29) Ad AD-GI₄ – Paying More Tribute to ‘Tribute’* – The latest edition of the lexical list AD-GI₄, also called ‘Tribute’ and ‘Archaic (or Sumerian) Word List C’, we owe to M. Civil (JCS 65 [2013] 13–67)¹⁷. As already proposed by ENGLUND (OBO 160/1, 99) he considers this list to be the first, still somewhat clumsy attempt by the Sumerians to write down “narrative texts” (CIVIL, p. 50). PETTINATO (MEE 3, no. 47) and VELDHUIS (N. Veldhuis, How Did They Learn Cuneiform?, CM 35 [2006], 181–200), on the other hand, classify AD-GI₄ as a pure (Sumerian) word list. Veldhuis stresses that it is geared to practical rather than to academic use (Veldhuis, l. c., p. 193).² While appreciating the work done, it is nevertheless legitimate to once again put forward a different view.³

AD-GI₄ is known from Uruk, but not from Jemdet Nasr or Ur. There is a break between Jemdet Nasr and Ur which has been referred to several times.⁴ Administrative texts were not “handed down”; lists, on the other hand, were copied or even adapted without the scribe necessarily always grasping the meaning of the entries. The archaic texts were already re-worked in Ur.⁵ The next attestations of AD-GI₄ come from Fāra.⁶ The Fāra texts are separated by some centuries from the Uruk texts. Presumably the Proto-Euphratic (PE) language had become extinct. If the Sumerians had still understood the list AD-GI₄ no commentaries would have been necessary.⁷

Civil diligently lists all the manuscripts of the “modern” editions of AD-GI₄ (starting with Fāra); for the older copies he uses only one siglum (“U”) and refers the reader to Englund, ATU 3. His choice of the Uruk “standard text” is not in all cases absolutely free from arbitrariness (see the transliterations below as well as the copies in ATU 3). Civil himself mentions the deviations between the copies from Uruk and all the other copies (see his section 2.2.1).⁸ The explanation of how the text changed from the ED period onwards does not lead to an understanding of the original manuscript: It was, as already stated, no longer understood in the Fāra period.⁹

The language of the archaic texts (except for those from Ur) is presumably not Sumerian (see NABU 2013/55). It seems unlikely that scholars who operated with such sophisticated numbersign systems should not have been able to write down simple sentences. According to Civil, in AD-GI₄ verbs were not yet written (CIVIL, p. 50, Conclusions). “Shortly” after (in Ur [ED I/III]) verbs are well attested in Sumerian personal names (in exceptional cases as early as in the PE texts, see ZATU s. v. Ḫ and ATFU, p. 105 ad En-Unug-du(u); hence the “change” should have taken place in the brief period between the texts from Jemdet Nasr and those from Ur (see above). On the one hand the form was simplified, the complex numbersign systems fell into desuetude, many ancient professions sank into oblivion, while on
57) A New Join to a Hittite Festival of Thunder: KBo 31.183 + KBo 34.185 + KBo 20.61 (CTH 631)

While collecting attestations of sentence-initial kuit ‘as for’ in Old and early Middle Hittite compositions, I came across a passage of one of the Festivals of Thunder (KBo 20.61 + KBo 39.112 + KBo 39.286 + KBo 34.185 + KBo 41.77, CTH 631) that contained sentence-initial kuit in broken context (in i 6; see further below for an edition of lines i 1-18). Comparison with other Festivals of Thunder (KUB 34.120:4-7, ABoT 1.9 + KBo 17.74 i 9-11 and its duplicate KBo 20.12 i 9-11) allowed a partial reconstruction of the missing first halves of KBo 20.61 + KBo 34.185 i 9-12:

6 ku-i-ta LÜ.MEŠ GIŠ ɐINANNA.HÌLA Ů LÜ.MEŠ ÁLAN.ZU₉
7 'LÜ.MEŠ₄ ḫal-li-ja-ri'-eš an-dur-za A-ŠAR-ŠU-NU -pát
8 [ ] ɐA-N[佗] LUGAL MUNUS.LUGAL DUMU.MEŠ É.GAL
9 [ gi-nu-qa-aš GADA.HÌLA da-aŋ-ni na-at-ša-an
10 [šu-up-pí-ya-aš-ḥa-na-al-li-]ja ti-an-zi
11 [ ] [pa-ta-a-an-na ɐGiR.GUB ] t'a₁ da-an-zi na-at da-ga-an
12 [ ti-an-zi ] × DUMU.MEŠ É.GAL- ja
13 [ ] [ A-ŠAR-ŠU-NU ] ɐap¹-pa-an-zi

These lines contain a few highly specific expressions that only occur together in the Festivals of Thunder (CTH 631), namely ginuwaš GADA.HÌLA ‘knee cloths (of the king and queen)’, which are placed on the šu piiqaššanalli- (a type of cultic table or container), and pataššGI.R.HÌLA-n(a) GIšGIR.GUB ‘foot stool’, which is placed ṭašš on the ground’ (preserved in line i 11). A search through the files of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project led to the fragment KBo 31.183 (256/e), which contains the three missing key expressions in the exact location as reconstructed above. KBo 31.183:1’ joins KBo 34.185 i 7 directly: the lower half of LÜ.MEŠ, which is preserved in KBo 31.183:1’, attaches to KBo 34.185 i 7 where the top half of LÜ.MEŠ is preserved. The line halves of KBo 31.183 join indirectly to the left of the line halves of KBo 20.61 (see the Joinskizze sub 93/m = KBo 20.61 in S. Košak, hethiter.net/ hetkonk (v. 1.96), drawn after I reported the join to the Hethitologie Portal Mainz).

The reconstruction of the text in the remaining small gaps of lines i 8-10 is rather straightforward, but as of line i 11 the reconstruction becomes more difficult. This particular festival is the only version of the Festivals of Thunder that deals with the occurrence of thunder while the king and queen are presiding over the great assembly (šalli ašeššar). The exact sequence of events following the removal of the napkins and footstools is not found in other texts.

Transliteration, translation and brief philological commentary of KBo 20.61 + KBo 31.183 + KBo 34.185 i 1-18:

1 ma-a-an šal-la-i a-še-eš-ni [LU]GAL MUNUS.LUGAL a-ša-an-zi
2 EGIR-an-na 4IM-aš ti-it-ḫa nu DUMU.MEŠ LUGAL
3 DUMU.MUNUS.MEŠ LUGAL LÜ.MEŠ DUGUD-TIM LÜ.MEŠ ɐBA-RU-TIM
4 PA-NI LUGAL ku-i-e-eš a-ša-an-zi nu-uš ar-nu-an-zi
5 nu-uš-kán LÜ.MEŠ ɐGiR.DRU pa-ra-a pé-ḫu-da-an-zi
6 ku-i-ta LÜ.MEŠ GIŠ ɐINANNA.HÌLA Ů LÜ.MEŠ ÁLAN.ZU₉
7 LÜ.MEŠ ḫal-li-ja-ri'-eš an-dur-za A-ŠAR-ŠU-NU -pát
8 ḫar-kán-z[i na-aš-ta] ɐA-N[佗] LUGAL MUNUS.LUGAL DUMU.MEŠ É.GAL
9 gi-nu-qa-aš GI[DA.HÌLA da-aŋ-ni na-at-ša-an
10 šu-up-pí-ya-aš-ḥa-n[a-al-li-]ja ti-an-zi
11 GI.R.HÌLA-na ɐGiR.GUB.MEŠ [ša-ra-] t'a₁ da-an-zi na-at da-ga-an
12 ti-an-zi DUMU.MEŠ É.GAL [L o-o-] × DUMU.MEŠ É.GAL- ja
13 IT-ṬI LÜ.MEŠ ME-ŠE-D[U-TIM A-ŠAR-ŠU-NU] ɐap¹-pa-an-zi
When the [k]ing and queen sit in the grand assembly, and afterward the Stormgod thunders, the princes, princesses, grandees, (and) distinguished visitors who sit before the king are made to stand, and the staff bearers lead them out (of the assembly hall).

As for the lyre players and performers (and) the cantors, they just hold their positions inside. The palace attendants [rem]ove the napki[n]s (lit. knee-cloths) from the king and queen, and place them on the ūppiqaššānu[all]-table. They also pick [ulp] the footstools (from the throne dais) and place them on the floor. The palace attendants […] and [the chie]f of the palace attendants take [their positions] next to the royal body[uard]s.

A palace attendant goes [and ……] ………. take[s] the spear. […… He] steps [nex]t to the pal[ace] attendants. [The king’] steps [down] from the [throne] dais. [……] goes forth from [………].

A.BoT 1.9 + KBo 17.74 i 10, its duplicate KBo 20.12 i 5-6 (ed. Neu 1980:63), where the distinguished foreigners and everyone who sits before the king must rise and then remain standing. The latter concept is expressed by means of ar₃₃. The king and queen sit before the king are made to stand, and the staff bearers lead them out (of the assembly hall).
58 A new join to the Late Babylonian factorisation table BM 34958 — The small fragment BM 42792 (81-7-1, 556) from the Babylon collection of the British Museum joins BM 34958 (+) 42744+45977+46008, a Late Babylonian factorisation table (Ossendrijver 2014, Text B). In a factorisation table a sexagesimal number is successively divided by its constitutive factors, until 1 is reached. BM 42744+45977+46008 (obv. 1’-14’) partly preserve 14 numbers corresponding to 9\textsuperscript{11} \times 12\textsuperscript{19} until 9\textsuperscript{11} \times 12\textsuperscript{24} (the former is a 30-digit number). BM 42792 joins BM 34958; together they partly preserve the numbers corresponding to 9\textsuperscript{14} \times 12\textsuperscript{25} until 9\textsuperscript{15} \times 12\textsuperscript{39} (obv. 16’-21’). They do not physically join the other fragments, but only a small amount of clay corresponding to one line of text (obv. 15’) remains missing between them.

Photograph of BM 34958+42792 (obverse).

Transliteration and reconstruction of BM 34958+42792 (obverse)

Obverse

\begin{tabular}{l}
16’: [6.49.23.46.7.53.17.51.21.43.38.28.7.36.23],[54.22.41],[39.50.24] \\
\end{tabular}

(= 9\textsuperscript{11} \times 12\textsuperscript{24})

(= 9\textsuperscript{13} \times 12\textsuperscript{23})
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