

Notes on Sargonic Royal Progress

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The purpose of this study is to assemble archival evidence for journeys of Sargonic kings to Sumer. This serves two purposes: to clarify individual documents relating to such journeys, and to provide data for synchronisms between certain archives that are not yet precisely dated. The texts presently available treat of at least two royal journeys, the first of Naram-Sin and his family to Girsu (Lagash), the second a journey of Šarkališarri and his family to Nippur. While one cannot be certain that all the documents discussed here belong to these and not other royal journeys, at the present state of knowledge it is impossible to differentiate the material more finely.

I. Naram-Sin

A text published by Thureau-Dangin, *RA* 9 (1912), 82, records distribution of fatted sheep to Naram-Sin and his family as follows:

- 1) [udu-niga]
- 2) [lugal]
- 3) 60 udu-[niga]
- 4) nin
- 5) 10 Šar-kà-li-šàr-ri
- 6) 10 Bi-in-kà-li-šàr-ri
- 7) 10 Tu-da-na-ap-šum
- 8) 10 šabra-é

Other people mentioned in this text include *È-ṭib-Me-er*, *Be-li-URSAG* and *Šu-Ma-ma*. Unfortunately, the remainder of the tablet was never published. A fragment of another Girsu tablet, in which sheep are given to Šarkališarri,¹ is published herewith as text 1 (MLC 114). This reads as follows:

For permission to collate texts in the Lagash Collection, Istanbul Archaeological Museum, I am grateful to the antiquities authorities of the Republic of Turkey, and especially Veysel Donbaz and Fatma Yıldız. For permission to publish tablets from the Nies and Morgan Library Collections, I am grateful to William W. Hallo, Curator. My thanks go to Piotr Michalowski and the editors for suggestions both used and not used here.

¹ Because he is given no title, I assume that he was prince when the tablet was drawn up.

i

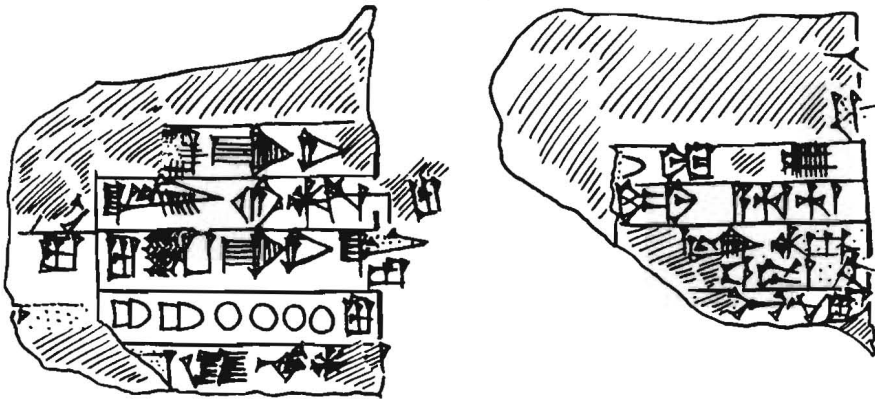
- 1') [] x̄
 2') [] udu
 3') [] x̄

ii

- 1') [B]ára-ga-ni
 2') lugal nindaba 'udu' (?) [?]
 3') udu Šar-kà-li-šàr-ri
 4') 280 udu
 5') x̄-mi-na-DINGIR.X

iii

- 1') [] x̄
 2') [] x̄
 3') 1? Nin-[x?]-ú
 4') dumu-mi A-hu-hu
 5') [] 'Lugal¹-^dLama
 [] UD.DU.HA
 6') []^dGu-nu-ra



TEXT 1 (MLC 114)

Too little of this tablet remains for detailed discussion, though ii seems to refer to “PN, master of the gift offering of sheep, the sheep of Šarkališarri.” The sign after nindaba is not E, but as copied.

In his discussion of *RA* 9 (1912), 82, Thureau-Dangin suggested that the goods in question were sent to the royal capital, Agade, as royal “accounts.” While there is no doubt that some, at least, of these commodities were sent to Agade, it is more likely that the recipients were at Girsu when the offerings were made.

In the first place, one can hardly otherwise explain why these three children of Naram-Sin received gifts, but none of the others.² Since the hypothetical royal party

² For the numerous progeny of Naram-Sin, see W. W. Hallo, *The Ancient Near East, A History* (New York, 1971), 58; see below, n. 12.

consisted only of the king, queen, and three of their children, these, plus the various courtiers who came with them, were the ones who received gifts of livestock, food, and other goods, and not the entire royal family. Second, some of the people mentioned are known from other texts to have been at Girsu.

Many of these texts record disbursements of foods, beer, oil, animals, and other commodities to the king, his family, and a great variety of other people. Prosopographical links between the text of *RA* 9 (1912), 82 and other Girsu records are as follows:

Eṭib-Mer. *CT* 50 172; *ITT* II 2953, 4548, 4566, 4686 (titled šabra-é), *ITT* V 9374; *RTC* 127 i 3' + *RTC* 127 xii 19' ([lú]). As land holder: Fish, *Cat.* 21; *U(mma in the Sargonic) P(eriod)* 18.

Beli-URSAG: *ITT* I 1472; *ITT* II 2953, 4699, 5791 (holds land); *RTC* 134.

Šu-Ma-ma (identities not always certain): *ITT* II 4591, 4620, 4633, 5882; *RTC* 127 (nar).

Given these links, one has reason to associate this "royal journey" with texts providing provisions for an otherwise unnamed king, queen, and dignitaries. The king's children are, however, nowhere mentioned in this group of texts. In these, foods are issued to several groups of people as follows: Group I = the king, queen, šabra-é, *Eṭib-Mer*, *Šarru-ṭab*, *Beli-URSAG*, *Puzur-Suen*, and *Dada šabra*. Group II = various PN's including *Šamaš-rabi*, *Nabium*, and others called GĪRNITA-me 'generals'; Group III = judges (di-ku₅-me), a constable (šu-gal₅-lá-um), a physician and diviner(?) (a-zu, lú-EME), a chief boatman (má-lah₄-gal), a person called DI and his scribe (dub-sar-DI = legal clerk?), and more than a score of other people.

Groups I and II receive fatted sheep and fish in *CT* 50 172, eggs in *ITT* I 1472, and sheep, birds, and fish in L. 4699 (see Appendix). In *RTC* 134 Group I only is presented with gold, cattle, sheep, and goats. A certain Lú-^dUtu dub-sar, a well-known administrator at Girsu,³ takes the gifts to Agade. In *RTC* 135 ducklings are given to the king, queen, and Da-da šabra only, but in L. 9374 (see Appendix) Group I(?) gets ducklings. In *RTC* 127 Groups I-III and a great many other people are given fatted sheep, oil, fish, and beer.

Indeed, it is hard to understand why so many people as are listed in *CT* 50 172, L. 4699, or *RTC* 127 would receive perishable foodstuffs if they were in Agade. It is easier to suppose them in Girsu when the issues were made, even if they did not consume on the spot the sometimes gargantuan quantities of food assigned to them (cf. L. 4699 i 7f., in which the queen receives 900 fish).

Daily provisions for a party such as this are provided for in texts such as *MVN* 3 82, wherein wine and fruit are disbursed for "the king's table" (banšur lugal). The disbursing officer, ^dŠára-i-šag₅, is known from other records of issue of fancy foods for

3 Occurrences with title: *ITT* II 3011, 4673.

unspecified purposes, e.g., *MVN* 3 31, *RTC* 218–20. One may suggest that these too are records of a royal visit to Lagash/Girsu.

Provisioning the supporting staff may be found in texts like *ITT* I 1397, where a man of *Beli-UR.SAG* is given beer, L. 4699 v 10' f., and in L. 9428, wherein royal servants are given grain rations:

rev i
 1') šu-nigin 23 [+x]
 2') árad géme lugal []
 3') šu-nigin 22 gur []
 4') šu-nigin 6 []
 5') árad géme lú []
 A-ga-dè^{ki} []

An important group of texts listing furniture and other goods, some for the use of the royal family, may be considered here (*RTC* 221–29). These list items belonging to the king, queen, (two?) king's sons (*RTC* 223 iv 4f: 2 chairs), and a king's daughter (*RTC* 223 iv 9), in short: a royal party apparently identical to the family of Naram-Sin honored in *RA* 9 (1912), 82.

Thureau-Dangin assumed that the lists of furniture, *RTC* 221–29, were post-Šarkališarri. While he gave no reason, one guesses that it was the anonymous year formula of *RTC* 221 (mu é-^oNin-gir-su-ka ba-dù-a), which looked to him like a year formula of the dynasty of Ur-Ba^ú (cf. *SAKI* 228 12b; compare, however, *RTC* 89: mu é-^{gis}kin¹-ti, [ba]-dù-[a] = ? *BIN* 8 137: é-^{gis}kin-ti, i.e., 3^e series = ? *Me-ság* archive). The difficulty with Thureau-Dangin's idea is to explain who the king, queen, king's sons, and king's daughter were in the *RTC* texts if they belonged to a post-imperial epoch. Since the royal party in *RA* 9 (1912), 82 and in *RTC* 221–29 seems to be one and the same, the year name should refer to an event late in the reign of Naram-Sin—and may in fact explain the presence of the king in Lagash at that time.

The group of texts published in *RTC* 221–29 contains the most elaborate inventory of realia of the whole Sargonic period, and suggests the complexity of the local arrangements for the king's visit. A certain Ur-Bagara, supervisor of the palace (nu-bànda é-gal), charged in and out an impressive array of utensils, furniture, and commodities. One lot of goods is specifically designated as belonging to the royal family (see below). The records suggest that these utensils and furniture were the personal property of the royal family and were presumably brought from Agade with the royal party. Before these properties are discussed in more detail, the following additional evidence may be considered:

1) In *RTC* 221 the royal property is listed separately, then various goods received ([ki PN] šu ba-ti) from other people, thereby implying that the source of the property in the first part was the royal family itself.

2) File labels refer to certain property as follows: níg u₄-zal-la-ke₄-ne A-ga-dè^{ki}-šè DU-a and níg A-ga-dè^{ki}-ta DU-a "Property of the 'sojourners' taken to/brought from Agade," (*ITT* II 4690 i 1', 2' [collated], = *ITT* I 1425.6). Could this be the property in question? For discussion of u₄-zal-la, see "Archives and Record Keeping in Sargonic Mesopotamia," *ZA* (in press).

3) It appears that this property was charged in and out each time it was used. This

explains the multiple and overlapping lists in the archive, which one could hardly expect if these goods were, for example, a single gift to the royal family shipped off to the capital. RTC 223, a disbursement of just the royal property, may perhaps be the final text in the series, when at last the royal goods were removed from Girsu to Agade once again.

This property may be summarized as follows:⁴

1. The King's Table Service (= RTC 221 i 1-7, RTC 222 i 1-6+, RTC 223 i 1-5)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) 1 ur ₅ guškin é-ba-an | 1) 1 pair of gold rings |
| 2) 1 gal guškin | 2) 1 gold cup |
| 3) 1 gur ₈ -gur ₈ guškin | 3) 1 (large) gold vessel (for liquids) |
| 4) 1 si-im guškin | 4) 1 gold container |
| 5) 1 ní-g-geštug guškin é-ba-an 30-ta | 5) 1 pair of gold handles (weighing) 30 (shekels?) each |
| 6) 2 ní-g-geštug é-ba-an 23-ta | 6) 2 pairs of handles (weighing) 23 (shekels?) each |
| 7) 1 ní-g-geštug guškin é-ba-an 22 | 7) 1 pair of gold handles (weighing) 22 (shekels? each?) |
| 8) 5 gir banšur zabar guškin gar-ra | 8) 5 bronze table knives inlaid with gold |

2. The King's Throne and Furniture (= RTC 221 i 8-10, RTC 222 i c', d', ii 1-2, RTC 223 i 6-12, ii 1-10)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) 1 ^{gis} gu-za ur guškin | 1) 1 lion throne of gold |
| 2) 2 ^{gis} ki-gal-bi | 2) 2 daises for it |
| 3) 1 ^{gis} ŠÚ.A-bi | 3) 1 stool for it |
| 4) 1 ^{gis} gir-gub kal | 4) 1 hard footstool |
| 5) 1 urudu ^{gis} kak dingir | 5) 1 copper peg (of? a) god |
| 6) 1 urudu ^{gis} gir dingir | 6) 1 knife (of? a) god |
| 7) [] [gir]-gub [] [GA].LI | 7) 1 footstool . . . |
| 8) [] ^{gis} gu-za kal guškin gar-ra | 8) 1 hard chair inlaid with gold |
| 9) [^{gis}] ^{gis} gu-za KAD ₅ -bi UŠ [-ka] x-ra guškin | 9) [] woven? chair of gold |
| 10) 1 ^{gis} nú umbin gud <i>i-ri-a-núm</i> guškin gar-ra | 10) 1 bed with ox feet made of i.-wood inlaid with gold |
| 11) 1 za[bar] guš[kin] | 11) 1 drinking vessel of . . . gold |
| 12) 1 zabar [] | 12) 1 drinking vessel [] |
| 13) 1 za-hum tur | 13) 1 small pitcher |
| 14) 1 zabar KU.KAK | 14) 1 drinking vessel with conical bottom (?) |
| 15) 1 pisan da-li | 15) 1 (tall?) -container |

⁴ Most of the items listed below have been discussed in detail by Salonen, *Hausgeräte, Fussbekleidung, and Möbel*, and I see no cause to repeat his information here.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 16) 1 ^{giš} banšur guškin gar-ra e-[] | 16) 1 wooden table inlaid with gold . . . |
| 17) 1 ^{giš} banšur kù-babbar gar-ra | 17) 1 wooden table inlaid with silver |

3. Personal Items of the King (= *RTC* 223 ii 11–14, iii 1–5)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) 1 ^{kuš} suhub ₂ guškin é-ba-an | 1) 1 pair of gold sandals |
| 2) 60 ^{kuš} suhub ₂ é-ba-an | 2) 60 pairs of leather sandals |
| 3) 1 urudu kak eme-gír kù-babbar gar-ra | 3) 1 copper pin for a knife blade inlaid with silver |
| 4) 14 urudu [kak?] | 4) 14 copper [pegs? cf. <i>RTC</i> 224] |
| 5) 15 ^{giš} [ban?] | 5) 15 wooden [bows? cf. <i>RTC</i> 224] |
| 6) 1 mas-sá-tum guškin gar-ra | 6) 1 m.-weapon inlaid with gold (cf. <i>RTC</i> 224) |
| 7) 1 gír-gal | 7) 1 large sword |
| 8) 1 hi-li-gi ₄ | 8) 1 . . . |
| 9) 2 bur zabar | 9) 2 bronze bowls |

4. The King's Archery Equipment (= *RTC* 222 i 3–9)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) 3 sagšu guškin gar-ra | 1) 3 helmets inlaid with gold |
| 2) [] ^{giš} ban guškin gu-la | 2) [] large bow(s) of gold |
| 3) [x+]1 ^{giš} ban guškin tur | 3) [x+]1 small bows of gold |
| 4) [x+?]1 ^{giš} ban kuš ^{giš} SAR | 4) [x+]1 leather bow(s) (for the game-) park (?) |
| 5) [] ^{giš} ban kuš UD.UD | 5) [] leather bow(s) . . . |
| 6) 2 ^{kuš} é-mar-ur ₅ | 6) 2 leather quivers |
| 7) 120 kak gùn-a | 7) 120 painted darts(?) |

5. The Queen's Property (= *RTC* 221 4–10, 222 iii 3–9, 223 iii 7–15, iv 1–2, *RTC* 227)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) 1 ur ₅ -guškin | 1) 1 gold ring |
| 2) 1 gal-guškin | 2) 1 gold cup |
| 3) 1 gur ₈ -gur ₈ guškin | 3) 1 (large) gold container (for liquids) |
| 4) 1 si-im guškin | 4) 1 gold container |
| 5) 1 gír-gub ga-li | 5) 1 footstool |
| 6) 1 ^{giš} gu-za sal []-ru ^{ki} guškin g[ar-r]a | 6) 1 narrow . . . chair inlaid with gold |
| 7) 1 ^{giš} gu-[za KAD ₅ -b]i UŠ zi-x-ra guškin gar-ra | 7) 1 woven? chair . . . inlaid with gold |
| 8) 1 ^{giš} banšur Me- ^r luh ^l -ha | 8) 1 Meluhha-table |
| 9) 1 ^{giš} gír-gub NE.DU.KU | 9) 1 footstool of . . . wood |
| 10) 1 za-[hum] | 10) 1 pitcher |
| 11) [1 zabar] KU.KAK | 11) [1] drinking vessel with conical base (?) |

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 12) 1 ^{gis} gu-za kal guškin gar-ra | 12) 1 hard chair inlaid with gold |
| 13) [1 ^{gis}] nú umbin gud | 13) 1 wooden bed with ox feet |

6. The Princes' Property (= *RTC* 221 ii 12–14, 223 iv 5–7, cf. *RTC* 222 iii 11 – iv 2)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) 2 ur ₅ guškin é-ba-an | 1) 2 pair of gold rings |
| 2) 1 ^{gis} gu-za-tur ^{gis} ab-ba sag-ba guškin gar-ra | 2) 1 small chair of thorn tree wood on top inlaid with gold |
| 3) 2 ^{gis} gir-gub tur | 3) 2 small wooden footstools |

7. The Princess's Property (= *RTC* 223 iv 9–10, cf. *RTC* 222 ii 11 – iv 2)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) 1 ^{gis} gu-za tur ab-ba guškin gar-ra | 1) 1 small chair of thorn tree wood inlaid with gold |
| 2) 1 ^{gis} gir-gub tur | 2) 1 small footstool of wood |
| 3) 1 ^{gis} gu-za sal | 3) 1 narrow chair of wood |

Other properties referred to in this series of texts may have been local goods used in the care and entertainment of the royal party, collected from various sources by the palace supervisor, or goods that came with the royal retinue but not considered personal property of the royal family. These include:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| miscellaneous utensils | <i>RTC</i> 221 ii 7–9 |
| beds, couches, chairs | <i>RTC</i> 221 iv 1–3 |
| cushions? and copper utensils | <i>RTC</i> 221 iv 4–8 |
| “pegs” and tablets | <i>RTC</i> 221 iv 9 – v |
| textiles and leather goods | <i>RTC</i> 221 v – vi |

There seems to have been a large tent or pavilion, the parts for which are listed as follows (*RTC* 221 vi):

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 7) 1 túg ùr-sig ₅ | 7) 1 good roof cloth |
| 8) 1 túg giš-zi sig ₅ | 8) 1 good wall cloth |
| 9) 13 túg giš-é | 9) 13 tent? pieces? |
| 10) 1 giš-zi gada | 10) 1 linen wall cloth |
| 11) gid-bi 12½ [] (four lines lost) | 11) 12½ [cubits?] long |
| 16) 180 eše-giš gùn kak | 16) 180 colored tent ropes (and) pegs |

In addition, aromatics, bars of soap (sig₄-naga), headgear made of birds' feathers,⁵ slabs of ivory, pieces of wood, linens and textiles (*RTC* 221 vi – ix 2) and an assortment of weapons (*RTC* 221 viii 15' – 20') were received.

⁵ sagšu á mušen; cf. Salonen, *Vögel*, 302, and perhaps the “Figure aux Plumes.” For an administrative text dealing with birds' wings (PA mušen) and discussion of the use of feathers in third millennium Sumer, see Scheil, *RA* 22 (1925), 156f.

There are no strong prosopographical links between the furniture texts and the food series or the *RA* 9 (1912), 82 text. A certain Dada delivers linens and textiles in *RTC* 221, and it is tempting to equate him with the Dada šabra(-šabra) of the food texts, as mentioned, for example, in *CT* 50 172, *ITTI* 1077, 1246, (1472?), *ITTV* 9275, (*RTC* 134?), 135. From his sealing in *RTC* 161 we know that he served under Šarkališarri. On the other hand, the name is common in the Girsu archive, so without the title the *RTC* 221 context must remain uncertain. Ur-bagara the palace supervisor is not otherwise attested in the Girsu archives to my knowledge, but the name is frequently encountered without the title in Girsu texts: *CT* 50 146, 147, 157; *ITTI* 1332, 1455, 2824, 3057, 3124, 4384, 4431, 4551, 5732, 5886, etc. Nor can I document Lugal-ti dam-gār (*RTC* 221) or En-šidim-šağ₅ (*RTC* 226). Thus the only reason to associate this group of texts with the Naram-Sin documents above is the striking similarity of the two royal families mentioned.

In any case, there is good reason to believe that Naram-Sin and his family came to Girsu. Since the royal party had to be fed and maintained, one has thereby reason to suspect that some of these texts at least are to be connected with the king's journey. That most or all of the food records belong together is suggested by the overlap of names among them and the generally different foods accounted for in each text. The furniture texts would in my view cover the signing in and out of the belongings and equipment for the same royal party. A final verdict on the interrelationship of all this material must await comprehensive study of the entire Girsu archive when the surviving documentation is made available.

II. Šarkališarri

CT 50 54, from Umma, dated month 2 of year 1⁶ of the ensi Me-ság, is a list of gifts to the king, queen, and crown prince, including gold, silver, and bronze objects, garments, wagons and teams, livestock, and food and drink of all sorts. The document is subscribed Ur-gidri [dub-sar-e] lugal Ki-en-gi-še i-gin-na-a Zabala^{ki}-a i-gid-da-àm "being what Ur-gidri [the scribe] had hauled upstream at Zabala when the king came to Sumer."⁷

Two other texts from the Umma archives seem to refer to this occasion: *MCS* 9 247, dated month 6 of year 1, is a list of foods for a banquet, including cheese, honey, fruit, wine, beef, and mutton distributed to various people, and is subscribed lugal Ki-en-gi-še i-im-gin-na-a us-ga NE []⁸ " . . . when the king came to Sumer, in the sanctuary (usug-a?) . . . []" *MCS* 9 232 (no date) is a disbursement of grain, oils, cheese, milk, honey, nuts, spices, legumes, salt, fruit, and aromatics. Some of these commodities are listed in the same order as in *MCS* 9 247, and in comparable quantities (compare 247.3' f. = 232.7' f., etc.), so the close relationship of the two texts seems assured. Along with the foods certain commodities were listed that seem to have been used in preparation or serving:

⁶ For the dating system, see for the present Foster, *Or.* 48 (1979), 153f.

⁷ Translation based on a suggestion by Jacobsen (privately). The text is edited in my *Umma in the Sargonic Period* (in press).

⁸ This text is edited in *Umma in the Sargonic Period*.

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| rev. 3' 120 PAD.GI | 120 . . . |
| 4' 120 gú ú | 120 talents of hay |
| 5' 10 gú ^{gi} zi-ri-im | 10 talents of . . . wood |
| 6' 840 sila gal | 840 large sila-pots |
| 7' 360 sila tur | 360 small sila-pots |
| 8' 2 kaš gur ₈ -gur ₈ | 2 (large) containers (for/of) beer |
| 9' 0.0.3.0 ba-ba munu ₄ | 3 ban of baba-malt |
| 10' a-na muhaldim | to the cook |
| 11' 3 ZÍZ.AN gur | 3 gur of emmer |
| 12' 60 še gur | 60 gur of barley |
| 13' a-na lú-bappir | to the brewer |
| 14') a-na banšur _x [ASARI] ⁹ lu[gal] | for the king's table |
| 15') li-[di-i]n | let him [gi]ve (it). |
| 16') GIS.[UH ^{ki} ?] ¹⁰ | Um[ma?] |

Assuming that the hay and wood were combustibles for cooking and that the vessels were for cooking and serving, the occasion was a large one.

A file label from Umma, *BRM* 3 26, dated month 7 of year 1 of Me-ság, contained: im-sar-ra zi-ga lugal Nibru^{ki} im-gin-a "disbursement records for when the king came to Nippur." That this file label and the two records just quoted are all dated to year 1 makes one reasonably certain that *CT* 50 52, *MCS* 9 247, and *MCS* 9 232 were among the very im-sar-ra for which *BRM* 3 26 was the label. This allows one to conclude that the king's journey to Nippur and his journey to Sumer were in fact the same event.

Text 2 (NBC 6848), a record of transactions with dates, perhaps from Isin,¹¹ refers to the king's journey to Nippur:

| i | ii |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1) 3 zú-lum gur sag zú-lum-kam | 1) 0.3.0.0 I-nu-si |
| 2) [x+?] 1.2.0.0 kud-rá ús | 2) 1.2.0.0 gur |
| 3) Ur-šag ₅ | 3) é sag-sug ₅ |
| 4) lú Ur-dub | 4) 3.3.0.0 gur Sag-ba |
| 5) 1.2.0.0 gur | 5) 0.3.0.0 KA-kù |
| 6) 1.1.0.0 kud-rá ús | 6) Nin-tur |
| 7) UN-e | 7) 2.2.0.0 gur |
| 8) 0?.2.1.0 Lugal-[]x DAM.GIS | 8) Ama?-na-si |
| 9) [] .3.0 Nin-kal | 9) Nibru ^{ki} |
| 10) [] lú?-šà | 10) lugal im-gin-a |
| 11) [] gur | |

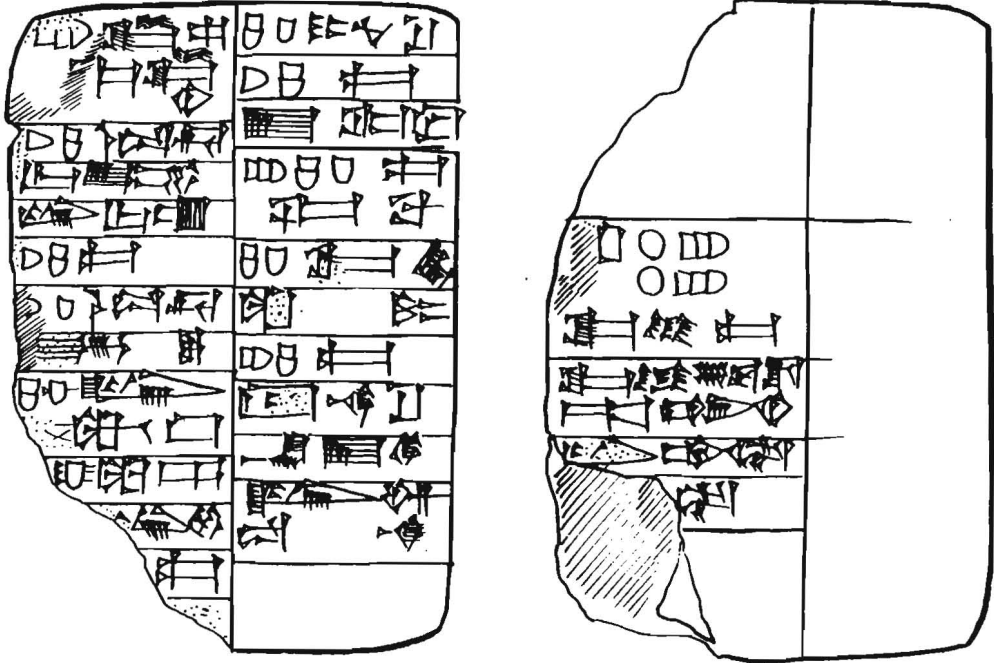
9 For this reading, see M. Lambert, *Or.An.* 13 (1974), 2 (= n. 4).

10 To judge from parallel texts (e.g., *MVN* 3 82), restoration of a personal name may be preferable, perhaps Giš-[šà].

11 The Yale Babylonian Collection contains various Sargonic tablets which apparently come from Isin (IN^{ki}); I hope to treat the rest elsewhere.

(rev)

- 1) [šu]-nigin 26 zú-lum gur
- 2) zú-lum Tu-da-<na>-ap-šum-kam
- 3) LÚ-SUKUD.KAS₄
- 4) [maš]kim



TEXT 2 (NBC 6848)

Remarks:

i 1-4: "3 gur of excellent dates, (being) [1?].2.0.0 with interest added, (to) Ur-šag, man of Ur-D." [loan at 50%?]

i 5-7: "1.2.0.0 gur (being) 1.1.0.0 with interest added, (to) U." [loan at 20%]

ii 1-8: (Quantities to individuals).

ii 9-10: "When the king came to Nippur."

rev. 1-4: "[To]tal: 26 gur of dates, dates (belonging to) Tuda(na)pšum. L. (was) supervisor of the transaction."

For kud-rá ús, see Steinkeller, *JESHO* 24 (1981), 142f. For similar formulation of an interest-bearing loan, compare *HSS* 10 107: 4 gur in 0.0.4.0 5.1.4.0 še gur iš-te, Zu-zu [loan at 33 1/3%].

One is strongly tempted to read Tudanapšum in rev. 2 and equate this person with the daughter of Naram-Sin of that name.¹² The presence of LÚ-SUKUD.KAS₄ in this text

¹² My particular thanks go to Piotr Michalowski for allowing me to consult his study on Tudanapšum (*RA*, in press), in which he shows that she was Naram-Sin's daughter and served as an en-priestess.

and of a certain LÚ-SUKUD.DU in *MVN* 3 1 (to be edited by Westenholz), a record of various transactions with silver in which both Tudanapšum and Nippur are mentioned, strengthens this proposal. The similar nature and prosopographical connections of Text 2 and *MVN* 3 1 suggest that they both belonged to the same archive.

As one would expect, the king's journey to Nippur is also attested in the Girsu archive. L. 1212 + L. 4672 (see Appendix; copy to appear elsewhere) form a fragment of a once immense tablet recording disbursement of silver, bronze, copper, flour, sheep, leather goods, oils, garments, and other commodities. Some are subscribed *gir lugal* 'the king's journey' (?); others are subscribed *má Dilmun* 'the Dilmun boat'. The totals are subscribed as follows:

| | | |
|----|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| c' | lugal EN.LÍ[L ^{ki}]-šè | "When the king |
| d' | im-gin-na | went to Nippur |
| e' | ME+EN x] | |
| f' | i-gíd-[da-àm] | [being what . . .] hauled upstream." |

This text suggests that the king did not come to Girsu on this occasion but that the commodities were sent up to Nippur by boat. Line e' is incomprehensible to me. While one expects a personal name here, none known to me at Girsu fits (cf. *Me-en-gi: CT* 50 108.11; *ITT* II 5681, 5716). Nor do I see a plausible way to connect this line with the mysterious fourth line of *PBS* 5 38, as ME+EN for a hypothetical MEN in *PBS* 5 38 seems to me most improbable.

A year name of Šarkališarri (*PBS* 5 38) refers to his going to Sumer:

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| mu Šar-kà-li-šàr-ri | The year after Šarkališarri |
| Ki:en:gi ^{ki} -šè | came down to Sumer |
| im-ta-è-da | |
| [men?] sag-gá | (and) [the crown] upon (his) |
| | head . . . |
| mu-ús-bi | |

Somewhat similar wording is found on a disbursement from the Me-ság archive,¹³ *BIN* 8 134, which lists quantities of wool received by a felt maker:¹⁴ *i-nu lugal u-ur-da-ni* "when the king came down." Another text from this archive, *BIN* 8 140, is a list of eighteen benches and chairs in the custody of a certain Íd-hi-li. These are subscribed *šu A-ga-dè^{ki}* 'responsibility of Agade'. Given the parallel of *RTC* 221–29 discussed above, one suspects the presence here too of royal furniture. Other texts from this archive,¹⁵ which consist of lists of goods taken to Zabala or loaded on boats, call to mind *CT* 50 54, the cargo of gifts to the king sent from Umma to Zabala and put on boats. In addition, the "temple of Enlil" is mentioned in the Me-ság records, possibly the temple

13 Identity with the Umma ensi Me-ság most doubtful. This archive has been reconstructed by S. J. Bridges, "The Mesag Archive: A Study of Sargonic Society and Economy" (Yale University dissertation, 1981).

14 See Steinkeller, *Or.An.* 19 (1980), 79f.

15 *BIN* 8 247, 267, etc.

at Nippur.¹⁶ Most important, *BIN* 8 214, which apparently belongs to this same archive, lists prepared provisions issued to men from Uruk, a man each from Umma and Gasur, and raw ingredients to: dumu lugal-me ‘children of the king’, as well as Lugal-ušum[gal], very likely the énsi of Lagash of that name (time of Naram-Sin, Šarkališarri). The rationing of so many distinguished “foreigners” suggests some state occasion.

L.2940 (see Appendix) is a record of sheep, some of which *Šarru-tab* (cf. above, “Group I”) received “when the king came to Sumer,” and some of which were taken to Agade.

There is ample evidence that Šarkališarri made an important journey to Nippur, important enough to have been commemorated in at least two year dates. On this occasion lavish gifts were sent from Umma upstream (to Nippur?), and rather more modest gifts, it seems, from Me-ság’s estate. Goods were sent from Girsu as well. As my restoration of the year name implies, I suggest that the occasion for this journey was his coronation as king of Sumer and Akkad.

Appendix: Food Disbursement Texts

L.4699. Top half of a very neatly written 3-column tablet, 10.8 x 6.8 cm (maximum preserved dimensions).

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>i</p> <p>1) 2 udu-niga</p> <p>2) 10 S₁XHU** (=u₅?) mušen</p> <p>3) x+20 ku₆ izi-^lgá^l</p> <p>4) [] ku₆ nun IGLA</p> <p>5) lugal</p> <p>6) 2 S₁XHU mušen</p> <p>7) 600 ku₆ izi-gá</p> <p>8) 300 ku₆ nun IGLA</p> <p>9) nin</p> | <p>ii</p> <p>1) 240 ku₆ izi-gá</p> <p>2) 120 ku₆ nun IGLA</p> <p>3) <i>Be-li</i>-UR.SAG</p> <p>4) 240 ku₆ izi-gá</p> <p>5) 120 ku₆-nun IGLA</p> <p>6) <i>Šar-ru</i>-DÜG</p> <p>7) 180 ku₆ izi-gá</p> <p>8) 120 ku₆ nun IGLA</p> <p>9) <i>Püzur</i>-^dSuen</p> <p>10) [] x</p> |
| <p>iii</p> <p>1) Mes?-x[]</p> <p>2) 180 ku₆ izi-[gá]</p> <p>3) 120 ku₆ nun IGL[A]</p> <p>4) Ur-^dUtu šu-gal₅-lá-[?]</p> <p>5) 120 x</p> <p>6) 60 <i>I-ti</i>-^dD[<i>a-gan</i>?]</p> <p>7) 60 Ur-mes</p> <p>8) 60 Ku-li</p> <p>9) 60 <i>Im</i>₄-<i>tá</i>-[<i>lik</i>]</p> <p>10) di-ku₅-^lme^l</p> | <p>(rev) iv</p> <p>1') 60 ku₆ nun IG[I.A]</p> <p>2') Lugal-gaba</p> <p>3') 60 <i>Ib-ni</i>-DIN[GIR]</p> <p>4') 60 <i>I-šar-be-li</i></p> <p>5') 60 Ki-ág-lú</p> <p>6') 60 Sipa-^lša₆^l-[ga]</p> <p>7') 60 []</p> <p>8') 60 []</p> |

- 13') 1 (round) sila i-giš
 14') 1/3¹ sila i-šah
 15') igi 3-gál i-udu
 16') 'Lugal'-šu-mah
 17') [] ḫ ninda
 18') [] ḫ

- 13') 2^{giš}[]
 14') 4 []
 15') 1^{kuš}[]

iii'

- 1') 1 []
 2') gi[r lugal?]
 3') EN.[LÍL^{ki}?]
 4') 2 i []
 Lú ḫ []
 5') 1.0.0.0 lá 0.0.3.0 še [gur]
 6') Á-[]
 7') Ur-[]
 8') dumu ḫ []
 9') 1 kù gín
 10') kuš gud má Dilmun
 11') é-dr^{Utu}? ḫ
 12') []
 13') 0.0.2.0. []
 14') igi-[]
 15') má []
 16') ḫ[]

iv'

- 1) [i-g]íd
 2) [Lú?]-zàh
 (space)
 3) šu-nigin 1/3-ša 8 gín igi 3-gál 120 še kù
 4) šu-nigin 1/3-ša 7 urudu zabar gín
 5) šu-nigin 1/3-ša 4 urudu gín
 6) šu-nigin 20.0.2.5 sila ŠE.ZÍD gur
 7) šu-nigin ḫ []
 8) [šu-nigin x+] 5 udu HIA
 9) šu-nigin 8 kuš HIA
 10) šu-nigin 15 sila i-šah
 11) šu-nigin 7 túg HIA
 12) šu-nigin 2^{kuš}LAK 171 +KAŠ

Left edge:

- a') [Lugal]-šu-mah
 b') šu-nigin 1 (round) sila KA^{gunu}
 c') lugal EN.LÍ[L^{ki}]-šè
 d') im-gin-na
 e') ME+EN ḫ []
 f') i-gid-[da-àm?]

L. 2940: Account of sheep, 4.3 x 7.3 cm.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) x+20 sá-dug ₄ [] | 11) lu[gal] Ki-en-gi-[šè] |
| 2) ki Pu-tum [] | rev. |
| 3) kurušda-ta | 12) i-gín-na |
| 4) 'i-l-da- ¹ sig ₇ ¹ | 13) íb-ta-z ¹ i ¹ |
| 5) udu sá-dug ₄ -kam | 14) udu Ur- ^d A.MIR. ¹ ZA ¹ - ¹ ke ₄ ¹ |
| 6) udu sag šu-bala-ak | 15) [A]- ¹ ga ¹ -[d]è ^{ki} -šè |
| 7) Šar-ru-DÜG-e | 16) [] |
| 8) i-dab ₅ -e | 17) 61? udu [] |
| 9) ki-ta | (several lines lost) |
| 10) 22 udu | |