

126) More documents about the Rē'i-sisê family — The minor archive of the Rē'i-sisê family newly published by Y. Levavi,¹⁾ can be supplemented by four additional documents. The earliest and to some degree most important is the small tablet BM 66343, as there Niqūdu appears for the first time, identified as the father of two sons: Šamaš-aplu-ušur and Šamaš-iddin and one daughter Aḫāssunu (see family tree on p. 187 in Levavi article). Although the signs “a” and “sipa” in the second line are omitted, there is no doubt that here appears the father of the sons and daughter mentioned above. The delivery of barley as ešrū-tithe to the Ebabbar temple suggests that he acted in the name of the temple as its *ša muḫḫi ešrī*, and that this post was later “inherited” by his son Šamaš-aplu-ušur, the *ša muḫḫi ešrī* in the period 5Nbn-12Dar (Bongenaar 1997, 432; Jursa 1998, 55-57).²⁾ Although the king’s name is omitted, for chronological reasons only the thirty-first year of Nebuchadnezzar can be taken into account, and that the family’s relation to the temple lasted for two generations. BM 99806 is additional text in which Šamaš-iddin, son of Niqūdu is the creditor of the small sum of 2 ½ shekels of silver, but the name of debtor cannot be identified, although it seems that the loan was interest-free. BM 79650, from an unknown year of Nabonidus, concerns the issue of 1 mina 24 ¼ shekels of silver by Marduka and Šamaš-aplu-ušur as tithes from (sold) dates, including 10 shekels for wool and 4 shekels for two dead cows. Because two lines are entirely eroded, we cannot be certain, but it seems that part of the money was used for buying 30 sheep from Arad-Gula and Guzānu, transferred to the fattening house for future sacrifices. Although in the text neither Marduka nor Šamaš-aplu-ušur are described by the title *ša muḫḫi ešrī*, but the issue of silver as *ešrū* indicates their function.

The first can be identified as the well-known Marduka, son of Bēl-ēpuš, descendant of Mušēzibu, the *ša muḫḫi ešrī* in the period 0AmM - 17Nbn (Bongenaar 1997, 431-32; Jursa 1998, 49-52), 2) the second seems to be a son of Niqūdu, descendant of the Rē'i-sisê family, a *ša muḫḫi ešrī* for a long time, from 5Nbn-12Dar (Bongenaar 1997, 432; Jursa 1998, 55-57), but maybe much longer, from 34Nbk.³⁾

Two hitherto unpublished documents concern persons not related to Niqūdu and his offspring. In BM 77883, composed in the 41 st year of Nebuchadnezzar, Ša-Marduk-ul-ini,⁴⁾ the builder, lent 2 ¼ shekels of silver to Šamaš-zer-ibni, but the omission of the debtor father’s name makes his more precise identification impossible. The last text is BM 46650 from 13Nbn. Nabū-ēṭir, son of Iqīšaya, descendant of Šangū-Ninurta rented his palm garden for 16 *kurru 2 pān 3 sūtu* of dates to Bēl-uballit, son of Nādin, descendant of the Rē'i-sisê family to be paid in Araḫsamna, i.e. during the harvesting season, in one instalment with typical additions (one basket made of palm leaves, fibres and pressed dates). The additional note, according to which 4 *kurru 2 pān 3 sūtu* of dates to be paid by the tenant is shared by Nabū-ēṭir with Nabū-šum-ušur and Rēmut is surprising. One may suppose that part of the garden belonged to all three people as co-owners, maybe brothers or cousins of Nabū-ēṭir. The presence of such information could be requested by the tenant, who might fear that the two remaining co-owners could demand additional rent from him comprising a little over one-third of the total sum (l. 1).

Editions⁵⁾

BM 66343 (82-9-18, 6336) 29. ʾx¹.31<Nbk>

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | 6 kūr 2 bān še.bar eš-ru-ú | 6 kurru 2 sūtu of barley, the tithe |
| 2. | [šá ²] ^m ni-qu-du <a>lú <sipa> anše.kur.ra | [which] Niqūdu, <descendant of Rē'i>-sisê, |
| 3. | [a]-na é-babbar-ra it-ta-din | has delivered to the Ebabbar temple. |
| 4. | iti.ʾx u ₄ .29.kam ¹ | Month ʾx, twenty-ninth day ¹ , |
| 5. | mu.31.kam | thirty-first year. |

Notes: In E. Leichty and A.K. Grayson 1987, 175, the month is read Addaru, however, there is a place for a long sign beginning from an upper horizontal wedge followed by the “head” of a vertical wedge, which might be recognised as a partial remnant of the month of Abu.

BM 99806 (83-1-21, 2168) 6.1.1Camb (529BC)

- | | | |
|--------|---|--|
| Obv.1. | 2 ½ gín kù.babbar šá ^{md} utu-mu | [DN-ahh]ē-iddin, son of [PN owes] 2 ½ shekels of silver |
| 2. | a-šú šá ^m ni-qu-du | to Šamaš-iddin, son of Niqūdu, |
| 3. | [a] lú sipa anše.kur.ra | [descendant] of Rē'i-sisê |
| 4. | [ina ugu DN-šeš].meš-mu a-šú šá | |
| 5. | [PN ina u] ₄ .10.kam šá | He will pay back (silver) on tenth day [of the month....]. |
| 6. | [iti.x] i-nam-din | |

Rev.1'. [...]] ^r x ¹ [...]	[Witnesses,
2'. [...]- ^r x ^d ag ¹	... descendant of x]-Nabû
3'. [^m DN ²]- ^r x ¹ -mu a-šú šá	[DN] ^r x ¹ -iddin, son of [PN]
4'. [^{lú} šid ^m x]- ^d ag a-šú šá ^{na} -din	[the scribe, x]-Nabû, son of Nādin.
5'. [sip-pa] ^r ki iti.bár u ₄ .6.kam	[Sippa]r, month Nisannu, sixth day, first year of
6'. mu.1.kam ^m kam-bu-zi-ia	Cambyses, king of Babylon!, king of Lands.
7'. lugal kur.kur(sic!) lugal kur.kur	

Note: In the last line the scribe twice wrote *šar matāte*, instead of *šar Bābili šar matāte*. The second title makes it certain that the document was written after the death of Cyrus, in 529 BC.

BM 79650 (82-10-14, 200) 11.12.Nbn [x]

Obv.1. 1 ma-na 1/3 4 gín 4-tú kù.babbar ul-tu	1 mina 24 ¼ shekels of silver, from the silver
2. kù.babbar ša zú.lum.ma šá ina ^r šú ¹¹	which was brought for dates as tithes by
3. ^m mar-duk u ^{md} utu-a-pap šá 10-ú	Marduka and Šamaš-apal-ušur, including 10
4. na-šá-a a-di 10 gín kù.babbar ri-ḫi	shekels of silver, the rest of it from the (selling)
5. kù.babbar šá sig.ḫi.a ina šu ¹¹ me-ia na-šá-a e-lat	of wool from Kabtiya; apart from the silver for
kù.babbar šá ^r x x ¹	which [...] and 4 shekels, the price of two
6. ú 4 gín kù.babbar šám 2 gu ₄ .meš	dead oxen from the fattening house [...] for 30
7. [m]i-tu-tu šá ta é ú- ^r ru-ú ¹	sheep was given to Arad-Gula and Guzānu.
8. damaged	Sheep which are in the fattening house are at
9. damaged	disposal of Nūr-Šamaš.
Rev.10. ^r a ¹ -na 30 udu.nita a- ^r na ¹	
11. ^m ir- ^d me.me u ^m gu-za-nu s[um ^{na}]	
12. udu.nita ina é ú-ru-ú ina igi ^m zálag- ^d utu	One line erased followed by free place for one line
13. iti.še u ₄ .11.kam m[u.x].kam	Month Addaru, eleventh day, [nth year] of
14. ^{md} ag-i lugal tin.tir ^{ki}	Nabonidus, king of Babylon.

Note: L. 3. u^m is written over an erasure.

BM 77893 (85-4-30, 86) 1.2.41<Nbk>

Obv.1. 1 gín kù.babbar a-na	1 shekel of silver for wax was given to Bēl-kāšir.
2. duḫ.lál a-na	
3. ^{md} en-kád sum ^{na}	
4. 2 gín 4-tú kù.babbar	2 ¼ shekels of silver for good quality beer
5. a-na ¹	^r which? ¹ Ša-Marduk-ul-ini, the builder <has
Rev. 6. kaš.sag dùg.ga ^r a x ¹	given> to Šamaš-zēr-ibni, <descendant> of the
7. ^m šá- ^d amar.utu-ul-i-ni	Rē'i-sisē. ⁶⁾
8. ^{lú} šitim a-na	
9. ^{md} utu-numun-dù	
10. <a> ^{lú} šipa anše.kur. {kur}.ra	Month Aiaru, first day forty-first year.
11. iti.gu ₄ u ₄ .1.kam	
12. mu.41.kam	

Note: L. 5 the *na* is followed by one vertical wedge.

BM 46650 (81-8-30, 116) 12.[x].Nbn 13

Obv.1. 16 kùr 2 (pi) 3 bán zú.lum.ma zag.lu	16 kurru 2 pān 3 sūtu of dates, estimated rent
2. šá ^{md} ag-kar ^r dumu-šú šá	owed by Bēl-uballit, son of Nādin, descendant of
3. ^m ba ^{šú} -a a lú kid+bar ^d nin-urta	the Rē'i-sisē family to Nabû-ētir, son Iqīšaya,
4. ina muḫ-ḫi ^{md} en-tin ¹ a-šú šá	descendant of the Šangū-Ninurta family. He will
5. ^m na-di-nu a ^{lú} šipa anše.kur.ra	deliver (these) dates in the month of Araḫsamna at
6. ina iti.apin zú.lum.ma	the ḫašāru-place in one instalment in the measure
7. ina ḫa-ša-ri ina muḫ-ḫi 1 ¹ rit-tu ₄	of Nabû-ētir, along with a basket of 1 kurru (made
8. ina ma-ši-ḫu šá ^{md} ag-kar ^r	of) palm fronds, palm fiber, a load of (fire) palm
9. i-nam-din it-ti	wood he will deliver, including 4 kurru 2 pān 3
10. 1 kùr tu-ḫal-lu ₄	sūtu of dates, the share of Nabû-ētir with Nabû-
11. gi-pu-ú ù man-ga-ga	šum-ušur and Remut.
12. 1 ^{en} da-ri-ka i-nam-din	
13. ina lib-bi 4 kùr 2 (pi) 3 bán zú.lum.ma	Witnesses:
14. ḫa.la šá ^{md} ag-kar ^r šá it-ti	Bēl-kāšir, son of Arad-Bēl, descendant of the
15.1 ^{md} ag-mu-uru u ^m re-mut	Arad-Nergal family
16. ^{lú} mu-kin-nu ^{md} en-ka-šir a-šú šá	Marduk-aplu-ušur, son of Erība-Marduk,
17. ^m ir- ^d en a ^m ir- ^d gir.kù	descendant of the Miširaya family
18. ^{md} amar.utu-a-uru a-šú šá ^{msu} - ^d šú	and the scribe Nabû-šum-ibni, son of Apkallu,
19. a ^m mi-šir-a-a u ^{lú} šid ^{md} ag-mu-dù	descendant of the Ašlaku family.
20. [a]-šú šá ^m nun.me a ^{lú} túg.babbar uru šá	

L.h.e.21	[^m]utu-sùḫ-sur iti.[x]	
22.	u ₄ .12.kam mu.13.kam	City of Šamaš-tēši-ēṭir. month [x], twelfth day,
23.	^{md} ag-im.tuku lugal e ^{ki}	thirteenth year of Nabonidus, king of Babylon.

Notes

1. Levavi 2022.
2. Note, however, BM 101380 (38[Nbk]; (king's name is based on the prosopographic datae in the text), ll. 5'- 6': pap 15 ^{lu}erín.meš x x x x (probably erased)/šá eš-ru ina šu^{llm}mar-duk u^{md}ag-sur, that suggest that he held the position already in the time of Nebuchadnezzar.
3. He is also present as the fourth, last witness in BM 64626: 19 (edited by Sandowicz 2019, no. 20, 6Cyr).
4. The person with the name Ša-Marduk-ul-enû ("that Marduk did not change/revoke (his word)", son of Nabû-udammīq, descendant of Rab-{}1}-banê appears in Cam 16: 15 (24.11.0Camb, 529 BC, Babylon) as the second witness, maybe the same person.
5. Because the contributors of "Minor archives" announced the publication of a separate volume with copies of all the texts belonging to these archives, I shall abandon publishing my own copies of the tablets presented here.
6. However, it cannot be excluded that here is the profession, not the family name.

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