

60) New Data Concerning High Officers from the Neo-Babylonian Period

1. An unknown *qīpu* of Ebabbar from the time of Darius II.

Among the texts from the Ebabbar archives concerning the garments and wool some importance has the small fragment of tablet BM 70316 (7.2 x 3.4 cm) because it comprises the first mention of an unknown *qīpu* of Ebabbar.

BM 70316

- 1'. ṛx x¹ [x x] šá ṛx¹ [...]
 2'. a-na DUMU.ṛMEŠ¹ šá m^dṛ AMAR.UTU-MU-MU^ṛ?
 3'. ṛ1/2 GU.UN¹ SÍG.HI.A ŠUKU.ṛHI.A¹ [šá]
 4'. ṛ^{lú}TIL.GÍD¹.DA šá MU.31.KÁM
 Rev. 5'. a-na m^dEN-iq-bi ^{lú}TIL.GÍD¹.DA [šá]
 6'. É-babbar-ra SUM^{na} ITI.APIN
 7'. [U]D.2.KÁM MU.31.KÁM m^dDa-ri-ṛmuš¹
 8'. LUGAL TIN.TIR.KI LUGAL KUR.ṛKUR¹

[wool?] for the sons of Marduk-šum-iddin (?) (was given) ; half talent of wool (as) the allotment for the *qīpu* for thirty-first year was given to Bēl-iqbi, the *qīpu* of Ebabbar.

Month of Arahsamnu, second day, thirty-first year of Darius (491 BC), King of Babylon, King of the Lands.

The comparison with Bongenaar's list of *qīpu* of Ebabbar (cf. A.C.V.M. Bongenaar, *The Neo-Babylonian Ebabbar Temple at Sippar: Its Administration and Its Prosopography*, Leiden 1997, p. 558) shows that Bēl-iqbi was the successor of Šamšaja and was in turn succeeded by Ubār (cf. Bongenaar, p. 50).¹ His term of office started in or after Dar 26 and terminated after 2.8.Dar 31 and before 25.8.Dar 35 when BM 75530:10 mentions already Ubār. All that means that after a long term of office of Ina-šilli-šarri (Dar 9 to Dar 24) during the next decade three persons : Šamšaja, Bēl-iqbi and Ubār hold the office of *qīpu* Ebabbar.

2. An unknown *šatammu* Esagila and the term of office of Ina-Esagila-lilbur as the governor of Babylon and the *šatammu* of Esagila.

BM 79604, published below, includes the first attestation of a previously unknown *šatammu* of Esagila ; additionally, it provides new data concerning relations between Esagila and Ebabbar temples, the problem which

deserves more study intended by the author.

BM 79604 (4.25 x 3.1)

1. [x+]1 GADA *sal-hi* ^{md}AG-DU-NUMUN
2. A-šú-šá ^{md}AMAR.UTU-DUB-NUMUN
3. ^{lú}šá-tam šá É-sag-íla
4. [†]a-na[†] É-babbar-ra
5. [it]-ta-din ITI.GUD
6. { u }
- Rev. 7. [UD.x.KÁM M]U.†81. KÁM
8. ^dAG-NÍG.DU-ŠEŠ
9. LUGAL TIN.TIR.KI

Nabû-mukîn-zēri, son of Marduk-šāpik-zēri, the *šatammu* of Esagila has given x+1 *salhu*-garments to the Ebabbar.

Month of Aiaru, [x day, year] eighth of Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon.

Other *šatammus* of Esagila from the Neo-Babylonian times :

(1.) [...]ša/ Zākir Coll. Smit 110 :23 (Nbp 1), mentioned by Bongenaar, p. 473.

(2.) Bēl-ahhē-iddina : I†5[†].IV Nbn 2 : CT 55, 351 :10 ;
Nbn [3[†]] : BM 61774 rev 4', published by M. Jursa, *Die Landwirtschaft in Sippar in neubabylonischer Zeit*, Wien 1995, p. 88 ;
21.XII.Nbn 6 : BM 60993 (^{md}[EN]-†ŠEŠ[†].MEŠ-

MU) (Courtesy of John MacGinnis)

(3.) Ina-Esagila-lilbur. Basing on data gathered by himself, Bongenaar, p. 9 and 31 presented (p. 471) the following reconstruction of his career :

- *šangû* of Sippar from Dar 1 to Dar 12,
- *šākin tēmi* of Babylon from Dar 22 to Dar 24 (as successor of his father Nabû-šum-ukīn),
- possibly *šatammu* of Esagila in Dar 26.

Two additional texts make it possible to correct this picture. The first one, BM 83328 dated 7.X.Dar 19, mentions Ina-Esagila-lilbur already in his capacity as the governor of Babylon and his (younger) brother as the *šangû* of Sippar (see below). The second one, BM 79055 published by M. Jursa, *Das Archiv des Bēl-rēmāni*, Leiden 1999, p. 249f. dated 17.III.Dar 25, mentions Ina-Esagila-lilbur in main texts ; however, his position as the *šatammu* of

Esagila is stated unambiguously only in the stamp. Also in BM 74564 :18 (= Bertin 2600) dated 10.IV.Dar 26 the reading of the title of Ina-Esagila-lilbur as ^{lú}šá-tam É-*sag-íla*¹ mentioned by Bongenaar as “possible” (p. 471) seems certain (collated). Most probably his career has run as follows :

– the *šangû* of Sippar from Dar 1 to Dar 12 (or to the beginning of Dar 13). Because the latest text mentioning Ina-Esagila-lilbur as the *šangû* of Sippar came from Simanu Dar 12 (BM 74628 :13 ; cf. Bongenaar, p. 31) and the earliest text mentioning Guzānu, his brother and the successor in this office, is dated on Aiaru Dar 13 (BM 65100 :2 ; cf. Bongenaar, p. 32), it seems that the change in the office in Sippar and the assumption of a new office in Babylon by Ina-Esagila-lilbur took place at the same time, i.e. after Simanu Dar 12 and before (or in) Aiaru Dar 13. However, because the former *šākin ṭēmi* of Babylon, Nabû-šum-iškun, father of Ina-Esagila-lilbur, whom he succeeded, is mentioned for the last time in 25.VII.Dar 12 (BM 33954 = Bertin 2235, mentioned by Bongenaar, p. 9) the change at the offices most probably took place not before the end of the month of Tašritu Dar 12, but not later as Aiaru Dar 13. Presumably after the death of Nabû-šum-iddin Darius decided to call Ina-Esagila-lilbur, the older and more experienced of the two brothers, to Babylon, giving the younger the office of the *šangû* of Sippar.

We postulate that Ina-Esagila-lilbur held the office of the *šākin ṭēmi* of Babylon from Dar 12 or Dar 13 till Dar 24, but unquestionable data comes only for the period 7.X.Dar 19 (BM 83328) till 24.VII.Dar 24 (BM 32932 (cf. Bongenaar, p. 9, and Jursa, *Das Archiv*, p. 108⁴⁵⁶).

– it is certain that Ina-Esagila-lilbur was *šatammu* of Esagila from 17.III.Dar 25 (BM 79055, Jursa, *Das Archiv*, p. 108⁴⁵⁶ and 249f.) till 10.IV.Dar 26 (BM 74564, see above).² The change of the position was most probably caused by the death of the former, so far unknown, *šatammu* of Esagila. It is not certain, if the entrusting of the office of a *šatammu* meant the elevation to the highest position, or quite opposite, i.e. that the nomination to this office and simultaneous promotion of Guzānu to the governorship in Babylon was a type of meritorious pension after a long service lasting almost a quarter of century (he started his public activities in Dar 1).

BM 83328 (4.8 x 4.5)

1. [25[?] ma]-na SÍG.HI.A eš-ru-ú
2. [šá^m Ina-e-sa]g-íla-li-bur^{lú} GAR.UŠ₄.TIN.TIR.KI
3. [u 25[?] ma-na SÍG].HI.A eš-ru-ú šá^m Gu-za-nu
4. [^{lú}SANGA Sip-par]^{ki} PAP 50 ma-na SÍG.HI.A

5. [ana lu-bu-u]š-tu₄ šá ITI.ŠE MU.19.[KÁM]
6. [a-na^{md}]UTU-MU-MU^{lu}UŠ.BAR SUM^[na]
7. [x ma-na] SÍG.HI.A ina ri-h[i]
8. [x x x x x] šá ITI¹ [.....
9. [x x x a]-na^{md}UTU-M[U]²
10. [x x x x+?] 1 ma-na [.....
11. [x x x r]i-hi SÍG.HI.A šá l[u-bu-uš-t]u₄
12. [^dA-nu]-ni-tu₄ a-na^{md}TIN-su-^{[d}G]u-la
13. [SUM]^{na} ITI. AB UD.7.KÁM
14. [MU] 119.KÁM^mDa-ri-ja-muš
15. [LUGA]L KUR.[KUR].MEŠ

[25² mi]nas of wool, the title of Ina-Esagila-lilbur, the governor of Babylon [and 25 minas of wool, the title of Guzānu, the [*šangû* of Sippar], together 50 minas of wool for *lubuštu*-ceremony was given to Šamaš-šum-iddin, the weaver.

..... re]st of wool for the l[*lubušt*]u-ceremony of Anunnītu was given to Uballissu-Gula.

Month of Tebētu, seventh day, nineteenth year of Darius, King of Lands.

The text is important at least for two additional reasons : a. it is the first mention of both brothers, Ina-Esagila-lilbur and Guzānu, in one text as the officers in power ; b. it is the first text suggesting the involvement of so high officers in the preparation of the *lubuštu* ceremony. Most probably such a conclusion would go too far ; it seems that it reflects only the decision of temple administration to allocate the delivered wool for manufacturing the garments for gods for the subsequent *lubuštu*-ceremony in the month of Addaru.

1. The quantity of half a talent of wool as the rations for Bēl-iqbi (i.e. an equivalent of 4 kur of barley or dates issued to the *qīpu* of Ebabbar in the texts listed by Bongenaar on p. 36-37) resolves Bongenaar's doubts if Ubār was really the *qīpu* of Ebabbar because the text mentioning him "does not state, however, that Ubār is the resident of Ebabbar" (p. 50). An additional argument for the recognition of Ubār as the *qīpu* of Ebabbar is given by BM 65364 (to be published by me) belonging to the Ebabbar archives, where each *šābê ēpeš dulli ša qīpi* received 15 minas of wool as his food rations and an unnamed *qīpu* (also not followed with Ebabbar), half a talent, i.e. 30 minas.

2. Among the texts mentioning Ina-Esagila-lilbur as the governor of Babylon

Bongenaar lists CT 56, 314, rev. 2' suggesting to date it to [Dar] 128²¹ (p. 9) which is unacceptable because already in Dar 25 the office is held by his brother Guzānu (BM 33112 = Bertin 2587 mentioned by Bongenaar, p. 9); [Dar] 119²¹ would be more likely.

Stefan ZAWADZKI (06-05-2001)
ul. Szeherazady 21 60-195 POZNAN (POLOGNE)