Unpublished Cuneiform Texts from Old Babylonian Period

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Abstract:
The cuneiform texts particularly the economic texts are considered as one of the most important documents that reflect the reality of everyday life, in fact among the periods of Mesopotamia the Old Babylonian Period (1595-2004 B.C) was characterized by development of economic activity which was reflected in the economic cuneiform texts as an ideal material to study the economic and social conditions of that period. This research studied five unpublished cuneiform texts which are part of forfeit texts belong to the Iraqi Museum. Therefore, their location and reference are unknown, one of them belong to (Abi-ešuḫ) the eighth king of the First Dynasty of Babylon, another one had a new date formula we think that belong to (Abi-sare) the sixth king of Larsa city, three of them hadn't date formula this made difficulty of determining the length of time for the these texts, but they generally belong to the Old Babylonian Period, based on personal names that was contained which were common names there, as well as the way of writing that supports these texts belong to Old Babylonian Period.

Key words:
Cuneiform, Babylonian, Text, Contract, Sumerian, Akkadian, Barley, silver, Date formula, Year, month, day

Contents of texts:
Text (1): (I.M: 163763)
It is a rent contract for a field planted with reeds, it is about a man he is called (kurūm) rents one to three of the field from a woman she is called (imērtum), for yearly rent, this field lies in the middle of abandoned land "land unsuitable for agriculture", and he will have usufruct for one to three of the barley's field returns. Unfortunately the reverse of the text had broken; that makes date formula is unknown.

Text (2): (I.M: 163732)
It is a partnership contract for amount from silver, a man received (5) shekel from silver, he will pay back this amount at the beginning of the month, the contract was by presence of two persons as witnesses, in Abu at a new date formula the year which the stronghold of baluḫnum had been destroyed.
Text (3): (I.M: 163758)

It is a list of different types for sheep; the text hadn't date formula, but probably belongs to Old Babylonian Period, based by the way of writing.

Text (4): (I.M: 212823)

It is list of barley’s amounts for persons, the text dated to 23rd of Tašrītu from reign of the king Abi-ešuḫ.

Text (5): (I.M: 160725)

It is name list for eighteen migrant workers, the text hadn't date because it had broken in the end of text, but probably belong to Old Babylonian Period, based by personal names and the way of writing.

Text (1)

Details of the text:
No: I.M 163763
Dimensions: 7.6 ×4.5 ×2.1 cm
Subject: A rent contract a field planted with reeds
Date: Broken date formula
Seal impression: Damaged
Transliteration:

Obv.
[x] ikku (IKU) eqlum (A.ŠA₂) urbatānu (GUG₄.ŠE)
libbu (ŠA₂) eqlum (A.ŠA₂) burubalû (KI.BAD)
eqlum (A.ŠA₂) im-me-er-tum
itûm (US₂.A.DU) u₂-ši₂-na-wi-ir
5- ana erēšutim (NAM.APIN.LA₂) idû (A₂) MU.U₂.A.ŠE₃
šullušu (IGI.3.GAL₂.ŠE₃)
ištu ("KI") im-me-er-tum ana (TA)
ku-ru-um
IB₂.TA.AN.E₃
10- šeum₂ (ŠE) eqlim (A.ŠA₃.GA) ik-al-[am]
[x] šullušu IGI.3.GAL₂.ŠE₃
The rest was missed

Rev.

The rest was broken

Translation:

Obv.
[x] GAN a field planted with reeds
in the middle of abandoned land
the field of Immērtum
one long-side adjoining Ušinawir
5- for the purpose of cultivating (by) yearly wage
(at the rate of ) one - third (of the retuns)
[f]rom Immērtum to
Kurūm
(has) rented
10- the barley of the field he has usufruct
one - third (of it)

The rest was missed

Rev.
The rest was broken

Explanation of vocabulary:
IKU: A Sumerian word used for an measurement unit of land, it equals 3,528 sq. meters, it is synonym (ikkum) in Akkadian (1).
MU.U₂.A: An Sumerian term, it means (yearly) in English, it's also comes as (MU.U.A) (2).
IGI. 3 .GAL₂: A Sumerian term, it means (1/3) or (one-third) in English, it is synonym (šullušu) in Akkadian (3).
IB₂_.TA_.AN_.E₃: a Sumerian verb in past tense, it means (rented) in English, it is synonym (ūšeši) in Akkadian from the infinitive (wašu) (4).

ik-al: An Akkadian verb in present simple tense for (3rd male person), it means (he has usufruct) in English, from the infinitive (ākalu) (5).

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Text (2)

Details of the text:
No: IM. 163732
Dimensions: 4.3× 3.4 ×1.8 cm
Subject : Partnership contract
Date : Abu month for reign of unknown king from Early Old Babylonian period
Seal impression : Damaged
Transliteration:
Obv.
5 šequlu (GIN₂) kaspum (KU₃.BABBAR)
tappûtu (‘NAM’.TAB.BA)
ištu (KI) i-bi- ëNIN.ŠUBUR’
warad (IR₃) – ësin (ENZU)
5-
ŠU.BA.AN.TI
uskāru (SAG.U₄.SAKAR)
I₃.LA.E

Rev.
šibu (IGI) hu-[x-x]
šibu (IGI) at-r[a-x]
10- warḫu (ITU) abu (NE.NE.GAR)
šattu (MU) dūru (BAD₃) ba-lu’-uḫ-nu-um
tq-qu-ur
Translation:

Obv.
5 shekels of silver
for partnership
from Ibi-\(d\)Ninšubur
Warad-\(d\)Sin
(he) received
in the beginning of the new month
(he) weighs

Rev.
before (witness) hu-x-x
before (witness) at-ra-x
the month of abu
Year stronghold of baluḫnum
(or the stronghold that is called baluḫnum)
destroyed

Explanation of vocabulary:
GIN\(_2\): A Sumerian unit for weight measure, it equals (8.3) gram for weight nowadays, it is synonym (šeqlu) in Akkadian \(^6\).
ŠU.BA.AN.TI: A Sumerian compound verb in the passive form, it means (it was received) in English, it is synonym (illeqqi) in Akkadian from the infinitive (leqû) \(^7\).
I\(_3\).LA.E: A Sumerian verb in the present form, it means (to weigh) in English, it is synonym (išaqqal) in Akkadian, from the infinitive (šaqālu) \(^8\).
NE.NE.GAR: A Sumerian term, it is (August) in English, and it is the fifth month in the south of Babylonian, it is synonym (abu) in Akkadian \(^9\).
iq-qu-ur: An Akkadian verb in the past simple tense for (3\(^{rd}\) male person) subject , from the Akkadian infinitive (naqāru) , it means (he destroyed) in English \(^10\).

Notes:
1) Baluḫnum\(^1\): this name perhaps refers to unknown city or name of unknown stronghold for a city.

There is another suggestion about the transliteration of this name, may be is (BA.U\(_2\) uḫ-nu-um) instead of (Baluḫnum\(^1\)), this name gives mean (The holy Bau).

This name mentioned in other texts as different transliterations:
- MU BAD\(_3\),GAL BA.U\(_2\) GIR.NU.UM \(^{11}\)
- MU BAD\(_3\) BA.U\(_2\) [GIR].NU.UM \(^{12}\)
2) Date formula: we have studied a group of texts that mentions this date formula and we reached to suppose that this year belongs to (Abi-sare) the sixth king of Larsa city by these evidences:-
a) The texts that we study which contain the two important persons (i-bi-dNIN.ŠUBUR) and (puzur₄-bu-u₂) are similar with the outside form and the way of writing, it proves that the two persons are in the same date.

b) (puzur₄-bu-u₂) has mentioned when he paid guarantee as amount of silver to someone at the eighth year of (Abi-sare) (13). In two texts, he has mentioned when he lends amount of silver and barley with and without benefit, at the same date formula that we have in this text (14).

c) (i-bi-dNIN.ŠUBUR) has mentioned at the third year of (Abi-sare) when he lends barley bran without benefit (15). He is also mentioned when he buys amount of oil, in a year that belongs to (Abi-sare) (16). He has also mentioned when he lends silver without benefit, at the same date formula that we have in this text (17). Another partnership contract mentioned him outside this research in the same date formula that we have in this text (18).

d) (Warad-d-sin), the other person in the contract, has mentioned in two partnership contracts with (i-bi-dNIN.ŠUBUR), in the same date formula, one of them this text that we have (19).

e) The incomplete name of the witness (at-ra-x) has mentioned in two partnership contracts that include two persons (i-bi-dNIN.ŠUBUR), (puzur₄-bu-u₂), one of these texts is this text that we have (20).

This approve that the text belongs to the same group that we studied outside this research, that means it belongs to Larsa city and a year belongs to Early Old Babylonian Period, particularly the reign of (Abi-sare), it is also explain that the two persons have a great economic situation in Larsa city by borrowing silver and barely to another person's with benefit or without benefit or have partnership with others (21).

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Text (3)

Details of the text:
No: I.M. 163758
Dimension: 6.4×5.1×2.3 cm
Subject: List for various sheep
Date: No date
Seal impression: No seals
Transliteration:
Obv.

46    laḫru (U₈)
120   buqamtu(MUNUS SILA₄ UR₄)
17    lillidu(SILA₄ GUB₃)
12    enzu (UZ₃)
unīqu(MUNUS AŠ₂.GAR₃)
dāššu (MAŠ₂.NITA)

Translation:
Obv.
46 Ewe
120 Lamb
17 mature sheep
12 Goat

5- 16 female kid goat
60 male of goat

Rev.
empty

Text (4)

Details of the text:
No: I.M 212823
Dimensions: 5.5× 4.2×2.2 cm
Subject: List of barley amounts for persons
Date: 23rd of Tašrītu from reign of the king Abi-ešuḫ
Seal impression: No seals

Transliteration:
Obv.
1(PI) 4 (BAN₂) sa-ar-am
2(PI) 2 (BAN₂) sin-na-di-in-šu-mi
2 (BAN₂) SIPA
1(PI) 2 (BAN₂) ša awil₄ śamaš(UTU)-na-ṣir
5- 4(PI) 4 (BAN₂) ēllu (GUB₂) - sin-ra-[x]-ršu
ŠA₃₆(SILA₃) a-wi-la-tum
1 (GUR) ḫi-ia-ra-bu-tum
2 (BAN₂) [x]-šab-ba-ak

Lo. edge
i-ma-[ḫa-ar-u₂]

Rev.
10- 3(PI) 2 (BAN₂) ku-šur-ra-tum
1(PI) 2 (BAN₂) ti-ğî-ia
1(PI) 1 (BAN₂) i-din-Ş[d]sin(ENZU)'
5(PI) ḫi-ia-ra-bu-tum
5 (BAN₂) awil (LU₂)-ra-ki-bu
15- 4 (GUR) ERIN₂ [UD].UNUGKI
2(PI) 4(BAN₂) ERIN₂ ʾi₃-ši- in Ki
1(PI) 2(BAN₂) na-di-[.....]
Translation:

Obv.
0.1.4.0 kor (for) Saram
0.2.2.0 kor (for) Sin- nadin-šumi
0.0.2.0 kor (for) The shepherd
0.1.2.0 kor (for) Ša-awil-Šamaš-našir
5- 0.4.4.0 kor (for) Ellu-Šin-ra-x-šu
ŠA₃ 0.0.0.6 kor (for) Awilatum
1.0.0.0 kor (for) Adad-gamil the diviner
1.0.2.0 kor (for) x-šabak

Lo. edge
(They) receive

Rev.
10- 0.3.2.0 kor (for) Kušurratum
0.1.2.0 kor (for) Tigia
0.1.1.0 kor (for) Idin-Šin
0.5.0.0 kor (for) Ḥia-rabutum
0.0.5.0 kor (for) Āwil - rakbu
15- 4.0.0.0 kor (for) The worker (from) Larsa
0.2.4.0 kor (for) The worker (from) Isin
0.1.2.0 kor (for) Nadi-[-.....]

Le. edge
On the 23rd day of the month Tašrītu
The year of the king Abi-ešuḫ
20- (that) Marduk and ........

Note:
This is a short date formula of the year in which King Abi-ešuḫ made representations for the gods Marduk and Serbanitum, a year whose date is unknown, it claims (u)

Explanation of vocabulary:
PI: A Sumerian unit for barely measure, it is synonym (pānum) in Akkadian, it equals (60 liter) for weight nowadays (22).
BAN₂: A Sumerian unit for barely measure, it is synonym (sutum) in Akkadian, it equals (10 liter) for weight nowadays (23).
SILA₃: A Sumerian unit for barely measure, it is synonym (qû / qa) in Akkadian, it equals (1 liter) for weight nowadays (24).
GUR: A Sumerian unit for barely measure, it is synonym (kurrum) in Akkadian, it equals (300 liter) for weight nowadays (25).
UD.UNUGKI: A Sumerian name for (Larsa) city (26).
i₃-si-inₖᵢ: An Akkadian name for (Isin) city (27).
DU₆.KU₃: A Sumerian month name, it means (October) in English, it is synonym (tašrītu) in Akkadian (28).
KAM₂: A Sumerian word to covert a number to an ordinal number (29).
BLDA.KE₄: A Sumerian conjunction for names, it means (and) in English (30).

Text (5)

Details of the text:
No: I.M 160725
Dimensions: 6.4 × 4.6 × 2.0 cm
Subject: Names list for migrant workers
Date: No date
Seal impression: No seals
Transliteration:
Obv

m [……..]
m a-we-el-[um]
m a-bi-ṭa₃-bu-um
m i₃-il₂-tu-ra-am mār(DU[MU]………)

5-
m tur₃-ma-il₃ mār (DUMU) tur₃-x-x
m pa-al-šu-um mār si-na-t[um]
m i₃-li₂-u₃ -šamaš(UTU) mār ni-iš-i-[li₂]
m tur₃-li-ia mār i₃-li₂-ma-a-‘hi’
m ḫa-ab₃-.lu-um mār i-ri-bu-ša

10-
m i-ku-[x-x mār] gi-mił-ru-u₂
m a-li₂-wa-[aq]-rum < mār > awil (LU₂) –d Amurru (MAR.TU)
m mu-tum-ili LU₂.KUR₂
m tur₃-re-me-ni mār ad-ip-tum

Rev.
m i₃-li₂-u₃ -šamaš(UTU) < mār > awil (LU₂) a-pil-
d amurru(MAR.TU)

15-
m a-wi-ia-tum mār an-na-a-ḫu-um
m a-da-a-a-tum mār si₂-li₃-Adad (IM)
m nu-ur₂-ku-bi mār a-da-hi-e-ḫu
m sa₂-a-lum mār ma-tum-še₂-ru

18 sab (ERIN₂) ḫabbatim (LU₂.SA.GAZ)

20-
ša i-li₂-tu-ra-₃ am₃
MA.A ḥi-iš-[……..]
Translation:

Obv

m [........]

m Awēl[um]

m Abi-ṭabum

m Ilī-turam [son of ...........]

m Turma-il son of Tur-x-x

m Pālṣum son of Sinat[um]

m Ilū ṭ šamaš son of Nīṣ-[i]li

m Tur-iṭa son of Ilīma aʾḫiʾ

m Ḥāblum, son of Iribuša

10-

m Iku-[x-x son of ] Gimil-ru-u₂

m Ali-w[aq]rum [son of] Awil-ṭamrūnu

m Mutum-ilī Stranger

m Tur-remeni son of Adiptum

Rev.

m Ilū ṭ šamaš [son of] Awil a-pil-ṭamrūnu

15-

m Awiatum son of Anna-ḫum

m Adātum son of Sili-ṭ Adad

m Nūr-kubi son of Adahielum

m Sālum son of Matum-šēru

18 woker(s) migrant worker

20-

Belong to Ilī-turam

from ḫi-iṣ-[........]

Explanation of vocabulary:

MA.A: A Sumerian word, it means (from, wherefrom, where?) in English, it is synonym (ajanu) in Akkadian (31).

List of Sumerian words

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<td>A.SA₃</td>
<td>eqlum</td>
<td>Field</td>
<td>CDA, p.249;AHw, p.231</td>
<td>T(1):1,2,3,10</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>BAD₃</td>
<td>dūru</td>
<td>Stronghold</td>
<td>CDA,P. MDA,P.105, No: 152c</td>
<td>T(2):11</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>DUMU</td>
<td>Marum</td>
<td>Son</td>
<td>MDA, P.101; No:144; CDA, P.199a</td>
<td>T(5):4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,1,4,15,16,17</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>IGI</td>
<td>šibum</td>
<td>Witness</td>
<td>AHw, p. 585 ;AHw, P.12288:a</td>
<td>T(2):8,9</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>ITU</td>
<td>(w)arḥu</td>
<td>Month</td>
<td>CDA,P. 21:b.</td>
<td>T(2):10</td>
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### List of Sumerian terms

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<th>Reference</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>MUNUS AŠ₂.GAR₃</td>
<td>uniqa</td>
<td>Female kid goat</td>
<td>MDA, p.229, No:554; ABZ, P.361; CDA, P.423.</td>
<td>T(3):5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>GUG₄.SE</td>
<td>Urbatanu</td>
<td>Planted with reeds</td>
<td>CAD, U, P.211</td>
<td>T(1):1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>KI.BAD</td>
<td>Burubalû</td>
<td>Abandoned land</td>
<td>MDA, p.207: No 461; CDA, P.50</td>
<td>T(1):2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>KU₃.BABBAR</td>
<td>kaspum</td>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>CAD, K, p. 245:a; AHw, p. 454: a; ABZ, p. 179, No:468; MDA, P.211, No:468.</td>
<td>T(2):1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>MAŠ₂.NITA</td>
<td>dašša</td>
<td>Male of goat, ram</td>
<td>CAD, D, P.120; CDA, P.57</td>
<td>T(3):6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>NAM.APIN.LA₂</td>
<td>ana</td>
<td>For agriculture</td>
<td>AHw, P.243:b</td>
<td>T(1):5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>NAM.TAB.BA</td>
<td>tappûtu</td>
<td>For partnership</td>
<td>CAD, T, pp.190-191</td>
<td>T(2):2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>SAG.U₄. SAKAR</td>
<td>uskâru</td>
<td>In the beginning of the new month</td>
<td>V. Foxvog, Elementary Sumerian Glossary, (California:2008)P.145</td>
<td>T(2):6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>SILA₄.GUB₁</td>
<td>lillidu</td>
<td>A mature sheep</td>
<td>MDA, P.129, No:252; CDA, P.182</td>
<td>T(3):3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>MUNUS SILA₄.UR₄</td>
<td>buqamtu</td>
<td>Lamb ready for plucking</td>
<td>CDA, P.48</td>
<td>T(3):2</td>
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## List of occupations and professions

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<td>šabum</td>
<td>Worker</td>
<td>MDA, P.1:393</td>
<td>T(4):15,16; T(5):19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>LU₂.KUR₂</td>
<td>Nakru</td>
<td>Stranger</td>
<td>MDA, P.63; CDA, P.233a; AbZ, P.264</td>
<td>T(5):12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>LU₂.SA.GA.Z</td>
<td>ḫabbatu</td>
<td>Migrant worker</td>
<td>MDA, P.87; No: 104; CDA, P.99b; AbZ P.289</td>
<td>T(5):19</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>MAŠ.ŠU.GI D₂.GID₂</td>
<td>Bārū</td>
<td>Diviner</td>
<td>MDA, P.73, No: 76</td>
<td>T(4):7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>SIPA</td>
<td>re'u</td>
<td>Shepherd</td>
<td>CAD, R, P.303:b.</td>
<td>T(4):3</td>
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## List of Gods' names list

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<th>Sumerian</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>^AMAR.UTU</td>
<td>^Marduk</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>^ENZU</td>
<td>^sin</td>
<td>T(2):4; T(4):2,5,12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>^IM</td>
<td>^Adad</td>
<td>T(5): 16; T(4): 7;</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>^NIN.ŠUBUR</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>T(2):3</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>^UTU</td>
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## Personal names list

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<th>Text and line number</th>
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<td>a-bi-e-šu-uh</td>
<td>T(4):19</td>
<td>BE 6/1,1:28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>a-bi-ia₂-bu-um</td>
<td>T(5):3</td>
<td>Stamm, J.J., „Die Akkadische Namengebung“ (1939), P.294</td>
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<td>Stamm J. J., Op cit ,P.330</td>
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Text (1)

Details of the text:
No: I.M 163763
Dimensions: 7.6 × 4.5 × 2.1 cm
Subject: A rent contract for a field planted with reeds
Date: Broken date formula
Seal impression: Damaged

Obv.

Rev.

Obv.

Rev.

1 CM
Details of the text:
No: IM. 163732
Dimensions: 4.3×3.4×1.8 cm
Subject: Partnership contract
Date: Abu month for reign of unknown king from Early Old Babylonian period
Seal impression: Damaged
Details of the text:
No: I.M. 163758
Dimension: 6.4×5.1×2.3 cm
Subject: List for various sheep
Date: No date
Seal impression: No seals
Text (4)

Details of the text:
No: I.M 212823
Dimensions: 5.5 × 4.2 × 2.2 cm
Subject: List of barley's amounts for persons
Date: 23rd of tašrītu from reign of the king Abi-ešuḫ
Seal impression: No seals
Text (5)

Details of the text:
No: I.M 160725
Dimensions: 6.4 × 4.6 × 2.0 cm
Subject: Names list for migrant workers
Date: No date
Seal impression: No seals
Notes:

(6) Ranke, H., BE, 6/2, P.379.
(20) Civil, M., Gelb, I. J., Oppenheim, L. A., Reine, E., CAD, A/1, P.75.
(22) Labat, R., MDA, P.177, No:383.
(23) AHw, P.1064.
(28) Labat, R., MDA, P.289.

نصوص مسمارية غير منشورة من العصر البابلي القديم
م. حسن محمد رضا الحميري
جامعة ذي قار – كلية الآثار والحضارة القديمة

النصوص المسمارية وبشكل خاص النصوص الاقتصادية تعتبر واحدة من أكثر الوثائق المهمة التي تعكس حقيقة الحياة البوذية، في الحقيقة من بين عصرات الرافدين العصر البابلي القديم (5452-5151 ق.م) تميز تطور النشاط الاقتصادي الذي انعكس في النصوص المسمارية الاقتصادية كمادة فكرية لدراسة الاقتصادية والاجتماعية لذلك العصر، هذا البحث يدرس خمس نصوص مسمارية غير منشورة، التي هي جزء من نصوص مصدارة تعود إلى المتحف العراقي، لذا فإن موقعهم ومصددهم غير معروف، ومحبة تعود إلى (إبي-يشوج) الملك الثامن لسلالة بابل الأولي، نص آخر له تفاصيل تاريخية جديدة تتعلق ب☠ راس (إبي-ساري) ساس ملك مدينة لارسا، ثلاثة منهم لم يُفقدوا صفة تاريخية مما أدى ذلك صعوبة تحديد الفترة الزمنية لهذه النصوص، لكن بشكل عام تعود للعصر البابلي القديم، بالإضافة إلى الإنسان الشخصية التي تتحويها والتي كانت مأهولة في ذلك الوقت، فضلاً عن طريقة الكتابة التي تدعم عائلية النصوص إلى العصر البابلي القديم.