A New Esarhaddon Prism Fragment Concerning the Restoration of Babylon

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Tokyo

The fragment of an octagonal prism published below belongs to the Hirayama Collection (Kamakura, Japan). This text is a part of Version E of Esarhaddon's Babylon Inscriptions. Although I have not checked it with the original of BM 78225, it can be joined to BM 78225 (88-5-12.80) published in CT 44.6. Each column of the fragment continues from BM 78225 almost directly. After the model of designations of the texts by R. Borger and J.A. Brinkman, which is presupposed here, siglum E1 should now be assigned to BM 78225 (previously designated E'), and siglum E1b assigned to the text of the Hirayama Collection. For permission to publish the text I am deeply indebted to Professor and Mrs. I. Hirayama.

With this fragment we can now restore Episode 15 of Version E:


I, Esarhaddon, the servant who reveres his great divinity, plan[ned] to build Esagila and Babylon anew, [to re]new (statues of) the gods and the goddesses, [to complete chapels, to esta]blish the regular offer[i]ngs, (and) to gather the dispersed people[,] considered (this) in my mind, entrusted (it) to my heart, and commanded that it be put into action.

With the exception of several simple orthographic variants, there are, in addition to the passages cited just above, some readings of the text E1b which differ from those of its duplicates:

Ep. 8, 1: E1b offers DINGIR-Sū u 415-Sū in the singular in contrast to the plural in E² and E3a.
Ep. 10, 8: E1b reads ša i-ni-nu while E² has ša i-nu-nu.⁷
Ep. 35, 7-8: E1b probably omits these two lines.
Ep 41, 19: E1b reads [a-n]a [k(ašr)-šu instead of E1b: a-na aš-ri-šu-nu.
Ep. 41, 40: E1b offers re-e-me instead of re-e-mu of E² and E1b.

I am grateful to Prof. J.A. Brinkman, Chicago, and Prof. K. Deller, Heidelberg, for reading the manuscript and offering their helpful critiques.

1 For two earlier publications see R. Borger, Asarh. (= Die Inschriften Asarhadons Königs von Assyrien, AJO Beih. 9, 1956) pp. 10ff there are five duplicates of the text in six fragments. See J.A. Brinkman, 'Through a Glass Darkly: Esarhaddon's Retrospects on the Downfall of Babylon,' JAOS 103/1 (1983) p. 38. As for Version E, the texts which were published after R. Borger's standard edition are: AO 7736 (J. Nougayrol, AJO 18 [1957-58] pls. 21-22 and pp. 31ff, BM 42668 (= 81-7-1,430) (A.R. Millard, AJO 24, 1973, pl. 13 and p. 118), and BM 34899 (= Sp.2,411) (CT 51 no. 78). The three texts which R. Borger had edited were later published in CT 44 nos. 6-8 in copies made by Pinches. See also R. Borger, 'Zu den Asarhadon-Texten aus Babylon,' BiOr 21 (1964) pp. 143-48.

2 For two earlier publications see R. Borger, Asarh. p. 10.

3 See the table of texts and sigla in J.A. Brinkman, op. cit. p. 38. For two earlier publications see R. Borger, Asarh. p. 10.

4 See the table of texts and sigla in J.A. Brinkman, op. cit. p. 38. For two earlier publications see R. Borger, Asarh. p. 10.

5 kun or kunnu/kunn is expected here. But, according to the fragment of the first sign of the line which should be read /mu/ and in consideration of the often attested expression mukin sattukki (see CAD S p. 201a), the restoration of this line and the next is plausible. Then we must take into account the possibility of a mistake in changing the infinitive into the participle. A similar mistake occurs in the case of šuk[l]u and mušakil, in which, though, the infinitive erroneously replaces the participle (Episodes 38(b), 39: E1b IV 39' // E4 III 21, see R. Borger, BiOr 21 p. 147).

6 The restoration is based on Episode 38, 12-14 (E1b IV 43'-45' // E4 III 25-27: mu-pa-hi ir tun=šu/ši sa-ap-ba-a-iti/mušm=šu). For permission to publish the text I am deeply indebted to Professor and Mrs. I. Hirayama.

7 For two earlier publications see R. Borger, Asarh. p. 10.

8 See the table of texts and sigla in J.A. Brinkman, op. cit. p. 38. For two earlier publications see R. Borger, Asarh. p. 10.
In the following I give transliterations of the Episodes of Version E in a score form which the fragment of E1b represents. These are Episodes 5, 7, 8, 10, 15, 20, 21, 22, 35, 41, and the date, among which Episodes 20, 21, 22, and the date are entirely, and Episode 41 is partly, shared with other Versions. These Versions are referred to here in the footnotes only as far as they differ from the text of Version E. The line division is based on E1.

Version E Episodes 5, 7, 8, 10, 15, 20, 21, 22, 35, 41, and the date

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text</th>
<th>Museum no.</th>
<th>Publication</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E1a</td>
<td>BM 78225 (88–5–12,80)</td>
<td>CT 44 no. 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>E1b</td>
<td>Esarhaddoni's Prism</td>
<td>AARRIM 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>E2</td>
<td>BM 78248 (88–5–12,103)</td>
<td>CT 44 no. 7</td>
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<td>E3a</td>
<td>BM 78246 (88–5–12,101)</td>
<td>CT 44 no. 8</td>
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<td>AO 7736 (81–7–1,430)</td>
<td>AFO 18 pls. 21–22</td>
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<td>E4</td>
<td>BM 42668</td>
<td>AFO 24 pl. 13</td>
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<td>E5</td>
<td>BM 34899 (Sp.2,411)</td>
<td>CT 51 no. 78</td>
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<tr>
<th>Episode 5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) E1a 10: ul-la-mu-ú’a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) E1a 12: i-gu-ug</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 5) E1a 14: rû-ûm-ma | 6) E1a 15: [...]*k*[1]  
| E2 I 1: [...]*k*[1] | E2 I 2: [...]*k*[1] |

are assumed. Now, we have i-ni-ú as a variant to i-mu-ú, which makes Borger’s view more probable.


10 Only E2 is written in Assyrian script, while all the other texts are written in Babylonian script.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Episode 7</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) E1b 1 8: É[SAG].ILA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) E1b 1 10: [n]a-mu-ú</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5) E1b 1 12: [...]-mu-ú</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E1a 1 1: [...]-bé-eš</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Episode 8</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) E1b 1 14*: [DINGIR]-šú u i d15[15]-šú</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) E1b 1 16*: [k]i-šú-šú-[nu]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5) E1b 1 18*: [...]-lu-ú šá-ma-miš</td>
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</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Episode 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) E1a 12*: [DINGIR]-šú u i d15[15]-šú</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) E1a 13*: [DINGIR]-šú u i d15[15]-šú</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tsukimoto: Esarhaddon Fragment

Episode 15

1) E²b II 8': ia-a-ti
   E² I 27'a: ia-a-ti
2) E²b II 9': AN.SÁR-ŠEŠ-i1-na
   E² I 27'bi: AN.SÁR-ŠEŠ-si-na
3) E²b II 10': ar-du [p]a-lih
   E² I 28'a: ar-du pa-lih
4) E²b II 11': DIN@IR-tiSi GAL-l@ti
   E² I 28'b: DIN@IR-f[r...]-ti
5) E²b II 12': a-na e-peš
6) E²b II 13': E.SAG-IIA
7) E²b II 14': rū1 KÁ.DIN@IR.RAki
8) E²b II 15': [ud-d]l[u]-uš DIN@IR-meš
9) E²b II 16': rū1 ḫr15meš1
10) E²b II 17': [šuk]-lul eš-re-ti
11) E²b II 18': [m]ar-ki-[in]
12) E²b II 19': [sat]-tuk-[i1]
13) E²b II 20': puḫḫur
14) E²b II 21': UNmeš1SU BIRmeš11
15) E³a III 1: ina k[a]-r...
   E³a II 1'-2': i-na kar-[i-a]
16) E³a III 2: u-[
   E³a II 3': u-ŠAB-[i-ma]
17) E³a III 3: uš-[
   E³a II 4': uš-ta-bi-fla1
18) E³a III 4: ka-[
   E³ I 1': [Ka-ba(?)]1-
   E³a II 5': ka-bat-ti
19) E³a III 5: lib-bi a[r...]
   E³ I 2'a: lib-bi ar-hu-usma
   E³a II 6'-7': lib-bi ar-hu-usma

Episode 20\footnote{12}{Episode 20 reoccurs in Versions A, B, C, and D (see R. Borger, BiOr 21 p. 143). Because A² (VA 8420 = Assur 8000), which is the main text of Episodes 20 and 21 in Borger's edition (R. Borger, Asarh. p. 20), is published only in his transliteration, it is cited here from his book.}

1) E³a III 13: ina l.GIŠ DU10,GGA 
   E² I 6'a: ina l DU10,GGA LAL
2) E³a II 17'-19': i-na l DU10,GGA diš-pu
3) E³a III 15: KAŠ.TIN,[NAM]
   E² I 7'a: ku-ru-un-nu
   E³a II 21': ku-ru-un-nu
4) E³a III 16: mu-tin-nu\footnote{13}{A², B(a), C¹: -ni.}
   E² I 7'b-8'a: mu-[ti...]-ši-kAR
   E³a II 21': mu-[ti...]-ši-kAR
5) E³a III 17: t[KUR]-e KU
   E² I 8'b: KUR-e KU
6) E³b II 1' : t[ab(?)]1...]
   E² II 8'c: ab-lu[l14]
7) E³b III 2': ta-[r]-a-[ah]-HUš351}
   E² II 8'd: [...] 
   E³ IV 1': [...] HUš(?])

Episode 21\footnote{16}{Episode 21 reoccurs in Versions A, C, and D (R. Borger, BiOr 21 p. 143). For A³ see n. 11.}

1) E³b III 3': aš-ši GAL-l[u...]
   E² I 9'a: aš-ši DIN@IR-us-su
   E³ II 2': [...]su(?!)
2) E³b III 4'a: GAL-tE17 U[Nmeš1
   E² I 9'b-10'a: GAL-... UNmeš1
   E³ II 2'b-3'a: GAL(?)-1-te(?!) [...] 
3) E³b III 5': kul-lu-mi-[]
   E³a II 10'b: kul-lu-mi-[
   E³ IV 3'b: [...] mi-ma18
4) E³b III 6': šup-lu-lu-[]
   E² I 11'a: šup-lu-li19
   E³ IV 2'a: [...] 

\footnote{12}{Episode 20 reoccurs in Versions A, B, C, and D (see R. Borger, BiOr 21 p. 143). Because A² (VA 8420 = Assur 8000), which is the main text of Episodes 20 and 21 in Borger's edition (R. Borger, Asarh. p. 20), is published only in his transliteration, it is cited here from his book.}
\footnote{13}{A², B(a), C¹: -ni.}
\footnote{14}{A², B(a), C¹, D: ab-lu-la.}
\footnote{15}{A², C¹, D: ta-ra-šuš; B(a): ta-ra-ah-šuš.}
\footnote{16}{Episode 21 reoccurs in Versions A, C, and D (R. Borger, BiOr 21 p. 143). For A³ see n. 11.}
\footnote{17}{C¹: -tum; A²: ‘vielleicht tu‘ (R. Borger, Asarh. p. 20).}
\footnote{18}{C¹: -mi-im-ma.}
\footnote{19}{C¹: -šu.}
Episode 22\textsuperscript{20}

1) E' b III 12:  
E E II 14:  
E E II 9:  
E E II III 13:  
E E II 15a:  
E E II 10:  
E E II IV 14:  
E E II 15b:  
E E II 11:  
E E III 15:  
E E II VI 16:  
E E II 16b:  
E E II 13a:  
E E III 17:  
E E II 17a:  
E E III 17b:  
E E II 13b:  
E E III 18:  
E E II 17b:  
E E IV 14a:  
E E III 19:  
E E II 17c:  
E E IV 14b:  

Episode 35

1) E' b IV 1:  
E E IV 18-19:  
E E IV 6-7:  
E E IV 2:  
E E IV 20-21:  
E E III 8:  

Episode 41

1) E' a VII 1:  
E E V 17:  
E E VI 5a:  
E E V 23a:  
E E VII 2:  
E E V 18:  
E E VI 5b:  
E E V 23b:  
E E VII 3:  
E E V 19:  
E E VI 6a:  
E E V 24a:  
E E VII 4:  
E E V 20:  
E E VI 6b:  
E E V 24b:  
E E VII 5:  
E E V 21-22:  
E E VI 7a:  
E E V 25:  
E E VII 6:  
E E V 23:  

\textsuperscript{20} Episode 22 reoccurs in Versions A, B, C, and D (R. Borger, BiOr 21 p. 143).
\textsuperscript{21} B(a): it-bit-

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\textsuperscript{22} A': fa'a-na ar-kat, C': ana ar-kat.
\textsuperscript{23} A': u-\textsuperscript{me}, C': u-\textsuperscript{mu}.
\textsuperscript{24} C': ana.
\textsuperscript{25} A': sa-a-ti, C': sa-a-te.
\textsuperscript{26} A': -ia.
7) E's VI 7b: [...]
E's VI 24: [... DINGIRmeš]
E's VI 8a: ša27 LUGAL DINGIR[meš]
E's VI 27a: ša LUGAL DI[NGIRmeš]
8) E's VI 8: [']AMAR.UTU
E's VI 25: [']AMAR.UTU
E's VI 8b: [...]
E's V 27b: [...]
9) E's VI 9: [...]
E's VI 9a: a-na be-l[u]
E's V 28a: a-na be-[lur]
E's VI 9b: [...]
E's VI 24: [...]
E's VI 8b: [...]
E's V 27b: [...]
10) E's VI 10: [... U]Nmeš
E's VI 9b-10: [KUR] ū28 UN[meš]
E's VI 28b-29: [...] ū U[Nmeš]
11) E's VI 11: [...]-u
E's VI 11: i-nam-bu- [...]
E's VI 30a: i-nam-b[u-...]
12) E's VI 12: [...]-šu29
E's VI 12: zi-[lir...] [...]
E's V 30b: [...]
13) E's VI 13: [...]-u
E's VI 13a: mu-[šar-]
E's VI 31a: mu-[šar-]21
14) E's VII 1: [ši-ti-]r([7]30
E's VI 13b: [...]
E's VI 31b: [...]
15) E's VII 2: [...]-l[a
E's VI 14a: MU-ia
E's VI 31c: [...]
16) E's VII 3: [li-mur]-ma31
E's VI 14b: [l][i-...]
E's VI 32: li- [...]
17) E's VII 4: [...]-l[p]-šu-uš
E's VI 15: [...]-l[p]- [...]
E's VI 33: [...]-l[p]- [...]
18) E's VII 5: [...]-liq-qi
E's VI 16: udusizkur13 [liq-...]
E's VI 34a: udusizkur [...]
19) E's VII 6: [...]-ti36
E's VI 17a: a-na dš-r[i-šu-nu
E's VI 34b: [...]
20) E's VII 7: [...]-ti36
E's VI 1: [...]-ti
E's VI 17b: [...]

21) E's VII 8: [']AMAR.UTU
E's VI 2: [']AMAR.UTU
E's VI 18a: [']AMAR.UTU
E's V 35b: [...]
22) E's VII 9: [LUGAL DINGIRmeš]
E's VI 3: [...]
23) E's VII 10: [i]-k-ri-bi-šu
E's VI 4: [...]-k-ri-bi-šu
E's VI 19: [...]-k-ri-bi[...]
E's V 36a: [...]-k[ri-...]
24) E's VII 11: [...]-še-em-1-me
E's VI 5: [...]-še-em-[me]
E's VI 20: [...]-še-em-[me]
E's V 36b: [...]
25) E's VII 12: [...]-nák-kir
E's VI 6: mu-nak-kir
E's VI 21: mu-nak[...]
E's V 37a: m[u]-na[k-...]
26) E's VII 13: [...]-mu-ia
E's VI 7: [...]-šir36 MU-ia
E's VI 22: [...]-šir MU-[...]
E's VI 37b: [...]
27) E's VIII 1: mu-sah-hu- [...]
28) E's VIII 2: si-ma-ti-ia
29) E's VIII 3: pa-si-su
E's VI 8: [...]
E's VI 23a: [...]
E's VI 38a: [...]
30) E's VIII 4: e-piš-ti
E's VI 9: e-piš-ti
E's VI 23b: e-piš-[i]
E's V 38b: [...]
31) E's VIII 5: dEN GAL-e
E's VI 10: dEN GAL-u
E's VI 24a: dEN GAL-u
E's V 39a: dEN GAL[...]
32) E's VIII 6: dAMAR.UTU
E's VI 11: [...]
E's VI 24b: [...]
E's V 39b: [...]
33) E's VIII 7: i-na nap-šar
E's VI 12a: i-na nap-šar
E's VI 25a: i-na nap-šar
E's VI 40a: i-na nap- [...]
34) E's VIII 8: ma-li-ki(!) (copy: -ku)
E's VI 12b: ma-li-ki
E's VI 25b: ma-li-ki
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date 39</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) E¹b VIII 4': MU.SAG</td>
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<tr>
<td>E¹b VI 32': MU.SAG</td>
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<td>2) E¹b VIII 5': NAM.LUGAL.LA</td>
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<tr>
<td>E¹b VI 33': NAM.LUGAL.LA</td>
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<td>3) E¹b VIII 6': AN.SÁR-ŠEŠ-SL-[a]</td>
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<td>E¹b VI 34': AN.SÁR-ŠEŠ-SL-na</td>
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<td>4) E¹b VIII 7': LUGAL ma-[ar]</td>
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<tr>
<td>E¹b VI 35'a: LUGAL KUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>5) E¹b VIII 8': AŠ-ŠUR[^1]</td>
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<tr>
<td>E¹b VI 35'b: AŠ-ŠUR[^1]</td>
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</tbody>
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38. R. Borger’s reading: sa-t-ar[^1] [u₄-me] (BiOr 21 p. 148) is now assured.