Cuneiform Texts in Lithuania

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[The present article presents the publications of three new cuneiform texts in Lithuania.]

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The following three cuneiform texts from the Šiauliai Aušros Museum, Šiauliai, Lithuania, are dated to the Third Dynasty of Ur (also referred to Ur III, ca. 2112–2004 BC). Their proveniences are Girsu (Text 1) and Puzriš-Dagan¹ (Text 2 and Text 3). The three texts were probably brought to the Šiauliai Aušros Museum by priest J. Žiogas during the nineteenth century.

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Text 1. Withdrawal of barley²

Museum Number: I-A-120 1033
Provenience: Girsu (?)
Date: Šulgi 44/xi

obv.
1) 0.1.0 še lugal

2) kišib₃ lu₂-gi-na

3) iti še-sag₁₁-ku₅

rev.
1) mu us₂-sa si-mu-ru-um³⁴ / lu-lu-bu³⁴

60 sila of barley, (measured according to the) royal (gur).
Sealed tablet of Lu-gina.
Month: “Barley-harvest”.
Year after: “Simurum and Lulubum”


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/ a-ra₂ 10-la₂-1-kam-ma-aš / ba-hul  were destroyed for the ninth time”.

1a. This is a record of barley received by Lu-gina, son of Lu-Baba.

1b. The provenience of this text is uncertain. It is noted that the text ITT 3 6592 (Šu-Suen 4, Girsu) also records lu₂-gi-na dumu lu₂-ša-ba₆ “Lu-gina, son of Lu-Baba”.

1c. For the reading ša-ba₆, see Rubio 2010: 35-39.

Text 2. Delivery of livestock³

Museum Number: I-A-120 1034
Provenience: Puzriš-Dagan
Date: Šulgi 32

obv.
1) 12 udu u₂ 12 grass-fed sheep,
2) 7 gukkal  7 fat-tailed sheep,
3) 1 maš₂ 1 goat,
4) nir₁₃-da-ĝal₂ (from) Nir-idağal;
5) 1 maš₂ 1 goat,
6) e₂-a-ba-ni (from) Ea-bani;

rev.
1) mu-kux (DU) delivery
2) šul-gi-si₂-im-tum (for) Šulgi-simtum.
3) mu a-ra₂ 3-kam-aš / si-mu-ru-u₃₃ ba-Year: “Simurum was destroyed for the third time.”

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2b. For the individual deliveries of animals to the Puzriš-Dagan organization, see Liu 2015. It is noted that the official who received the delivery of animals is anonymous in this case.

2c. Obv. 1) For the term udu u₂ “grass-fed sheep”, see Wu 1996.
2d. Obv. 2) For the term gukkal “fat-tailed sheep”, see Steinkeller 1995.
2e. Obv. 4) The extant texts which record Niridaḡal delivering animals to Puzriš-Dagan date between Šulgi 32 ix (YOS 4 79) and Šu-Suen 6 ii 24 (Princeton 2 21). Based on the text AUCT 1 942 (Amar-Suen 2/ii), the title of Niridaḡal was šagina “general” (also see Goetze 1963: 14).

2f. Obv. 6) Other references to Ea-bani as the deliverer of animals are BIN 3 360 (Šulgi 31/vi, E₂-a-ba-ni), MVN 3 136 (Šulgi 33/iv, E₂-a-ba-ni ens₂), and YOS 4 79 (Šulgi 33(ix, E₂-a-ba-ni ens₂). Based on the text BCT 1 134 (Š 33/xi diri), Ea-bani was the governor of the city Ereš (E₂-a-ba-ni ens₂ Ereš₂).

2g. Rev. 1) For the sign DU read as kuₓ, see Krecher 1987.

Text 3. Withdrawal of livestock³

Museum Number: I-A-120 1035
Provenience: Puzriš-Dagan
Date: Šulgi 42/vii/3

obv.
1) 1 [udu gu₄]-e us₂-[ša] 1 sheep, following the ox.
2) ba-uš₂ e₂-gal-[la] ba-an/-ku₄ (KWU 147) dead, was brought to the palace.
3) [iti]-ta u₄ 3 ba-ta/-zal The third day of the month has passed.

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rev.
1) zi-ga a₂-bi₂-la/-tum Booked out (from the account of) Abilatum.
2) iti ezem d⁴šul/-gi Month: “Festival of Šulgi”.
3) mu [ša]-aš-ru-um⁷ki / ba-hul Year: “Šašrum was destroyed”.

3a. This text which belongs to the “Archive of Šulgi-sintum” records that dead livestock was booked out from the account of Abilatum to the palace.

3b. The official Abilatum was one of the six officials who received the deliveries of animals (mu-kuₓ, i₃-dab₃) or booked out of animals (zi-ga) in the archives of Šulgi-sintum dating between Šulgi 32 and Šulgi 48 (in turn: Šu-Kubum, Beli-ṭab, Abilia, Abilatum, Ur-Lugaledenka and Šulgi-ili).

3c. Obv. 1) For the term niga gu₄-e us₂-sa “barley-fed, ‘following the oxen’”, see Steinkeller 1995.

3d. Obv. 2) For the term e₂-gal-la ba-an-ku₄ (KWU 147) “brought to the palace” indicating the occasion occurred in Ur (not in other places), see Cohen 1993: 157.

3e. Obv. 3) For the term iti-ta u₄ N ba-ta-zal „Seit dem Monat(sanfang) sind n Tage ‘aufgeleuchtet’ (= vergeht der n.te Tag”, see Sallaberger 1993: 22.

3f. Rev. 1) The extant texts recording Abilatum as receivers of the individual deliveries of animals date between Šulgi 41 xii 1 (TCND 73) and Šulgi 45 vi 15 (NABU 1997/99); see also Sallaberger 1999: 255.

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