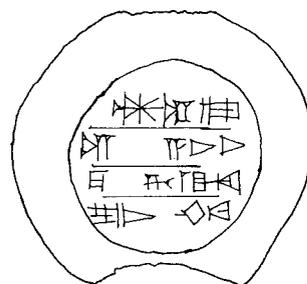


Three New Kassite Royal Inscriptions in the Louvre

GRANT FRAME
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The three objects presented below are in the collections of the Louvre Museum and are published here by the kind permission of Mme André-Leicknam who brought the pieces to the attention of the author in July 1986. The first two are eyestones¹ and come from the time of the Kassite king Kurigalzu (either the first or second king by that name). They were presented by him to two deities, one to the goddess Ninlil and the other to the god Zababa. The third object comes from the reign of Burna-Buriaš II (c. 1359–1333 BC), the nineteenth king of the Kassite dynasty.



AO 21377

1) AO 21377

This eyestone was acquired by the Louvre in 1963. It measures 3 cm from side to side and 2.75 cm from top to bottom. The diameter of the central portion is 2 cm and it is 1.1 cm thick. The eyestone is recorded as being of agate and a hole has been drilled through it from one side to the other. The outer band is white in colour, while the inner portion is mainly brown.

TRANSLITERATION

- 1) ^dnin-lil
- 2) nin-a-ni¹-ir¹
- 3) *ku-ri-gal-zu*
- 4) in-na-ba

TRANSLATION

To Ninlil, his lady, Kurigalzu gave (this eyestone).

¹The actual use of these objects is not completely certain. For a study of 'eyestones', see W. G. Lambert, *RA* 63 (1969) pp. 65–71, especially pp. 68–71.

2) AO 23994

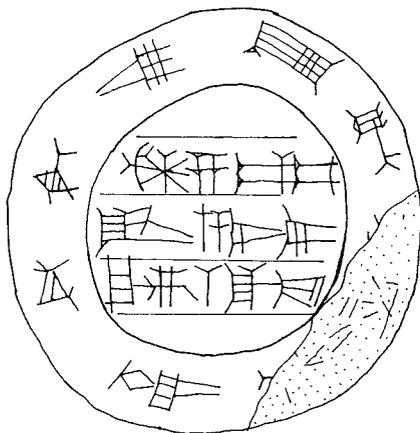
Acquired by the Louvre in 1970, this eyestone is pierced, measures 4.1 cm in diameter, and is 1.6 cm thick. The central portion is brown and the outer band is white, though discoloured in parts. One part of the outer band (lower right) is grey-black in colour and is comprised of a different type of stone than the remainder. It appears that the scribe found it difficult to inscribe this section, either because the stone was hard, or because it would fracture if struck too strongly. Numerous scratches can be seen on this section, some presumably caused when the scribe's tool slipped; no clear signs, however, can be identified.

TRANSLITERATION

- 1) ^dza-ba₄-ba₄
- 2) lugal-a-ni-ir
- 3) *ku-ri-gal-zu*
- 4) gîr-n[íta[?]] r^{d?}en-lil in-na-ba

TRANSLATION

To Zababa, his lord, Kurigalzu, vice[roy] for Enlil, gave (this eyestone).



AO 23994

3) Sb 6868

This fragment of lapis lazuli was found at Susa and measures 4.5×3 cm. A hole has been pierced through it (at the beginning of the last line) and in raised relief is the form of what may be an animal's ear. A label with the object describes it as an 'oreille de Taureau'.

TRANSLITERATION

(Lacuna)

1) ^dx [...]

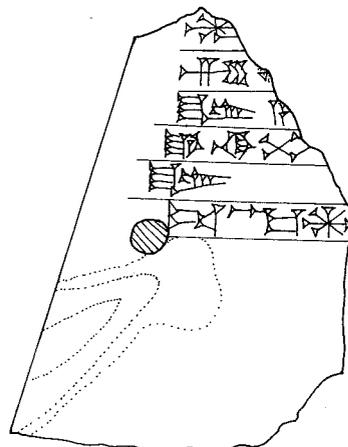
2) GI (x) [...]

3) lugal-a-[ni-ir]

4) *bur-na-b[u-ri-ia-aš]*5) lugal [kiš/šár²]6) dumu *kad-aš-ma-an-Γ^dΓ[en-líl]*

TRANSLATION

[To DN] ... [..., his] lord, Burna-B[urraš], king [of the world], son of Kadašman-[Enlil] (gave this object).



Sb 6868