

Seven Words – 1. *abātu* B, I « to flee ». Previously only known from attestations in Old Assyrian texts (*CAD A/1*, p. 45), the Grundstamm of this verb also seems to have this meaning in a line of Old Babylonian Gilgameš, describing the fierceness of Enkidu when still wild (Y iv 18, coll.): *eṭ-lu-l-tum iḫ-bu-tu¹ ma-lḫar-ka¹*, « brave young men fled before you ». This undermines von Soden's suggestion that the OA references belong to the other *abātu*, « to destroy » (*AHW*, p. 5, *abātu* G 2 ; cf. p. 700, s.v. *nābutu* II).

2. *ayabba*, *ayāba*, « Ocean ». This undeclinable proper noun occurs in a newly published OB bilingual hymn to Utu, who « surveys the Oceans, upper and lower » : *igi nigin a.ab.ba = ḫa-'i-iṭ a-ya-a-ba* (Alster and Jeyes, *ASJ* 12 (1990), p. 8, obv. 2, interpreting as *ayamma*). This provides the first OB attestation outside Mari, and so fills a gap in the transmission of the word to literary SB (for a recent discussion of *ayabba* see A. Malamat, *Mari and the Early Israelite Experience*, Oxford 1989, p. 108f.).

3. *ebīḫu*, « belt-cord, cincture ». An unnoticed attestation of this rare word is in an inscription of Nebuchadnezzar II (Al-Rawi, *Iraq* 47 (1985), p. 10, ii 41), where *e-bi-iḫ dan-num*, « a mighty cincture », is used figuratively of the city wall of Babylon (against the editor's emendation *e-pé-šum¹*, p. 4). See Parpola, *SAA* I, 1, rev. 50, for a further attestation, with *rakāsu*.

4. **idugallu*, « Gatekeeper-in Chief » < Sum. *ì-du₈.gal*. This is a title of the chthonic god ^d*bì-du₈(h)* (note the phonetic rendering *bi-tu ú-du-gal kur-ra-ka* : Cavigneaux and Al-Rawi, *RA* 76 (1982), p. 189), which now appears in Akkadian for the first time in the NA sandhi writing ^d*bi-tu-ḫi-du-gulu* <*Biduḫ idugullu* (funerary inscription of Queen Yabâ : A. Fadhil, *BaM* 21 (1990), p. 461, 19, there read ^d*bi-tu-ti-du-gul* on the suggestion of Deller, now retracted ; see further his note on the divine name *Bidu(h)* in *N.A.B.U.* 1991, no. 18)

5. *pasnaqum*, « weakling ». Collation of Gilgameš Y iv 21 (written over erasures) provides *ki-ma pa-ás-na-qì ta-qá-bi* as the OB equivalent of *pisnuqiš taqabbi*, « (why) do you talk so feebly? », a stock phrase employed in the later epic (SB V : von Weiher, *SpTU* III 59 i 16 ; cf. II : Rm 289 v 8 ; IV/V : K8591 i 7').

6. **ša'āšum > rāšu*, « to rush ». The former verb (*AHW*, p. 1118, « schwirren ») can be deleted : in Anzû II 56 *iš-ta-uš... qab-lu* employs the same idiom as OB Atrahasis (I 81, 83, 110 : *qá-ab-lum i-ru-ša*), exhibiting the well-known phonetic change *rt > št*.

7. **tubuḫtu*>*tubbuḫu*? The sole citation for this word (*AHW*, p. 1365), the MB letter *CT* 43 59,21, in fact probably belongs s.v. *tubbuḫu*, « butchered ». This is suggested by comparison of letter's *ma-āš-ka ṫú-bu-uḫ-ta il-te-en* (fem. gender inexplicable) and SB *Gilgameš* X v 32, which I restore: *šīrī^{mes}-šú-nu ak-kal mašākī^{mes}-šú-nu ú-ṫa-ab-[ba-aḫ]*, « I would eat their flesh and carve up their hides (for clothing) » (against *AHW*, s.v. *ṫepū*). Deller, who followed von Soden in connecting **tubuḫtu* with *tubku*, « gegerbt? », at Nuzi (*OrNs* 53 (1984), p. 99f.), kindly points to me out two further MB documents where the word can be restored: Gurney, *MB Texts* = *UET* VII 40,7 : ʾ3¹ *mašak(kuš) alpi(gu₄) ṫú¹-bu-[ḫu]*; and Kessler, *BaM* 13 (1982), p. 63, 15 : 1 *mašak(kuš) alpi(gu₄) ṫú-¹ub⁷1-bu-[ḫu]*.

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