ASTRONOMICAL DIARIES AND RELATED TEXTS FROM BABYLONIA

HERMANN HUNGER

Volume VII

Almanacs and Normal Star Almanacs

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Almanacs and Normal Star Almanacs

EDITED BY HERMANN HUNGER

INCLUDING MATERIALS BY ABRAHAM J. SACHS

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Preface

With an unfortunate delay, I herewith offer an edition of the astronomical texts called "Almanacs" and "Normal Star Almanacs" by A. J. Sachs. He had begun transliterations of a few of these texts, and published Almanacs for the year 305 of the Seleucid era together with C. B. F. Walker in Iraq 46 (1984). He also edited a group of very late Almanacs in the Kramer Anniversary Volume (AOAT 25). For many of the texts I could begin to work with the copies published by Sachs in LBAT; for others, only numbers or photos were initially available to me. From a catalogue of astronomical tablets in the British Museum by C. B. F. Walker I could add a number of tablets not known to Sachs. J. M. Steele identified tablets in the collection of the University Museum in Philadelphia and drew my attention to a tablet in the Museu de Montserrat of which a photo can be seen on the website of the Cuneiform Digital Library Initiative.

For permission to publish the tablets I am indebted in the first place to the Trustees of the British Museum where the majority of the material is kept. I thank M. van Ess of the German Archaeological Institute in Berlin for providing photos of tablets excavated by the Deutsche Orient-Gesellschaft in 1912 in Uruk, and for permission to publish them. U. Kasten of Yale University sent me new photos of three tablets in the Morgan Library Collection; I thank her also for the publication permission. B. André-Salvini kindly sent me photos of the tablet AO 8530 in the Louvre and granted permission for publication. St. Tinney gave permission to publish tablets in Philadelphia, by courtesy of the Penn Museum. For permission to publish the tablet A 1731 in the collection of the Oriental Institute in Chicago I thank W. Farber.

Several people helped me in preparing this edition. I am particularly grateful to Jeanette Fincke who very kindly made many photographs of British Museum tablets for me. I. Finkel collated difficult passages and checked the possibility of joins. T. de Jong, J. M. Steele and S. de Meis helped me with tablet dating in some difficult cases. During my visits to the Students' Room of the British Museum, the staff were always helpful, especially C. B. F. Walker and J. Taylor. To all of them I extend my thanks.

Hermann Hunger

Bibliographical Abbreviations

ADART	Astronomical Diaries and Related Texts from Babylonia (Vienna 1988ff.)
AfO	Archiv für Orientforschung (Vienna)
AHES	Archive for the History of the Exact Sciences (Heidelberg)
AOAT	Alter Orient und Altes Testament (Münster)
BagM	Baghdader Mitteilungen (Berlin)
CAD	The Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago (Glückstadt/Chicago 1956-2010)
СТММА	Cuneiform Texts in the Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York)
HAMA	O. Neugebauer, A History of Ancient Mathematical Astronomy (New York 1975)
JCS	Journal of Cuneiform Studies (New Haven etc.)
JNES	Journal of Near Eastern Studies (Chicago)
Lambert AV	A. R. George and I. L. Finkel (eds.), Wisdom, Gods and Literature. Studies in Assyriology in Honour of W. G. Lambert (Winona Lake 2000)
LBAT	A. J. Sachs (ed.), Late Babylonian Astronomical and Related Texts (Providence 1955)
PD	R. A. Parker and W. H. Dubberstein, Babylonian Chronology 626 B.C A.D. 75 (Providence 1956)
SBTU I	H. Hunger, Spätbabylonische Texte aus Uruk I (Berlin 1976)
SSB	F. X. Kugler, Sternkunde und Sterndienst in Babel (Münster 1905-1924)
UOS	J. M. Steele and A. Imhausen (eds.), Under One Sky (Münster 2002)
ZA	Zeitschrift für Assyriologie (Berlin)

Introduction

In his pioneering article of 1948,¹ A. Sachs established the categories "Almanacs" and "Normal Star Almanacs" (abbreviated NS Almanacs) for two groups of non-mathematical astronomical texts. Later, hundreds of such tablets were discovered, mainly in the British Museum's collections from Babylon. Many of these had been copied by Th. G. Pinches and J. N. Strassmaier; Sachs published most of these copies in LBAT. Sachs's classification has stood the test of time, and the texts are edited in this book according to it.

I begin with NS Almanacs, first the datable ones in chronological sequence, then the undatable ones arranged by museum number; similarly, Almanacs are divided into datable and undatable. In combining sometimes more than one exemplar from the same year under one number, I follow the example of Sachs.² The rather rigid layout of Almanacs makes this space-saving procedure acceptable.

As a group the NS Almanacs are earlier than the Almanacs, although both groups overlap. Sachs in LBAT presented the copies of NS Almanacs first. There happen to be only a few Almanacs that I could not date; undated NS Almanacs are more numerous.

The dated texts can be arranged in 20-year sections as follows:

Seleucid Era	NS Almanacs	Almanacs
0-20	2	
21-40	5	
41-60	7	
61-80	7	
81-100	14	2
101-120	15	1
121-140	8	4
141-160	13	7
161-180	9	7
181-200	13	11
201-220	9	6
221-240	3	17
241-260		11
261-280		1
281-300		3
301-320		6
321-340		1
341-360		3
361-380		2
381-400		1

To judge from this distribution, it seems unlikely that any Almanacs existed before the Seleucid era, and even NS Almanacs are rare around 300 BC. They therefore were probably not the only source of data in the Babylonian horoscopes, which begin at the end of the 5th century.³

¹ A. J. Sachs, A Classification of the Babylonian Astronomical Tablets of the Seleucid Period: JCS 2 (1948) 271-290.

² Iraq 46 (1984) 43-55.

³ F. Rochberg, *The Heavenly Writing* (Cambridge 2004) 153-157.

1. Description of Almanacs and Normal Star Almanacs

A. Almanacs

Almanacs have 12 or 13 sections, one for each month of a Babylonian year, followed by a colophon. In each monthly section, after the month name, the duration of the preceding month is indicated by the numbers ",1" if that month has 30 days, and ",30" if it has 29 days. There follows a statement in which zodiacal sign each of the five planets will be in the beginning of the month; planets invisible at the time are not included. The expected phenomena are then listed in chronological order. They are:

1) First and last appearances of all planets, with day number and zodiacal sign

2) Acronychal risings of the outer planets, with day number only

3) Stations of the outer planets.

4) Solstices and equinoxes

5) First and last appearance, and acronychal rising, of Sirius. Items 4 and 5 are calculated according to the "Uruk Scheme".⁴

6) Occasionally, first and last appearances, and acronychal risings, of fixed stars are mentioned.

7) A feature typical for the Almanacs is to give the days when a planet entered a zodiacal sign. However, this occasionally occurs in NS Almanacs as well (No. 103 of SE 234, at the end of each paragraph; also No. 96 of SE 210; No. 98 of SE 212; No. 100 of SE 215), and in Diaries (from the Seleucid era).

8) Around the middle of the month, the day is given when the moon sets for the first time after sunrise. Towards the end of the month, the day is indicated when the moon will be visible for the last time before conjunction. These two dates, together with the length of the preceding month given right after the month name, were called "Lunar Three" by Sachs.⁵

Almost every Almanac has a colophon: $me\breve{s}$ -hi $\breve{s}\acute{a}$ KUR- $\acute{a}d^{me\breve{s}}$ $\breve{s}\acute{a}$ ^dUDU-TIL^{meš} $\breve{s}\acute{a}$, followed by the year number and the name of the reigning king, in the Parthian period sometimes also the name of the queen.

Whereas KUR- $\dot{a}d^{\text{mes}}$ $\dot{s}\dot{a}^{d}$ UDU-TIL^{mes} can be easily translated as "reachings of the planets", referring to their entries into zodiacal signs, *meš-hi* presents a problem. A word *mišhu* is attested with the meaning "section", a measured tract of work frequently connected to irrigation. On the other hand, a term *mišhu* used in astronomical contexts is considered as "(a luminous phenomenon)" and left untranslated by the CAD; it does not seem to fit in the colophons of Almanacs. Strictly speaking, nothing is measured in the Almanacs; on the contrary, all data are predicted.

In his editions of several very late Almanacs in the Kramer Anniversary Volume (AOAT 25, 1976), Sachs translated *meš-hi* in the colophons of Almanacs by "predictions". I do not know his reasoning, but the translation makes sense, and I use it here.

B. Normal Star Almanacs

Like Almanacs, NS Almanacs list the events predicted for each month of a year. A prominent feature are the "Lunar Six", time intervals between rising and setting of moon and sun. The term was coined by A. Sachs.⁶ They are explained, apart from Sachs's article, in volume I, p. 20, of this project,

⁴ O. Neugebauer, JCS 2 (1948) 209ff.; HAMA 357-365; A. L. Slotsky, The Uruk Solstice Scheme Revisited, in: H. D. Galter (ed.), *Die Rolle der Astronomie in den Kulturen Mesopotamiens* (Graz 1993) 359-365. A convenient table by J. P. Britton is found in UOS p. 44.

⁵ p. 278 (see footnote 1).

⁶ p. 273 (see footnote 1).

and in several other places. It seems unnecessary to repeat the definitions. It may however be noted that the reading of *na* (uncertain to me at the time) is *manzāzu* ,,stand, position", which does agree with the form *-su* of the pronominal suffix.⁷

NS Almanacs contain the following:

1) - 6) as in Almanacs.

7) The passings of the planets by Normal Stars, in the same style as in the Diaries and Goal-Year Texts.

8) There are two sub-groups of NS Almanacs (Sachs p. 281⁸, see already Kugler SSB II 465). One has only the Lunar Three; the other has the Lunar Six in a separate column on the left side of the tablet. Unfortunately, they are not from different periods as it still seemed to Sachs; in the meantime, more tablets belonging to the Lunar Six sub-group have been found, and they are among the earliest examples of NS Almanacs.

The colophon of the NS Almanacs is just *meš-hi šá*, followed by the year number, and the king's (and sometimes the queen's) name.

The intervals called "Lunar Six" by Sachs were recently investigated by P. J. Huber and J. M. Steele.⁹ They arrived at the remarkable conclusion that these intervals were already calculated towards the end of the seventh century BC.

If only the Lunar Six section of a tablet is preserved, it is difficult to decide whether it originally was a NS Almanac or a list of Lunar Six data only.

There are three possible sequences of the intervals around full moon:

^{1.}

2.	Day number x x+1 x+1 x+1	Interval ME ŠÚ GE ₆ na
Δ.	Den analyse	Tu to mod
	Day number	Interval
	Х	ŠÚ
	x+1	ME
	x+1	па
	x+2	GE ₆
3.		Ŭ
	Day number	Interval
	х	ŠÚ
	x+1	na
	x+2	ME
	x+3	GE_6

Based on these sequences, day numbers or interval names can sometimes be restored if only part of them is preserved.¹⁰

Both Almanacs and NS Almanacs are predictive. This emerges most clearly from comparison with the Diaries. One never finds remarks about weather (which are abundant in Diaries) or a note that an

⁷ So the transliteration would better have been NA, and this is found in recent publications. I retain na only for reasons of consistency.

⁸ See footnote 1.

⁹ SCIAMVS 8 (2007) 3-36. The procedures used to find these intervals in Babylonian mathematical astronomy are explained in detail by M. Ossendrijver, *Babylonian Mathematical Astronomy: Procedure Texts* (New York 2012) 113-115, 161-178, 195-202.

¹⁰ These sequences are also listed by Huber and Steele, SCIAMVS 8 (2007) 3. I have never found the fourth theoretically possible sequence in an actual text.

observation was not possible. The Lunar Six are always complete which would not have been possible if all had to be observations.

Sachs noted in 1949 several possibilities for the sources of the predictions contained in Almanacs and NS Almanacs.¹¹ Jennifer Grey in her 2009 thesis¹², written after the publication of Diaries and Goal-Year Texts, came to the conclusion that the predictions were derived from Goal-Year Texts. This is an important result because theoretically most of the data could also have been calculated by means of the mathematical-astronomical tables.

2. Provenance

Most of the tablets published here come from Babylon. This can be inferred from the inventory numbers of the British Museum, although there may be among them tablets of different origin. If a tablet has an invocation at the beginning preserved, the divine names Bel and Beltiya show that it is from Babylon.

There are 8 tablets originating from Uruk. Some come from the German excavations in Uruk. Others were bought together with tablets demonstrably from Uruk. Their layout and terminology differ slightly from the Babylon tablets so that tablets with unknown provenance can be identified by means of these characteristics. The characteristic features of the Uruk tablets will be discussed below under "Style of Presentation".

3. Dating

Although the accuracy of predictions in the Almanacs and NS Almanacs cannot a priori be determined, dated examples show that the data can be confidently used to calculate a date for a fragmentary tablet, in the same way as it is possible with Diaries. Particulary helpful are entries resulting from the "Uruk Scheme". Because this scheme is based on the 19-year cycle, such an entry leaves only every 19th year to be considered. Frequently just one additional planetary event, preferably of Jupiter or Saturn, suffices to provide a unique date for the tablet within the historically possible time range.

4. Terminology

Most of the termini technici are known from the Diaries and Goal-Year Texts. The so-called Greek-Letter phenomena¹³ are indicated by the same logograms. The names of the Normal Stars too are those used in the Diaries.

a) Special to the Almanacs and NS Almanacs are the dates of planets entering into zodiacal signs. These entries are expressed by KUR, logogram for *kašādu*. Sometimes it is complemented by *-ád*, confirming the expected form *ikaššad* "it will reach". These dates are sometimes found in Diaries of the Seleucid period as well.

¹¹ p. 287f. (see footnote 1).

¹² University of Durham, Department of Physics. See also J. M. K. Grey and J. M. Steele, Studies on Babylonian goal-year astronomy I: a comparison between planetary data in Goal-Year Texts, Almanacs and Normal Star Almanacs: AHES 62 (2008) 553-600.

¹³ Neugebauer HAMA 386f.

b) In each monthly paragraph, the length of the preceding month is predicted as 29 or 30 days right after the month name, by means of the numbers 30 or 1, in the same way as in the Diaries. In the NS Almanacs, this is followed by the interval between sunset and moonset on the first evening of the month. There are cases, however, when the predicted month-length is not considered certain. Then, an alternative value for the interval from sunset to moonset is calculated. This is introduced by *ina* $1-\check{su}$ (if the alternative possibility is a preceding 30-day month) or by *ina* $30-\check{su}$ (if the alternative is a preceding 29-day month). A literal translation would be "in its 1" or "in its 30", meaning "in case the 1st day will follow the 30th of the preceding month" or "in case the 1st day will be identical with the 30th of the preceding month". I use the somewhat loose translations "if its 1st (day will follow the 30th of the preceding month)" and "if its (1st day will be identical with the) 30th (of the preceding month)", respectively.

c) The interval between sunset and moonset at the beginning of the month sometimes has the added remark TAB or *ina* KAL. The meaning of these remarks was discussed by Kugler, SSB II 536f.

They are not to be expected in Goal-Year Texts and Diaries because these texts consist of observations. There is one entry in a Diary: No. -77 month IV: ŠU 30 10,30 *ina* KAL *a-kám* KALAG *ki* PAP NU IGI. "Month IV, (the 1st day of which was identical with) the 30th (of the preceding month; sunset to moonset:) 10° 30′, *ina* KAL; dense mist, when I watched I did not see (the moon)." So this is explicitly non-observed.

ina KAL occurs in a few Almanacs. Almanacs do not give the interval from sunset to moonset. So *ina* KAL here cannot refer to the length of this interval. Kugler (SSB II 478 *ad* 11) interpreted it as *ina danāni* "in (case of) strength", i. e. of the lunar crescent. The greater the elongation of the moon, the brighter the crescent. This could result in the possibility to observe the moon, even if its negative latitude was unfavorable for early visibility.

For TAB, Kugler did not propose an Akkadian reading.

Sachs translated *ina* KAL "just barely" in AOAT 25, 385, explaining that it "is used when the visibility of the first lunar crescent is marginal after a hollow month" and stated that the "philological interpretation is unknown".

A few other remarks occur after the indication of month length:

In an undated Almanac (No. 229), *ana* PAP occurs after an illegible sign. In a NS Almanac from SE 23 (No. 3), *ina* LUL seems to follow the month length. Both passages are unclear to me.

d) UD-DA in Mercury risings and settings: As in the Diaries, sometimes a heliacal rising of Mercury and its corresponding setting is marked as DIB, literally "passed by", "omitted". These statements contain further, in most cases, the term UD-DA right after the direction (east or west) where the phenomenon was predicted to occur:

GU₄-UD *ina* NIM/ŠÚ UD-DA IGI DIB

GU₄-UD ina NIM/ŠÚ UD-DA ŠÚ-šú DIB

J. Gray has discussed these omitted phases of Mercury in her dissertation.

There is no diachronic distribution: the earliest reference has UD-DA, while several later ones do not.

IGI/ŠÚ-šú DIB is probably "the first appearance/its last appearance will be omitted". Then UD-DA could be a verb referring to some property of Mercury at the particular date which leads to omitting its appearance. However, the statements must make sense with or without UD-DA. The most frequent reading of UD-DA is $s\bar{s}tu$ "light", "heat". T. de Jong (personal communication) notes that "light" could refer to the sky being too light for Mercury to become visible. It is difficult to fit $s\bar{s}tu$ into the syntax of these statements. A translation would have to be "Mercury in the east (or: west) - light - first appearance (or: its last appearance) will be omitted."

XIV

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References (examples only):
1) in Diaries:
-375A:3'
              GU₄-UD ina ŠÚ UD-DA ŠÚ-šú D[IB
-291A:3'
              GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina NIM IGI DIB
              in 25 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina ŠÚ UD-DA ŠÚ-šú DIB
-284:13
-283:4
              27 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina ŠÚ ŠÚ-šú DIB
-277A:2
              [GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina NIM] IGI DIB
-277A:27f.
              20 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina ŠÚ IGI DIB
-264 rev. 5 [ina ŠÚ U]D-DA ŠÚ-šú DIB
-251:3
              11 GU_4-UD ina ŠÚ IGI DIB
-251:6
              in 26 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina ŠÚ ŠÚ-šú DIB
-246:13
              5 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina NIM IGI DIB
                       in 12 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina ŠÚ IGI D[IB]
-230A rev. 10'
-218:5'
              in 17 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina [ŠÚ UD-D]A IGI DIB in 25 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina ŠÚ UD-[DA
              ŠÚ-šú DIB]
-211:8
              [GU<sub>4</sub>-UD] ina ŠÚ IGI DIB
-207A:31
              in 19 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina NIM UD-DA IGI DIB
-207A:34
              5 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina NIM UD-DA ŠÚ-šú DIB
-194A:7'
              [G]U<sub>4</sub>-UD ina NIM UD-DA ŠÚ-šú DIB
-193A l.e. 1 14 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina NIM IGI [DIB]
              [GU_4-U]D ina NIM ŠÚ-šú DIB
-193A r.5′
-178B u.e. 1 in 2 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina ŠÚ UD-DA IGI DIB
-141A:16′
              in 28 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina NIM UD-DA IGI DIB
-141C:26′
              [....] ŠÚ-šú DIB
              2 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina ŠÚ UD-DA IGI DIB
-132B:31
              14? GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina ŠÚ UD-DA ŠÚ-šú DIB (dupl. -132B r. 17)
-132C:9
-112:3
              [GU₄-UD ....] ŠÚ UD-DA IGI DIB
              in 5 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina NIM UD-DA IGI DIB
-108A:18′
-105A r. 37' in 3 GU,-UD ina ŠÚ UD-DA IGI DIB in 26 GU,-UD ina ŠÚ UD-DA ŠÚ-šú DIB
-94:9′
              in 9 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina NIM UD-DA ŠÚ-šú DIB
              in 7 GU<sub>4</sub>-UD ina ŠÚ UD-DA ŠÚ-šú DIB
-85B:8′
-78:2'
              [....] ŠÚ-šú DIB
```

2) in Almanacs:

SE 39 II 13 GU_4 -UD *ina* NIM IGI DIB SE 39 II 25 GU_4 -UD *ina* NIM UD-DA ŠÚ-šú DIB SE 244 I [x GU_4]-UD *ina* NIM UD-DA IGI DIB SE 246 VI 29 [GU_4 -UD] *ina* ŠÚ UD-DA IGI DIB SE 248 III 13 GU_4 -UD *ina* NIM 'UD-DA I[GI DIB] SE 305 VI 21 GU_4 -UD *ina* NIM UD-DA šá DIB

3) in NS Almanacs:

SE 58 II 19 GU_4 -UD *ina* NIM UD-DA IGI DIB SE 100 VI 25 GU_4 -UD *ina* ŠÚ UD-DA I[GI DIB] SE 100 VII GU_4 -UD *ina* ŠÚ UD-DA ŠÚ-šú D[IB SE 183 III 3 GU_4 -UD *ina* NIM IGI DIB SE 183 III 23 GU_4 -[U]D *ina* NIM ŠÚ-šú DIB e) BAR occurs in some eclipse statements in combination with DIB, i. e. when the eclipse is omitted. The term BAR DIB was dealt with by J. M. Steele, AfO 48/49 (2002) 107-112. BAR = $a_{\hat{h}\hat{u}}$ means "extraneous", from outside a standard collection of omens. In the case of eclipses, it could refer to "additional" eclipses predicted by a scheme but not corresponding to actually visible ones. F. Rochberg¹⁴ translates BAR = $a_{\hat{h}\hat{u}}$ by "invisible" because "this is the effective meaning", quoting Steele approvingly. I agree with this argument but nevertheless use the literal translation "extraneous" in this edition.

5. Fixed stars

The calendar dates of the phenomena of Sirius in the Almanacs and NS Almanacs follow the socalled Uruk scheme which is connected to the 19-year intercalation cycle. Therefore the Sirius dates always have the same time difference in days from, e.g., the preceding Vernal equinox, or any other season of the current year.

O. Neugebauer and A. Sachs published a fragment¹⁵ of a list of consecutive dates of the heliacal risings of the Pleiades which are in an analogous fashion derived from the Uruk scheme so that they are always 45 days distant from the preceding Vernal equinox. As pointed out in JCS 21 191f., this time distance can also be found in Almanacs.

As I shall show elsewhere, it is very likely that all predictions of stellar phases were calculated by means of the Uruk Scheme.

The following stars (or constellations) occur: MÚL-MÚL ŠU-PA NUN^{ki} SIPA BIR

There is general agreement that MÚL-MÚL are the Pleiades, ŠU-PA is Arcturus, and SIPA is Orion. NUN^{ki} is differently identified¹⁶; its main star seems to be Canopus¹⁷. There is less evidence for BIR. D. Pingree equates it with ζ Puppis and neighboring stars.¹⁸ I do not translate BIR here.

6. Style of presentation

There is little variation in layout and presentation. For the two different arrangements of Lunar Six or Lunar Three in NS Almanacs, see above sub 1.

Some of the very late tablets (later than SE 300) show peculiarities. They were discussed by A. Sachs in his article on these tablets in the Kramer Anniversary Volume (AOAT 25). They include special abbreviations. On the whole, these late tablets are written in a very cursive script and are in part hard to read.

Only 8 tablets of the corpus are certainly coming from Uruk. Their layout and style are slightly different from the Babylon tablets.

¹⁴ The Heavenly Writing (Cambridge 2004) 206 n. 150.

¹⁵ BM 36838, in JCS 21 (1967) 190-192.

¹⁶ F. Gössmann, *Planetarium Babylonicum* (Rome 1950) No. 306.

¹⁷ J. Schaumberger, 3. Ergänzungsheft to SSB, 335.

¹⁸ E. Reiner, *Babylonian Planetary Omens, Part Two* (Malibu 1981) 11.

Features of all Uruk texts versus Babylon texts are: "Solstice" is written GUB-*za*, rather than GUB. "Equinox" is LÁL-*tú* instead of LÁL-*ti*. In eclipse descriptions, time to sunset or sunrise is explicitly said to "remain" (TAG₄).

The Uruk NS Almanacs are Nos. 24, 57, 64, 65, and 69. They contain only the Lunar Three, arranged in a separate column to the left of the remaining monthly data, where other NS Almanacs have the Lunar Six. "First part of the night" is indicated by *ina* EN. This is an abbreviation of EN-NUN "watch" (*viz.* evening watch), as can be seen from No 24 rev. 15' and 20'. "In the east" is written *ina* KUR. "In the east/west" is explicitly mentioned for first/last visibilities of outer planets and fixed stars although in these cases such direction information is redundant. Similarly, the part (first/last) of the night is given for last and first visibilities of the planets; this too is redundant because it can be inferred from the direction (west/east). Of course, the invocation on the upper edge is addressed to Anu and Antu.

No. 24 omits ",night" before the day numbers but gives the part of the night. This text also uses DIB for the passing of a planet above or below a Normal Star which is not expressed in any other text. This tablet is also unusual in having its scribe's name at the end.

There are three Almanacs from Uruk, Nos. 159, 160, and 219. Like the Uruk NS Almanacs, they use TAG_4 to designate time remaining to sunset or sunrise. They also use KUR instead of NIM for "east".

A special style is found in the almanac No. 153 from Babylon. The listings of the planets' positions in zodiacal signs at the beginning of each paragraph are only partially given. During the invisibility period of Mars, the text twice notes that the planet was not visible, being "with the sun" (*itti šamaš šū*).

Names of scribes or owners of the tablets are only rarely indicated: No. 24 (of SE 82), No. 160 (of SE 147) (both from Uruk); No. 17 (of SE 68).

7. Sources for the Almanacs and NS Almanacs

The so-called Greek-letter phenomena are recorded in the Diaries and Goal-Year Texts. The data for the same phenomena in the Almanacs and NS Almanacs were analysed by J. M. K. Grey and J. M. Steele.¹⁹ Their conclusion was that it is very likely that the Goal-Year Texts were used for predicting the data found in Almanacs and NS Almanacs. Corrections of a few days had to be regularly applied to reach reliable results.

Their conclusion was corroborated by investigating the effects of intercalary months on the length of a goal-year period.²⁰ Since intercalation takes place every third or sometimes second year, it can happen that a goal-year period, given in years, contains one month more or less than intended. These extra months were taken into account in the construction of the Almanacs and NS Almanacs.

Entries into zodiacal signs are characteristic of Almanacs but can also be found in the Diaries. The Diaries list at the end of each monthly paragraph in which zodiacal sign the planets were during the month. When a planet moved from one sign into another, the date of this entry is sometimes given; this is first attested in a Diary from SE 99. But in general, only the zodiacal sign is indicated. The movement of a planet can be traced with the help of the Normal Stars which it passes. However, some Normal Stars are far apart, and the dates of a planet passing them would not provide sufficient information when the planet reaches another sign.

¹⁹ Studies on Babylonian goal-year astronomy I: a comparison between planetary data in Goal-Year Texts, Almanacs and Normal Star Almanacs: AHES 62 (2008) 553-600.

²⁰ Grey, J. M. K. and J. M. Steele, Studies on Babylonian goal-year astronomy II: the Babylonian calendar and goalyear methods of prediction: AHES 63 (2009) 611-633.

An investigation of the dates of entries into zodiacal signs in the Almanacs should lead to interesting results but cannot be undertaken within this text edition.

8. Layout of Transliteration and Translation

An apostrophe (') before the heading "Obv." or "Rev." indicates that the beginning of the tablet is broken, an apostrophe after the heading indicates that the end is not preserved.

In NS Almanacs, one type of layout (see above p. XI) has the Lunar Six data separately on the left side of each paragraph. I try to imitate this in the transliteration. In translations, the Lunar Six will be translated first in each paragraph, followed by the remaining (mostly planetary) data.

Lines between paragraphs are given if they are visible on the tablet. Of course, depending on the state of preservation of the tablet, lines are not always clearly discernible.

Concordance of Museum Numbers

Museum	Edition	Museum	Edition
Number	Number	Number	Number
A 1731	154	BM 33510	62
AO 8530	69	BM 33515	192
BCM A.1846-		BM 33578	68
1982	37	BM 33611	109
BM 31592	199	BM 33615	68
BM 31635	199	BM 33632	99
BM 32088	72	BM 33633	190
BM 32230	95	BM 33641	185
BM 32242	199	BM 33651	205
BM 32247	103	BM 33727	110
BM 32263	104	BM 33736	193
BM 32321	7	BM 33743	82
BM 32368	7	BM 33746	191
BM 32471	72	BM 33752	205
BM 32509	105	BM 33754	99
BM 32522	38	BM 33777	20
BM 32612	199	BM 33784	210
BM 32618	6	BM 33790	210
BM 32675	106	BM 33797	209
BM 32709	107	BM 33798	201
BM 32749	103	BM 33822	202
BM 32769	77	BM 33867	171
BM 32847	12	BM 33873	158
BM 32888	156	BM 33987	45
BM 32994	220	BM 33989	14
BM 33448	82	BM 34032	93
BM 33450	52	BM 34033	87
BM 33462	52	BM 34042	185
BM 33466	82	BM 34051	170
BM 33468	99	BM 34054	83
BM 33471	108	BM 34056	80
BM 33482	79	BM 34076	75
BM 33485	202	BM 34078	86
BM 33486	79	BM 34080	39
BM 33487	79	BM 34116	63
BM 33489	27	BM 34121	163
BM 33497	62	BM 34151	80
BM 33498	108	BM 34159	206
BM 33501	49	BM 34199	76
BM 33504	62	BM 34228	58

Museum Number	Edition Number	Museum Number	Edition Number
BM 34229	91	BM 35159	2
BM 34232	157	BM 35167	2
BM 34257	111	BM 35187	182
BM 34259	112	BM 35314	19
BM 34263	77	BM 35335	18
BM 34278	221	BM 35340	9
BM 34298	178	BM 35366	16
BM 34323	77	BM 35372	8
BM 34324	203	BM 35376	22
BM 34325	113	BM 35429	21
BM 34328	114	BM 35457	7
BM 34345	165	BM 35464	9
BM 34356	115	BM 35465	12
BM 34377	116	BM 35468	12
BM 34395	86	BM 35476	12
BM 34413	117	BM 35481	12
BM 34469	118	BM 35484	19
BM 34470	161	BM 35542	5
BM 34588	86	BM 35550	12
BM 34607	96	BM 35551	12
BM 34614	211	BM 35562	18
BM 34620	84	BM 35570	20
BM 34659	211	BM 35577	5
BM 34667	190	BM 35581	5
BM 34668	190	BM 35584	5
BM 34722	191	BM 35602	20
BM 34758	90	BM 35608	5
BM 34802	63	BM 35620	17
BM 34819	167	BM 35623	8
BM 34834	119	BM 35636	9
BM 34854	16	BM 35637	8
BM 34854 BM 34866	120	BM 35638	o 9
BM 34868	85	BM 35640	8
BM 34888	85 71	BM 35650	° 5
BM 34949	174	BM 35687	19
BM 34953	85	BM 35691	10
BM 34991	185	BM 35707	19
BM 35039	186	BM 35714	5
BM 35059	98 78	BM 35720	18
BM 35090	78	BM 35725	5
BM 35092	121	BM 35729	16
BM 35093	168	BM 35737	18
BM 35098	191	BM 35755	19
BM 35142	122	BM 35788	7
BM 35149	187	BM 35793	12

Museum Number	Edition Number	Museum Number	Edition Number
BM 35795	11	BM 41516	207
BM 35811	71	BM 41520	44
BM 35817	53	BM 41532	44
BM 35820	98	BM 41545	40
BM 35860	223	BM 41588	30
BM 35894	162	BM 41599	51
BM 35900	9	BM 41634	29
BM 35904	86	BM 41640	101
BM 35972A	10	BM 41838	37
BM 35984	59	BM 41842	12
BM 35988	185	BM 41846	42
BM 35993	129	BM 41863	44
BM 35994	130	BM 41880	28
BM 36016	188	BM 41895	54
BM 36020	169	BM 41900	196
BM 36021	9	BM 41965	67
BM 36026	224	BM 41988	138
BM 36035	59	BM 42005	139
BM 36077	190	BM 42016	140
BM 36877	5	BM 42022	35
BM 36962	131	BM 42045	141
BM 36987	60	BM 42076	18
BM 37400	132	BM 42077	102
BM 38212	183	BM 42135	22
BM 40083	216	BM 42191	142
BM 40084	217	BM 42211	143
BM 40101	153	BM 42226	56
BM 40496	195	BM 42232	144
BM 40596	25	BM 42247	145
BM 40604	81	BM 42252	226
BM 40613	133	BM 42757	198
BM 40625	41	BM 42981	227
BM 40626	17	BM 43046	228
BM 40658	225	BM 43067	74
BM 40677	73	BM 45696	47
BM 41010	164	BM 45698	191
BM 41022	43	BM 45716	181
BM 41073	134	BM 45729	200
BM 41079	43	BM 45827	176
BM 41106	61	BM 45839	177
BM 41117	46	BM 45919	194
BM 41127	135	BM 45929	190
BM 41137	136	BM 45953	190
BM 41150	137	BM 45972	180
BM 41468	207	BM 45982	215

Museum Number	Edition Number	Museum Number	Edition Number
BM 46013	180	CBS 737	33
BM 46021	190	CULC 371	32
BM 46041	97	Dropsie Coll.	218
BM 46043	197	DT 143	214
BM 46046	191	MLC 1860	24
BM 46050	204	MLC 1885	57
BM 46094	176	MLC 2195	160
BM 46105	197	MM 86.11.354	213
BM 46106	172	MM 86.11.369	19
BM 46206	146	MM0871	15
BM 46210	70	Rm 731	23
BM 46255	175	Rm 755	38
BM 47724	4	Rm 786	155
BM 47727	82	Rm 812	149
BM 47738	55	Rm 813	150
BM 47816	13	Rm 815	151
BM 47869	31	Rm 838	151
BM 47809 BM 47909	48	Rm 917	23
BM 47909 BM 48072	48 88		64
	2	U 180(3)	64
BM 48104		U 193a	
BM 48864	52	U 193b	64
BM 48923	52	U 194	65
BM 53627	229	VAT 1836	211
BM 55536	153	VAT 290	211
BM 55542	16	W 20030,109	159
BM 55582	86	W 22340a	219
BM 55595	190		
BM 55643	230		
BM 65156	1		
BM 65667	26		
BM 76990	212		
BM 77225	190		
BM 77240	168		
BM 77257	190		
BM 77269	71		
BM 77997	3		
BM 99679	71		
BM 99695	147		
BM 132281	36		
BM 132283	40		
BM 132284	30		
BM 132285	196		
BM 132287	66		
CBS 217	148		
CBS 499	34		

Concordance of Publications

Publication	Edition number	Publication	Edition number
	212	LBAT *1023	52
AOAT 25, 382ff.	213	LBAT 1024	53
AOAT 25, 384ff.	214	LBAT *1024a	55
AOAT 25, 386ff.	215	LBAT *1025	57
AOAT 25, 389ff.	216	LBAT 1026	58
AOAT 25, 392f.	217	LBAT 1027	59
AOAT 25, 393ff.	218	LBAT 1028	59
BagM Beih. 2, 83	159	LBAT *1028a	61
CTMMA 2, 82	19	LBAT 1029	63
CTMMA 2, 83	213	LBAT 1030	63
JCS 1 349	32	LBAT *1030a	64
Lambert AV 310f.	37	LBAT *1030a	64
LBAT *995	4	LBAT *1030a	64
LBAT 996	9	LBAT *1031	65
LBAT *997	12	LBAT *1032	69
LBAT 998	12	LBAT *1033	70
LBAT *999	13	LBAT 1034	71
LBAT 1000	14	LBAT 1035	71
LBAT 1001	18	LBAT *1036	71
LBAT *1001a	19	LBAT 1037	71
LBAT 1002	22	LBAT 1038	75
LBAT *1003	23	LBAT 1039	76
LBAT *1004	24	LBAT *1040	77
LBAT 1005	28	LBAT 1041	77
LBAT 1006	29	LBAT 1042	77
LBAT **1007	32	LBAT *1042a	79
LBAT 1008	30	LBAT *1042b	79
LBAT *1009	38	LBAT *1042c	79
LBAT *1009a	38	LBAT 1043	80
LBAT 1010	39	LBAT 1044	80
LBAT *1011	41	LBAT *1045	82
LBAT 1012	40	LBAT *1046	82
LBAT *1013	43	LBAT 1047	83
LBAT *1014	43	LBAT 1048	84
LBAT 1015	42	LBAT 1049	85
LBAT 1016	44	LBAT 1049	85
LBAT 1017	44	LBAT 1050 LBAT 1051	85
LBAT 1018	44	LBAT 1051 LBAT 1052	86
LBAT 1019	45	LBAT 1052 LBAT 1053	86
LBAT 1020	47	LBAT 1055 LBAT *1054	86
LBAT 1021	50	LBAT 1034 LBAT **1055	87
LBAT 1022	51	LDAT 1055	07

Publication	Edition number	Publication	Edition number
LBAT 1056	89	LBAT 1102	10
LBAT 1057	90	LBAT 1103	54
LBAT 1058	91	LBAT 1104	3
LBAT **1059	93	LBAT 1105	6
LBAT 1060	94	LBAT 1106	13
LBAT 1061	96	LBAT 1107	13
LBAT 1062	98	LBAT 1108	14
LBAT 1063	98	LBAT 1109	3
LBAT 1064	98	LBAT 1110	14
LBAT 1065	98	LBAT 1111	10
LBAT 1066	111	LBAT 1112	14
LBAT 1067	112	LBAT 1113	14
LBAT 1068	114	LBAT 1114	5
LBAT 1069	115	LBAT 1115	14
LBAT 1070	116	LBAT 1116	14
LBAT 1071	117	LBAT 1117	19
LBAT 1072	118	LBAT *1118	15
LBAT 1072	119	LBAT *1119	15
LBAT 1074	120	LBAT *1120	15
LBAT 1075	16	LBAT 1120	15
LBAT 1076	78	LBAT 1122	15
LBAT 1077	113	LBAT **1123	15
LBAT 1078	121	LBAT *1124	15
LBAT 1079	122	LBAT 1125	16
LBAT 1080	125	LBAT 1126	16
LBAT 1081	21	LBAT 1120	16
LBAT 1082	86	LBAT *1127	16
LBAT 1083	123	LBAT 1120	16
LBAT 1084	123	LBAT 1130	16
LBAT 1085	126	LBAT 1130	16
LBAT 1086	21	LBAT 1131	16
LBAT 1087	50	LBAT 1132	16
LBAT 1088	127	LBAT 1134	17
LBAT 1089	8	LBAT 1135	17
LBAT 1090	50	LBAT 1136	17
LBAT 1091	59	LBAT 1130	17
LBAT 1092	59	LBAT 1138	8
LBAT 1092	71	LBAT 1130	17
LBAT 1094	59	LBAT *1140	17
LBAT 1094	11	LBAT 1141	17
LBAT 1095	128	LBAT 1141 LBAT 1142	17
LBAT 1090	86	LBAT 1142 LBAT 1143	17
LBAT 1097	10	LBAT 1145 LBAT 1144	17
LBAT 1098	129	LBAT *1145	17
LBAT 11099	130	LBAT *1145 LBAT *1146	17
LBAT 1100	59	LBAT *1140 LBAT *1147	18

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Publication	Edition number	Publication	Edition number
LBAT 1148	182	LBAT 1193	211
LBAT 1149	182	LBAT 1194	211
LBAT *1150	183	LBAT 1195	211
LBAT 1151	184	LBAT **1196	211
LBAT 1152	185	LBAT *1197	214
LBAT 1153	185	LBAT *1198	215
LBAT 1154	185	LBAT *1199	216
LBAT 1155	185	LBAT *1200	217
LBAT *1156	185	LBAT 1202	221
LBAT 1157	187	LBAT 1203	203
LBAT 1158	186	LBAT 1204	167
LBAT 1159	188	LBAT 1205	191
LBAT 1160	189	LBAT 1206	222
LBAT **1161	190	LBAT 1207	92
LBAT 1162	190	LBAT 1208	100
LBAT 1163	190	LBAT 1209	191
LBAT 1164	190	LBAT 1210	223
LBAT 1165	190	LBAT 1211	224
LBAT *1166	190	LBAT 1212	226
LBAT **1167	190	SBTU I 99	219
LBAT **1168	190	UOS 367ff.	103
LBAT 1169	191	ZA 36, 66ff.	211
LBAT 1170	191		
LBAT 1171	191		
LBAT **1172	191		
LBAT 1173	191		
LBAT 1174	191		
LBAT 1175	193		
LBAT 1176	193		
LBAT 1177	196		
LBAT 1178	190		
LBAT *1179	199		
LBAT *1180	199		
LBAT *1181	200		
LBAT 1182	200		
LBAT 1183	201		
LBAT 1185	202		
LBAT 1184	204		
LBAT 1185	197		
LBAT 1180 LBAT 1187	207		
LBAT 1187 LBAT 1187	207		
LBAT 1187 LBAT 1188	207 208		
LBAT 1188 LBAT 1189	208 208		
LBAT 1189 LBAT **1190	208 209		
LBAT **1190 LBAT **1191			
	210		
LBAT **1192	210		

Dated Normal Star Almanacs

Ν	0.	1
T	υ.	1

BM 65156 (= 82-9-18, 5137) Photo: Pl. 1 Year: SE 12[?]

'Obv.

(illegible traces of 6 or 7 lines)

Rev.'

1	'SIG' MUL (ÁB)-MUL	(ÁB) [?] 1 KÙŠ AB	$GE_6 24 e is [le_{10} nn mm]$
1	$MOL_{v}(MD) MOL_{v}$	(1D) $(1CO)$ $(1CO)$	$OL_6 2 + C is [iC_{10} m mm]$

- 2 $ZIZ GE_6 [x] SIG šur SI 1 KÙŠ 8 U GE_6 22 [e šur]$
- 3 ULÙ $1\frac{1}{2}$ KÙŠ ŠE GE₆ 11 *e* MÚL ár šá še-pí[t MAŠ-MAŠ nn mm]

	(from here on two columns)		
4	MU 12 BAR 20+[x]	MAŠ	GE_6 3 USAN GU_4 -UD ^r e^1 []
5	GU ₄ -UD ina ŠÚ ina MA	AŠ ŠÚ	<i>ina</i> [?] GE ₆ 16 SIG <i>šur</i> ULÙ []
6	GU_4 29 ina NIM ina MA	AŠ IGI	KIN GE ₆ 20 ina ZÁ[LAG]
7	SIG 16 <i>ina</i> NIM ŠÚ	ina MAŠ	DU ₆ GE ₆ 10+[x]
8	ŠU 11 <i>ina</i> ŠÚ IGI	ina A	AB GE ₆ []
9	IZI 19 <i>ina</i> ŠÚ ŠÚ	ina KI	ŠU GE ₆ 29 [?] U[SAN]
10	KIN 12 ina NIM IGI	ina KI	APIN GE_6 []
11	$DU_6 13$ ina NIM ŠÚ	<i>ina</i> RÍN	IZI []
12	[APIN] 28 ina ŠÚ IGI	ina 「x [¬]	
13	[x x]+1 <i>ina</i> [ŠÚ ŠÚ]		

Comments

While the heliacal risings and settings of Mercury for "year 12" fit to some degree with SE 12, the remaining data cannot be related to this year. Mercury is visible on I 3 (line 4); but the remainder of the right column is unclear to me. Maybe lines 9 and 10 refer to Saturn because there are so few data mentioned.

The speed of the planet in lines 1-3 suggests Mars; the data would fit, e. g. SE 170, 234, or 249 (but not SE 11 or 12). There is no obvious relation to the rest of the text.

The signs at the ends of lines in the left column are smaller and may have been added later.

Rev. 1: the signs for Pleiades are written as in JCS 21 (1969) 217:4, see ibid. p. 200f. In both cases, there seem to be more wedges present than are required for the sign ÁB.

No. 1

'Obv. (illegible traces of 6 or 7 lines)

Rev.'

(from here on two columns)	
Year 12, month I, the $20+[x^{th}]$	Gemini
Mercury's last appearance in the west in Gemini.	
Month II, the 29th, first appearance in the east in Gen	nini.
Month III, the 16 th , last appearance in the east	in Gemini.
Month IV, the 11 th , first appearance in the west	in Leo.
Month V, the 19th, last appearance in the west	in Virgo.
Month VI, the 12 th , first appearance in the east	in Virgo.
Month VII, the 13 th , last appearance in the east	in Libra.
[Month VIII,] the 28 th , first appearance in the west	in
[, the x]+1 st , [last appearance] in [the west]	
Night of the 3 rd , first part of the night, Mercury above	e []
Night of the 16 th , below ζ Tauri []	
Month VI, night of the 20th, last [part of the night]]
Month VII, night of the 10+[x th ,]	
Month X, night []	
Month IV, night of the 29 ^{th?} , fir[st part of the night,]
Month VIII, night []	

3

N	0.	2
---	----	---

BM 48104 (= 81-11-3, 813)				
Photo: Pl. 1				
Year: SE 19				
'Obv.				
1′	۲x٦ []]		
2′	13	[]		
3′	14	9,20	[ME	.]
4′	14	8,30	<i>n</i> [<i>a</i>]	
5′	15	5	GE ₆ [.]
6′				KUR]
Rev.'				
1	GAN 1	19,20	[]	
2				^r x ¹ []
3				^r x ¹ []
4	14	1,30	GE_6	^r x ¹ []
5	14	9,10	na	[]
6	27	20,40	[KUR .]
				-
7		10,20+[
8	13	9,10+[>	٢ ŠÚ	.]
9	14	1+[x	ME]]
10	14	[x	na]	
Left edge				
1	meš-hi	šá MU-1	9-KAM	$^{I}S[e^{?}-lu-ku LUGAL]$

2 GABA-RI [....]

No. 3

BM 77997 (= 85-4-30, 190) Photo: Pl. 1 Year: SE 23

'Obv.

1′ [....] 「x x šá¹ [....]

- 2' $[x x] 19^{?} rx^{1} [....]$
- 3' [x] ^rx¹ [x x] ^rx¹ [....]
- 4' [IZ]I 30 GE₆ 3 *ina* ZÁ[LAG] *ina* ZÁLAG MÚL-BABBAR SIG MAŠ-M[AŠ IGI AN]
- 5′ SIG MÚL KUR šá KA šil-tah PA ²/₃? KÙŠ 17 GENNA ina ABSIN [ŠÚ]

'Obv.'

- 1′[....]
- 2' The 13th, [....]
- 3' The 14^{th} , [moonrise to sunset:] 9° 20'.
- 4' The 14^{th} , sunrise [to moonset:] $8^{\circ}30'$.
- 5' The 15^{th} , sunset to moonrise: 5° .
- 6' The 26^{th} , [moonrise to sunrise:] $23^{\circ} 40+[x']$.]

'Rev.'

1'-6' Month IX, the 1st (of which will follow the 30th of the preceding month); (sunset to moonset:) 19° 20'. The 13th, moonrise to sunset: 14°. The 13th, moonset to sunrise: 5° 30'. The 14th, sunset to moonrise: 1° 30'. The 14th, sunrise to moonset: 9° 10'. The 27th, [moonrise to sunrise:] 20° 40'.

.... [....] [....] [....]

7'-10' Month XI, (the 1st of which will be identical with) the 30th (of the preceding month); (sunset to moonset:) 10° 20+[x'.] The 13th, [moonset to sunrise:] 9° 10+[x'.] The 14th, [moonrise to sunset:] 1+[x°.] The 14th, [sunrise to moonset:]

Left edge

- 1 Predictions of year 19, [king] S[eleucus.]
- 2 Copy of [....]

No. 3

'Obv.

- 1′ [....] [....]
- 2' [....] 19? [....]
- 3' [....] [....]
- 4' Month V, (the 1st of which will be identical with) the 30th (of the preceding month). Night of the 3rd, last part of the [night,] last part of the night, Jupiter [....] below [α] Geminorum.
 [.... Mars]
- 5' ²/₃² cubit below ϑ Ophiuchi. The 17th, Saturn's [last appearance] in Virgo. [....]

6	Nos. 3 & 4
6′	KIN 30 <i>ina</i> LUL GE ₆ 2 <i>ina</i> ZÁLAG ^r MÚL-BABBAR SIG MAŠ-MAŠ ¹ [<i>ár</i>]
7′ 8′	$\overline{\text{DU}_{6} \ 1} \ 5 \text{ L}\acute{A}\text{L}-ti \ 12 \ dele-bat \ ina \ \check{S}\acute{U} \ ina \ [x \ IGI \] \ `x \ x^1 \ [] \ GE_{6} \ 26 \ USAN \ AN \ S[IG \]$
Rev.' 1 2	[APIN x] 13 na GE ₆ 20 USAN AN e MÚL [,] IGI šá SUḪUR MÁŠ 6²¹ [SI] 'GE ₆ ' [2]2 USAN AN e MÚL ár šá SUḪUR MÁŠ 4+[x SI]
3 4	GAN 30 GE ₆ 14 <i>ina</i> ZÁLAG MÚL-BABBAR SIG MAŠ-MAŠ IGI 2 ² / ₃ KÙ[Š] 22 MÚL-BABBAR <i>ana</i> ME E- <i>a</i> 27 KUR ^r GE ₆ 29 ^{?1} []
5	[AB x G]E ₆ 1 USAN <i>dele-bat e</i> MÚL ^r <i>ár šá</i> SUḪUR ۲ [MÁŠ]

Date

The equinox on VII 5 sets the year at SE 4 + 19n. Saturn in Virgo (line 6') and a first appearance of Venus in the west (line 8') identify the year as SE 23, which is confirmed by the positions of Mars.

No. 4

BM 47724 (= 81-11-3, 429) Listed as LBAT *995 Photo: Pl. 2 Year: SE 31

Upper edge

2 [*ina a-mat*] ^dEN *u* ^dGAŠAN-*iá liš-lim*

Obv.'

Ι				
1	[BAR] 10 [?]		GE ₆ 5 USAN GU ₄ -UD SIG 'MÚL'-MÚL ½ KÙŠ
2	[x	х	M]E	
3	[x	Х	Š]Ú	
4	[x	x]	GE ₆	
5	[x	Х	n]a	GE ₆ 27 ina ZÁLAG dele-bat SIG MÚL KUR
6	[]	šá DUR nu-nu 3 KÙŠ
				_
7	[GU ₄] ^г х х х	x x x¹ []
II				
1	Š[U	.]		
2	12 []]		
3	13 []]		
4	14 []]		
'Rev.				

III broken;