MINOR ARCHIVES FROM FIRST-MILLENNIUM BCE BABYLONIA,
PART II: THE BALĪḪÛ 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 Balīḫû archive. It is the second part of a series of articles that aims to make available the so-called satellite archives of the Ṣāḫiṭ-ginê A archive (“Marduk-rēmannī archive”) and related and unrelated smaller archives from Sippar, all dating to the long sixth century BCE.

1. Introduction

The Balīḫû archive or, more precisely, the archive of Marduk-bēlšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, is but one of two known archives that sheds light on the family affairs and business activities of members of the Balīḫû family, the other one being part of the so-called Maštuk group. While the latter centers on intermarriages between the Maštuk and Balīḫû 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

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 Balīḫû archive is referred to as the archive of Ardīa, 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.

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Published by The University of Chicago Press for ASOR. https://doi.org/10.1086/1148210
shadow archives of the Ṣāḫit-ginê A archive (Marduk-rēmanni archive), on grounds of their museum-archaeological and prosopographical interconnections. As a member of the Balīḫû family, Marduk-bēlšunu belonged to an old and prestigious priestly clan of Sippar, 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) 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nabû-balāssu-iqbi = Nidintu</th>
<th>Mušēzib-Marduk</th>
<th>Ningal-il</th>
<th>Guzānu</th>
<th>Nabû-nāṣir</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bunene-ibni</td>
<td>Šamaš-aplu-iddin = Aplāya</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marduk-bēlšunu = Bēlšunu</td>
<td>Nabû-aplu-iddin</td>
<td>Iddin-Nabû</td>
<td>Gimil-Šamaš</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marduk-šumu-iddin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
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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 Balīḥū archive are registered in the same museum collections as those of the Șāḥit-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 Balīḥū. 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 46EN-e-ṭ-hi-ū 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 46KASKAL.KUR-ū and the like as Balīḥū. Second, it shows that spellings with initial EN (rarely also 46EN and 1+en)10 do not reflect the form Bēl-Balīḥū, "Lord is (the god) Balīḥū" (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 Balīḥū 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

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9. The family name occurs with various spellings of which 46KASKAL.KUR-ū and -i are the most common. On the manifold variants, see Bongenaar 1997: 464–65.
10. Spellings including the ligatures 46EN 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. 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, Ḫannā, Zabdi, and possibly Sam[ak-Il] and Kinnē) or probably West Semitic (Ḫariṣānu), and most of them were reasonably common among Babylonians. Two more names also found in the archive (Kamuṣ-šarru-uṣur and Arad-Ḫattu) are noteworthy for their rare theophoric elements, the Moabite deity Kamuṣ (also Kemosh) and the (North)west Semitic deity 'An(a)t.

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 Balīḫû 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-ili family; and that Marduk-bēlšunu held the right to lease them to third parties. 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 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-usur of the Ea-Eppēš-ili 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

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12. The document belongs to the dossier on ʿLurindu and the scribe Bēl-ittannu (Stolper 1999).
13. Most of these individuals appear simply as witnesses. Only two of them, Ḫannā, son of Abī-qām, and Ḫariṣānu, son of Marduk-šumu-ibni, figure as active parties to contracts (debtor in no. 9; sublessee in no. 12). On Ḫariṣānu, 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.
of Šamaš-šumu-lišir of the Ilê’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 in-
strument 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 dos-
sier 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.
21. The names of both parties are lost; the attribution to the dossier is thus open to question.
22. The text reads kurummat anāti šarri, literally “rations of the royal maidservants.” Similar obligations are found elsewhere in ar-
    chives from Sippar (Jursa 2010: 250 n. 1490).
no. 18, a document recording a deposition before a group of freemen (*mār-bānē*). 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 (*ḫarrānu*). 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-inasangila-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 *ḫarrānu* 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 Šāḥit-ginē A archive (Marduk-rēmanni archive). 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 Bāliḫû, Rē’i-sisê, Šangû-Šamaš, and Ša-nāšīšu families had mainly prebendary and temple-related interests, while Iššartaribû, son of Bunene-ibnî, 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 Bāliḫû 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-rēmanni and the other protagonists of the satellite archives.

The Bāliḫû 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, both men are witnesses to *BRL* 4, 20–21 (BM 55784, [Dar I] 30 = 492/491 BCE), a document belonging to the Ea-eppēš-ilī 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),

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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-nāšīšu 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 Balīḫû 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 (= Aplâya),29 these men are particularly well attested in the Sângû-Šamaš A and Sâhit-ginê 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 Nabû-nāṣir.

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 Balīḫû 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 šangû 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 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 Gûzanu and Nabû-balassu-iqbi (appointed governor of Babylon and šangû 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 Taqīš-Gula,32 wrote no. 1, while Šullumāya, son of Nergal-ina-tēšî-ēṭîr33 and owner of the Ša-nāšišu A archive (another satellite archive), wrote no. 13. Šullumâya 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 Balīḫû 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 Rēmût. He and his father Rēmût, son of Nabû-ayyâlu, are the owners of a small archive with ties to the archive of iA ocurra Aqūba, daughter of Ardia. These two text groups have been linked to

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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, 155a = 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; Nb. 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 42345+); 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 79; 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.
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 Sāḥit-ginē A archive on the basis of prosopographical connections and museum archaeology. In the Balihû 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 Nappāḫu family: Ḥarišānu, son of Marduk-šumu-ibni, is the contractor (sublessee) in no. 12 and a witness in nos. 5 and 7; Mušezib-Marduk, son of Šin-kēšir, is the debtor in no. 1 and a witness in nos. 3, 5, and 10; and Nabū-bullissu, son of Šākin-šumi, is the pledgee in nos. 6 and 12. Similarly, Bēl-asū’a, son of Ea-aplu-iddin of the Mandidi family, is the debtor in no. 7 and a witness in nos. 5, 9, and 16; and Iqišāya, son of Marduk-šumu-ǔṣur of the Ea-Eppēš-ili family, who may be identical with the goldsmith Iqiša-Marduk (see Bongenaar 1997: 387–88 with references), is the debtor in no. 4 and a witness in no. 7. Other men who witnessed at least two transactions are Bālāṭu, son of Marduk-šumu-ibni, is the debtor in no. 7 (= Bertin 2689); and Peek 20.

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-uballiṭ, son of Bēl-iddin of the Šangû-Ištar-Bāñili family. He wrote no. 11 and witnessed both nos. 7 and 9. Three more scribes known from the archive belong to the same family, namely the two brothers Iddin-Nabû and Mūrānu, sons of Bēl-uballiṭ (no. 8 and no. 7, respectively; Bongenaar 1997: 436), and Iddīnāya, son of Marduk-nāṣir (no. 16). Mūrānu also figures as a witness in no. 2. Evidence from other archives suggests that Iddinnāya may be identical with the goldsmith Iqiša-Marduk (see Bongenaar 1997: 387–88 with references), is the debtor in no. 4 and a witness in no. 7. Other men who witnessed at least two transactions are Bālāṭu, son of Nabû-nāṣir of the Mandidi family, 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 …), and as a witness in BM 74563 (= Bertin 2571); and 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 an lessee in no. 7; as a contractor in BM 77929 (= Bertin 2187; in view of the prebend mentioned in no. 4, line 4 is probably to be read …), and as a witness in Dar 433; BM 74631 (= Bertin 2571); MR 172; and MR 180.

Concerning women in the Balihû archive, the evidence is scarce: ’Ī-lā-qīptu, 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).
Finally, a few words should be said on the occurrences of Marduk-bēlšunu outside the Balīḫû 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-bēlšunu 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 (Ṣāḥit-ginê 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-bēlšunu 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-bēlšunu, illustrating the socio-economic connections between him and certain other families (e.g., Şa-nāšišu, Šangû-Ištar-Bābili) and individuals (e.g., Bēl-asû’a, son of Ea-aplu-iddin of the Mandidi family, and Bēl-uballiṭ, son of Bēl-iddin of the Balāṭu 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 Sipparean elite, largely built upon familial ties and common business interests.

5. Text Editions

No. 1

The debtor, Mušēzib-Marduk, son of Sîn-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 Lâbâši, 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

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**Obv.** 8 GÍN KÚ.BABBAR šá gin-na šá na-da-˹nu˺

u ma-ḥa-ri <šá-> ˹EN-šú-nu A-šú

šá ˹IŠAG-TIN-su-E A ˷KASKAL.KUR-i

‘ina muḫ-ḫi ˹IAR-˹AMAR.UTU A-šú

5 šá ˹IŠAG-30-ke-šìr A ˷LÚSIMG

UD.1.KAM šá ˹IŠULU KÚ.BABBAR a₄

8 GÍN KÚ.BABBAR šá gin-na šá na-da-nu u ma-ḫa-ri

ina SAG.DU-šú i- nām-˷din

---

**Lo.E.**  { x } lu ũ-il-ṯi lu GĪD.DA

10  { x } šá ëna ˹EN-šú-nu il-la-a‘

šá ˹IŠAR-˹AMAR.UTU ši-˷i

---

**Rev.**  ˹IŠLU mu-˹kin-nu ˷IŠAMAR.UTU-˹MU A-šú

šá ‘lib-luṭ A ˷LÚSANGA-˹BAD

15 ˷ba-la-万博 A-šú šá ˷IŠAR-˹AMAR.UTU A ˷LÚŠ.BAR

30 ˷SUM.NA-{a} ˷A-šú šá ˷IŠAG-A-MU

30 ˷EN-˷it-tan-nu A-˹šú šá ˷IŠAG-A-MU

˷IŠUMBISAG ˷IŠU.GUR-SUR A-šú

šá ‘tˤa-qis-˹gu-f[a]

A ˷LÚSANGA-˹UTU UD.KIB.NUN}
Eight shekels of ginnu-marked silver of the kind commonly used for transactions is owed to Bēlšunu, son of Nabû-balâssu-iqbi, descendant of Balīḫû, by Mušēzib-Marduk, son of Sin-kēšir, descendant of Nappâhu—

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 Bēlšunu belongs to Mušēzib-Marduk.

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 Sin-uballiṭ, descendant of Šanâšišu.

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-bēlšunu (Bēlšunu) and this Mūrānu favours 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 BĀN ZŪ’ LUM.MA
šá li’EN-šú-nu’ A-šú šá’ li’AG-TIN-su-E
A li’KASKAL-’KUR’-i ina ’muḫḫ-tḫi
li’UTU’-DU’ A-šú šá [l x ]’-x - x’
5 ina’ lišE [i-na]m-d[in]
pu-ut e-tê-r[u]
šá ZŪ.LUM.’MA a’’
Lo.E. li’UTU-DU’ A’-[šú šá ’ i x - x - x ]
na’-ši’
Rev. li’ mu-kin-nu ’x’-[ x - x ]
A-šú šá li’EN-A-Ū[RU A ’ i x - x ]
’ mu-ra-nu A-šú šá’
li’EN-TIN’-iš’ A li’SA[NGA-’INNIN-E][x]
’ na-’di-[nu] li’ UMBISAG A-šú šá
15 ’DUB-NUMUN sip-par’[x]
li’GAN UD.2.KAM
U.E. MU.[x.KAM ’]da-ri-ia'-muš
LUGAL E’ u KUR.KUR
One kurru, two (pānu), (and) three sūtu of dates is owed to Bēlšunu, son of Nabû-balâssu-iqbi, descendant of Balīḫû, by Šamaš-ibni, son of [...]—

He will p[ay] (those one kurru, two pānu, and three sūtu) of dates in month XII. Šamaš-ibni, son of Bēl-aplu-u[sur, descendant of ...]; Mūrānu, son of Bēl-uballiṭ, descendant of Ša[ngū-Ištar-Bābili].

Witnesses: [...] of Bēl-aplu-u[ṣur, descendant of ...]; Mūrānu, son of Bēl-uballiṭ, descendant of Ša[ngū-Ištar-Bābili].

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 [I]R’-‘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 (ḫarrānu)

Obv.  
[30 GUR ŠE.BAR u 19 GÍN KÚ.BABBAR x x ]
[ x x x x x x x x x x x x šā]
[EN-šā-šu A-šā šā 4AG-TIN-su E A 4KASKAL,K]UR-‘i’
[in a muḫ-hī 4UTU-TIN-ī A-šū šā x x x x x’]
5  
[A] 4[U x x 4EN-NUMUN A-šū šā 4EN-NIGIN-ir
5’šā 4AMAR.UTU-EN-šū-nu mim-ma ma-la
[in]a URU u EDEN ip-pu-uš-šu-u’ ina ú-tur
3’-šū a- cà-ça- ta šū-nu pu-ut ŠE.BAR a 30 GUR
10  
ù pu-ut SAG.DU KÚ.BABBAR a 19 GÍN
Lo.E.  
4[T]UTU-TIN-ī t 4EN-NUMUN na-šū-ù

Rev.  
15’ GUR ŠE.BAR ina UD.KIB.NUN[KI] 4-da-nu’-ni-tu’
i-nam-din-nu’ ú 15 GUR ŠE.BAR
ina UD.KIB.NUN[KI] ina È EN-šī-šu nu i-nam-din-nu’ 1LC mu-kin-nu
15 4AG-NUMUN-SIJ:SÁ DUMU šā 1gú-za-nu A 4SANGA-ìNNIN-EKI
15’ mu-ši-za 4EN DUMU šā 1la-a-ba-si A 1su-ḥa-a-a
[5’][S]ÉS[4SS]-šā-a DUMU šā 1ba-ni-ia A 4SANGA-āka’d[4K]
[5 x x x x ] DUMU’ šā ‘NUMUN-ia
[5’][KAR-4AMAR.UTU DUMU š]ā 130-ke-šir A 4SIMUG
20 [‘x - x - x DUMU šā ’i]b-[nā’-a-a
[ xxxxxxxxxxx ]’x’
[ xxxxxxxxxxx ]
[ xxxxxxxxxxx ]

L.E. 1hu-ud-d[a-a DUMU šā ’x - x - x ]
25 ’A x’-[ x’ ]

[1–7] [Thirty kurru of barley and nineteen shekels of ... silver are owed to Bēlšunu, son of Nabû-uballit, descendant of Balḫû, [by Šamaš-uballit, son of ..., descendant of ..., Bēl-zēri, son of Bēl-upaḫḫir, [descendant of ..., and Na]bū-ina-Esangila-lūmur, the slave of Marduk-bēlšunu, (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-Anunītu and fifteen kurru of barley in Sippar, at the estate of Bēlšunu.


[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 (ḫarrānu) 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 ḫarrāni šiskūnū 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-uṣur of the (Ea-)Eppēš-ilī 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.

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

A KASKAL-KUR-i ina muh-ḫi 'BA-ša-a A-ššu šá AMAR.UTU-URU' A 'DÜ-eš-DINGIR 2-ta ū-μušša LÜNGA-ù-tu

5 ina E.BABBAR.RA E 'UTU EN UD.KIB.NUNl UD.13.KAM
mi-šil šá ki-iš ū-μu šá KIN UD.5.KAM UD.6.KAM
šá se-er-ri šá ŪZIZ PAB ina MU.AN.NA 2-ta ū-μušša
LÜNGA-ù-tu ina E.BABBAR.RA E 'UTU EN UD.KIB.NUNl
maš-ka-nu šá AMAR.UTU-EN-šu-nu šá EN ŠUB.BA

Lo.E. ia-a-nu UR, RA KÙ.BABBAR ia-a-nu a-di-i

Rev. muḫ-ḫi šá KÙ.BABBAR a ½ MA.NA 'BA-ša-a
a-na AMAR.UTU-EN-šu-nu i-nam-din-nu ki-i
<a-na> AMAR.UTU-EN-šu-nu pap-pa-su šá ū-μušša a 2-la ít-tan-nu-ù
UR, RA KÙ.BABBAR a ½ MA.NA 'BA-ša-a a-na AMAR.UTU-EN-šu-nu i-nam-din

15 μu-kin-nu ŠEŠ-šu-nu A-ššu šá 'sad-din-nu A ZĂLAG-š30
ni-qu-du A-ššu šá 'DUB-NUMUN A ŠTIM ẖaš-da-a-a
A-ššu šá 'bul-lu-ta-a A SIMUG šul-lu-ma-a 'A-ššu [šá 'SU-a]
A 'DÜ-eš-DINGIR 'ba-ba-si-ru A-ššu šá 'EN-[x - x ]
EN-SUM.NA A-šš šá 'u-[bar A 'EN-e-tē-rū]

20 ḫe-a-MU A-ššu šá [x - x - A A  x - x ]

U.E. ni'-din-tu UMUBISAG [A-ššu šá A x - x A  x - x sip-parš11]
〈ŠE〉 DIRL.ŚE.KIN.TAR UD.[x.KAM MU.x.KAM]
'da-ri-ia-muš LUGAL 'TIN' [TIR5 u KUR.KUR]

LE. [ina] a-ša-bi šá DUMU.MUNUS šá 'BA-ša-š[ x - x ]

25 DĀM 'BA-ša-a

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

1–4 One-third mina of white, [hacked], unmarked silver, with one-eighth alloy, is owed to Marduk-bēlšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu–iqbi, descendant of Balīḫû, by Iqīšāya, son of Marduk-šumu-usur, descendant of Eppēš-ili—
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-bēlšunu. 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-bēlšunu. If he does not pay the prebendary income for those two days to Marduk-bēlšunu, Iqīšāya will pay interest on that one-third mina of silver to Marduk-bēlšunu.
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 Eribāya], descendant of Eppēš-ili; Ḫabaṣīru, son of Bēl-[…]a; Bēl-iddin, son of U[bār, descendant of Bēl-eṭēri]; Ea-iddin, son of […], descendant of …].
(21–23) Scribe: Nidintu, [son of ..., descendant of ... Sippar], month XIIa, day ... year ... of Darius (I), king of Bab[y]lon and the lands.

(24–25) (The matter was concluded) [in] the presence of 'Lā-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 Balāṭu 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. 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 KU.BABBAR BABBAR-ú šá ina 1° GÍN bit-qa šá 
 4AMAR.UTU-EN-šú-nu DUMU šá 
 4AG-TIN-su-E DUMU šá KASKAL-KUR-ı 
 5ina muh-ḥi 4EN-TIN-ıf DUMU šá 4EN-MU 
 5 DUMU 'ba-la-tu šá 4APIN <šá ITI> 1 ma-ne-e 1 GÍN KU.BABBAR 
 5ina muh-ḥi-šu i-rab-bi

Lo.E. Traces of incomplete erasures
Rev. 'LU mu'-kin-nu 4EN-a-su'- ū'-a DUMU šá 4BAD-MU DUMU 1man-di-di 
 10 'mu-še-zib-ı AMAR.UTU DUMU šá 430-ke-šír DUMU 4SIMUG ıhar-ri-ša-nu DUMU šá 
 4AMAR.UTU-MU'-DÚ DUMU 4SIMUG 4DUB.SAR 4EN-TIN-ıf DUMU šá 
 4EN-MU DUMU 'ba-la-'tu' 
 15 'sip-parı 4SU UD.9.KAM MU.22.KAM 
 ıda'-ri-ıa-muš LUGAL E43
U.E. LUGAL KUR.KUR
L.E. ıšu-lu-ma-a DUMU × šá 4SU-a' 
 4DÚ-eš-DINGIR
Fifteen shekels of white silver, with one-eighth alloy, is owed to Marduk-bēlšunu, son of Nabû-balâssu-iqbi, descendant of Balīḫû, by Bēl-uballiṭ, son of Bēl-iddin, descendant of Balāṭu—

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

Witnesses: Bēl-asû’a, son of Ea-aplu-iddin, descendant of Mandidi; Mušēzib-Marduk, son of Šîn-kēšir, descendant of Nappāḥu; Ḫariṣānu, son of Marduk-šumu-ibni, descendant of Nappāḥu; Šullumāya, son of Eribāya, descendant of Eppēš-ili.

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. Ḫariṣānu: 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
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) ṣibtu 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 Anunitu of Sippar-Anunitu, of the whole year: 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-ili, as pledge in lieu of seven and a half minas of white silver—

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-pî; Nabû-šumu-ukîn, son of Mušēzib-Marduk, descendant of Arad-Nergal.

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

Commentary


7. Perhaps not a scribal lapse, but a sandhi for ḫugu-la a-di-i. The spelling could also be explained as a form of the word diʾû, 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, puḫādu is expected (see, e.g., AchHist 15, 35:1), but the reading is not entirely clear.

19. The collocation ITI a, literally “said, aforementioned month,” also occurs in AchHist 15, 221:9, for which Waerzeggers (2010: 683) proposes a translation “every month.”
No. 7

The debtor, Bēl-asû’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-ti šá ½' 4 GÍN KÙ.BABBAR BABBAR-ú' nu'-uḫ'-[tu]
šá 4iEN-si-lim A-šá šá [¹A]G'-e - x' [A x - x']-x'
šá ina muḫ-ḥi 4iEN'-a-su-ú-a A-šá šá 4i[é-a-A-MU]
A 'man-di-di e-el'-li-tu ṛ [ina liḇ-bi]
5 ša-ṭár um-ma KÙ.BABBAR šá KASKAL\u nu-šá
šá 4Ir-gu-la KÙ.BABBAR 4a ½' [4 GÍ]N
BABBAR-ú nu-uḫ-tu šá ina 1 'GÍN' [bit-qa šá gín]-nu'
a-ki-i ū-il-ti-šá 4E[N-si-lim ina Š]U\u
4iEN-šú-nu A-šá šá 4AG-TIN-su-[E A ']4KASKAL\u-KUR-تحدي
10 a-na muḫ-ḥi 4iEN'-a-su'-ú-a ma-ḥi-ir
ti-mi-ma TUK-ù-tu gab-bi šá 4iEN'-si-lim
Lo.E.  ina muḫ-ḥi 4iEN'-a-su-ú-a ia-a-nu a-na
'TU.1.KAM šá 4ISIG, MU.24.KAM ū-il-ti
Rev.  šá ½' 4 GÍN KÙ.BABBAR BABBAR-ú šá 4iEN-si-lim šá ina muḫ-ḥi 4iEN-su-a-ú-
šá 15 ônu-šúnu i-nam-din
10 mu-kin-nu 4DÚ-a A-šú šá 4Ir-gu-la
A šá KAS na-si-šú 4iEN-it-tan-nu [x ]
A-šú šá 4TIN-su-gu-la A 4SANGA 4INNIN-TIN.TIR\u
ha-ri-ša-a-ni A-šú šá 4AMAR.UTU-MU-DÚ A 4SIMUG
20 BA-šá-a A-šú šá 4AMAR.UTU-MU-ÚRU A 4DÚ-es-DINGIR
4bu-ne-ne-DÚ A-šú šá 4KAR\u-4AMAR.UTU A 4KASKAL-KUR-i
Blank space of one line
1mu-ra-nu 4UMBISAG A-šú šá 4iEN-TIN-it
U.E.  A 4SANGA-4INNIN-EK\u sip-par4I\uGU
UD.16.KAM MU.24.KAM 'da-ri-ia-muš
25 LUGAL E\u u KUR.KUR\uMES

49. Both archives will be edited in upcoming parts of this article series.
against Bēl-asû’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-asû’a back to Bēlšunu on day 1 of month III, year 24.

Witnesses: Ibnāya, son of Arad-Gula, descendant of Ša-nāšišu; Bēl-ittannu, son of Uballissu-Gula, descendant of Šangû-Ištar-Bābili; Ḫariṣānu, son of Marduk-šumu-ibni, descendant of Nappāhu; Iqīšaya, son of Marduk-šumu-usur, descendant of Eppēš-ili; Bunene-ibni, son of Mušēzib-Marduk, descendant of Bāliḫû.

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 [ṭet]-[DINGIRMEŠ] or [ṭet]-. 19. Ḫariṣānu: 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. 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.HILA GÊMEMES šá ‘LUGAL’
šá iUTU-ŠEŠ-MU A-šú šá a-ra-ḫu
ina muḫ-ḫi iUTU-MU A-šú šá lib-luṭ
A iSANGA-BAD ina qī-it šá 11DU
5 MU.27.KAM i-nam-din
pu-uṭ e-tè-ru šá ŠE.BAR a₄
‘18’ GUR iEN-šu-nu A-šú šá
[‘]AG-TIN-su-EB A KASKAL.KUR-i
Lo.E. na-ši

Rev. ‘10’mu-kin-nu iUTU-MU A-šú šá
’re-mut’ga-pa-na-a’ A-šú šá
[‘za]b-di-iá iEN-MU A-šú šá
‘ká’-mu-uš-LUGAL-ÚRU iHAR-DÙ
‘A-šú šá iUTU-LUGAL-ÚRU iUTU-KÁD
15 ‘A-šú šá ’kin-né-e ŠEŠ-šú-nu A-šú šá
’[TAM]G-šim-ta-gab-bi iMU.1AG iUMBISAG
‘A-šú šá’ iEN-TIN-it iSANGA-INNIN-E‘KR

50. The archive will be edited in an upcoming part of this article series.
sip-parŠU UD.6.KAM

U.E. MU.27.KAM 1-da-ri-ia-muš
LUGAL E u KUR.KUR

(1–4) 18 kurru of barley, rations of the royal maidservants, owed to Šamaš-aḫu-iddin, son of Araḫu, 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. Bēlšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, descendant of Balīḫû, assumes warranty for the full payment of that eighteen kurru of barley.

(9–10) Witnesses: Šamaš-iddin, son of Rēmūt; Gapnāya, son [of Za]bdī; Bēl-iddin, son of Kamaš-sarru-usur; Bunene-ibni, son of Šamaš-sarru-usur; Šamaš-kāšir, son of Kinnē; Aḫūšunu, son of Nabû-šimtu-gabbi.


Commentary

11. Gapnāya: a hypocorism from a name of the type DN-gapnu-usur (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. Zabdī: 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 Kinē): 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 1ENišu-šú nu A-šú šá
l3AG-TIN-šu-E A l3KASKAL.KUR-i
ina muḫ-ḫi 1hafta-šú-ša A-šú šá a-bi-i-qa-am
ina l3SIG ŠE.BAR a, 1 GUR <<ina UGU>> ina Ē
5 l3ENišu-šú nu i-nam-din

Rev. l5mu-kin-nu l5EN-a-su-ū-a
A-šú šá l5ē-a-A-MU A l5man-di-di
l5EN-it-tan-nu A-šú šá TIN-su-ē-gu-la
A l5L5SANGA-INNIN-TIN.TIR l5UTU-NUMUN-DŪ
10 A-šú šá l5A-a mar-duk A-šú šá
l5UTU- MU l5UMBISAG l5lib-luṭ A-šú šá
One kurru of barley is owed to Bēlšunu, son of Nabû-balāssu-iqbi, descendant of Balīḫû, by Ḫannā, son of Abī-qām—

He will pay that one kurru of barley at the estate of Bēlšunu in month III.

Witnesses: Bēl-asû'a, son of Ea-aplu-iddin, descendant of Mandidi; Bēl-ittannu, son of Ubaliissu-Gula, descendant of Šangū-Ištar-Bābili; Šamaš-zēru-ibni, son of Aplāya; Marduk, son of Šamaš-iddin.

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. Ḫannā: hypocorism formed on the West Semitic root “ḤNN “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-ilt family, is presumed to be the father of the debtor Bēl-uballiṭ. 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. ½ MA.NA 1 GĪN KŪ.BABBAR pe-ṣu-ū
    šā ’ina 1’ GĪN bit-qa šā idEN-šū-nu DUMU-šū šā
    idAG-TIN-su-iq-bi DUMU idKASKAL-KUR-i
    [ina] muḫ-hi idEN-TIN-it DUMU-šū šā ’BA-šā-’idAMAR.UTU
    5 DUMU ʾDŪ-ēs-DINGIR ina idZĪZ KŪ.BABBAR a, ½ MA.NA 1 ’GĪN’
    ina SAG.DU-šū i-nam-din ū-il-ti
    šā 2 MA.NA KŪ.BABBAR idEN-šū-nu a-na
    idEN-TIN-īt it-ta-din
Rev. idEN-mu’-kin-nu ’BA-šā-[idAMAR.UTU DUMU-šū ša]
10 idEN-MU A īDŪ-ēs-DINGIR ī x - x - x ]
    ’A’-šū šā idEN-’MU A ī [ x - x - x ’KAR-idAMAR.UTU]
    DUMU-šū šā id30-ke-[i]r A idSIMUG]
    idEN-MU-GAR-un D[U-MU-šū šā idEN]-N-[ x - x ]
    A ’DAosphateAMAR.UTU idAMEN-MU idEN-MU DUB.SAR’
    15 DUMU-šū šā ’KAR-idAMAR.UTU A idEN-e-tīr
    idEN-MU G.”KIB.ŠU UD.13.KAM
    MU. ’29’.KAM ’da-ri-i’-muš
    LUGAL TIN.KIR E5 u KUR.KUR idMES
Twenty-one shekels of white silver, with one-eighth alloy, is owed to Bēlšunu, son of Nabû-balâssu-iqbi, descendant of Balîḫû, by Bēl-uballiṭ, son of Iqīša-Marduk, descendant of Eppēš-ilî—

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

Witnesses: Iqīša-[Marduk, son of Gimil]-Šamaš, descendant of [Eppēš-ilî]; [...] [Mušēzib-Marduk], son of Sîn-kēšir, [descendant of Nappâḫu]; Bēl-šumu-īškun, so[n of B]ēl-[...], descendant of Ile''i-Marduk.

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

Commentary

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. \( MP.re-e^\*,[i]n-du \text{DUMU.MUNUS-su} \)
\( \text{sâ U/m-UTU-^\*} \text{MU-SÍ.SÁ A MU.DA-^\*} \text{AMAR.UTU} \)
\( \text{a-na pa-qa-ri is-qu sâ 'ni-din-tu'} \)
\( A-\text{sâ} \text{UTU-MU-SÍ.SÁ A MU.DA-^\*} \text{AMAR.UTU} \)
\( \text{5} \text{ ina} \text{^\*} \text{NE} \text{ta-al-li-ku mim-ma} \)
\( \text{dib-bi sâ} \text{^\*} \text{re-e^\* in-du a-na} \)
\( \text{<< ina >> muḫ-ḫi is-qu àr-ku-ú sâ ina} \text{^\*} \text{NE} \)
\( \text{sâ MU.29.KAM} \text{\*ni-din-tu ina IG} \text{\*EN-šú-nu} \)
\( A-\text{sâ} \text{id AG-TIN-su-iq-ḫi} \text{^\*} \text{EN-KASKAL.KUR-ú} \)
\( \text{10} \text{ maš-ka-nu is-kun-nu mim-ma ra-šu-ú-tu} \)
\( \text{Lo.E.} \text{\*sa} \text{^\*} \text{mu-kin-nu} \text{\*miḫ-ma ra-šu-ú-tu} \)

Rev. \( ^{1\text{CL}} \text{mu-kín-nu} \text{id EN-MU A-šú} \text{ú sâ 'ú}-\text{bar} \)
\( \text{^\*A id EN-e-tē-ru bā-la'-tu A-šú} \)
\( \text{id EN-šú} \text{\*AMAR.UTU A ^\*UŠ.BAR} \)
\( \text{15} \text{ id MU-\*A-šú sâ 'ap-la-a A ^\*BAD-PAB} \)
In month V, 'Re'indu, daughter of Šamaš-šumu-lišir, descendant of Ileʾʾi-Marduk, came to lodge third-party claims against the prebend of Nidintu, son of Šamaš-šumu-lišir, descendant of Ileʾʾi-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 Balīḫû; 'Re'indu has no claim whatsoever concerning the prebend.

Witnesses: [Bēl-iddin, son] of Ubār, descendant of Bēl-etēri; Balāṭu, son of Mušēzib-Marduk, descendant of Išparu; Iddin-Bēl, son of Aplāya, descendant of Ea-nāṣir; Tabnēʾa, son of Nabû-nāṣir.


Commentary


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 arkiša, “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. 13EN-KASKAL.KUR-ū: see the comment to no. 17:5 and the remarks in §2.


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), Ḫariṣānu, 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,HILA 1 BÁN 3 qa KAŠ,SA[G,HILA pa-ni ùTU]
EN UD.KIB.NUN[Ì] ÌTI 6 pi-ri’ ša’ U[ZU ū ma-ak-ka-su]
ÌTI 1+e üZU[Ì]R ū šib-ti UDU,NÍTA pa-[nì ùTU ina MU,AN,NA 21]
ù -m[ì]GIL,LÁ-ú-tu pa-nì ùTU ina ÌTI 20 u₄-m[ùmES]

5 üZU[Ì]R [lib-bì][mES] ša KÁ,GAL-ì šà É.BABBAR,RA
3 qa NINDA,HILA 3 qa KAŠ,SAG,HILA u’ HÁ.LA a-ki-i 1+e[ù] [KU₄,E]
pa-nì i₄gu-la ina ÌTI šà 4 UDU,NÍTA sat-tuk šà 3-an-nu-ni-[ì(u,)]
üZU[ZAG.LU u üZU[TI šà 3]EN-it-tan-n[u]
A-šú šà ’ina-É.SAG,ILÀ-lil-bir É, maš-ka-nu šà 14AG-bul-lišt-su
10 A-šú šà ’šà-kin-MU šà a-na BURU₃ ina pa-nì ’EN-ša-nu A-šú
šà 14AG-TIN-su-E A 14KASKAL,KUR-i ’EN-šú-nu a-na
BURU₃ a-na MU,AN,NA 1 ½ MA.NA KÚ,BABBAR BABBAR-ù
šà ina ’1 bi’t-qa nu-uḫ-tu šà la gin-ni a-na
[²]a-ri〈<<ad-〉>{{ša-nu A-šú šà 14AMAR.UTU-MU-DÚ
Lo.E. ’ù 14UTU-re-šu-ú-a[14]’ùqal-la
ša’ 14EN-it-tan-nu id-din a-ḫi KÚ’.BABBAR ina SAG
Rev. ’MU,AN,NA [u re-he-et KÚ,BABBAR ina mišš MU,].AN,NA i-nam-din-nu-u’
pu-uT SAG,DU’ [KÚ,BABBAR ḫa-ri-ša-nu šà 14UTU-re-šu-ú-a na-šu-ú]
u’-tu [UD.x.KAM ša ëtí x x x x x x x x a-na]
20 ’BURU₃ [ina IGÌ ḫa-ri-ša-nu šà 14UTU-re-šu-ú-a na-šu-ú]
[ù][ì M u-kin-nu ë x - x - x A-šú šà ë x - x - x A ë x - x ]
[ù4]AG[ì ]{ x - x A-šú šà ë x - x - x A ë x - x - x }
A-šú šà ṣì[ì ]{ x - x - x A ë x - x - x A-šú šà ë x - x - x }
[i]-na-[din A-šú] ū ’šà 14AG[ì ]{ x - x - x A ë x - x - x A-šú šà ë x - x - x }
25 ’ša’-ENót-at-ta’ [A-šú śiì x - x - x - x A-šú śìì x - x - x ]
Blank space of one line
LÚ[Ì][MBISAG ë ]{ x }-x -[GUR [A-šú] śìì }{ x - x - x }
A [ì]’[SANGA]-[ì]UTU [UD,].KIB,[NUN[ì] ÌTI x ]
UD,25.KAM MU₃.31+’ [KAM ’da-ri-ia-mus]

U.E. LUGAL TIN.TIR[ì] LUGAL K[UR,KUR]

¹¹⁻¹⁰(Daily), nine qù of bread, nine qù of beer (from the offerings) before Ṣamaš, lord of Sippar; monthly, six me[at] “portions” [and makkasu meat]; monthly, (the right to) a thigh and šibtu of mutton (from the offerings) before 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 qù of bread, three qù of beer, and the share (in the returns from the offering table), according to (the standard income of) one ér[ib-biti] before Gula; monthly, four muttons of the regular offerings of Anuîtu, (the right to) a thigh, a shoulder cut and a rib cage: (income rights) belonging to Bēl-ittannu, (the right to) a thigh, and a portion of the silver at the beginning of the year [and the rest of the silver in the middle
of the year. [Ḫariṣānu and Šamaš-rēṣū’a assume] warranty for the original amount [of the silver]. As of [day ... of month ... these income rights are at the disposal of Ḫariṣānu and Šamaš-rēṣū’a, in usufruct].

(21–25) Witnesses: ..., son of ..., descendant of ...; Nabû-[..., son of ..., descendant of ...; ...], son of [...]; Ša-Bēl-attā, [son of ...; ...], son of ...].


Commentary

2–3. On pīru, makkassu, and šibtu, see the comment to no. 6:2–3.
14. Ḫariṣānu: 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-tēšî-ēṭîr) 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. ᵐⅰre-e˜-in˜-du DUMU.MUNUS šá 'DUG.GA-ia
ina ḫu-ud lib-bi-sī a-na ʾEN-šū-nu A-šū šā
ʾni-din-tu, A ʾKASKAL.KUR-i taq-bi
um-mа ⁴²AMAR.UTU-MU-MU DUMU-ka a-di-i
5
3 MUMES ʿu-šē-niqš ⁵EN-šû-ʾnu
UD 2 qa NINDA.HLA 1 qa ʾKAŠʾ. HLA ina ITI
1 qa saḥ-le-e 1 qa MUN. HLA
i-na MU 4 GIN.KU.BABBAR 1+en TÈG kap-ri
[x x ] x a-na mⅱ[r]e-e˜-in-du
10 [i-nam-din x x x x ] x x'
[...]

Rev. [...]
1’ [x x x x x x x x x]‘su'
[x x x x x x x x x]‘x'
'A-šū šā' [x - x - x A x - x ]‘x'
⁴⁴EN-AD’-[URU A-šū šā 'x - x - x A] ⁶SANGA-a’-ga-dàkî
5’ ʾsa-m[a-ki-DINGIR A-šū šā ]'⁴EN-šū-zib-an-ni
⁰UTU’-[x - x DAM] ⁵⁴re-e˜-in-du
A-šū šā 'x-[x - x]
šul-lu-‘ma-a₁² UMISAG A-sú šá ṭU.GUR-SUR
Ašá₂₃ na-ší-šú UD.KIB.NUN { x }
10’ _ITIŠE EGIR-ú UD.6.KAM MU.32.<KAM>
U.E.  da-a-ri-i'-muš LUGAL TIN.TIR₂₃
LUGAL KUR.KUR 1+en TA.ĀM
TI-ú

₁⁻⁻⁵ Re’indu, daughter of Źabía, voluntarily addressed Bēlšunu, son of Nidintu, descendant of Balīḫû, (as follows): “I will nurse Marduk-šumu-iddin, your son, for three years.”

₁⁻⁻¹⁰ Bēlšunu [will give] Re’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. […]


₁²⁻⁻¹⁵ 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.

₁²⁻⁻¹⁶ 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-nāṣir 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-tì šá 8 GÍN KÚ.BABBAR u ḫu-bul-lu₄ šú
šáʾEN-šú-nu A šáʾni-din-tu₂ A₂⁴ EN.KASKAL.KUR-i
šá ina muḫ-hi ṭEN-šú-nu A šá TU.MU KÚ.BABBAR aš₁² GÍN’ u ḫu-bul-lu₄ šú
5 a-ki-i ú’il-tì-šú ṭEN-šú-nu
A šáʾni-din-tu₂ ina SU₄ ṭEN-šú-nu
ma-ḫir a-na UD.1.KAM

Lo.E.  šá TI.DU₃ MU.33.KAM

Rev.  ’ú-[i]l-tì šá 8 GÍN KÚ.BABBAR
10 ṭEN-šú-nu i-na-āš-šú-am-ma
a-na ṭEN-šú-nu i-nam-din
₁³ mu’-kin, ṭAG-MU-ŪRU A-sú šá
Concerning the promissory note for eight shekels of silver and the interest on it owed to Bēlšunu, son of Nidintu, descendant of Balīḫû, (a note) which was imposed on Bēlšunu, son of Šamaš-iddin—

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

Witnesses: Nabû-šumu-usur, son of Marduk-šumu-iddin, descendant of Šangû-Bēlet-Bābili; Tabnē’a, son of Nabû-nāṣir, descendant of Bābūtu.

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 'pa-BIT-su-nu, 'pa-liḫ-šu’-nu or 'SIPA’-št’-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 Gaḥal 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 Šāḥit-ginē A archive.

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

Sippar, Dar I 26.8.33 (8 Dec 489 BCE), Sonderurkunde
ni-din-tu, Umbisag A-sū šā EN-Dū A ga-ḥal
UD.KIB.'NUM 1APIN UD.26.KAM
MU.33.KAM da-ri-ia-muš

U.E. LUGAL EKU KUR.KUR

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


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 Mandidî 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 x x x] 'x'
'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]
5 '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 x x x x x x x x x]
× E.[A LÚSANGA-UTU x] [ x x x x]

Lo.E. 'A [1] SANGA-UTU x' [ x x x x]

[14] EN-NIGIN-ir A-šū šā ' x' x ' x' x'
A la-di-di IMU-LúUMBISAG
A-šú šá la AMAR.UTU-PAB A la SANGA-šINNIN-TIN.TIRki
sip-par ti SIG, UD.16.KAM
MU.34.KAM la-di-ri-mu-šú

LUGAL E ku KUR.KUR

(1–9)(too fragmentary for translation).
(10–16)Witnesses: Nergal-uballiṭ, [son of] Niqūdu, descendant of Ir’anni; Bēl-upaḫḫir, son of ..., descendant of Ibni-Sin; Bēlšunu, son of Šamaš-uballiṭ, descendant of Šangû-Ištar-Bābili; Bēl-asṭa’a, son of Ea-iddin, descendant of Mandu.

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-uballiṭ, son of Nabû-nāṣir 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
Ṣibtu-ša-Til-ummi, Dar I ?.8.34? (2 Nov–1 Dec 488 BCE), bill of sale

Obv. [ia]-[TIN]-iṭ DUMU šá [AG-na-sir][SANGA-a'-kad]
[ina ḫu-ud lib-bi]-išša'[IR-շa-tu] qal-la-šú
[a-na 1 MA.NA] BABBAR BABBAR-ù nu-uḫ-ḫu-tu
[ša ina 1] bit-qa ša gin-nu a-na AMAR.UTU-EN-sú-nu
5 [DUMU šá la] AMAR.TIN-su-iq-bi EN-e-êh-hi-ù
'id-[din K] U BABBAR q 1 MA.NA { x } ŠÂM
qal-la-šú AMAR.TIN-iṭ ina ŠU { x }
AMAR.UTU-EN-sú-nu ma-ḫi-ir e-ṭir
p[u-u]t la-sa-ah la-pa-qir-[r] a-[nu]
10 [IR]-LUGAL-ù-tu šá a-na muḫ-ḫi [R-ša-tu,s]
'il-la-a' EN-TIN-iṭ na-ši

Lo.E. [ina u]-mu pa-qa-ri a'-na muḫ-ḫi [IR-ša]-[tš]
il-la-a' EN-TIN-iṭ ú-ma-ra'-qu'-m[a]
Rev. a-na AMAR.UTU-EN-sú-nu i'-nam'-din
15 la mu-kin-nu MU-EN DUMU šá i-qu-pu
'nu i-na-qâ-pu DUMU šá [IR-š]
lí-pa-kal bi DUMU šá MU-šá LUGAL-tu-TIN-iṭ
DUMU šá a-na-É-šú IM-nu-ru-i' DUMU šá
IM-ŠEŠ-MU [PA-MU] DUMU šá ŠEŠ-sú-nu

Blank space of one line
20 la UMBISAG AMAR.TIN-iṭ DUMU šá AG-PAB A-šú SANGA-a-kadki
The character of the contract is discussed in §3.

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.  
[14]DUMU-DUIMENT - e šá ina pa-ni-šú-nu  
[EN-šú-nu A-šú šá] ŋi-din-tu a-na  
[EN-šú-nu A-šú šá !|] SILA’a-a ú-kil-li  
‘um-ma 2 GUR’ 2 (PL) 3 BÁN ŠE.BAR a-na’ mülḫi  
5 MU-4 AG A-šú šá ‘KL-4 AG-gu-zu  
a-na ŠU’-ia la te-reb MU.AN.’NA’

Commentary

2. Arad-Ḫattu: 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-nūri or Adda-nūri, “Adad is my light” (Akkadian or Aramaic).

21. Šibtu-ša-Til-ummni: We know of no such geographical name in other Neo-Babylonian texts.
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\textit{ina} muḫ-ḫi \textsuperscript{1}EN-šú-nu A-šú ša\textsuperscript{1}ni-din-tu

Lo.E. \textit{iš-šák-ki-ma} \textsuperscript{2}EN-šú-nu

Rev. A-šú ša\textsuperscript{1}ni-din-tu, a-na \textsuperscript{2}EN-šú-nu

10 A-šú ša \textsuperscript{3}SILA-a-a a-na ma muḫ-ḫi ŠE.BAR\textsuperscript{4} A-
2 GUR \textsuperscript{2} (PI) 3 BĀN it-te-me \textsuperscript{5}EN-re-man\textsuperscript{2} ni

A-šú ša \textsuperscript{1}mu-še-zi>-ib\textsuperscript{2}šu1 lib-lat A-šú ša

\textit{kur-ban-ni}\textsuperscript{6}EN-MU A-šú ša\textsuperscript{1}u-bar

\textit{r}i-bat A-šú ša \textit{par-šu}-ū \textsuperscript{7}EN-PAB

15 \textit{A-[š]}ū \textsuperscript{8}EN-TIN-it \textsuperscript{9}EN-NUMUN-GAR-un A-šú ša \textit{e-tel-pi}

\textit{[ni-\textdual]}in-tu, A-šú ša \textsuperscript{1}EN-PAB \textsuperscript{10}ŠE

U.E. \textsuperscript{11}UD].\textsuperscript{12}.KAM MU.34.KAM

\textit{[d]a-ri-ia-muš} LUGAL E\textsuperscript{13} u KUR.KUR

L.E. \textsuperscript{14}EN-MU A-šú ša \textsuperscript{1}x - x - x

20 \textsuperscript{15}ŠEŠ-ù-nu A-šú ša \textsuperscript{16}x - x - x

\textsuperscript{1}(1-11) (These are) [the freem]en before whom [Bēlšunu, son of] Nidintu, apprehended [Bēlšunu, son of] Sūqāya, (saying): “I did not receive two \textit{kurr\textsuperscript{16}}u, two (\textit{pānu}), (and) three \textit{sūtu} of barley at the expense of Iddin-Nabū, son of Itti-Nabū-gūzu.” (The barley) was debited against Bēlšunu, son of Nidintu, for one year. Bēlšunu, son of Nidintu, swore an oath to Bēlšunu, son of Sūqāya, concerning those two \textit{kurr\textsuperscript{16}}u, two (\textit{pānu}), (and) three \textit{sūtu} of barley, (testifying to the truthfulness of his account):

\textsuperscript{11-15} Bēl-rēmanni, son of Mušēzib-Marduk; Libluṭ, son of Kurbanni; Bēl-iddin, son of Ubār; Rībāt, son of Puršū; Bēl-nāṣir, [son] of Bēl-uballiṭ; Bēl-zēru-iškun, son of Etel-pi; \textsuperscript{16-20} Bēl-iddin, son of […]; Aḫūnu, son of […].

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

Commentary

8. The expected form is \textit{taš-šák-ki-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-nūri/Adad-aḫu-iddin: No. 17:18 (witness)
Adda-nūrī → Adad-nūrī/Adad-aḫu-iddin
Ahḫēšāya/Bania/Šangû-Akkad: No. 3:17 (witness)
Ahḫūnu/[…] : No. 18:20 (witness)
Ahḫūšunu/Nabû-šîmtu-gabbi: No. 8:15 (witness)
Ahḫūšunu/Saddinu/Nūr-Sîn: No. 4:15 (witness)
Arad-Ḫattu, slave of Bēl-uballit/Nabû-nāsir/Šangû-Akkad: No. 17:2, 10, 12 (object of purchase)
Ardia/Mušēzib-Marduk/Šangû-Ištar-Bābili: No. 15:8 (witness)
Balāṭu/Mušēzib-Marduk/Īšparu: No. 1:14 (witness); no. 11:14 (witness)
Bēl-ṣūṣur/[…]/Šagū-Adad: No. 13:[r4′] (witness)
Bēl-asû’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-ṣuṣur: No. 8:12 (witness)
Bēl-iddin/Mušēzib-Marduk//Bēl-etēri: No. 10:14 (scribe)
Bēl-iddin/Ubara//Bēl-etēri: 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-nāṣir/Bēl-uballit: No. 18:14 (witness, mār-banē)
Bēl-rēmanni/Mušēzib-Marduk: No. 18:11 (witness, mār-banê)
Bēl-slim/Nabû-e- [...] /[...]: No. 7:2, 8, 11, 14, 15 (creditor; managing partner [business venture])
Bēl-šumu-iskun/Bēl- [...]/Ile”-i-Marduk: No. 10:13 (witness)
Bēl-ulalût/Bēl-idinn/Balûtû: No. 5:4, 13 (debtor, scribe); no. 6:17, 20, 25 (lessee, scribe)
Bēl-ulalût/Iqîśa-Marduk/(Ea-)Eppēš-ili: No. 10:4, 8 (debtor)
Bēl-ulalût/Nabû-nâṣir//Šangû-Akkad: No. 17:[1], 7, 11, 13, 20 (seller, scribe)
Bēl-upaḫḫir/.../Ibn- Sin: No. 16:12 (witness)
Bēl-zēri/Bēl-upaḫḫir/[...]: No. 3:[5], 11 (managing party [business venture])
Bēl-zērû-iskun/Etél-pî: No. 18:15 (witness, mār-banê)
Bēlšunu/Nabû-balâssu-iqbi//Balìḫû → Marduk-bēlšunu/Nabû-balâssu-iqbi (= Nidintu)//Balìḫû
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)
Baṣûdaya/Bultâya//Nappâhu: No. 4:16 (witness)
Bunene-ibni/Mušēzib-Marduk//Balîḫû: No. 7:21 (witness)
Ea-iddin/[...]/[...]: No. 4:20 (witness)
Gapnâya/Zabdî: No. 8:[11] (witness)
Ḫabašûrû/Bēl- [...]: No. 4:18 (witness)
Ḫannâ/Abi-qâm: No. 9:3 (debtor)
Ḫariṣânu/Marduk-šumu-ibni//Nappâhu: No. 5:11 (witness); no. 7:19 (witness); no. 12:14, 18, 20 (sublessee)
Ḫuddâya/[...]/[...]: No. 3:[24] (witness)
Ibnâya (= Šamaš-ibni)/Arad-Gula//Ša-nâšišû: No. 7:5, 16 (other, witness)
Iddin-Bēl/Aplâya//Ea-nâšir: No. 11:16 (witness)
Iddin-Bēl/Iqûpu: No. 17:15 (witness)
Iddin-Nabû/Iltî//Nabû-gûzu: No. 18:5 (other)
Iddin-Nabû/Bēl-ulallît/Šangû-Ištar-Bâbili: No. 8:16 (scribe)
Iddînâya/Marduk-nâṣir//Šangû-Ištar-Bâbili: No. 16:16 (scribe)
Iddînâya/Nabû-aplu-iddin: No. 1:15 (witness)
Iqîśa-Marduk//Gimil-Šamaš/(Ea-)Eppēš-ili: No. 10:[9] (witness)
Iqîśa-Marduk/Marduk-šumu-uṣur//(Ea-)Eppēš-ili → Iqîśâya/Marduk-šumu-uṣur//(Ea-)Eppēš-ili
Iqîśa-[...], father of Lâ-qiṭtu: No. 4:24
Iqîśâya (= Iqîśa-Marduk?)/Marduk-šumu-uṣur//(Ea-)Eppēš-ili, spouse of Lâ-qiṭtu: No. 4:3, 11, 13, 15 (debtor; or); no. 7:20 (witness)
Lâ-qiṭtu/Iqîśa-[...], spouse of Iqîśâya (= Iqîśa-Marduk?)/Marduk-šumu-uṣur//(Ea-)Eppēš-ili: No. 4:24 (witness)
Libluṭ/Kurbanni: No. 18:12 (witness, mār-banê)
Libluṭ/Sûzûbu//Ile”-i-Marduk: No. 9:11 (scribe)
Mannu-iqâp//Arad-Nergal: No. 17:16 (witness)
Marduk-bēlšunu/Nabû-balâssu-iqbi (= Nidintu)/Balîḫû: 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. 9:4, 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/Libluṭ//Šangû-Ea: No. 1:12 (witness)
Marduk-šumu-iddin/Marduk-bēlšunu//Balîḫû: No. 13:4 (nursing child)
Marduk/Šamaš-iddin: No. 9:10 (witness)
Mûrûnu/Bēl-ulallît//Šangû-Ištar-Bâbili: No. 2:12 (witness); no. 7:[22] (scribe)
Mušēzib-Bēl/Lābāši//Suḫāya: No. 3:16 (witness)
Mušēzib-Marduk/Sīn-kešir//Nappāḫu: 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-Sin: No. 6:21 (witness)
Nabû-bullissu/Sākin-šumi//Ea-eppeš-ili: No. 6:12 (pledgee); no. 12:9 (pledgee)
Nabû-iddin/Aḫšāšumu: No. 17:19 (witness)
Nabû-iddin/Uqūpu//Etel-pī: No. 6:22 (witness)
Nabû-in/aEsangila-lūmur, slave of Marduk-bēlsunu/Nabû-balāssu-iqbi//Balīḫû: No. 3:6 (managing partner [business venture])
Nabû-šumu-iššun/Mûrānu//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-lišir/Guzānu//Šangû-Istar-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-uballiṭ/Niqūdu//Ir'anni: No. 16:10 (witness)
Nidintu/Bēl-ibni//Gaḫal: No. 15:12 (scribe)
Nidintu/Bēl-nāṣir: No. 18:[16] (scribe)
Nidintu/[…]/[…]: No. 4:21 (scribe)
Nidintu/Šamaš-šumu-lišir//Ile’i-Marduk: No. 11:3, 8 (pledgor)
Niqūdu/Šāpik-zēri//Ilīmu: No. 4:16 (witness); no. 15:10 (witness)
Re’indu/Šamaš-šumu-lišir//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-banē)
Šamaš-Il/Bēl-šūzibanni: No. 13:[r5’] (witness)
Sūgāya/Nidintu//Arad-Ea: No. 6:21 (witness)
Ša-Bēl-attā/[…]/[…]: No. 12:[25] (witness)
Ša-pi-kalbi//Šumāya: No. 17:17 (witness)
Šamaš-aḫu-iddin/Araḫu: No. 8:2 (creditor)
Šamaš-ibni/[…]: No. 2:4, 8 (debtor)
Šamaš-iddin/Rēmūt: No. 8:10 (witness)
Šamaš-iddin/Liblut//Šangû-Ea: No. 8:3 (debtor)
Šamaš-kāṣir/Kinnē: No. 8:14 (witness)
Šamaš-rēṣū’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-bitišu: No. 17:17 (witness)
Šullumāya/Eribāya//(Ea-)Eppēš-ili: No. 4:17 (witness); no. 5:18 (witness)
Šullumāya/Nergal-ēṭir//Ša-nāšišu: No. 13:r8’ (scribe)
Tabnē’a/Nabû-nāṣir//Bēl-bēlútu: No. 11:17 (witness); no. 14:14 (witness)
Zumbāya/Nabû-dannu: No. 14:15 (scribe)
[…]-uṭīr/[…]/Šangû-Šamaš: No. 12:[26] (scribe)
[…]//Bēl-aplu-uṣur/[…] 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
Šippar: 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
Šippar-Anunītu: No. 3:12; no. 6:9
Ṣibtu-ša-Til-ummi: No. 17:21