

TWO INSCRIBED BRICKS AND A RELIEF FRAGMENT AT ÖDEMiŞ ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

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Two inscribed bricks Ö. 1485 and Ö. 1486 are in the Archaeological Museum of Ödemiş¹. The bricks are intact and their faces and upper edges are inscribed. Of the two bricks the one with the inventory number Ö. 1485 can be dated to the reign of Ashurnasirpal II (883-859 BC) and Ö. 1486 to the reign of Shalmaneser III (858-824 BC). Both of the inscribed bricks came from Nimrud-Calah². Both of the inscriptions found on these bricks are well attested. Ö. 1485 is known from duplicates on clay cones (sikkatu) and bricks³. Ö. 1486 is known only from duplicates on bricks acquired at Mousul and from the collections of the British Museums (cf. C.B.F. Walker, *Cuneiform Brick Inscriptions=CBI*, 1981, p. 113 No. 159) published long ago⁴. Of the bricks published by Lehmann-Haupt, three (Nos. 13-15) with dimensions almost identical to those of Ö. 1486 and inscriptions in seven lines; and a fourth with an inscriptions of five lines are duplicates of our text with minor variations. No. 15 of Lehmann-Haupt is once more published in copy in 1985 by Liane Jakob-Rost - Joachim Marzahn⁵ and bears the inventory number VA 8987 in the Vorderasia. Museum of Berlin. All of the

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¹ These objects had been given as gift to Tire Museum by collector Mr. A. Mutahhar Başoğlu. In 1986, this collection had been transferred to Ödemiş Museum and exhibited in a special corner of the museum. We would like to thank the authorities of the General Directorate of the Monuments and Museums; and the Director H. Sadreddin Atukeren of the Ödemiş Archaeological Museum for their permission and kind assistance in this respect.

² It is ascertained from the brick with env. No. 1486 which bears the phrase: ri-šip-tú U₆.NIR šá URU kal-ḫi.

³ For Ö. 1485 see A. Kirk Grayson, *Assyrian Rulers of the Early First Millennium BC I* (1114-859 BC)=*RIMA 2*, University of Toronto Press 1991, p. 366 No. 115; for the examples of Ö. 1486 see Lehmann-Haupt, *Materialien zur älteren Geschichte Armeniens und Mesopotamiens*, Berlin 1907, p. 26-30, Nos. 13-15; Liane Jakob-Rost - Joachim Marzahn, *Assyrische Königsinschriften auf Ziegeln aus Assur= VAS 23*, 1985, Nos. 108 and 109; C.B.F. Walker, *Cuneiform Brick Inscriptions=CBI*, 1981, p. 113 No. 159.

⁴ See Lehmann-Haupt, *ibid.*, p. 28, photo 14a-b.

⁵ Dimensions of VAS 23, No. 109 (p. 8) is given as 9.0x18.5; 12.5x24 cm.

inscribed bricks point out to the fact that they were used for the construction of the ziqqurat (stage-tower) of the city of Calah. Of the two brick inscriptions whose contents were referred to in the aforementioned publications are presented below in transcriptions, translations, copy and commentaries where necessary⁶.

Ö. 1485

36.5x36x11.5 cm., Tempered with straw, light brown, intact. The inscription on the edge is identical with the inscription of the face, and the edge is slightly damaged.

Transliteration: 1) É.GAL^mAŠ-PAP-A MAN ŠÚ MAN KUR AŠ
2) A TUKUL-MAŠ MAN ŠÚ MAN KUR AŠ
3) A 10-ÉRIN.TÁḤ MAN ŠÚ MAN KUR AŠ-ma.

Translation: 1-3) (property of) the palace of Ashurnasirpal (II), king of the universe, king of Assyria; son of Tukulti-Ninurta (II), king of the universe, king of Assyria, son of Adad-nārārī (II) (who was) also king of the universe and king of Assyria.

This text is found at various sites -Calah, Nineveh, Imgur-Enlil and Ashur- inscribed on bricks, clay cones (sikkatu)⁷, clay hands⁸, stone⁹ and once on a stone sarcophagus¹⁰ fifty examples have been identified¹¹.

⁶ The following variants can be seen. Duplicates of Ö. 1486: Lehmann-Haupt, *ibid.*, Nos. 13-15; VAS 23, No. 108 GAL-u for GAL-ú and possibly GAL-ē? in No. 13 line 1 and 3; No. 15,3; a šá No. 16,5 (the initial sign) which is missing with the other duplicates. Lehmann-Haupt, *ibid.*, No. 17 which has the same context likewise VAS 23, No. 110 and No. 18 begins with É.GAL. It omits GAL-u/ú and dan-nu and ŠÚ is used for Shalmaneser III (1.1). The first line of No. 17 as far as it shows from the photo (cf. *ibid.*, p. 29, fig. 16) is not as compiled by Lehmann-Haupt (*ibid.*, p. 30) but [É.GAL]^[md]SILIM-man-nu-MAŠ MAN ŠÚ MAN KUR AŠ "(property of) the palace of Shalmaneser (III), king of the universe, king of Assyria". For É.GAL see *ibid.*, p. 31, No. 18,1; CBI, p. 111, No. 155. Examples of variant writing of -ma as -man- see K. Tallqvist, *Assyrian Personal Names= APN*, 1914, p. 223b (SILIM-man-MAŠ/SAG/a-ša-red).

⁷ For similar sikkatu (clay cones) see V. Donbaz - A. Kirk Grayson, *Royal Inscriptions on Clay Cones from Ashur now in Istanbul=RICCA*, University of Toronto Press, Pl. 13 Nos. 129-130.

⁸ Lehmann-Haupt, *ibid.*, p. 23, No. 10, fig. 9.

⁹ Lehmann-Haupt, *ibid.*, p. 22, No. 9, fig. 8. is a brick, for similar stone inscriptions see E.Š. 63.

¹⁰ KAH 2 No. 95.

¹¹ A. Kirk Grayson, *RIMA 2*, p. 366-367 (catalogue) No. 115.

According to the bibliography and catalogue compiled by A. Kirk Grayson only two of the six examples on bricks are known to have come from Calah with certainty¹². In the catalogue prepared by Grayson except the two bricks (Nos. 3 and 35) the others have been defined (Calah?) and their provenance are obscure¹³. Although the provenance of Ö. 1485 is not specified by its inscription, its similarity in color, dimensions, consistency of clay and from to Ö. 1486 of which provenance is specified as Calah may lead us to the conclusion that it also came from Calah. In that case three bricks with text came from Calah¹⁴.

Ö. 1486

35.5x35.5x10.5 cm. Tempered with straw, light brown, intact. For the exact duplicates see C.B.F. Walker, *CBI*, 1981, p. 113 No. 159.

- Transkripsiyon: 1) $\text{md}\check{\text{S}}\text{ul-ma-nu-MA}\check{\text{S}} \text{ MAN GAL-ú}$
 2) MAN dan-nu MAN ŠÚ MAN KUR AŠ
 3) A AŠ-PAP-A MAN GAL-ú
 4) MAN dan-nu MAN ŠÚ MAN KUR AŠ
 5) A TUKUL-MAŠ MAN ŠÚ MAN KUR AŠ-ma
 6) ri-šip-tú U₆.NIR (siqurratu)
 7) šá URU kal-ḫi

- Translation: 1) Shalmaneser (III), great king
 2) strong king, king of the universe, king of Assyria,
 3) son of Ashurnasirpal (II), great king,
 4) strong king, king of the universe, king of Assyria,
 5) son of Tukulti-Ninurta, (who was) also king of the universe and king of Assyria.
 6) building (brick) of teh *siqurratu* (stage-tower)
 7) of the city of Calah.

¹² Catalogue Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 35, 40. Of the examples BM 90738/48-11-4, 6 is found from the NWP of the city of Calah; the other again found there (see Lehmann-Haupt, *ibid.*, p. 22-23 No. 9). The brick on which this inscription inscribed is 10 cm. longer than the brick under treatment and the lines are underlined. Therefore, they are different duplicates.

¹³ *RIMA* 2, p. 367 (catalogue nos. 47-50) quotes four duplicates of the same inscription written on clay hands.

¹⁴ See figures 1-3.

The importance of this inscription is in the lines 6-7: ri-šip-tú¹⁵ U₆.NIR šá URU kal-ḫi from which one can be sure of the fact that Shalmaneser III had indeed built the ziqqurat of the city of Calah¹⁶. With the five duplicates of the inscription, three with seven-line inscription¹⁷ published by Lehmann-Haupt and one with five-line inscription¹⁸ with the addition of the Berlin brick (VA 3268a=VAS 23, No. 108) including our text under discussion and of the ones treated in CBI No. 159 the number of bricks reaches nearly twenty¹⁹. The text, that was also published by Lehmann-Haupt, Mat. No. 16 bears an additional sa (line 5) following ri-šip-tú (1.4) which also occurs in CBI, No. 159:6 and missing in the seven-line inscriptions in *ibid* Nos. 13-15 and CBI, No. 159, helps us to understand the implication by (4) ri-šip-tú (5) šá U₆.NIR šá URU kal-ḫi” building brick of the ziqqurat (stage-tower) of the city of Calah”. The double usage of the possessive šá may cause a translation “it belongs to the building (construction) of the ziqqurat of the city of Calah”. Of the duplicates with seven lines, only Lehmann-Haupt, *ibid* No. 13 has been inscribed on the face, whereas No. 14 and 15=VAS 23,109 have three lines on the edge, and Ö. 1486 two lines on the edge. Lehmann-Haupt, *ibid* No. 16 and VAS 23, 108 are each five line inscription of the same text (cf. also CBI 159 duplicates with five lines) that they are not duplicate texts can be proved by the fact that Berlin text is broken at the left had half. Further, the bricks (VA 3268a=15x23 cm. and 34x16x11.5) as pointed out by Lehmann-Haupt, that the brick must have been found at Mousul and acquired for Berlin (Kgl. Museen, Berlin V.A. 3214) but is not found among the brick published in VAS 23²⁰.

Four successive Assyrian kings can be gathered with the help of these two brick inscription. Namely,

Adad-nārārī II (911-891 BC)

Tukulū-Ninurta II (890-884)

¹⁵ *rišiptu* (*rišpu*) “Errichtung; Bau” AHW 989a to build, to erect can be compared with *kisirtu* “paving block” CAD K p. 422a, which is used in similar inscriptions. The first is used for the constructions of walls and towers, and the other four the courtyards and other type of buildings. For the writing of *rišipte* see Lehmann-Haupt, *ibid.*, No. 17, 3; and of *ri-šip-tu* šá.. C.B.F. Walker, CBI, p. 113-6.

¹⁶ Lehmann-Haupt, *ibid.*, p. 26.

¹⁷ *ibid.*, pp. 26-28, Nos. 13-15.

¹⁸ *ibid.*, p. 29, No. 16, fig. 15.

¹⁹ *ibid.*, p. 28, No. 15=VAS 23, 109.

²⁰ *ibid.* p. 29.

Ashurnasirpal II (883-859)
 Shalmaneser III (858-824).

Ö. 1485 is from the palace of Ashurnasirpal II and Ö. 1486 is from the Ziqqurat of Calah and refer to the span of a total of 59 years of the last two kings which we referred to above.

Ö. 1487

28x48x3 cm. Marmor. All sides was broken.

An Assyrian soldier carry a spear in his right hand with a shield. He has long beard and hair. He's clothed an undecorated dress and a belt. Tuft of his dress hang down from belt. Below the knees are missing, but traces of the stocking is visible. Behind him, there are the folded hands, the edges of dress and beard of another figur. Above the soldier, there is a mountain representation.

This relief fragment, probably, came from North Palace of Ashurbanipal at Nineveh. This type of shield was carved on both Senharib's and Ashurbanipal's palaces reliefs²¹. But our soldier was exactly depicted the sculptures from Palace of Ashurbanipal²². These soldiers, in war scenes, always stand before the king as the bodyguard. The officers with the folded hands were behind them. Officer's hands, the edges of his dress and his beard has been preserved on our relief.

We think, this relief belong to the block that was showed Ashurbanipal's campaign to mountainious country, because of the mountains representation above the soldier.

²¹ T.A. Madhloom, *The Chronology of Neo-Assyrian Art*, London 1970, p. 56.

²² R.D. Barnett, *Sculptures from North Palace of Ashurnasirpal at Nineveh (668-627 B.C.)*, London 1976, Pls. VI, XVI, XXI?, XXXV, LX, LXVI, LXVII.



Resim 1 Ö. 1485
Figure 1 Ö. 1485

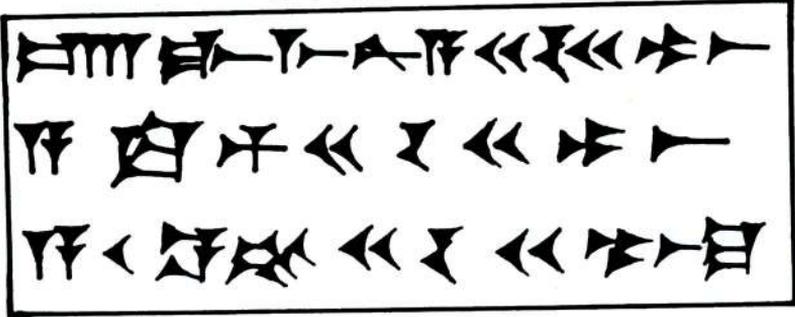


Resim 2 Ö. 1486
Figure 2 Ö. 1486

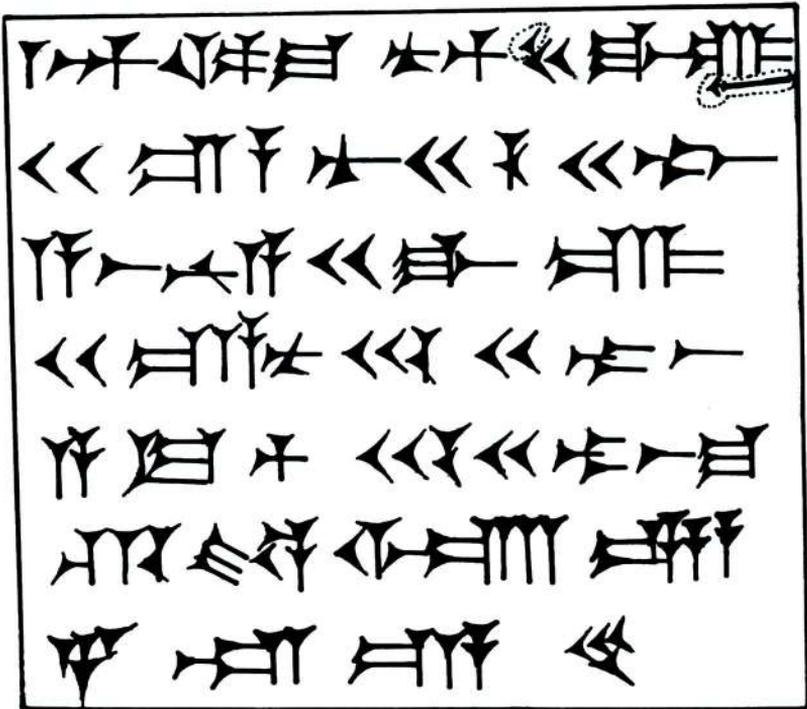


Resim 3 Ö. 1486
Figure 3 Ö. 1486

Ö.1485



ö.1486





Resim 4 Ö. 1487

Figure 4 Ö. 1487

