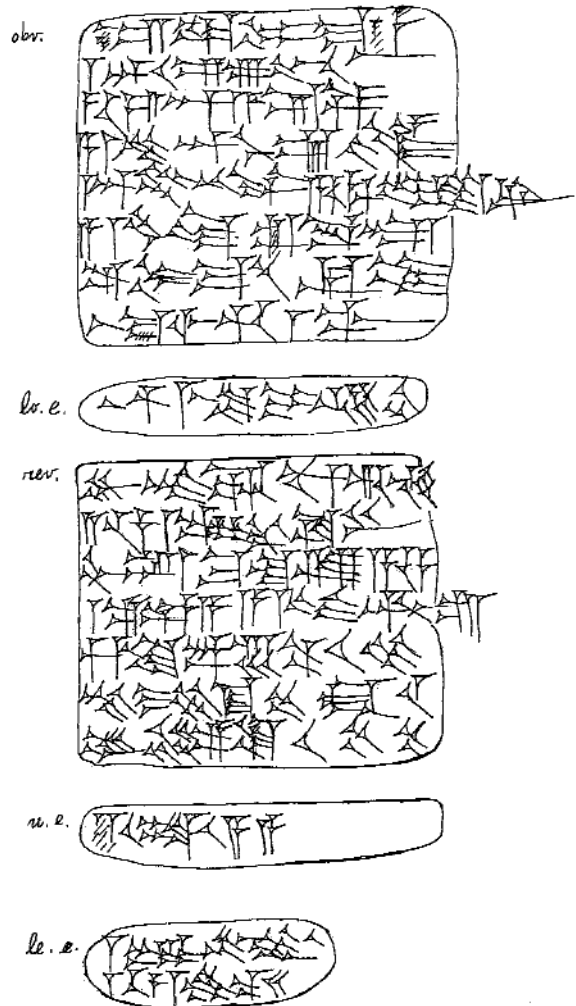


44) **A Promissory Note from the Atkuppū Archive** – We should like to thank the Trustees of the British Museum for permission to publish BM tablets, as well as Prof. P. Steinkeller for permission to quote from the unpublished tablet (HSM 1895.1.30) of the Harvard Semitic Museum. The research of R. Zadok is supported by the Israel Science Foundation. Tikva Zadok is responsible only for the copy. A single stroke (/) denotes “son/daughter of” and a double one (//) “descendant of”.

— **BM 102000** NB Borsippa, 10.VI.3 Cyr = 536/5 B.C. ; 44.5x33.5x12 mm. (see copy) ; promissory note for dates (arising from an obligation to pay *sissinnu*?)

1. 1 GUR ZÚ.LUM.MA šá
2. ^{md}U.GUR-ú-šal-lim
3. A*-šú šá ^{md}A.É-E
4. A ^mMU-^dpap-sukkal AŠ UGU
5. ^{md}AMAR.UTU-MU-DÙ A-šú šá ^{md}+AG-KAR^{er}
6. A ^{lú}AD.KID <AŠ> ^{iti}APIN
7. ZÚ.LUM.MA *gam-ru-tu*₄
8. AŠ *ma-ši-ḥu* <šá> 1 PI
- lo.e. 9. AŠ *bar-sip*^{ki} *i-nam-din**
- r. 10. ^{lú}*mu-kín-nu* ^m*re-mut*
11. A-šú šá ^{md}+AG-ŠEŠ-*bul-liṭ*
12. ^{lú}UMBISAG ^m*ba-la-tu* A-šú šá
13. ^mZÁLAG-*e-a* A ^mMU-^dpap-sukkal
14. *bar-sip*^{ki} ^{iti}KIN U₄ 10 KAM
15. MU 3 KAM ^{ku}*kur-ra-šú*
16. LUGAL TIN.TIR^{ki} *u* KUR.KUR
- u.e (continued from lo.e). 17. 1A ^m*mi-šir-A+A*
- le.e. 18. ^{md}+AG-MU-ŠEŠ
19. A-šú šá ^mMU-x-DINGIR?-*ia*(?)



Translation :

One *kor* of dates belonging to Nergal-ušallim son of Mār-bīti-iqbi descendant of Iddina-Papsukkal is charged against Marduk-šuma-ibni son of Nabû-ēter descendant of Atkuppū. <In> Marheshvan (VIII) he will deliver the dates in their entirety (full amount) in the measure (containing) one *pānu* in Borsippa.

Witnesses : Rēmūtu son of Nabû-aḥa-bullit (and) Nabû-aḥa-ušur (or -nādin-aḥi) son of MU-x-iliya(?) descendant of Miširāyu ; scribe Balātu son of Nūrea descendant of Iddina-Papsukkal.

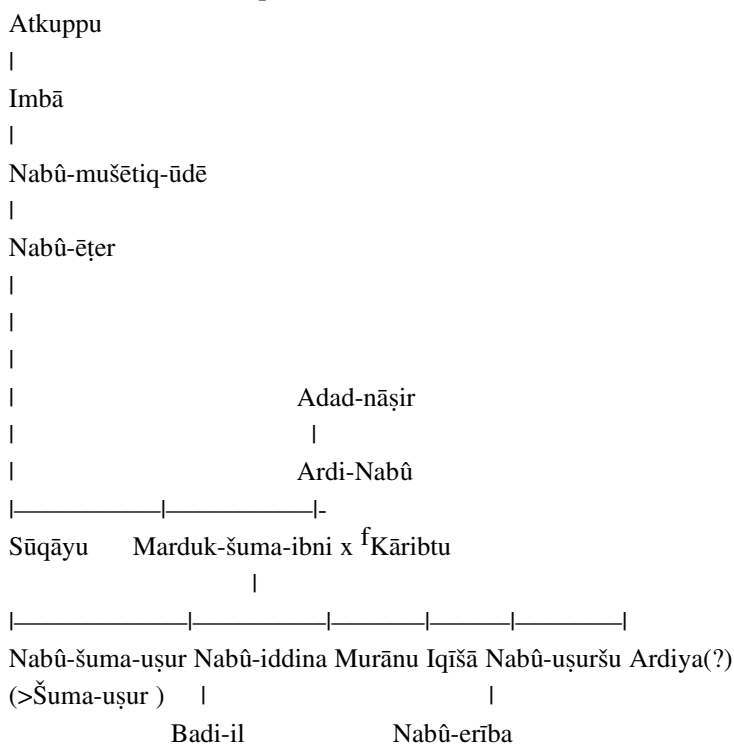
Borsippa, Elul (VI), day 10, year three of Cyrus King of Babylon and the Lands.

The brother of Nergal-ušallim son of Mār-bīti-iqbi, Nabû-rā'im-nišē, is the second witness in VS 3, 84 of the

same archive (26.III.7 Camb. = 523/2 B.C.). His son, Iqīšā, acted as a witness in VS 4, 149 from 27.III.18 Dar. I = 504/3 B.C. Is the creditor identical with his namesake (same name and paternal name) descendant of Ša-DIŠ-LUH (= Sukkal), whose house is recorded in VS 4, 150 (= NRV 326) from 4.V.18 Dar. I = 504/3 B.C.?

The debtor is recorded between 21.III.550/49 and 23.IX.536/5 B.C. He belongs to the largest branch of the Atkuppū (Reed Worker, Craftsman making objects of reeds) clan, namely that of Nabû--mušētiq-īdī son of Imbā who is recorded as early as 21.XI.17 Npl. = 609/8 B.C. (BM 82793). The last member of this clan was Nabû-erība/Nabû-ušuršu//Atkuppū. The latter consented to teach a boy, Nabû-ittannu, the craft of the reed worker (*atkuppūtu*) in six months according to an apprenticeship contract from 15.I.1 Xerx. = 485/4 B.C. (BM 26550). The boy was presumably an orphan as only his mother, who concluded the contract, is mentioned. Hence this archive is multi-generational like several archives of other Borsippian clans. It ends at the beginning of the reign of Xerxes, like the archives of Ilšu-abūšu, Lākuppuru, Mannu-gērušu and Šaddinnu. The last two archives end in the short reign of the usurper Šamaš-erība. This may not be just a coincidence. These members of the urban elite of Borsippa might have suffered severely after Šamaš-erība's revolt was crushed by Xerxes. Members of the Atkuppū clan held the *atkuppūtu* prebend in the Ezida temple of Borsippa. According to a promissory note (BM 26661 Borsippa, 19.XII. 16¹(or 17?) Dar. I = 506/5 or 505/4 B.C.), the debtor Šuma-ušur (or Nādin-aḫi, MU-[Š]EŠ, perhaps short for Marduk-šuma-ušur)/Marduk-šuma-ibni (^dAMAR.UTU-MU-DÛ(?))//Atkuppū had to deliver in addition to [x] + 2 *seahs* of barley, seven reed baskets (pl. *nu-uh-su-e*), presumably because he was a reed worker. Their delivery took place in Nisan, whereas that of the barley took place in Iyyar, the harvest time. One of the scribes in this archive has the unique name Ina-šilli-qantuppi (AŠ-giš-MI-qa-an-ṭup-pu, son of Nabû-nādin-aḫi descendant of Ea-ibni, Borsippa, 20.V.11 Dar. I = 511/0 B.C., BM 26746, 15f.), i. e. "In the shadow (= protection) of the reed stylus" (an emblem of Nabû the patron of scribes, cf. CAD Q, 80).

Nabû-mušētiq-ūdē son of Imbā and his descendants



Cf. G. van Driel, *BiOr* 49 (1992), 31, and R. Zadok, *IOS* 18 [1998], 272f. ; in 273f. : d (BM 26665), e (BM 26736) the paternal name is Marduk-šuma-ibni ; and in 274 : f the paternal name is Nabû-ušuršu.

The dossier of Marduk-šuma-ibni consists of six deeds :

1. The earliest one (Borsippa, 21.III.6 Nbn = 550/549 B.C.) records his debt of 4 *kor* and 4 *pānu* of dates to be delivered in VIII (apart from 10 *kor* of dates), possibly with date palms as pledge (HSM 1895.1.30).

2. Marduk-šuma-ibni (not -ušur as listed in van Driel, *BiOr* 49, 31) and his wife ^fKāribtu owe two shekels of white silver of which 1/8 sh alloy, with interest (percentage not specified) as from 1.XI and with 3 *qū* (?) of field as pledge ; creditor ^fAmat-Mullittu/Šulā//Pahhāru. The first witness is Nabû-zēra-iqīša/Balāssu//Pu-rat-ta (copy RA)-a (<

Purattāyu) and the second one is Nabû-bēl-ili/Nergal-uballiṭ//Atkuppū ; scribe : Nabû-mušētiq-ūdē/Nabû-šuma-iškun//Banā ; Borsippa, 28.X.13 Nbn = 543/2 B.C. (VS 4, 50 = NRV 302).

The uncle of ^fKāribtu, Nabû-apla-iddina (^d+AG-A-MU)/Ardi-Nabû (ÌR-^d+AG)//Adad-nāšir (^dÌŠKUR-PAP) acted as the second witness in a deed of Nabû-ēter (creditor), Marduk-šuma-ibni's father. The debtor, Zakir was a member of the same clan (Adad-nāšir, Bāb-surri, 23.VIb.41 Nbk. II = 564/3 B.C., BM 26675).

3. Promissory note for dates to be delivered in Til-būri to a female creditor of the Basiya clan ; Borsippa, 2.xi.13 Nbn = 543/2 B.C. (BM 102298).

4. Promissory note for dates ([x] *kor* and 1 *pānu*, assessed rent) owed by Marduk-šuma-ibni to Zēriya/Nabû-zēra-ušabši (or -šubši) and Nabû-bēl-šumāti/Marduk-šuma-ibni, both descendants of Šēpē-ša-iliya. The dates are to be delivered in the royal measure in the house of Zēriya in Borsippa. The deed was concluded in the presence of ^fKāribtu. The scribe, Nabû-ahhē-iddina/Nabû-zēra-ukīn belongs to the creditor's clan ; Borsippa, 13.III. 16 [+1?] Nbn = 540/39 or 539/8 B.C. (BM 26668).

5. BM 10200 (see above).

6. This is the only deed where Marduk-šuma-ibni is the creditor. It is a promissory note for dates ([x] *kor*, assessed rent ; palm grove in Til-būri) ; [... k]i, 23.IX.3 Cyr. = 536/5 B.C. (BM 17682).

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