edited in Jursa 1999: 66; deviations are not marked.

No. 7

The debtor, Bēl-asū'a, son of Ea-aplu-iddin of the Mandidi family, serves as a witness to nos. 5, 9, and 16. Šamaš-ibni (Ibnāya), son of Arad-Gula of the Ša-nāšišu family, mentioned as business partner and first witness, recurs as a debtor in BM 74620 (Bertin 2112, Dar I 7 = 515 BCE) and as a donor in BM 74523//55785 (Bertin 2564–5, Dar I 25 = 497 BCE). The first document belongs to the Ša-nāšišu A archive, another satellite archive; the second to the Ša-nāšišu B archive (Jursa 2005: 126–27).⁴⁹

BM 74522 (AH 82-9-18, 245a)

Sippar, Dar I 16.2.24 (15 May 498 BCE), receipt

- Obv. *ú-il-tì šá 1/3 4 GÍN KÙ.BABBAR BABBAR-ú' nu-^r uḥ'-[tu]*
 šá^{1d}EN-si-lim A-šú' šá' [1^dA]G-^re-x-x' [A x-x]-^rx'
 šá ina muḥ-ḫi^{1d}EN-^ra-su-ú-a A-šú' šá' [1^dé-a-A-MU]
 A¹man-di-di e-el-^rli-tu₄ ù' [ina lib-bi]
- 5 *šá-tár um-ma KÙ.BABBAR šá KASKAL^{II} šá^{1r}DÛ-a A-šú'*
 šá^{1r}IR-^dgu-la KÙ.BABBAR^r a₄ 1/3' [4 GÍ]N
 BABBAR-ú nu-uḥ-tu šá ina 1^rGÍN' [bit-qa šá gín]-^rnu'
 a-ki-i ú-il-tì-šú^{1d}E[N-si-lim ina Š]U^{II}
 ¹EN-šú-nu A-šú' šá^{1d}AG-TIN-su-[E A¹]^rdKASKAL'-KUR-^ri'
- 10 *a-na muḥ-ḫi^{1d}EN-a°-su-^rú-a' ma-ḫi-ir*
 e-ṭir mim-ma TUK-ú-tu gab-bi šá^{1d}EN-^rsi-lim'
- Lo.E. *^rina muḥ-ḫi^{1d}EN-^ra-su-ú-a ia-a-nu a-na*
 ^rU.1.KAM šá^{1r}SIG₄ MU'.24.KAM ú-il-tì
- Rev. *šá 1/3 4 GÍN KÙ.BABBAR BABBAR-ú' šá^{1d}EN-si-lim šá ina muḥ-ḫi^{1d}EN-su:a-ú-^ra'*
- 15 *^{1d}EN-si-lim i-ḥap-pa-am-ma a-na¹EN-šú-nu i-nam-din*
 ^{LÜ}mu-kin-nu¹DÛ-a A-šú' šá^{1r}IR-^dgu-la
 A¹šá^{KAS}na-ši-šú^{1d}EN-it-tan-nu { x }
 A-šú' šá^{1r}TIN-su-^dgu-la A^{LÜ}SANGA^dINNIN-TIN.TIR^{KI}
 ¹ḫa-ri-ši-a-ni A-šú' šá^{1d}AMAR.UTU-MU-DÛ A^{LÜ}SIMUG
- 20 *¹BA-šá-a A-šú' šá^{1d}AMAR.UTU-MU-ÛRU A¹DÛ-eš-DINGIR*
 ^{1d}bu-ne-ne-DÛ A-šú' šá¹KAR¹-^dAMAR.UTU A^{1d}KASKAL-KUR-i
- Blank space of one line
- ¹mu-ra-nu^{LÜ}UMBISAG A-šú' šá^{1d}EN-TIN-iṭ*
- U.E. *^rA^{LÜ}SANGA-^dINNIN-E^{KI}^r sip-par^{KI}IT¹GU₄*
 UD.16.KAM MU.24.KAM¹da-ri-ia-muš
- 25 *LUGAL E^{KI} u KUR.KUR^{MEŠ}*

⁽¹⁻⁶⁾(Concerning) the promissory note for twenty-four shekels of white, hacked silver owed to Bēl-silim, son of Nabû-e..., [descendant of ...], (a note) that was imposed on Bēl-asū'a, son of [Ea-aplu-iddin], descendant of Mandidi, and [in which] it is written: "It is silver belonging to the business capital of Ibnāya, son of Arad-Gula."—

⁽⁶⁻¹⁵⁾In accordance with his promissory note, Bē[1-silim] has received from Bēšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-[iqbi], [descendant of] Balīḫû, that twenty-four shekels of white, hacked, [*gin*]nu-marked silver, with one-eighth alloy, at the expense of Bēl-asū'a; he is paid in full. Bēl-silim has no claim whatsoever

49. Both archives will be edited in upcoming parts of this article series.

against Bēl-asū'a. Bēl-silim will void and give the promissory note for twenty-four shekels of white silver that was owed to Bēl-silim by Bēl-asū'a back to Bēlšunu on day 1 of month III, year 24.

⁽¹⁶⁻²¹⁾Witnesses: Ibnāya, son of Arad-Gula, descendant of Ša-nāšišu; Bēl-ittannu, son of Uballissu-Gula, descendant of Šangû-Ištar-Bābili; Ḫarišānu, son of Marduk-šumu-ibni, descendant of Nappāḫu; Iqīšāya, son of Marduk-šumu-ušur, descendant of Eppēš-ilī; Bunene-ibni, son of Mušēzib-Marduk, descendant of Baliḫû.

⁽²²⁻²⁵⁾Scribe: Mūrānu, son of Bēl-uballiṭ, descendant of Šangû-Ištar-Bābili. Sippar, month II, day 16, year 24 of Darius (I), king of Babylon and the lands.

Commentary

2. The traces do not support a reading [^{Id}A]G-^r*e-tel-li*-[DINGIR^{MEŠ}] or [^{Id}A]G-^r*e-ṭè-ru*.

19. Ḫarišānu: see comment to no. 5:11.

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (6.5 × 5.2 × 2.5 cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered edges, unsealed; parts of the obverse abraded or broken off.

No. 8

The first witness, Šamaš-iddin, son of Rēmūt, is the owner of the like-named archive (Waerzeggers 2014: 112 n. 523). On the archive, see Bongenaar 2000: 83; and Jursa 2005: 129–30.⁵⁰ See also §4.

BM 74477 (AH 82-9-18, 199)

Sippar, Dar I 6.4.27 (21 July 495 BCE), promissory note

- Obv. 18 GUR ŠE.BAR PAD.HI.A GÉME^{MEŠ} šá 'LUGAL'
 šá ^{Id}UTU-ŠEŠ-MU A-šú šá ¹*a-ra-ḫu*
ina muḫ-ḫi ^{Id}UTU-MU A-šú šá ¹*lib-luṭ*
 A ^{LÜ}SANGA-^dBAD *ina qí-it* šá ^{IT}DU₆
- 5 MU.27.KAM *i-nam-din*
pu-ut e-ṭè-ru šá ŠE.BAR *a*₄
 '18' GUR ¹EN-šú-nu A-šú šá
 [¹^dAG-TIN-*su-E* A ^{Id}KASKAL.KUR-*i*
- Lo.E. *na-ši*
- Rev. ^{rLÜ}*mu-kin-nu* ^{Id}UTU-MU A-šú 'šá'
¹*re-mut* ¹*ga-pa-na-a* 'A'-[šú šá]
 [¹*za*] *b-di-ia* ^{Id}EN-MU A-šú šá
¹*ka*'-*mu-uš*-LUGAL-ÛRU ^{Id}HAR-DÛ
 'A-šú' šá ^{Id}UTU-LUGAL-ÛRU ^{Id}UTU-KÁD
- 15 'A'-šú šá ¹*kin-né-e* ¹ŠEŠ-šú-nu A-šú šá
^{ITd}AG-šim-*ta-gab-bi* ¹MU-^dAG ^{LÜ}UMBISAG
 'A-šú šá' ^{Id}EN-TIN-*iṭ* ^{LÜ}SANGA-^dINNIN-E^{rKI}

50. The archive will be edited in an upcoming part of this article series.

U.E. ^r*sip-par*^{KI} ^{IT}*ŠU UD.6.KAM*
 MU.27.KAM ¹*da-ri-iá-muš*
 LUGAL E^{KI} *u* KUR.KUR

⁽¹⁻⁴⁾18 *kurru* of barley, rations of the royal maidservants, owed to Šamaš-aḥu-iddin, son of Araḥu, by Šamaš-iddin, son of Libluṭ, descendant of Šangû-Ea—

⁽⁴⁻⁸⁾He will pay (that barley) until the end of month VII, year 27. Bēšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, descendant of Balīḥû, assumes warranty for the full payment of that eighteen *kurru* of barley.

⁽⁹⁻¹⁶⁾Witnesses: Šamaš-iddin, son of Rēmût; Gapnāya, son [of Za]bdī; Bēl-iddin, son of Kamuš-šarru-ušur; Bunene-ibni, son of Šamaš-šarru-ušur; Šamaš-kāšir, son of Kinnē; Aḥūšunu, son of Nabû-šimtu-gabbi.

⁽¹⁶⁻²⁰⁾Scribe: Iddin-Nabû, son of Bēl-uballiṭ, descendant of Šangû-Ištar-Bābili. Sippar, month IV, day 6, year 27 of Darius (I), king of Babylon and the lands.

Commentary

11. Gapnāya: a hypocorism from a name of the type DN-gapnu-ušur (see, e.g., *BagM* 21, 620, no. 21:2, 5, 8), with the suffix *-āya*. The word *gapnu* “(fruit) tree” is most likely a West Semitic loanword (so *CAD* G:45a *gapnu*).

12. Zabdi: a hypocorism formed on the West Semitic root *ZBD “give, grant,” with the suffix *-ī*.

13. On the Moabite deity Kamuš (also Kemosh), most prominently mentioned in the Mesha Stela, see, e.g., Cornell 2016.

15. Kinnē (or Kīnē): possibly a hypocorism from a (West Semitic) name of the type Kīn-DN or DN-kīn, with the suffix *-ē* (i.e., a phonetic variant of the suffix *-ī*).

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (5.8 × 4.2 × 2.2 cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered edges, unsealed; parts of the reverse abraded.

No. 9

On the first witness, Bēl-asû’a, son of Ea-aplu-iddin of the Mandidi family, see the comment to no. 7.

BM 74518 (AH 82-9-18, 241a); Bertin 2430

Sippar, Dar I 24.12a.27 (9 April 494 BCE), promissory note

Obv. 1 GUR° ŠE.BAR *šá* ^{Id}EN^{sc}-*šú-nu* A-*šú šá*
^{Id}AG-TIN-^r*su*^r-E A ^{Id}KASKAL.KUR-*i*
ina muḥ-ḥi ¹*ḥa-an-na-a*’ A-*šú šá* ¹*a-bi-i-qa-am*
ina ^{IT}SIG₄ ŠE.BAR *a*₄ 1 GUR <<*ina* UGU>> *ina É*
 5 ^{Id}EN^{sc}-*šú-nu i-nam-din*
 Blank space of two lines
 Rev. ^{LÜ}*mu-kin-nu* ^{Id}EN-*a-su-ú-a*
 A-*šú šá* ^{Id}é-a-A-MU A ¹*man-di-di*
^{Id}EN-*it-tan-nu* A-*šú šá* ¹TIN-*su-gu-la*
 A ^{LLÜ}SANGA-^dINNIN-TIN.TIR^{KI} ^{Id}UTU-NUMUN-DÜ[!]
 10 A-*šú šá* ¹A-a ¹*mar-duk* A-*šú šá*
^rUTU-^rMU^r ^{LÜ}UMBISAG ¹*lib-luṭ* A-*šú šá*

U.E. ¹šu-zu-bu A ¹DA-^dAMAR.UTU sip-par^{ki}
¹ŠE ¹IGI'-ú UD.24.KAM 'MU.27'.K[AM]
¹da'-ri-ia-muš LUGAL E^{KI} u KUR.KUR¹MEŠ¹

(1-3) One *kurru* of barley is owed to Bēšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, descendant of Balihû, by Ḥannā, son of Abī-qām—

(4-5) He will pay that one *kurru* of barley at the estate of Bēšunu in month III.

(6-11) Witnesses: Bēl-asû'a, son of Ea-aplu-iddin, descendant of Mandidi; Bēl-ittannu, son of Uballissu-Gula, descendant of Šangû-Ištar-Bābili; Šamaš-zēru-ibni, son of Aplāya; Marduk, son of Šamaš-iddin.

(11-14) Scribe: Libluṭ, son of Šūzubu, descendant of Ile''i-Marduk. Sippar, month XIIa, day 24, year 27 of Darius (I), king of Babylon and the lands.

Commentary

3. Ḥannā: hypocorism formed on the West Semitic root *HNN “be gracious, favor,” with the suffix -ā; Abī-qām, “My father has arisen” (West Semitic).

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (5.9 × 4.5 × 2.3 cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered edges, unsealed.

No. 10

The first witness, Iqīša-Marduk, son of Gimil-Šamaš of the (Ea-)Eppēš-ili family, is presumed to be the father of the debtor Bēl-uballit. The former recurs as creditor in *Dar.* 433 (Dar I 16 = 506 BCE) and *BR* 133–34 (BM 42302, Dar I 19 = 503/502 BCE).

BM 79283 (Bu 89-4-26, 580)

Sippar, Dar I 13.4.29 (14 July 493 BCE), promissory note

Obv. $\frac{1}{3}$ MA.NA 1 GÍN KÙ.BABBAR *pe-šu-ú*
 šá ¹ina 1' GÍN bit-qa šá ¹EN-šú-nu DUMU-šú šá
¹AG-TIN-su-iq-bi DUMU ¹KASKAL-KUR-i
 [ina] muḥ-ḥi ¹EN-TIN-iṭ DUMU-šú šá ¹BA-šá-^dAMAR'.UTU
 5 DUMU ¹DÛ-éš-DINGIR ina ¹TI'ZÍZ KÙ.BABBAR $a_4 \frac{1}{3}$ MA.NA 1 'GÍN'
 ina SAG.DU-šú i-nam-din ú-il-tì
 šá 2 MA.NA KÙ.BABBAR ¹EN-šú-nu a-na
¹EN-TIN-iṭ it-ta-din
 Rev. ¹LÛ mu'-kin-nu ¹BA-šá-[^dAMAR.UTU DUMU-šú ša]
 10 [¹ŠU]-^dUTU A [¹DÛ-éš-DINGIR ¹x - x - x]
 'A'-šú šá ¹EN-'MU A' [x - x - x ¹KAR-^dAMAR.UTU]
 DUMU-šú šá ¹30-ke-š[ir A ¹LÛSIMUG]
¹EN-MU-GAR-un DU[MU-šú ša ¹EN-[x - x]
 A ¹DA-^dAMAR.UTU ¹EN-MU ¹LÛ'DUB.SAR'
 15 DUMU-šú šá ¹KAR-^dAMAR.UTU A ¹EN-e-ṭir
 [UD].KIB.'NUN'^{KI} ¹TI'ŠU UD.13.KAM
 MU.'29'.KAM ¹da-ri-i'-muš
 LUGAL TIN.KIR^{KI} u KUR.KUR¹MEŠ

⁽¹⁻⁵⁾Twenty-one shekels of white silver, with one-eighth alloy, is owed to Bēšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, descendant of Balīḫû, by Bēl-uballiṭ, son of Iqīša-Marduk, descendant of Eppēš-ili—

⁽⁵⁻⁸⁾He will pay those 21 shekels of silver in its full original amount in month XI. Bēšunu gave Bēl-uballiṭ a (prior) promissory note for 120 shekels of silver.

⁽⁹⁻¹⁴⁾Witnesses: Iqīša-[Marduk, son of Gimil]-Šamaš, descendant of [Eppēš-ili]; [...], son of Bēl-iddin, descendant of [...]; [Mušēzib-Marduk], son of Sîn-kēšir, [descendant of *Nappāḫu*]; Bēl-šumu-iškun, so[n of B]ēl-[...], descendant of Ile''i-Marduk.

⁽¹³⁻¹⁸⁾Scribe: Bēl-iddin, son of Mušēzib-Marduk, descendant of Bēl-eṭēri. Sippar, month IV, day 13, year 29 of Darius (I), king of Babylon and the lands.

Commentary

9–10. Restored after *Dar.* 433:1 and *BR* 133 (BM 42302):1, 8.

11–12. Restored after no. 1:4, 11; and no. 5:10.

13. The appealing conjecture that he is identical with the like-named witness to *MR* 116 (*Dar* I 24 = 498 BCE) cannot be confirmed because of the damaged patronym.

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (5.4 × 4.2 × 1.8 cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered edges, unsealed; lower right corner broken off.

No. 11

The situation underlying this document is discussed in §3. In passing, it should be mentioned that it neatly illustrates that the lodging of third-party claims (*paqāru*) took place before the filing of a lawsuit (Petschow 1939: 60–61). The scribe recurs as a witness in nos. 7 and 9. See §4.

***BR* (= Jursa 1999), 247–48; *BM* 74475 (AH 82-9-18, 197)**

Sippar, *Dar* I 5.5.29 (4 Aug 493 BCE), quitclaim

Obv. ^{Mfr}*re-e*⁹-[*i*]n-du DUMU.MUNUS-su
 šá ^{ld}UTU-^rMU^r-SĪ.SÁ A ^lMU.DA-^dAMAR.UTU
a-na pa-qa-ri is-qu šá^o ^lni-din-tu₄^o
 A-šú šá ^{ld}UTU-MU-SĪ.SÁ A ^lMU.DA-^dAMAR.UTU
 5 *ina* ^{ITT}NE *ta-aḫ-li-ku mim-ma*
dib-bi šá ^{Ml}*re-e*²-in-du *a-na*
 <<*ina*>> *muḫ-ḫi is-qu ár-ku-ú šá ina* ^{ITT}NE
 šá MU.29.KAM^o ^lni-din-tu₄ *ina* IGI ^lEN-šú-nu
 A-šú šá ^{ld}AG-TIN-su-iq-bi ^{LÜ}EN^o-KASKAL.KUR-ú
 10 *maš-ka-nu iš-kun-nu mim*^o-*ma ra-šu-ú-tu*
 Lo.E. *šá* ^{Ml}*re-e*²-in-du *ina muḫ-ḫi is-qu*
ia-a^r-nu^r
 Rev. ^{LÜ}*mu-kin-nu*^r [^{ld}EN-MU A-š]ú šá ^lú^r-bar
^rA ^{ld}EN-e-ṭē-ru ^lba-la^r-tu A-šú
 15 *šá* ^lKAR-^{dr}AMAR^r.UTU ^rA ^{LLÜ}UŠ.BAR
^lMU-^dEN A-šú šá ^lap-la-a A ^{ld}BAD-PAB

¹*tab-né-e-a* DUMU-šú šá ^{ld}*AG-na-šir*
^{LU}UMBISAG ^{ld}EN-*it-tan-nu* DUMU-šú šá
¹*ú-bal-liṭ-su*-^d*gu-la* A ^{LU}SANGA-^dINNIN-TIN.TIR^{KI}
20 UD.KIB.NUN^{KI} ITI^{TI}NE UD.5.KAM
MU.29.KAM ¹*da-ri-ia-muš*
U.E. LUGAL TIN.TIR^{KI} LUGAL KUR.KUR

(1–12) In month V, ‘Re’indu, daughter of Šamaš-šumu-lišir, descendant of Ile’i-Marduk, came to lodge third-party claims against the prebend of Nidintu, son of Šamaš-šumu-lišir, descendant of Ile’i-Marduk. (However, there will be no) lawsuit brought by ‘Re’indu concerning the *aforementioned* prebend that in month V of year 29 Nidintu pledged to Bēlšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, descendant Balihû; ‘Re’indu has no claim whatsoever concerning the prebend.

(13–17) Witnesses: [Bēl-iddin, son] of Ubār, descendant of Bēl-eṭēri; Balātu, son of Mušēzib-Marduk, descendant of Išparu; Iddin-Bēl, son of Aplāya, descendant of Ea-nāšir; Tabnē’a, son of Nabû-nāšir.

(18–22) Scribe: Bēl-ittannu, son of Uballissu-Gula, descendant of Šangû-Ištar-Bābili. Sippar, month V, day 5, year 29 of Darius (I), king of Babylon, king of lands.

Commentary

2. On the spelling MU.DA for *ile*’i; see Jursa 1999: 248.

5. Although the second sign of the verb resembles more a combination of AL and IL, it must read AL. Errors of this sort have parallels in the Neo-Babylonian textual record (see Hackl 2011: 93 with examples).

7. Assuming that the document deals with one and the same prebend (*pace* Jursa 1999: 248), we translate *arkû* as “aforementioned” (see *AHw* 1470b (*w*)*arkû(m)* 4f). This inference rests on the observation that the prebend mentioned in the second clause was pledged at the same time that ‘Re’indu lodged the complaint; and that the quitclaim stipulated in the final clause comes to bear on a single prebend. Alternatively, the word might be compounded with the following *ša* to form the rare temporal subordinator *arki/u ša*, “since, after, as soon as” (see, e.g., *SAA* 17, 183:r8’). If so, the proposed translation presumes a different identification of sentence boundaries: “(...) concerning the prebend. Since Nidintu pledged (the prebend) to Bēlšunu ... in month V of year 29, ‘Re’indu has no claim whatsoever concerning the prebend.” Against this supposition stands the plene writing of the word-final vowel.

9. ^{LU}EN-KASKAL.KUR-*ú*: see the comment to no. 17:5 and the remarks in §2.

13. Restored after *BR* 244 (BM 43715):15 (following Jursa 1999: 248). See also no. 4:19.

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (5.9 × 4.8 × 2.4 cm), laid out in landscape orientation (almost square), with tapered edges, unsealed; parts of the reverse abraded.

No. 12

One of the contractors (sublessees), Ḫarišānu, son of Marduk-šumu-ibni of the Nappāḫu family, figures as a witness to no. 5. The character of the contract is discussed in §3.

BM 64182+64250 (AH 82-9-18, 4151+4225)

Sippar, [Dar I] 25.[x].31-3[3] (6 May 491-4 April 488 BCE), lease agreement

- Obv. 1 BÁN 3 *qa* NINDA.HI.A 1 BÁN 3 *qa* KAŠ.SA[G.HI.A *pa-ni* ^dUTU]
 EN UD.KIB.NUN^{KI} ITI 6 *pi-ri* ^ršá' U[ZU *ù ma-ak-ka-su*]
 ITI 1+et ^{UZU}ÚR *u*^o *šib-ti* UDU.NÍTA *pa-*[*ni* ^dUTU *ina* MU.AN.NA 21]
*u*₄-*mu*^{MES} ^{LÚ}GÍR.LÁ-*ú-tu* *pa-ni* ^dUTU *ina* ITI 20 *u*₄-*m*[*u*^{MES}]
 5 ^{UZU}lib-*bī*^{MES} šá KÁ.GAL-*i* šá É.BABBAR.RA
 3 *qa* NINDA.HI.A 3 *qa* KAŠ.SAG.HI.A *u*^o HA.LA *a-ki-i* 1+en ^rLÚ'K[U₄-É]
pa-ni ^dgu-*la* *ina* ITI šá 4 UDU.NÍTA *sat-tuk* šá ^dan-*nu-ni-t*[*u*₄]
^{UZU}ÚR ^{UZU}ZAG.LU *u* ^{UZU}TI šá ^{ld}EN-*it-tan-n*[*u*]
A-šú šá ¹ina-É.SAG.ÍLA-*lil-bir* É *maš-ka-nu* šá ^{ld}AG-*bul-liṭ-su*
 10 *A-šú* šá ¹šá-*kin-MU* šá *a-na* BURU₁₄ *ina* *pa-ni* ¹EN-*šu-nu* *A-šú*
 šá ^{ld}AG-TIN-*su-E* A ^{ld}KASKAL.KUR-*i* ¹EN-*šú-nu* *a-na*
 BURU₁₄ *a-na* MU.AN.NA 1' ½ MA.'NA KÛ.BABBAR BABBAR-*ú*
 šá *ina* ^r1 *biṭ'-qa nu-uḫ-tu* šá *la* gín-*ni* *a-na*
¹h[*a-ri-<<ad>>-ša-nu* *A-šú* šá ^{ld}AMAR.UTU-MU-DÛ
 Lo.E. ^rú' ^{ld}UTU-*re-šu-ú-a* ^{LÚ}qal-*la*
^ršá' ^{ld}EN-*it-tan-'nu id-din a-ḫi* KÛ'.BABBAR *ina* SAG
 Rev. 'MU'.AN.NA [*ù re-ḫe-et* KÛ'.BABBAR *ina mišil* MU].^rAN'.NA *i-nam-din-nu-u*^r
pu-ut SAG.'DU' [KÛ'.BABBAR ¹ḫa-*ri-ša-nu* *ù* ^{ld}UTU-*re-šu-ú-a na-šu-ú*]
ul-'tu [UD.x.KAM ša ^{ITI} x x x x x x x x *a-na*]
 20 'BURU₁₄' [*ina* IGI ¹ḫa-*ri-ša-nu* *ù* ^{ld}UTU-*re-šu-ú-a na-šu-ú*]
^{LÚ}m[*u-kin-nu* ¹x - x - x *A-šú* šá ¹x - x - x *A* ¹x - x]
^rdAG'-[x - x *A-šú* šá ¹x - x - x *A* ¹x - x ¹x - x - x]
A-šú šá ^{ITI}[x - x - x *A* x - x ¹x - x - x *A-šú* šá ¹x - x - x]
¹na-[*din* *A-šú* ^rú' šá ^{ld}AG'-[x - x ¹x - x - x *A-šú* šá ¹x - x - x]
 25 ¹šá-^dEN-*'at-ta'* [*A-šú* šá ¹x - x - x ¹x - x - x *A-šú* šá ¹x - x - x]
 Blank space of one line
^{LÚ}U[MBISAG ¹x]-^rx -GUR' [*A-šú*] ^ršá' [¹x - x - x]
 A ^L[^ÚSANGA]-^rdUTU [UD].^rKIB'.[NUN^{KI} ^{ITI}x]
 UD.25.KAM MU.'31+'.[KAM ¹da-*ri-ia-muš*]
 U.E. LUGAL TIN.TIR^{KI} LUGAL K[UR.KUR]

(1-10)(Daily), nine *qû* of bread, nine *qû* of be[er (from the offerings) before Šamaš], lord of Sippar; monthly, six me[at] “portions” [and *makkasu* meat]; monthly, (the right to) a thigh and *šibtu* of mutton (from the offerings) bef[ore Šamaš; yearly, twenty-one] days of the butcher’s prebend before Šamaš; monthly, twenty da[ys] (of the gatekeeper’s prebend) of the gate of Ebabbar, (including the right to) hearts; (daily), three *qû* of bread, three *qû* of beer, and the share (in the returns from the offering table), according to (the standard income of) one *ēr*[*ib-bīti*] before Gula; monthly, four muttons of the regular offerings of Anunītu, (the right to) a thigh, a shoulder cut and a rib cage: (income rights) belonging to Bēl-ittannu, son of Ina-Esangila-lilbir, pledged to Nabû-bullissu, son of Šākin-šumi, (and) at the disposal of Bēlšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, descendant of Balīḫū, in usufruct—

(11-20)Bēlšunu gave (all this) to Ḫarišānu, son of Marduk-šumu-ibni, and Šamaš-rēšū’a, the slave of Bēl-ittannu, in usufruct for one and a half mina of white, hacked, unstamped silver, with one-eighth alloy, per year. They will give half of the silver at the beginning of the year [and the rest of the silver in the middle

of the y]ear. [Ḫarišānu and Šamaš-rēšū'a assume] warranty for the original amount [of the silver]. As of [day ... of month ... *these income rights* are at the disposal of Ḫarišānu and Šamaš-rēšū'a, in usufruct].

⁽²¹⁻²⁵⁾Wi[tnesses: ..., son of ..., descendant of ...]; Nabû-[..., son of ..., descendant of ...; ...], son of [...], descendant of ...; ..., son of ...]; Nā[din, son o]f Nabû-[...; ..., son of ...]; Ša-Bēl-attā, [son of ...; ..., son of ...].

⁽²⁶⁻²⁹⁾Scribe: [...] -utīr, [son] of [...], descendant of [Šangū]-Šamaš. [Si]pp[ar, month ...], day 25, year 31+ [of Darius (I)], king of Babylon, king of lands.

Commentary

2-3. On *pīru*, *makkassu*, and *šibtu*, see the comment to no. 6:2-3.

3-4. Restored after no. 6:4-5.

14. Ḫarišānu: see comment to no. 5:11.

21. The reconstruction of the damaged list of witnesses involves a large degree of uncertainty, thus some of the witnesses might actually be fathers of witnesses and vice versa.

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (8.1 × 6.2 × 2.8 cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered edges, unsealed; upper right corner and large parts of the reverse broken off.

No. 13

The scribe, Šullumāya, son of Nergal-ēṭir (= Nergal-ina-tēši-ēṭir) of the Ša-nāšišu family, is the (last) owner of the Ša-nāšišu A archive, another satellite archive (Jursa 2005: 126). See also the comment to no. 1 and §4.

AfO 50 (= Wunsch 2003/2004), 237-38 no. 19; BM 74330 (AH 82-9-18, 46a)

Sippar, Dar I 6.12a.32 (26 March 489 BCE), wet-nursing agreement

Obv. ^{Mf}re-e²-in-^rdu⁷ DUMU.MUNUS šá¹DÜG.GA-ia
 ina ḫu-ud lib-bi-šú a-na¹EN-šú-nu A-šú šá
¹ni-din-tu⁴ A¹KASKAL.KUR-i taq-bi
 um-ma^{ld}AMAR.UTU-MU-MU DUMU-ka a-di-i
 5 3 MU^{MES} ú-še-niq^{qu} EN-šú-^rnu⁷
 UD 2 qa NINDA.HI.A 1 qa KAŠ^š.HI.A ina ITI
 1 qa saḫ-le-e 1 qa MUN.HI.A
 i-na MU 4 GÍN KÛ.BABBAR 1+en^{TÜG}kap-ri
 [x x]^rx a-na^{Mf}[^re-e²-in-du
 10 [i-nam-din x x x x]^rx x⁷
 [...]
 Rev. [...]
 1' [x x x x x x x x]-^rsu⁷
 [x x x x x x x¹ x - x]-^rx⁷
^rA-šú šá¹ [x - x - x A x - x]-^rx⁷
^{ld}EN-^rAD¹-[ÛRU A-šú šá¹ x - x - x A] ^rLÚ¹SANGA-a°-ga-de^{ki}
 5' ¹sa-m[a-ki-DINGIR A-šú šá¹] ^{ld}EN-šu-zib-an-ni
^{ld}UTU⁷-[x - x DAM] ^{Mf}re-e²-in-du
 A-šú šá¹ x⁷-[x - x]

¹*šul-lu-^r ma-a^r* ^{LÚ}UMBISAG A-*šú šá* ^{ld}U.GUR-SUR
 A ¹*šá*-^{KAS}*na-ši-šú* UD.KIB.NUN^{KI} { x }
 10' ^{ITI}ŠE EGIR-*ú* UD.6.KAM MU.32.<KAM>
 U.E. ¹*da-a-ri-i^r-muš* LUGAL TIN.TIR^{KI}
 LUGAL KUR.KUR 1+*en* TA.ÀM
 TI-*ú*

(1-5)^fRe'indu, daughter of Ṭābia, voluntarily addressed Bēšunu, son of Nidintu, descendant of Balīḥū, (as follows): "I will nurse Marduk-šumu-iddin, your son, for three years."

(5-10)^fBēšunu [will give] ^fRe'indu two *qû* of bread (and) one *qû* of beer per day, one *qû* of cress (and) one *qû* of salt per month, (and) four shekels of silver (and) a ... *kapru*-garment per year. [...]

(r1'-r7') [Witnesses: ...]; [...], son of [...], descendant of ...; Bēl-abu-[ušur, son of ..., descendant of] Šangû-Akkad; Sam[ak-Il, son of] Bēl-šūzibanni; Šamaš-[...], son of [... (and) spouse of] ^fRe'indu.

(r8'-r12') Scribe: Šullumāya, son of Nergal-ēṭir, descendant of Ša-nāšišu. Sippar, month XIIa, day 6, year 33 of Darius (I), king of Babylon, king of lands.

(r12'-r13') Each one took one (copy of this contract).

Commentary

5. The preterite (instead of the precative) is not a scribal mistake (*pace* Wunsch 2003/2004: 238), but rather denotes a wish as elsewhere in declarative sentences in Neo-Babylonian.

r5'. The restoration of the first name is open to question. If correct, the predicate is formed on the West Semitic (or Akkadian) root *SMK "to support, to sustain" (see Zadok 1977: 81).

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (5.4 × 3.6* × 2.5 cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered edges, unsealed; lower quarter of the tablet lost, parts of the reverse broken off.

No. 14

The last witness, Tabnē'a, son of Nabû-nāšir of the Bābūtu family, also figures as a witness to no. 11.

BM 103443 (1911-4-8, 133)

Sippar, Dar I 26.6.33 (9 Oct 489 BCE), receipt

Obv. *ú-il-ti šá* 8 GÍN KÙ.BABBAR *u hu-bul-lu₄-šú*
šá ¹EN-*šú-nu* A *šá* ¹ni-din-tu₄ A ^{ld}EN.KASKAL.KUR-*i*
šá ina muḥ-ḫi ¹EN-*šú-nu* A *šá* ^{ld}UTU-MU
 KÙ.BABBAR *a*[₄] '8 GÍN' *u hu-bul-lu₄-šú*
 5 *a-ki-i ú-il-ti^r-šú* ¹EN-*šú-nu*
A šá ¹ni-din-tu₄ *ina* ŠU^{II} ¹EN-*šú-nu*
ma-ḫir a-na UD.1.KAM
 Lo.E. *šá* ^{ITTI}DU₆ MU.33.KAM
 Rev. *'ú*-[*i*] *l-ti šá* 8 GÍN KÙ.BABBAR
 10 ¹EN-*šú-nu i-na-áš-šá-am-ma*
a-na ¹EN-*šú-nu i-nam-din*
^{LÚ}*mu^r-kin₇* ^{ld}AG-MU-ÛRU A-*šú šá*

^{Id}AMAR.UTU-MU-MU A ^{LÜ}SANGA-^dGAŠAN-TIN.TIR^{rKI}
^Itab-ne-e-a A-šú šá ^{Id}AG-na-šir
15 <A> ^Iba-bu' (T.: UD)-tu ^Izu-um-ba-a
^{LÜ}UMBISAG A^{sic} šá ^IPA-dan-<<su>>-nu sip-par^{rKI}
U.E. ^{ITI}KIN UD.20.KAM MU.33.KAM
^Ida-ri-ia-muš LUGAL E^{KI}
LUGAL KUR.KUR^{MES}

(1-3)(Concerning) the promissory note for eight shekels of silver and the interest on it owed to Bēšunu, son of Nidintu, descendant of Balihû, (a note) which was imposed on Bēšunu, son of Šamaš-iddin—

(4-11)In accordance with his promissory note, Bēšunu, son of Nidintu, has received from Bēšunu that eight shekels of silver and the interest on it. Before day 1 of month VII, year 33, Bēšunu, (son of Nidintu), will obtain and give the promissory note for eight shekels of silver back to Bēšunu.

(12-15)Witnesses: Nabû-šumu-ušur, son of Marduk-šumu-iddin, descendant of Šangû-Bēlet-Bābili; Tabnē'a, son of Nabû-nāšir, descendant of Bābūtu.

(15-19)Scribe: Zumbāya, son of Nabû-dannu. Sippar, month VI, day 20, year 33 of Darius (I), king of Babylon, king of the lands.

Commentary

16. In the absence of good parallels or alternative readings (hardly ^Ipa-BIT-su-nu, ^Ipa-liḫ-šu'-nu or ^ISIPA^I-šu'-nu), the emendation can be made with some assurance.

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (4.7 × 3.5 × 1.7 cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered edges, unsealed.

No. 15

The scribe, Nidintu, son of Bēl-ibni of the Gaḫal family, also wrote *AfO* 38/39, 79–80, no. 1 = *MR* 156 (Dar I 30 = 492 BCE), *Evetts App.* 3 = *MR* 178 (Xer 2 = 484 BCE), and *AoF* 26, 7–8, no. 2 = *MR* 180 (Xer 2 = 484 BCE), three legal documents belonging to the Šaḫiṭ-ginê A archive.

BM 74559 (AH 82-9-18, 282a); Bertin 2718

Sippar, Dar I 26.8.33 (8 Dec 489 BCE), *Sonderurkunde*

Obv. ul-tu UD.25.KAM šá ^{ITI}APIN
MU.33.KAM ^Ida-ri-ia-muš LUGAL
PAD.HI.A gab-bi šá ^{Id}EN-it-tan-nu
A-šú šá ^Iina-Ē.SAG.ILÁ-lil-bir A ^Išá-na-si-šú
5 šá ina pa-ni ^Imu-še-zib-^dAG ^IEN-šú-nu
A-šú šá ^{Id}AG-TIN-su-E A ^{Id}KASKAL-KUR-i
ina ŠU^{II} ^Imu-še-zib-^dAG uk-ti-il
Rev. ^{LÜ}mu-kin-nu ^IIR-ia A-šú ^ršá
^Imu-še-zib-^dAMAR.UTU A ^{LÜ}SANGA-^dIŠTAR-TIN.TIR^{KI}
10 ^Ini-qu-du A-šú šá ^IDUB-NUMUN A [^{LÜ}ŠIT]IM
^{Id}AG-MU-GAR-un A-šú šá ^Imu-ra-nu A ^{LÜ}GAL-<<^d>>-šú-^dMAŠ
Blank space of one line

¹*ni-din-tu*₄ ^{LÜ}UMBISAG A-šú šá ^{ld}EN-DÛ A ¹*ga-ḫal*
UD.KIB. ^rNUN ^{KI} ^{ITI}APIN UD.26.KAM
MU.33.KAM ¹*da-ri-ia-muš*
U.E. LUGAL E ^{KI} *u* KUR.KUR ^{MEŠ}

⁽¹⁻⁷⁾As of day 25 of month VIII, year 33 of king Darius (I), Bēšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, descendant of Balīḫû, has seized from Mušēzib-Nabû the whole allowance of Bēl-ittannu, son of Ina-Esangila-lilbir, descendant of Ša-nāšišu, which is at the disposal of Mušēzib-Nabû.

⁽⁸⁻¹¹⁾Witnesses: Ardia, son of Mušēzib-Marduk, descendant of Šangû-Ištar-Bābili; Niqūdu, son of Šāpik-zēri, descendant of [Iti]nnu; Nabû-šumu-iškun, son of Mūrānu, descendant of Rabāšu-(ša)-Ninurta.

⁽¹²⁻¹⁵⁾Scribe: Nidintu, son of Bēl-ibni, descendant of Gaḫal. Sippar, month VIII, day 26, year 33 of Darius (I), king of Babylon and the lands.

Commentary

11. Obviously an incorrect or at least exceptional spelling of the common family name Rabâ(šu)-ša-Ninurta.

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (5.3 × 4.1 × 2.0 cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered edges, unsealed.

No. 16

The obverse is too fragmentary for continuous translation, but enough is preserved to make the character of the text certain. It is a promissory note for dates, barley, or some other agricultural produce. The combination of prosopography, museum-archaeology, and contents assures the attribution to the archive beyond reasonable doubt. On the last witness, Bēl-asû'a, son of Ea-aplu-iddin of the Mandidi family, see the comment to no. 7.

BM 74557 (AH 82-9-18, 280a)

Sippar, Dar I 16.3.34 (22 June 488 BCE), promissory note

Obv. 4 GU[R x x x x x x x] ^rx'
^ra' [x x x x x x x x]
^rx' [x x x x x x x x]
^rx' [x x x x x x x x]
5 ^rx' [x x x x x x x x]
[x x x x x x x x]
^rx' [x x x x x x x x]
[x x x x x x x x]
Lo.E. ^rA ^{LÜ}SANGA-^dUTU x' [x x x]
Rev. ^{LÜ}*mu-kin-nu* ^{ld}U.GUR-TIN-*iṭ* [A-šu šá]
¹*ni-qu-du* A ^{LÜr}SIPA-^{a'}n[*i*]
^{ld}EN-NIGIN-*ir* A-šú šá ¹x - x - ^rx - x'
A ^{LÜ}DÛ-^d30° ¹EN-šú-nu A-šú šá
^{ld}UTU-TIN-*iṭ* A ^{LÜ}SANGA-^dINNIN-TIN.TIR^K[¹]
15 ^{ld}EN-*a-su-ú-<a>* A-šú šá ^{ld}BAD-MU

A ^{LÚ}man-di-di ¹MU-a ^{LÚ}UMBISAG
 A-šú šá ^{1d}AMAR.UTU-PAB A ^{LÚ}SANGA-^dINNIN-TIN.TIR^{KI}
 sip-par^{KI} ^{ITI}SIG₄ UD.16.KAM
 MU.34.KAM <DIŠ> ¹da-ri-mu-šú
 20 LUGAL E^{KI} u KUR.KUR

(1–9)(too fragmentary for translation).

(10–16)Witnesses: Nergal-uballit, [son of] Niqūdu, descendant of Ir’anni; Bēl-upaḥḥir, son of ..., descendant of Ibni-Sin; Bēlšunu, son of Šamaš-uballit, descendant of Šangû-Ištar-Bābili; Bēl-asû’a, son of Ea-iddin, descendant of Mandidu.

(16–20)Scribe: Iddināya, son of Marduk-nāšir, descendant of Šangû-Ištar-Bābili. Sippar, month III, day 16, year 34 of Darius (I), king of Babylon and the lands.

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (5.5 × 4.7 × 1.5* cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered edges, unsealed; obverse almost all lost.

No. 17

The seller, Bēl-uballit, son of Nabû-nāšir of the Šangû-Akkad family, is also the scribe who drew up the document recording the transaction. See the comment to no. 5.

BM 74610 (AH 82-9-18, 334a); Bertin 2738

Šibtu-ša-Til-ummi, Dar I ? 8.34[?] (2 Nov–1 Dec 488 BCE), bill of sale

Obv. [IdEN]-^rTIN-ⁱ DUMU šá ^{1d}AG-na-šir ^{LÚ}SANGA-a-^rkad^{KI}
 [ina ḥu-ud lib-bi]-^ršú ¹IR-^dḥa-tu₄ ^{LÚ}qal-la-šú
 [a-na 1 M]A.NA KÛ.BABBAR BABBAR-ú nu-uḥ-ḥu-tu
 [šá ina 1] bit-qa šá gín-nu a-na ^{1d}AMAR.UTU-EN-šú-nu
 5 [DUMU šá ^{1d}A]G-TIN-su-iq-bi ^{LÚ}EN-e-ḥ-ḥi-ú
^rid’-[din K]Û.BABBAR a₄ 1 MA.NA { x } ŠÁM
^rLÚ^rqal-la-šú ^{1d}EN-TIN-ⁱ ina ŠU^{II} { x }
^{1d}AMAR.UTU-EN-šú-nu ma-ḥi-ir e-ṭir^p
 p[u-u]t ^rLÚ^rla’-sa-aḥ ^{LÚ}la-pa-qir-[r]a-[nu]
 10 ^rLÚ^rIR’-LUGAL-ú-tu šá a-na muḥ-ḥi ¹IR-^dḥa-tu₄
^ril’-la-a’ ¹EN-TIN-ⁱ na-ši
 Lo.E. [ina u₄]-^rmu’ pa-qa-ri a-^rna’ muḥ-ḥi ¹IR-^dḥa’-[tu₄]
 il-la-a’ ^rIdEN’-TIN-ⁱ ú-mar-ra-^rqu’-m[a]
 Rev. a-na ^{1d}AMAR.UTU-^rEN-šú-nu’ i-^rnam’-din
 15 ^{LÚ}mu-kin-nu ¹MU-^dEN DUMU šá ¹i-qu-pu
¹man-nu-i-qa’-pu DUMU šá ¹IR-^dU.GUR
¹šá-pi-kal-bi DUMU šá ¹MU-a ¹LUGAL-tu-TIN-ⁱ
 DUMU šá ¹a-na-É-šú ^{1d}IM-nu-ru-i’ DUMU šá
^{1d}IM-ŠEŠ-MU ^{1d}PA-MU DUMU šá ¹ŠEŠ-šú-nu
 Blank space of one line
 20 ^{LÚ}UMBISAG ^{1d}EN-TIN-ⁱ DUMU šá ^{1d}AG-PAB A-šú ^{LÚ}SANGA-a-kad^{KI}

^{URU}šib-tu₄-šá-til-um-mu <<ina>> ^{ITI}APIN { x }
 MU.34°.KAM da-a-ri-muš-ia
 [LUGA]L E^{KI} u KUR.KUR^{MES}

⁽¹⁻⁶⁾Bēl-uballiṭ, son of Nabû-nāšir, descendant of Šangû-Akkad, [voluntarily] so[ld] Arad-Ḥattu, his slave, [for sixty sh]ekels of white, hacked, *ginnu*-marked silver, [with one]-eighth alloy, to Marduk-bēšunu, [son of Na]bû-balāssu-iqbi, (descendant of) Balihû.

⁽⁶⁻⁸⁾Bēl-uballiṭ has received those sixty shekels of silver, the price of his slave, from Marduk-bēšunu; he is paid in full. ⁽⁹⁻¹¹⁾Bēl-uballiṭ assumes warranty for false and third-party claimants and (claims) alleging that Ar[ad-Ḥattu] has the status of a royal slave. ⁽¹²⁻¹⁴⁾[Wh]en a third-party claim arises concerning Arad-Ḥa[ttu], Bēl-uballiṭ will clear (Arad-Ḥattu) of claims and give (him) to Marduk-bēšunu.

⁽¹⁵⁻¹⁹⁾Witnesses: Iddin-Bēl, son of Iqūpu; Mannu-iqāp, son of Arad-Nergal; Ša-pî-kalbi, son of Šumāya; Šarrūtu-uballiṭ, son of Ana-bītišu; Adad-nūrī, son of Adad-aḥu-iddin; Nabû-iddin, son Aḥūšunu.

⁽²⁰⁻²³⁾Scribe: Bēl-uballiṭ, son of Nabû-nāšir, descendant of Šangû-Akkad. Šibtu-ša-Til-ummi, month VIII, (day ...), year 34 of Darius (I), [king] of Babylon and the lands.

Commentary

2. Arad-Ḥattu: The theophoric element may be connected with the (North)west Semitic deity ‘An(a)t (M. Krebernik, pers. comm.), which is probably related to more common (and presumably secondary) ‘Attā < *‘Antā.⁵¹ However, the spelling without the expected geminated -t- leaves this interpretation open to doubt (R. Zadok, pers. comm.).

5. The semisyllabic spelling seems to reflect the actual pronunciation of the family name at the time. See the remarks in §2.

18. Adad-nūrī or Adda-nūrī, “Adad is my light” (Akkadian or Aramaic).

21. Šibtu-ša-Til-ummi: We know of no such geographical name in other Neo-Babylonian texts.

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (6.9 × 6.0 × 3.1 cm), laid out in landscape orientation (almost square), with tapered edges, unsealed; upper left corner broken off.

No. 18

The character of the contract is discussed in §3.

BM 74549 (AH 82-9-18, 272a)

<Sippar>, Dar I 4.–[26].12.34 (3–25 March 487 BCE), deposition before witnesses

Obv. [L^UDUMU-DÛ]-^re šá ina pa-ni-šú-nu
 [EN-šú-nu A-šú šá] ¹ni-din-tu₄ a-na
 [EN-šú-nu A-šú šá] ¹SILA'-a-a ú-kil-li
 'um-ma 2 GUR' 2 (PI) 3 BÂN ŠE.BAR a-^rna' muḥ-ḥi
 5 ¹MU-^dAG A-šú šá ¹KI-^dAG-gu-zu
 a-na ŠU^{II}-ia la te-reb MU.AN.'NA'

51. On ‘An(a)t and ‘Attā, see Zadok 1977: 38.

- ina*^o *muḥ-ḫi* ¹EN-šú-nu A-šú šá ¹ni-din-tu₄
 Lo.E. *iš-šák-ki-ni-ma* ¹EN-šú-nu
 Rev. A-šú šá ¹ni-din-tu₄ a-na ¹EN-šú-nu
 10 A-šú šá ¹SILA-a-a a-na ¹muḥ-ḫi ŠE.BAR a₄
 2 GUR² 2 (PI) 3 BÁN *it-te-me* ^{1d}EN-re-man-¹ni¹
 A-šú šá ¹mu-še-<zi>-ib-^dšú ¹lib-luṭ A-šú šá
¹kur-ban-ni ^{1d}EN-MU A-šú šá ¹ú-bar
¹ri-bat A-šú šá ¹par-šú'-ú ^{1d}EN-PAB
 15 [A-š]ú ¹šá ^{1d}EN-TIN-iṭ ^{1d}EN-NUMUN-GAR-un A^o-šú šá ¹e-tel-pi
¹ni-d]in-tu₄ A-šú šá ^{1d}EN-PAB ¹ŠE
 U.E. [UD].¹4+¹.KAM MU.34.KAM
¹d]a-ri-ia-muš LUGAL E^{KI}u KUR.KUR
 L.E. ^{1d}EN-MU A-šú šá ¹[x - x - x]
 20 ¹ŠEŠ-ú-nu A-šú šá ¹[x - x - x]

⁽¹⁻¹¹⁾(These are) [the freem]en before whom [Bēšunu, son of] Nidintu, apprehended [Bēšunu, son of] Sūqāya, (saying): “I did not receive two *kurru*, two (*pānu*), (and) three *sūtu* of barley at the expense of Iddin-Nabû, son of Itti-Nabû-gūzu.” (The barley) was debited against Bēšunu, son of Nidintu, for one year. Bēšunu, son of Nidintu, swore an oath to Bēšunu, son of Sūqāya, concerning those two *kurru*, two (*pānu*), (and) three *sūtu* of barley, (testifying to the truthfulness of his account):

⁽¹¹⁻¹⁵⁾Bēl-rēmanni, son of Mušēzib-Marduk; Libluṭ, son of Kurbanni; Bēl-iddin, son of Ubār; Rībāt, son of Puršû; Bēl-nāšir, [son] of Bēl-uballiṭ; Bēl-zēru-iškun, son of Etel-pî; ⁽¹⁹⁻²⁰⁾Bēl-iddin, son of [...]; Aḫūnu, son of [...].

⁽¹⁶⁻¹⁸⁾(Scribe): [Nid]intu, son of Bēl-nāšir. Month XII, [day] 4+, year 34 of Darius (I), king of Babylon and the lands.

Commentary

8. The expected form is *taš-šák-kin-ni-ma* for /taššakin-ma/.

13. For Libluṭ, son of Kurbanni, see Waezeggers 2014: 392.

14. As elsewhere in Neo-Babylonian, the CVC sign of the second PN is indifferent to the quality of the vowel, see also *Dar.* 117: 2.

Extrinsic Features

Pillow-shaped tablet (5.0 × 4.0 × 2.0 cm), laid out in landscape orientation, with tapered edges, unsealed; upper left corner broken off.

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Appendix Text Concordance

No. 1 = BM 61484; no. 2 = BM 74640; no. 3 = BM 63804; no. 4 = BM 61123; no. 5 = BM 74593; no. 6 = BM 74550; no. 7 = BM 74522; no. 8 = BM 74477; no. 9 = BM 74518; no. 10 = BM 79283; no. 11 = *BR* (= Jursa 1999), 247–48 (BM 74475); no. 12 = BM 64182+64250; no. 13 = *AfO* 50 (= Wunsch 2003/2004), 237–38, no. 19 (BM 74330); no. 14 = BM 103443; no. 15 = BM 74559; no. 16 = BM 74557; no. 17 = BM 74610; no. 18 = BM 74549

BM 61123 = no. 4; BM 61484 = no. 1; BM 63804 = no. 3; BM 64182+64250 = no. 12; BM 74330 = *AfO* 50 (= Wunsch 2003/2004), 237–38, no. 19 = no. 13; BM 74475 = *BR* (= Jursa 1999) 247–48 = no. 11; BM 74477 = no. 8; BM 74518 = no. 9; BM 74522 = no. 7; BM 74549 = no. 18; BM 74550 = no. 6; BM 74557 = no. 16; BM 74559 = no. 15; BM 74593 = no. 5; BM 74610 = no. 17; BM 74640 = no. 2; BM 79283 = no. 10; BM 103443 = no. 14

Prosopography

Adad-nūrī/Adad-aḥu-iddin: No. 17:18 (witness)

Adda-nūrī → Adad-nūrī/Adad-aḥu-iddin

Aḥḥēšāya/Bania//Šangû-Akkad: No. 3:17 (witness)

Aḥūnu/[...]: No. 18:20 (witness)

Aḥūšunu/Nabû-šimtu-gabbi: No. 8:15 (witness)

Aḥūšunu/Šaddinu//Nūr-Sîn: No. 4:15 (witness)

Arad-Ḥattu, slave of Bēl-uballit/Nabû-nāšir//Šangû-Akkad: No. 17:2, 10, 12 (object of purchase)

Ardia/Mušēzib-Marduk//Šangû-Ištar-Bābili: No. 15:8 (witness)

Balāṭu/Mušēzib-Marduk//Išparu: No. 1:14 (witness); no. 11:14 (witness)

Bēl-abu-ušur/[...]/Šangû-Adad: No. 13:[r4'] (witness)

Bēl-asū'a/Ea-aplu-iddin//Mandidi: No. 5:8 (witness); no. 7:3, 10, 12, 14 (debtor); no. 9:6 (witness); no. 16:15 (witness)

Bēl-iddin/Kamuš-šarru-ušur: No. 8:12 (witness)

Bēl-iddin/Mušēzib-Marduk//Bēl-eṭēri: No. 10:14 (scribe)

Bēl-iddin/Ubār//Bēl-eṭēri: No. 4:19 (witness); no. 11:13 (witness); no. 18:13 (witness, *mār-banē*)

Bēl-iddin/[...]: No. 18:19 (witness, *mār-banē*)

Bēl-ittannu/Ina-Esangila-lilbir//Ša-nāšišu: No. 6:10 (pledgor); no. 12:8 (pledgor); no. 15:3 (debtor, pledgor)

Bēl-ittannu/Ubalissu-Gula//Šangû-Ištar-Bābili: No. 7:17 (witness); no. 9:8 (witness); no. 11:18 (scribe)

Bēl-ittannu/Sîn-uballit//Ša-nāšišu: No. 1:16 (witness)

Bēl-nāšir/Bēl-uballit: No. 18:14 (witness, *mār-banē*)

- Bēl-rēmanni/Mušēzib-Marduk: No. 18:11 (witness, *mār-banê*)
 Bēl-silim/Nabû-e[...]/[...]: No. 7:2, 8, 11, 14, 15 (creditor; managing partner [business venture])
 Bēl-šumu-iškun/Bēl-[...]/Ile''i-Marduk: No. 10:13 (witness)
 Bēl-uballit/Bēl-iddin/Balātu: No. 5:4, 13 (debtor, scribe); no. 6:17, 20, 25 (lessee, scribe)
 Bēl-uballit/Iqīša-Marduk/(Ea-)Eppēš-ilī: No. 10:4, 8 (debtor)
 Bēl-uballit/Nabû-nāšir/Šangû-Akkad: No. 17:[1], 7, 11, 13, 20 (seller, scribe)
 Bēl-upaḥḥir/[...]/Ibni-Sîn: No. 16:12 (witness)
 Bēl-zēri/Bēl-upaḥḥir/[...]: No. 3:[5], 11 (managing party [business venture])
 Bēl-zēru-iškun/Etel-pî: No. 18:15 (witness, *mār-banê*)
 Bēlšunu/Nabû-balāssu-iqbi/Baliḥû → Marduk-bēlšunu/Nabû-balāssu-iqbi (= Nidintu)/Baliḥû
 Bēlšunu/Šamaš-iddin: No. 14:3, 6, 11 (debtor)
 Bēlšunu/Šamaš-uballit/Šangû-Šamaš: No. 16:13 (witness)
 Bēlšunu/Šuqāya: No. 18:3, 9 (other)
 Ḥašdāya/Bulṭāya/Nappāḥu: No. 4:16 (witness)
 Bunene-ibni/Mušēzib-Marduk/Baliḥû: No. 7:21 (witness)
 Ea-iddin/[...]/[...]: No. 4:20 (witness)
 Gapnāya/Zabdi: No. 8:[11] (witness)
 Ḥabašīru/Bēl-[...]: No. 4:18 (witness)
 Ḥannā/Abi-qām: No. 9:3 (debtor)
 Ḥarišānu/Marduk-šumu-ibni/Nappāḥu: No. 5:11 (witness); no. 7:19 (witness); no. 12:14, 18, 20 (sublessee)
 Ḥuddāya/[...]/[...]: No. 3:[24] (witness)
 Ibnāya (= Šamaš-ibni)/Arad-Gula/Ša-nāšišu: No. 7:5, 16 (other, witness)
 Iddin-Bēl/Aplāya/Ea-nāšir: No. 11:16 (witness)
 Iddin-Bēl/Iqūpu: No. 17:15 (witness)
 Iddin-Nabû/Itti-Nabû-gūzu: No. 18:5 (other)
 Iddin-Nabû/Bēl-uballit/Šangû-Ištar-Bābili: No. 8:16 (scribe)
 Iddināya/Marduk-nāšir/Šangû-Ištar-Bābili: No. 16:16 (scribe)
 Iddināya/Nabû-aplu-iddin: No. 1:15 (witness)
 Iqīša-Marduk/Gimil-Šamaš/(Ea-)Eppēš-ilī: No. 10:[9] (witness)
 Iqīša-Marduk/Marduk-šumu-ušur/(Ea-)Eppēš-ilī → Iqīšāya/Marduk-šumu-ušur/(Ea-)Eppēš-ilī
 Iqīša-[...], father of ḤLā-qīptu: No. 4:24
 Iqīšāya (= Iqīša-Marduk?)/Marduk-šumu-ušur/(Ea-)Eppēš-ilī, spouse of ḤLā-qīptu: No. 4:3, 11, 13, 15 (debtor); no. 7:20 (witness)
 ḤLā-qīptu/Iqīša-[...], spouse of Iqīšāya (= Iqīša-Marduk?)/Marduk-šumu-ušur/(Ea-)Eppēš-ilī: No. 4:24 (witness)
 Liblūt/Kurbanni: No. 18:12 (witness, *mār-banê*)
 Liblūt/Šūzubu/Ile''i-Marduk: No. 9:11 (scribe)
 Mannu-iqāp/Arad-Nergal: No. 17:16 (witness)
 Marduk-bēlšunu/Nabû-balāssu-iqbi (= Nidintu)/Baliḥû: No. 1:2, 10 (creditor); no. 2:2 (creditor); no. 3:3, 14 (investing party [business venture]); no. 4:2, 9, 12, 13, 14 (creditor, pledgee); no. 5:2 (creditor); no. 6:15 (sublessor); no. 7:9, 15 (agent); no. 8:7 (guarantor); no. 9:1, 5 (creditor); no. 10:2, 7 (creditor); no. 11:8 (pledgee); no. 12:10, 11 (sublessor); no. 13:2, 5 (employer); no. 14:2, 5, 10 (creditor); no. 15:5 (other); no. 17:4, 8, 14 (buyer); no. 18:2, 7, 8 (deponent)
 Marduk-iddin/Liblūt/Šangû-Ea: No. 1:12 (witness)
 Marduk-šumu-iddin/Marduk-bēlšunu/Baliḥû: No. 13:4 (nursing child)
 Marduk/Šamaš-iddin: No. 9:10 (witness)
 Mūrānu/Bēl-uballit/Šangû-Ištar-Bābili: No. 2:12 (witness); no. 7:[22] (scribe)

- Mušēzib-Bēl/Lābāši//Suḥāya: No. 3:16 (witness)
 Mušēzib-Marduk/Sîn-kēšir//Nappāḥu: No. 1:4, 11 (debtor); no. 3:[19] (witness); no. 5:10 (witness); possibly no. 10:[11] (witness)
 Mušēzib-Nabû: No. 15:5, 7 (pledgee?)
 Nabû-bullissu/Marduk-šumu-iddin//Nūr-Sîn: No. 6:21 (witness)
 Nabû-bullissu/Šākin-šumi//Ea-eppēš-ilī: No. 6:12 (pledgee); no. 12:9 (pledgee)
 Nabû-iddin/Aḥūšunu: No. 17:19 (witness)
 Nabû-iddin/Uqūpu//Etel-pî: No. 6:22 (witness)
 Nabû-ina-Esangila-lūmur, slave of Marduk-bēlsunu/Nabû-balāssu-iqbi//Balīḥû: No. 3:6 (managing partner [business venture])
 Nabû-šumu-iškun/Mūrānu//Rabāšu-ša-Ninurta: No. 15:11 (witness)
 Nabû-šumu-ukīn/Mušēzib-Marduk//Arad-Nergal: No. 6:23 (witness)
 Nabû-šumu-ušur/Marduk-šumu-iddin//Šangû-Bēlet-Bābili: No. 14:12 (witness)
 Nabû-zēru-līšir/Guzānu//Šangû-Ištar-Bābili: No. 3:15 (witness)
 Nabû-.../[...]/[...]: No. 12:[22] (witness)
 Nādin/Nabû-.../[...]: No. 12:[24] (witness)
 Nādin/Šāpik-zēri: No. 2:14 (scribe)
 Nergal-ēṭir/Taqīš-Gula//Šangû-Šamaš: No. 1:17 (scribe)
 Nergal-uballit/Niqūdu//Ir'anni: No. 16:10 (witness)
 Nidintu/Bēl-ibni//Gaḥal: No. 15:12 (scribe)
 Nidintu/Bēl-nāšir: No. 18:[16] (scribe)
 Nidintu/[...]/[...]: No. 4:21 (scribe)
 Nidintu/Šamaš-šumu-līšir/Ile''i-Marduk: No. 11:3, 8 (pledgor)
 Niqūdu/Šāpik-zēri//Itinnu: No. 4:16 (witness); no. 15:10 (witness)
 'Re'indu/Šamaš-šumu-līšir/Ile''i-Marduk: No. 11:1, 6, 11 (plaintiff)
 'Re'indu/Tābia, spouse of Šamaš-.../[...]: No. 13:1, 9, r6' (employee, wet-nurse)
 Ribāt/Puršû: No. 18:14 (witness, *mār-banê*)
 Samak-Il/Bēl-šūzibanni: No. 13:[r5'] (witness)
 Sūqāya/Nidintu//Arad-Ea: No. 6:21 (witness)
 Ša-Bēl-attā/[...]/[...]: No. 12:[25] (witness)
 Ša-pî-kalbi/Šumāya: No. 17:17 (witness)
 Šamaš-aḥu-iddin/Araḥu: No. 8:2 (creditor)
 Šamaš-ibni/[...]: No. 2:4, 8 (debtor)
 Šamaš-iddin/Rēmūt: No. 8:10 (witness)
 Šamaš-iddin/Liblūt//Šangû-Ea: No. 8:3 (debtor)
 Šamaš-kāšir/Kinnē: No. 8:14 (witness)
 Šamaš-rēšû'a, slave of Bēl-ittannu: No. 12:11, 18, 20 (sublessee)
 Šamaš-uballit/[...]/[...]: No. 3:[4], 11 (managing party [business venture])
 Šamaš-zēru-ibni/Aplāya: No. 9:9 (witness)
 Šamaš-.../[...], spouse of 'Re'indu: No. 13:r6' (witness)
 Šarrūtu-uballit/Ana-bītišu: No. 17:17 (witness)
 Šullumāya/Erībāya//Ea-Eppēš-ilī: No. 4:17 (witness); no. 5:18 (witness)
 Šullumāya/Nergal-ēṭir//Ša-nāšišu: No. 13:r8' (scribe)
 Tabnē'a/Nabû-nāšir//Bābūtu: No. 11:17 (witness); no. 14:14 (witness)
 Zumbāya/Nabû-dannu: No. 14:15 (scribe)
 [...]-uṭīr/[...]/Šangû-Šamaš: No. 12:[26] (scribe)
 [...]/Bēl-aplu-ušur/[...]: No. 2:[10] (witness)

[...]/Bēl-iddin//[...]: No. 10:[10] (witness)
[...]/Ibnāya: No. 3:[20] (witness)
[...]/Zēria: No. 3:[18] (witness)
[...]/[...]/Šangû-Šamaš: No. 16:9 (unclear)

Place Names

Babylon: No. 6:26
Sippar: No. 1:19; no. 2:15; no. 3:14; no. 4:5, 8, [21]; no. 5:15; no. 6:12; no. 7:23; no. 8:18; no. 9:12; no. 10:16;
no. 11:20; no. 12:2, 27; no. 13:r9'; no. 14:16; no. 15:13; no. 16:18
Sippar-Anunītu: No. 3:12; no. 6:9
Šibtu-ša-Til-ummi: No. 17:21