

Some Neo-Sumerian Legal Texts in the British Museum

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Among Giovanni Pettinato's broad interests in Assyriology, Neo-Sumerian studies have always occupied a pre-eminent place. It is therefore a great pleasure to dedicate him this paper with the edition of six tablets dealing with legal matters, dated to the Third Dynasty of Ur.¹

The tablets belong to the group of texts known as "di-til-la". They all come from Girsu and are dated from the third regnal year of Amar-Suen on. Texts nos. 1, 2 and 5 seem to come from the same archive: they bear the same date (AS 3/xi²-xi); texts nos. 1 (a "Sammelurkunde") and 5 mention Ur-Enki, the thronebearer, as the commissioner; and texts nos. 2 and 5 have some other common features (same size, similar kind of sandy clay, and absence of the name of the judges).

Texts nos. 4 and 6, dated to AS 8, mention the name of some well known judges. They issued verdicts in several processes which were recorded in tablets later kept in "pisan-dub-ba". One of the labels of these "pisan-dub-ba" (*ITT* 2 3401 = *NSGU* 220) states that the container kept "di-til-la" from the same eighth regnal year of Amar-Suen and judged by Lu-Šara, Lu-Ibgal, Lu-dingira and Ur-Ištaran. These are the judges mentioned in text no. 6; Lu-Šara and Ur-Ištaran were also the judges in text no. 4.

In text no. 3, dated to the first or second regnal year of Šu-Suen, the lines where the names of the judges were recorded are lost. Nevertheless, they should have been some of the aforementioned individuals, since they are responsible for all the verdicts issued in those years (ŠS 1: *ITT* 2 832 = *NSGU* 68, *ITT* 2 3542 = *NSGU* 170, *ITT* 3 6580 = *NSGU* 179, *RTC* 293 = *NSGU* 197, *Sigrist Fs. Greenfield* no. 4; ŠS 2: *NSGU* 17, *ITT* 5 6832 = *NSGU* 21, *ITT* 3 6555 = *NSGU* 23, *ITT* 1008 = *NSGU* 146, *ITT* 4159 = *NSGU* 174, *ITT* 2 2802 = *NSGU* 175, *ITT* 3 6544 = *NSGU* 178).

1. BM 22858 (97-5-11-4)

Size: 99 x 71 x 28 (fragment: the upper, lower and right edges of the tablet are lost, as well as nearly the whole surface of the reverse).

Date: AS 3(?) / xi² - xi.

This text is a "Sammelurkunde" in which four cases are partly preserved (in two of them at least, Ur-Enki, the thronebearer, was the commissioner):

1 (obv.i.1'-12'). A woman (together with her children?), probably after the death of her husband, was helped by Kiag, her brother-in-law, who bought a house where she could live. When Kiag died, his sons claimed the property of that house. Though the conclusion of the process is now lost, we may suppose that the woman did not win the case, since she could not bring the witnesses of the transaction in which, she argued, Kiag had given the house to her; moreover, it is said that she had left the house when Kiag was still alive.

2 (obv.ii.1'-2'). In the conclusion of a case which is not preserved, the property of something is confirmed to Lala'a.

3 (obv.ii.3'-9'). A slave-girl was sold for a quantity of wool and barley, and the seller claims that he had not been paid with silver by the buyer. The conclusion of the case is lost.

4 (rev.ii.1'-5'). In the conclusion of a case which is badly preserved, somebody renounces to the status of wife(?) of Baba-[...].

¹ I wish to thank the Trustees of the British Museum for their kind permission to publish these tablets kept in the Western Asiatic Antiquities Collection. Texts nos. 1-3 (BM 22858, BM 22861, BM 22871) are catalogued in CBT 2; texts nos. 4-6 (BM 23678, BM 23747, BM 25739) are catalogued in the forthcoming CBT 3. I am thankful to M. Sigrist and C.B.F. Walker for allowing me the consultation of the Ur III entries of this book. I am also grateful to H. Waetzoldt, who read the manuscript of the article and made some valuable suggestions.

obv.i *Beginning of the column destroyed.*

- i.1' ʿé^ʔ sa₁₀-a (To) the house (?) he had bought
 i.2' [K]i-ág i-lah₅ (DU//DU)-a Kiang brought them (the wife of Ur-Suen and her children?).
 i.3' dam Ur-^dSuen // šeš-a-na To the wife of his brother Ur-Suen,
 i.4' i-in-tuš-àm who was living there,
 i.5' dumu Ki-ág-ke₄-ne the sons of Kiang
 i.6' é-gu₁₀ è-ba-//ra in-na-an-eš told: "leave my house!"
 i.7' dam ʿUr^ʔ-^dSuen-ʿke₄^ʔ The wife of Ur-Suen
 i.8' Ki-ág-e ma-an-ba // bí-in-du₁₁ declared: "Kiang gave it to me as a present!",
 i.9' lú-inim-ma nu-//mu-da-DU (but) she did not bring witnesses.
 i.10' Ki-ág ti-la-a "That when Kiang was still alive
 i.11' ʿé^ʔ-ta i-b-ta-//è-a she left the house"
 i.12' [(x)]-ʿx^ʔ-a dumu ʿx^ʔ [x] [...]a the son of [...]

Rest of the column destroyed.

ii *Beginning of the column destroyed.*

- ii.1' La-la-a ʿdumu^ʔ [...] // ba-na-g[i-in] it has been confirmed to Lala'a, the son (?) of ...
 ii.2' Ur-^dEn-ki [gu-za-lá] // ma[škim](PA.[KAŠ₄]) Ur-Enki, the thronebearer, was the commissioner.
 ii.3' ¹Ba-la-la ge[mé] // Dingir-ša₆-[ga] Balala, slave-girl of Dingir-šaga,
 ii.4' sám-ma-ni 4 [ma-na síg] // 2.0.0 še gur-lu[gal] her price (is) 4 mana of wool (and) 2 royal gur of barley,
 ii.5' A-ab-ba-a dumu // Maš-tur gúda A'abba, the son of Maštur, the g.-priest,
 ii.6' in-sa₁₀ has bought;
 ii.7' Dingir-ša₆-ga-[(a)] Dingir-šaga
 ii.8' kù-ta nu-s[a₁₀] // bí-i[n-du₁₁] has declared: "(A'abba) did not pay with silver".
 ii.9' A-ab-ʿba-a^ʔ [...] A'abba [...]

Rest of the column destroyed.

rev.i *Column almost completely destroyed (s. copy).*ii *Beginning of the column destroyed.*

- ii.1' in-[...] ...
 ii.2' ʿx x^ʔ [...] ...
 ii.3' ʿki^ʔ ^dB[a-ba₆-...-ta] // nam-ʿdam^ʔ [...] to Baba-[,], in her status of wife (?),
 ii.4' túg in-[ùr] she renounced.
 ii.5' Ur-^dEn-ki^ʔ g[u-za-lá] // maškim Ur-Enki, the thronebearer, was the commissioner.
 ii.6' [iti di]ri še-s[ag₁₁]-ku₅ ʿù^ʔ // Month xi² and
 [it]i še-s[ag₁₁-k]u₅ month xi.
 ii.7' [mu gu-za ^dE]n-l[í-lá // ba-dím] (?) AS 3[?].

obv.ii.2', rev.ii.5': the restoration of these lines is made on the basis of text no. 5 (BM 23747), where Ur-^dEn-ki gu-za-lá is the maškim of the process. For the role of the maškim in judicial procedures, see B. Lafont, "Serments politiques et serments judiciaires à l'époque sumérienne: quelques données nouvelles", in S. Lafont (ed.), *Jurer et maudire*, Paris-Montréal 1996, pp. 43-47.

obv.ii.4': cf. NSGU 170:2, where the price for a slave-girl is 1.4.0 še gur 4 ma-na síg.

rev.ii.4': for the verbal form túg in-ùr employed with the ablative ki-PN-ta, see A. Falkenstein, NSGU 2, p. 294; M. Malul, *Studies in Mesopotamian Legal Symbolism*, AOAT 221 (1988), pp. 339-341.

2. BM 22861 (97-5-11-7)

Size: 83 x 50 x 27.

Date: AS 3/xi²-xi.

The text deals with a slave-girl who had been sold by her mother and her brother, probably for debts. Later on, her mother and her sisters tried to buy her freedom. Nevertheless, the slave-girl was adjudged

to Ur-guena, the claimant and legal owner, since there was no authorization of the king for the redemption. A similar case can be found in *NSGU* 71.

obv. <i>Beginning destroyed (3-4 lines).</i>	[Concluded case: ... The girl [...] <i>ša-inzu</i>]
1' [Ur-gú]-en-[na] ^ṛ x x ^ṛ	Ur-guena ...
2' [...] ^ṛ x x ^ṛ -[...]	[for the price of] ...
3' ^ṛ Géme-ga ^ṛ -š[i]m ama-ni]- ^ṛ šè ^ṛ	from [her mother] Geme-gašim
4' ù Ur- ^{dr} Šára ^ṛ ^ṛ šeš ^ṛ -[a]-na	and from her brother Ur-Šara
5' in-š[i]-[s]a ₁₀	has bought.
6' ^ṛ Géme-ga ^ṛ -šim ama-ni	Her mother Geme-gašim,
7' ù nin ₉ -a-ne-ne	and her sisters
8' ^ṛ ga ^ṛ -an-du ₈ bí-eš	have declared: "I shall redeem her!".
9' di-ku ₅ -re-ne	(But) the judges
10' sag sa ₁₀ -a nu-du ₈ - ^ṛ a ^ṛ // inim lugal	that the purchased slave has not been released, (and) that the royal decree
rev. 1 [nu-šub-ba in-gi-né-eš(?)]	[has not been handed down, they have confirmed (?)].
2 [...] ^ṛ ša ₆ ^ṛ -in- ^ṛ zu ^ṛ // nam-géme-šè	(Then) [...] <i>ša-inzu</i> , in the status of slave-girl,
3 Ur-gú-en-na-ra // ba-na-gi-in	to Ur-guena has been confirmed.
4 Ba-ba-gu ₁₀ maškim	Babagu was the commissioner.
<i>Blank space.</i>	
5 [it]i diri še-sag ₁₁ -ku ₅	Month xi ²
6 ^ṛ ū ^ṛ iti še-sag ₁₁ -ku ₅	and month xi.
7 [m]u gu-za ^d En-líl-l[á // ba-dím]	AS 3.

obv.8': a similar construction, where the declarative verb is in plural but the cohortative form is to be understood as singular, is found in *ITT* 2 3547:11 (= *NSGU* 169:11, commented by P. Michalowski, "Sumerian as an Ergative Language. I", *JCS* 32 [1980] 98): *lú-inim-ma-bi ga-mu-DU bí-in-eš*. Following P. Attinger (*Éléments de linguistique sumérienne*, Göttingen 1993, p. 386), the form *bí-eš* is attested in *MVN* 5 262:5.

obv.10': for *inim-lugal--šub* "to issue the king's decree", see A. Falkenstein, *NSGU* 1, p. 90; P. Steinkeller, *Sale Documents*, pp. 99-100.

3. BM 22871 (97-5-11-17)

Size: 89 x 51 x 26 (fragment: 2-3 cm of the tablet lost).

Date: ŠS 1 or 2.

The text records the verdict of a case with a long history. It begins when, being governor Nanna-zišagal, Ur-šaga was defeated in a process for the property of a store against the heirs of GIŠGAL-di. Ur-šaga raised a new claim when the next governor, Šarakam, was in charge, but he was again defeated. Under the new governor (the text dates to ŠS 1 or 2, when Aradmu was governor of Girsu), it is Ur-Baba, Ur-šaga's son, the responsible for a new claim against Lu-nammaḥ, who had bought the estate from the descendants of GIŠGAL-di. Just like his father before, Ur-Baba is now defeated in the process.

obv. <i>Beginning destroyed (4-5 lines).</i>	[Concluded case: "a store (<i>gá-nun</i>) (for the price of ...)]
1' GIŠGAL-[di-šè]	from GIŠGAL-di
2' in-š[i]-s[a ₁₀ -a bí-du ₁₁ (-ga)]	I bought", (Ur-šaga) declared;
3' Ur-ša ₆ -ga-[a]	Ur-šaga
4' dub <i>gá-nun</i> sa ₁₀ -a- ^ṛ bí ^ṛ nu-mu-//da-DU-a	could not bring the receipt for the purchase of the store;
5' ì-bí-la GIŠGAL-di-da-ke ₄ -ne	(the store) to the heirs of GIŠGAL-di
6' ba-ne-a-sum-ma	was given:
7' Ša ₆ -da maškim	Šada was the commissioner (in the first process),
8' di-til-la ^d Nanna-zi-šà-gál // énsi-ka	(and it was) a concluded case of Nanna-zišagal, the governor.
9' Ur-ša ₆ -ga	Ur-šaga

10'	di-da ba-a-gi ₄ -a	went back on the process,
11'	di gá-nun-ka	(but) in the case of the store
12'	ba-an-tak ₄ -a	he was (again) defeated,
13'	ì-bí-la GIŠGAL-di-da-//ke ₄ -ne	(and the store) to the heirs of GIŠGAL-di
rev. 1	ba-ne- ⁷ a ⁷ -gi-na	was confirmed:
2	Ša ₆ -da ⁷ maškim	Šada was the commissioner (in the second process),
3	di-til- ⁷ la ⁷ rd Šára-kam ⁷ énsi-ka	(and it was) a concluded case of Šarakam, the governor.
4	é gá ⁷ -nun ⁷ A ₂ /Da ⁷ -na-AŠ-da Ur-// Ša ₆ -ga ⁷ -a ^{gis} kiri ₆ ⁷ ba-gub-ba	The estate of the store ..., in which Ur-šaga had planted an orchard,
5	Lú-nám- ⁷ maḥ ⁷ dumu ⁷ Ur ₃ ⁷ -re-ba-du ₇ -// ⁷ ke ₄ ⁷	Lu-nammaḥ, the son of Ure-badu,
6	ì-bí-la dumu GIŠGAL-di-da-//ke ₄ -ne	from the heirs of the son of GIŠGAL-di,
7	⁷ ba-ne ⁷ -a-ši- ⁷ sa ₁₀ ⁷	has bought.
8	Ur- ^d Ba- ⁷ ba ₆ ⁷ ⁷ dumu ⁷ ⁷ Ur-ša ₆ ⁷ -ga-ke ₄	Ur-Baba, the son of Ur-šaga,
9	⁷ Lú-nám-maḥ-ra ⁷	against Lu-nammaḥ
10	inim in-ni- ^{g4} gar ^{ar}	has raised a claim,
11	⁷ Ur ⁷ - ^d Ba-ba ₆ ⁷ ⁷ di-da ⁷ ba-an- ⁷ tak ₄ ⁷	(but) Ur-Baba has been defeated in the process.
	<i>Rest destroyed (4-5 lines).</i>	[Award of the estate on behalf of Lu-nammaḥ. Commissioner and judges.]
ed.	[mu (ús-sa) ^d]Šu- ^d ṣuen ⁷ lugal	ŠS 1 or 2.

obv.5': for the PN GIŠGAL-di.d, see A. Falkenstein, *NSGU* 1, p. 36 n. 2.

rev.4: I can not give an interpretation for ⁷A₂/Da⁷-na-AŠ-da (PN/GN?).

4. BM 23678 (98-2-15-60)

Size: 128 x 57 x30.

Date: AS 8/iv.

This text, though badly damaged in its obverse, offers some interesting details about a process concerning slavery for debts. It deals with a woman called Damqat who was sold to Ur-nim in debt servitude. After twenty years of being in service, and probably after her father's (named Nūr-[...]) death, she tried to get released in a process undertaken together with her brother. Damqat claimed that the silver which was intended to pay the debts for her freedom, and which actually belonged to her father, had been received, but spent by her mother (who is said to be free from obligations for debts). Damqat asked the collectors of debts of her father to swear and support her version. They in fact took the oath but it did not help Damqat since she was confirmed as maidservant to Ur-nim, and her brother renounced to raise any further claims.

obv.1	⁷ di ⁷ -til-[la]	Concluded case:
2	¹ Dam-q[á-at ...] // [...] ⁷ x ⁷	Damqat [...];
3	1.3.2 ⁷ še ⁷ [...] ⁷ x ⁷ -ta	500 (sila) of barley from [...],
4	1.3.2 [...-t]a	500 (sila of barley) from [...],
5	1.1.2 [...-t]a	380 (sila of barley) from [...];
6	šu-nigin 4.3.[0 še gur-lugal (?)] mu-//bi ⁷ x ⁷ [...f]b-gar	total 1380 (sila) [of barley according to the royal gur] the year [...] he deposited.
7	ki ⁷ x ⁷ [...] ⁷ x ⁷	From ...
8	Nu-úr- ⁷ x ⁷ [...] ⁷ x ⁷	Nūr-...
9	mur ₇ Nu-ú[r-...-ta]	After (the death of) Nūr-[...]
10	Ša ₆ - ⁷ x ⁷ [...] ⁷ x ⁷ HI	PN ₁ , ...
11	lú-[...]-me	who were the [...],
12	IGI ⁷ x ⁷ [...] ⁷ x ⁷ ⁷ nir ⁷ -ra // nu [...] ⁷ x ⁷ ...	
13	m[u ...] ⁷ x ⁷ -ba	...
14	[...]-šè	...
15	[...]- ⁷ ka ⁷	...

16 [...]	...
17 [...] 𒄀	...
18 [...] 𒄀	...
<i>1 or 2 lines lost.</i>	
rev.1 𒄀 ⁷ -bi-x ⁷ [...]//ni-ke ₄ -ne [...]	[...]...
2 mu ^d Nanna 𒊕ar-zi-da ⁷ //	From the year in which Nanna was brought to
é-a-na ba-an-ku ₄ -ta	his temple (§ 36),
3 <i>Dam-qá-at</i> nam-géme-šè	Damqat, in the status of maidservant,
4 mu 20-àm Ur-nim-ra in-//	was in service for Ur-nim during 20 years.
na-gub-ba-àm	
5 <i>Dam-qá-at</i> ù KA-𒊕a ⁷ -a ašgab //	Damqat and her brother KA-la'a, the
šeš-a-ni di bí-𒄀 ⁷ -éš	leatherworker, undertook a process.
6 <i>Dam-qá-at-e</i> kù-gu ₁₀ ama-nir-//	"It was my mother, free from obligations (for
ra-gu ₁₀ -um	debts), who my silver
7 ba-an-gu ₇ bí-du ₁₁	consumed", Damqat declared.
8 lú-ur ₅ -ra ab-ba-gá-ke ₄ -ne	"May the collectors of debts of my father
9 níg-tuku ab-ba-gá-šè-àm šu ba-//	swear for me that she (Damqat's mother)
an-ti-a nam-érim-bi 𒄀 ⁷ -ma-//	received (the silver) as property of my father",
ku ₅ -e bí-in-𒄀 ⁷ du ₁₁	(Damqat) declared.
10 lú-ur ₅ -ra ab-ba-na 3-a-𒄀 ⁷ bí	The collectors of debts of her father, the three of them,
11 nam-érim-bi in-ku ₅ -éš	have taken the oath.
12 <i>Dam-qá-at</i> nam-géme-šè	Damqat, in the status of maidservant,
13 Ur-nim-ra ba-na-gi-né	has been confirmed to Ur-nim.
14 KA-la-a ašgab-e túg in-ùr	KA-la'a, the leatherworker, renounced all claims.
15 Lu ₂ -URUxKAR ₂ ^{ki} dumu	Lu-URUxKAR, son of Ur-Baba, was the
Ur- ^d Ba-ba ₆ maškim	commissioner.
16 ¹ Lú- ^d Šára	Lu-Šára,
17 ¹¹ Ur- ^d Ištaran	(and) Ur-Ištaran
18 [d]i-ku ₅ -bi-me	were the judges.
19 [it]i šu-numun	Month iv.
ed.1 mu en Eridu ^{ki} -ga ba-a-ḥun	AS 8.
2 gaba-ri di-til-la-bi [(...)] // pisan	A copy of this "concluded case" [(...)] has been
é-gal-ka ì-íb-g[ar ²]	deposited (?) in a basket (for tablets) of the palace.

rev.5: the form di bí-né-éš is not attested, to my knowledge, in the Ur III juridical corpus; cf. only NSGU 150:4 (PN₁ PN₂ di bí-in-[eš]).

rev.6: I interpret nir as a probable equivalent of *zakû* in its meaning "to become free from specific claims or obligations" (see CAD Z s.v. *zakû*, pp. 25 ss., with lexical references, especially nir-nir = *zu-uk-ku-ú* MSL 13, p. 23:185). This word is also found on l. 12.

rev.7: for the meaning "to consume, to receive" of gu₇ with kù as object, see P. Steinkeller, *Sale Documents*, p. 25 n. 3; I.J. Gelb – P. Steinkeller – R.M. Whiting, *ELTS*, p. 230.

rev.8: for lú-ur₅-ra "collector of debts" (not "creditor"), see A.L. Oppenheim, *AOS* 32, p. 142: TT6; H. Steible, *FAOS* 9/2, p. 16.

5. BM 23747 (98-2-15-129)

Size: 88 x 50 x 26.

Date: AS 3/xi²-xi.

The tablet, hardly legible on its obverse, deals with the claim of Akala with regard to a gift, namely an estate and two slave-girls, that his father made to Nin-gula (= sister of Akala?). The claim was raised against Lugal-igi-ḥuš (I can not say which is his relationship with the family of Akala), and after the statement of Akala and the oath of somebody else, the judges granted the possession of the estate and the slave-girls to the claimant. For texts dealing with cases involving gifts, see NSGU 1, pp. 128-129.

obv.1 di-til-[la]	Concluded case:
2 1 [(+x)] sar 10+ ² g[ín é]	[An estate of] 1 [+?] 1/5 sar (= ca. 43,2 [+?] m ²),
3 ¹ Nin- ^r x-na ^r ^r x ^r -[(x)]	the slave-girl called Nin-...-na-...,
4 ¹ Nin- ^r á ^r -gu ₁₀ ^r dumu-[ni]	(and) her daughter Nin-á ^r -gu ₁₀ ^r ,
5 nig-ba Nin ₉ -gu- ^r la ^r -r[a] //	Ĥuša delivered as a gift for Nin-gula.
Ĥu- ^r ša ₆ ^r -a ì-è-[a]	
6 A-kal- ^r la ^r ^r dumu Ĥu-š[a ₆]	Akala, son of Ĥuša,
7 Lugal-igi-ĥ[uš sim]ug ^r	raised a claim against Lugal-igi-ĥ[uš, the smi]th ^r .
ini[m bí]-//[gar] ^{ar}	
8 ^r Ur- ^d Lama ^r ^r énsi ^r -[ra]	To Ur-Lama, the governor,
9 A-kal- ^r la ^r ^r in-na ^r -d[u ₁₁]	(this is what) Akala said.
10 igi ^r x ^r - ^d r ^r x ^r [...] ^r x ^r	Before ...,
11 Ur- ^d r ^r x x x ^r	Ur-...
12 nam-érim- ^r ám ^r	swore.
13 é ù sag-2-a-b[i]	The estate and the two slaves
14 A-kal-la ba- ^r na ^r -gi-[in]	were confirmed to Akala.
15 Ur- ^d En-ki gu-za-[lá] ^r maškim ^r	Ur-Enki, the thronebearer, was the commissioner.
rev. <i>Blank space.</i>	
1 iti diri še-sag ₁₁ -ku ₅ ù [še]-//sag ₁₁ -[ku ₅] Month xi ² and month xi.	
2 mu gu-za ^d En-[líl -lá] // b[a-dím] AS 3.	

6. BM 25739 (98-2-16-793)

Size: 50 x 49 x 21 (fragment: over half of the tablet lost).

Date: AS 8/xi.

The text records a verdict concerning lands which were property of the governor and had been granted to Lu-Baba. Probably after his death and the claim of somebody whose name and reasons are not preserved, the field was confirmed to the wife of Lu-Baba.

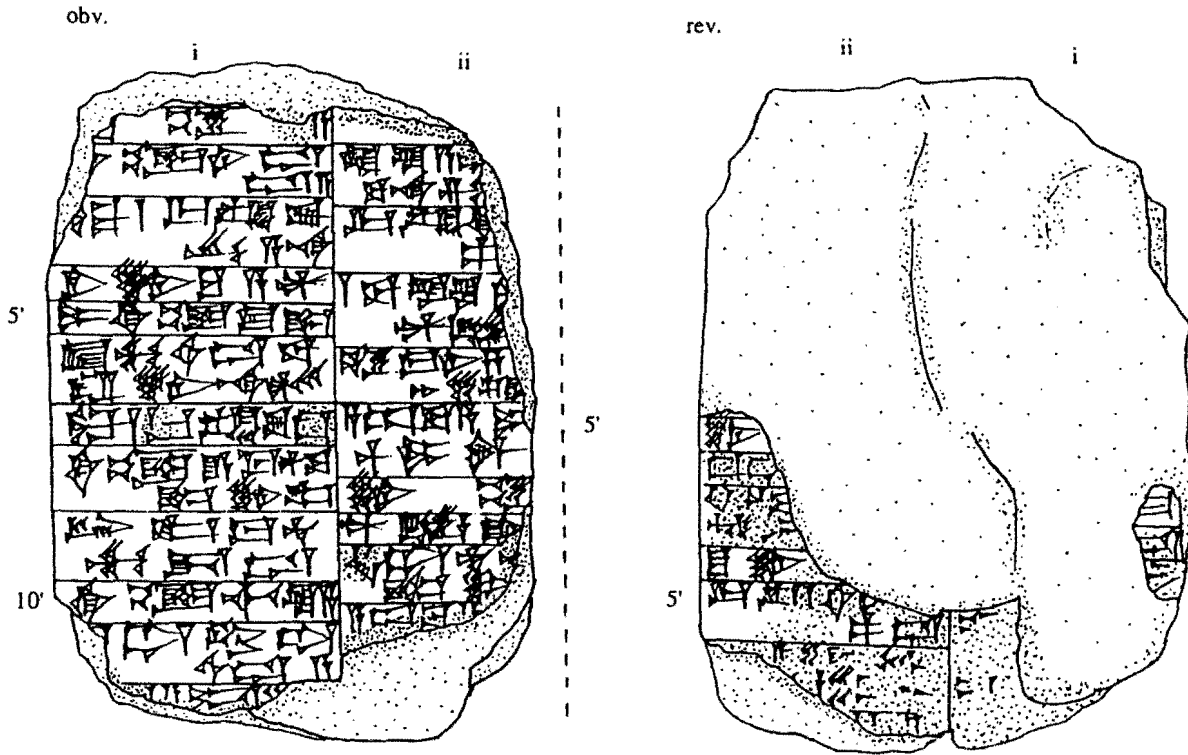
obv.1 di-til-la	Concluded case:
2 60+7 sar ù i ₇ -da // gú ^d Ba-ba ₆ -ĥé-gál	67 sar (stretch of) the levee(?) of the canal, (which is located) on the bank of the Baba-ĥegal(-canal),
3 igi gir ₄ 1 (bùr) 4 (iku) zag á //	(and the land located) in front of the oven(s), (with a stretch of) 1 bùr and 4 iku, beside the limits of Girsu,
Gír-su ^{ki} -bi	was property of the governor.
4 ní-gál-la énsi-ka	The 'grand vizier'
5 sukkal-maĥ-e	to Lu-Baba, son of ...
6 ^r Lú- ^d Ba-ba ₆ ^r ^r dumu ^r ^r x ^r	
<i>Rest destroyed (over half of the tablet).</i>	
rev. <i>Beginning destroyed.</i>	
1' ^r nam-érim-bí ^r [i-ku ₅]	(he) took the oath.
2' a-ša- ^r bí ^r Géme- ^r Ba-ba ₆ ^r dam //	To Geme-Baba, the wife of Lu-Baba the
Lú- ^d Ba-ba ₆ ^r ^r nar ^r -ra	singer, this field
3' b[a-n]a-gi- ^r né ^r	he confirms.
4' U[r- ^d]Ištaran maškim	Ur-Ištaran was the commissioner.
5' <i>Blank line.</i>	
6' ¹ Lú- ^d Šára ^r	Lu-Šara,
7' ¹ Lú-Ib-gal	Lu-Ibgal,
8' ¹ Lú-dingir-ra	Lu-dingira
9' ¹ Ur- ^d Ištaran	(and) Ur-Ištaran
10' di-ku ₅ -bi-me	were de judges.
11' Ur- ^d Nanše di-ku ₅ é ^d Nanna //	Ur-Nanše, judge of the temple of Nanna,
di-ba in-gub-àm	was present at this process.
ed. iti še-sag ₁₁ -ku ₅ mu en E[ridu ^{ki} (ba-ĥun)] Month xi. AS 8.	

obv.2: for the canal ^dBa-ba₆-h_é-gál, see *RGTC* 2, p. 257. About the term ù, see M. Civil, *Farmer's Instructions*, pp. 131-132, who concludes that “the ù would thus be high ground, perhaps old levees or even an island, near the river or canal banks”.

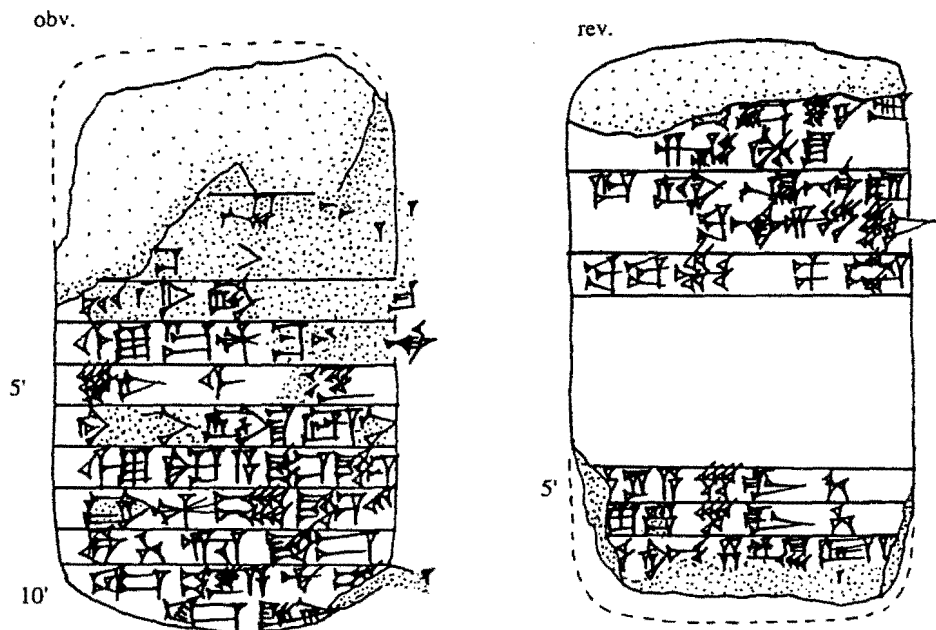
obv.3: for gir₄ in Girsu, see A. Falkenstein, *AnOr* 30, p. 136 (about the gir₄-maḥ of the Eninnu), and n. 2 (about gir₄ in general).

rev.11': Ur-^dNanše di-ku₅ é-^dNanna is also mentioned (Ur-^dNanše' (AB)) in *ITT* 5 6707:12 (= *NSGU* 123; see *NSGU* 1, p. 45).

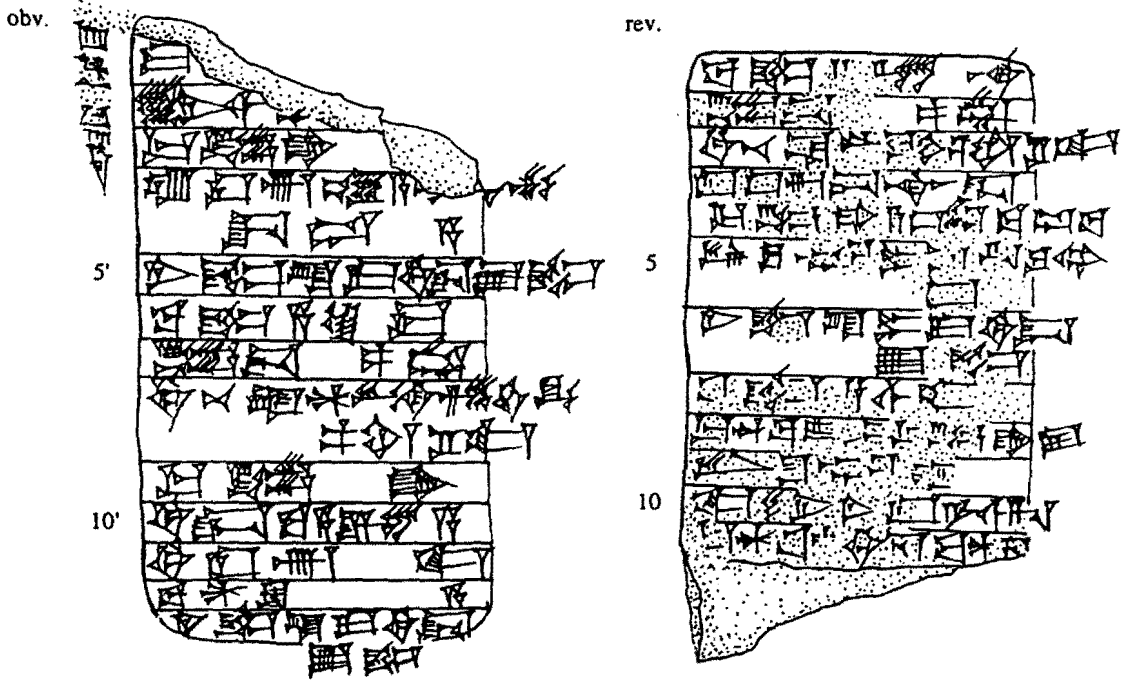
1. BM 22858 (97-5-11-4)



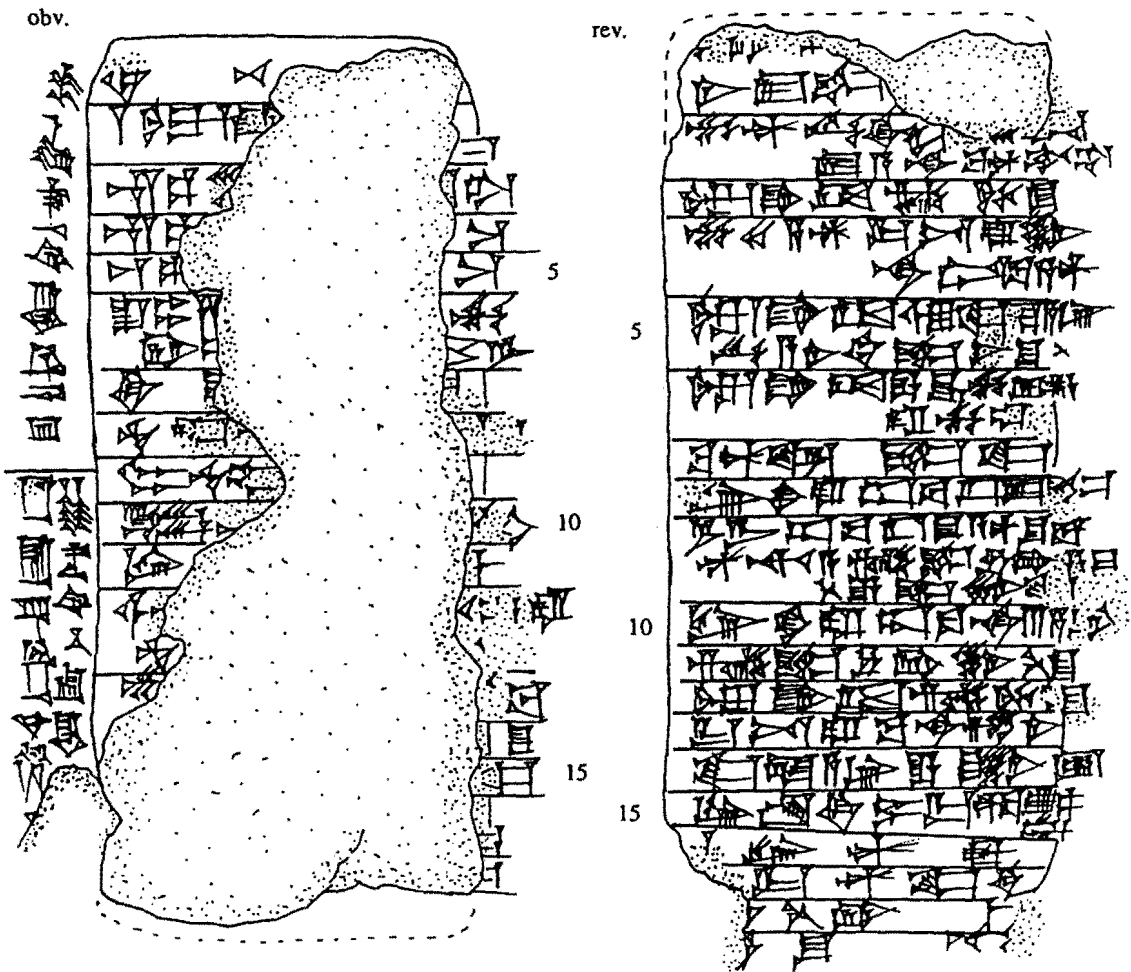
2. BM 22861 (97-5-11-7)



3. BM 22871 (97-5-11-17)

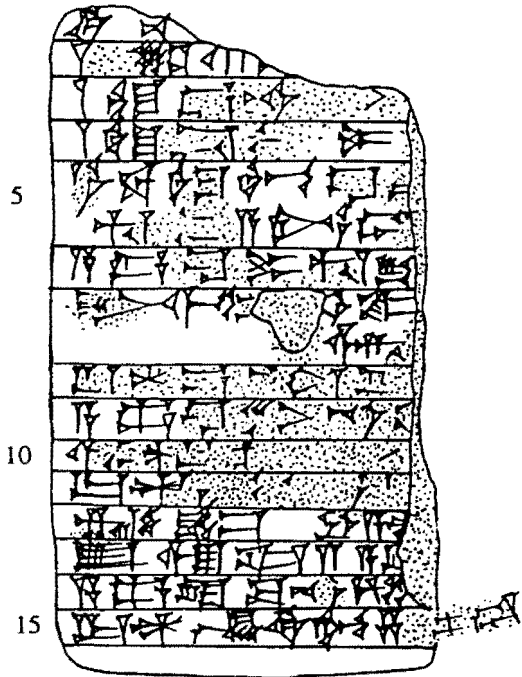


4. BM 23678 (98-2-15-60)

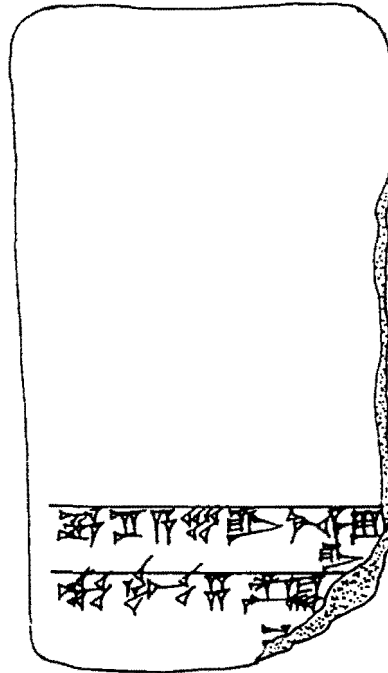


5. BM 23747 (98-2-15-129)

obv.

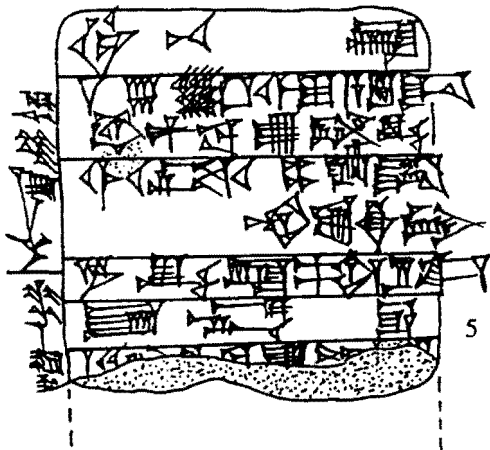


rev.



6. BM 25739 (98-2-16-793)

obv.



rev.

