

Two old Babylonian Texts from MARAD
(Wana wa AL_Sodum)

Dr. Saad.S. Fahad * & Dr Abbas.A. AL-hussainy **

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تأريخ التقديم: 2011/5/23

Preface:-

The site of Marad(Sumerian MARDA, modern Tell wana wa al-sodum) was an ancient Sumerian city situated on the west bank of the western branch of the Euphrates river, west of Nippur and roughly 50 km southeast of kish, on the Aratu river, it was established ca.2700 B.C during the Sumerian Early Dynastic II period.

The site of Marad covered on area of less than 124 hectares(50 acres),it was excavated by a team from Al-Qadisiya university in 1990 led by Dr. Nael Hannon, and in 2005 and 2007 led by Dr. Abbas,A., al-hussainy, publication of the last two seasons is in progress⁽¹⁾.

During the Archaeological excavation on second season 2005 a number of cuneiform texts were found in different points in the site. After a primary study for these cuneiform texts it was cleared that many of them belong to the old Babylonian period, while there were few number of them belong to a more modern period(new Babylon period). the subjects of these texts, were various according to the variety of the daily life at that time, but one can say that the general

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pattern of these texts were like the contract type of texts (contracts of buying lands). These texts contain date formula and the names of local kings who ruled at that place, while in the line of swearing, the name of the local god of that city appeared, god LUGAL MARDA (king of Marad), it can be said that this site is considered one of those which depend on 1-about the first seasons see:-

حنون، نائل، "مدينة مرد القديمة ونتائج التنقيب في ونة والصدوم"، سومر، ج 1 و 2
مجلد 49 (1997-98)

agriculture because most of the contracts talked about buying lands and fields and so on...

In this research, we have studied two texts, the first hold the number 1 (= number of excavation 140), and the other 2 (= 47), and both represent a contract of buying land, and they do not differ in contexts from those contracts that belong to the period of the old Babylonian

No.1(=140)

Obv.

26 A. -À
DA ðA. -À¥ ia-ar-ga-ðX¥
Û DA ðA¥. [-À] nu-úr-i®g-tar
ðSAG¥.BI ð^{id}lu-X¥

5. SAG.BI AN.MA.AN.[SUM]
KI ðX-ia¥
^mð^dEN.ZU¥-[ga]-ðmil¥

- Û ú-ᵛX-X-na-°irᵛ
 ᵐia-ar-ᵛga-Xᵛ
 10. ᵛINᵛ.[°I].ᵛ-ÁMᵛ
 ᵛ-ÁMᵛ.TIL.ᵛLAᵛ.[BI.°È]
 2 GÍN KÙ.BABBAR

Rev.

- IN.NA.AN.LÁ
 U₄.KÚR.°È
 15. INIM NU.UM.GÁ.GÁ
 MU ᵈbel!-MÁR.DA
 Û a-pil-ᵈEN.ZU
 IN.PÀD.ME°
 IGI bur-ᵈI°KUR ᵛXᵛ
 20. IGI ᵈMAR.TU-[X-X] LÚ.ᵛTÚGᵛ
 IGI ta-ri-bu-ᵛ@a DUMUᵛ sú-te-ia
 IGI lu-da-a-ᵛ-te-ìl DUB.SAR

Translation:-

- 26 SAR measure of field,
 beside Yarka field.....,
 (and)beside nᵛr-e@tar field,
 In front of channel ul.....,
 5. (and)in front of (the house of) ili-MA.AN.SUM
 from.....,
 (and) su'en-gamil
 and.....na°ir,
 9-10. Yarg---s bought
 as a full prices,

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2 shekil of silver,
(he)weight,

Rev.

- in the future,
15. will not claim,
in the name of god B¹/₂l-MARDA
and(the king) apil-su'en,
they swore,
the witness bur-adad.....,
20. the witness ^dMAR.TU.....,fuller,
the witness taribu@a son of suteia,
the witness luda-te-il the scribe

A contract of buying a measure of field from three people, its location was identified, the buyer paid for its full prices, the two sides of contract not to make a claim in the future, and swore by the god bēl-MARDA and the king Apil-su'en, and the contract was made with the existence of number of witness.

Notes:-

16) ^db¹/₂l-MÁR.DA:- the name god of MARAD city, his name come in many texts as LUGAL.MÁR.DA, but it is very uni- que to be mentioned in that pattern, it is worthy to mention that there is another local god(i.e NU.MU⁻.DA) any differ- nce between him and the first mentioned god is just in the writing at the second syllabic Sign, but we read it as

above because of the close relation of the sign MÁR and because this god was often mentioned in most of the texts of swear, about these two gods see:-

sigrist, M., D., Mesopotamian year names, P.115-116;

حنون، نائل، المصدر السابق، ص.66

21) suteia:-for compression with this personal name see:-

Hoffmon, H.B., Amorite personal names in the mari texts, P.57;

عبد، باسمه جليل، نصوص مسمارية غير منشورة من العهد البابلي القديم من تل
ابو عنتيك، اطروحة دكتوراة، بغداد (2003)، ص.143، 46:7 .

No.2(=47)

Obv.

E-È.IKU A.-À X-X

DA a-<ta>-na-a-ì-lí-@u

DA ku-un-gu-um

KI u-bar-^dEN.ZU

DUMU ku-pa-da

5. i-ku-pí-i@₈-tar IN. -I. -ÁM

-ÁM.TIL.LA.NI. -È

10 GÍN KÙ.BABBAR IN.NA.LÁ

U₄.KÚR. -È INIM NU.UM.[GÁ.GÁ]

Rev.

MU ^dLUGAL.MÁR.DA

10. @ <su>-mu-di-ta-na LUGAL

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- IN.PÀD.DÈ.ᵀEᵀ
- IGI ᵀEN.ZU-ᵀba-niᵀ
- IGI nu-úr-í-lì-ᵀuᵀ
- IGI ᵀna-bi-ᵀEN.LÍᵀ
15. IGI í-ᵀXᵀ-[X]-ᵀX DUBᵀ.SAR
- ᵀITU ᵀEᵀ.[KIN.KU5]
- ᵀMUᵀ [------]

Translation:-

- (1) EᵀÈ measure of field.....,
beside (the field of) atanaᵀ-ìl
(and)beside(the field of) kungum,
from ubar-ᵀsu'en,
son of kupada,
5. ikun-pi-eᵀtar, bought
as its full price,
(he)weight 10 shekil(of) silver,
In the future no one make a claim against the other,
in the name of god LUGAL-MARDA,
10. And the king sumu-ditana,
They swore,
The witness ᵀsu'en-bani,
The witness nᵀr-iliᵀu,
The witness nabi-ᵀenlil,
15. The witness -----,the scribe,
The month of March,
The year-----,

Notes:-

10) Through the tow forms of oath written in these texts ; the first texts(line 17) is dated to period of the Babylonian king apil- Sin (1813 -1830) B.C. when the city Marad was under the rule of the first dynasty of Babylon . Whereas , the second text(line 10) is dated to period of(Sumu- Detana) and read (Sumu_Detan the king of the city Marad (1881-1887) B.C. Cf : ZZB , P , 128

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No.1(= MARAD(147))

Obv.

5.
10.

Rev.

15.

Handwritten Arabic script in a rectangular frame, consisting of five lines of text.

20.

Handwritten Arabic script, consisting of four lines of text, with some characters appearing faded or less distinct.

The sources

1- the English sources:-

- Hoffmon, H.B., Amorite personal names in the mari texts, USA (1956).
- sigrist, M., D., Mesopotamian year names, Berline (2001).

2- the Arabian source:-

- حنون، نائل، "مدينة مرد القديمة ونتائج التنقيب في ونة والصدوم"، سومر، مجلد 49 (1997-98).
- عبد، باسمة جليل، نصوص مسمارية غير منشورة من العهد البابلي القديم من (تل) ابو عنتيك، أطروحة دكتوراة، بغداد (2003)

نصان مسماريان من مدينة مرد (ونة والصدوم)

ا.م.د. عباس علي الحسيني و م.د. سعد سلمان فهد

المستخلص

من بين النصوص المسمارية التي اكتشف في مدينة مرد الأثرية خلال تنقيبات قسم الآثار/ جامعة القادسية في الموسم الثاني لعام 2005، نصان مسماريان يعودان للعصر البابلي القديم، إذ صنفا ضمن العقود البابلية... والدراسة ضمت قراءة وتحليل للنصين فضلاً عن تعليقات على أهم ما جاء فيهما من معلومات ومنها القسم باسم اله المدينة والملك .