The antediluvian king list is an Old Babylonian text, composed in Sumerian, that purports to document the reigns of successive kings of remote antiquity, from the time when the gods first transmitted to mankind the institution of kingship until the interruption of human history by the great Flood. The list exists in several versions. Sometimes it appears as the opening section of the Sumerian King List, as in text No. 98 below. More often it occurs as an independent list, of which one example is held by the Schöyen collection, published here as text No. 96. Other examples of the Old Babylonian list of antediluvian kings copied independently of the Sumerian King List are:

(a) the tablet W-B 62, of uncertain provenance and now in the Ashmolean Museum (Langdon 1923 pl. 6)
(b) a tablet from Nippur, now in Istanbul (Kraus 1952: 31)
(c) another reportedly from Khafaje (Tutub), now in Berkeley, California (Finkelstein 1963: 40)
(d) a further tablet now in the Karpeles Manuscript Library, Santa Barbara, California, given below in a preliminary transliteration (No. 97)
(e) a small fragment from Nippur now in Philadelphia that bears lines from the list followed by other text (Peterson 2008).

A more extensive treatment of the lists of antediluvian kings, including No. 96 and the tablet in the Karpeles Manuscript Library, is promised by Gianni Marchesi as part of his forthcoming larger study of the Sumerian king lists.

No. 96

MS 2855 is a small oblong tablet inscribed on both faces and the top, bottom and left edges with twenty-nine lines of early Old Babylonian cuneiform script. The main content is a version of the antediluvian king list, but this is followed by a damaged passage, written in Akkadian and in a smaller script, which remains partly undeciphered. As understood here, it ends with a statement enjoining the addressee not to stop reciting the text, which suggests that the preceding list had some function in scribal ritual or academic oratory.

A notable feature of the text is the rendering of the standard formula nam-lugal-bi GN-šè ba-de₅ “its kingship was taken to GN” as nam-lugal-šè GN ba-de₅, literally “GN was brought to kingship,” which is less satisfactory. The exemplar of the list now in the Karpeles Manuscript Library (No. 97) also uses this version of the formula, and shows that it is not an idiosyncrasy of a single scribe but a corrupt variant passed down in tradition.

MS 2855 has already been published in Jöran Friberg’s volume of mathematical texts in the Schöyen Collection (2007: 237–38, 491). Friberg relied on a copy made by Farouk Al-Rawi from photographs, without first-hand collation of the original.
(In) Eridu (was) kingship: Alulim \(^2\) reigned for 28,800 years, \(^3\) Elalgar [reigned] for 43,200 years, \(^4\) Eridu was overthrown. Kingship \(^5\) was taken to Bad-tibira: \(^6\) Ammieluanna (was) king, \(^7\) reigned for 36,000 years, \(^8\) Enemgalanna reigned for 28,800 years, \(^9\) Dumuzi reigned for 28,800 years, \(^10\) Bad-tibira was overthrown. \(^11\) Kingship [was taken to Larak:] \(^12\) Ensipaz\[anna (was king,\)] \(^13\) reigned for 13,800 years, \(^14\) Larak was [overthrown.] \(^15\) Kingship [was taken] to Sippar: \(^16\) Me\[duranki reigned for 7,200 years, \(^17\) Sippar was overthrown. \(^18\) Kingship was taken to Sippar: \(^19\) Uburtutu reigned for 36,000 years. \(^20\) Total: eight kings, \(^22\) . . . they reigned \(^21\) their 222,600 years.

\(^{23}\) . . . \(^{24}\) like tamarisk(?). [Its] inscription, \(^{25}\) which \(^{26}\) . . . for [ . . . ] \(^{26}\) and [ . . . ] \(^{27}\) you must not refrain(!) from reading aloud.
This is a small oblong tablet now in the collection of the Karpeles Manuscript Library, Santa Barbara, California. It holds twenty-seven lines of Old Babylonian cuneiform, inscribed on both faces and three edges. The text is a version of the list of antediluvian kings very similar to the preceding exemplar, but with an interesting line of summary (l. 27). A noteworthy idiosyncrasy is the erroneous spelling of Eridu and Sippar with the sign combination \textit{NUN.ME} (i.e. \textit{abgal} “sage”) instead of simple \textit{NUN} (ll. 1, 4, 16, 17). This mistake probably arose from an intrusion in the writer’s mind of the mythological tradition that placed the sages in the antediluvian era.

The transliteration given here is informed by photographs kindly supplied by Renee Kovacs, checked against the transliteration of a scholar who was able to study the tablet first-hand but wished to remain anonymous.

\begin{align*}
\text{obv.} & \\
1 & \text{eridu.}\{\text{me}\}^\text{ki} \text{nam-lugal} \\
2 & \text{a-lu-lim šár+šár+šár+šár+šár+šár+šár} \text{ mu } \text{i-ak} \\
3 & \text{e-lal-gar šár×u šár+šár} \text{ mu } \text{i-ak} \\
4 & \text{eridu.}\{\text{me}\}^\text{ki} \text{ba-šub nam-lugal} \\
5 & \text{bàd-tibir}'-\text{ra}^\text{ki} \text{ba-de}_8 \\
6 & \{\text{bàd-tibir}'-\text{ra}^\text{ki} \text{lugal-e} \\
7 & \{\text{am/en}'-\text{men}'-\text{lu-an-na} \text{ šár×u} \text{ mu } \text{i-ak} \\
8 & \text{en-ne-gal-an-na} \\
9 & \text{šár+šár+šár+šár+šár+šár+šár} \text{ mu } \text{i-ak} \\
10 & \text{bàd-tibir}'-\text{ra}^\text{ki} \text{ba-šub} \\
11 & \text{nam-lugal-še la-ra-ak}^\text{ki}'-\text{še} \text{ ba-de}_8 \\
12 & \text{la-ra-ak}^\text{ki} \text{lugal-e} \\
\text{lower edge} & \\
13 & \text{en-sipa-zi-an-na} \\
\text{rev.} & \\
14 & \text{šár+šár+šár gēš-u+gēš-u+gēš-u+gēš-u} \text{ mu } \text{i-ak} \\
15 & \text{la-ra-ak}^\text{ki} \text{ba-šub} \\
16 & \text{nam-lugal-še zimbir.}\{\text{me}\}^\text{ki} / \text{ba-de}_8 \\
17 & \text{zimbir.}\{\text{me}\}^\text{ki} \text{lugal-e}^3 \\
18 & \{\text{me/en}'-\text{du-an-ki} \text{ šár+šár} \text{ mu } \text{i-a[k]} \\
19 & \{\text{zi}mbir.}\{\text{me}\}^\text{ki} \text{ba-šub} \\
20 & \text{nam-lugal-še šuruppak}^\text{ki} / \text{ba-de}_8 \\
21 & \text{šuruppak}^\text{ki} \text{lugal-e} \\
22 & \text{ubur-tu-tu} \\
23 & \text{šár×u} \text{ mu } \text{i-ak} \\
24 & \text{šuruppak}^\text{ki} \text{ba-šub} \\
\text{upper edge} & \\
25 & \text{šu-nigin 8 lugal 5 ur[}\text{u}^\text{ki}\text{]-didli} \\
26 & \text{šu-nigin šár-gal šár gēš-u+gēš-u+gēš-u+gēš-u+gēš-u+gēš-u} \text{ mu } \text{-i/-e-ne} \\
\text{left edge} & \\
27 & \text{a-ma-ru b[a-]-x)-è[d]([DU],DU)}^7'-\text{ām} \\
& \text{šuruppak-e}^\text{e} \text{ ba-zāh-am}_6 \\
\end{align*}

\begin{enumerate}
\item (In) Eridu (was) kingship: 2 Alulim reigned for 28,800 years, 3 Elalgar reigned for 43,200 years, 4 Eridu was overthrown. Kingship 5 was taken to Bad-tibira, 6 in Bad-tibira (ruled) the king: 7 [Am/ En]menluanna reigned for 36,000 years, 8 Enmegalanna reigned for 28,800 years, 9 Dumuzi reigned for 28,800 years, 10 Bad-tibira was overthrown. 11 Kingship was taken to Larak, 12 (in) Larak (ruled) the king: 13 Ensipazianna 14 reigned for 13,800 years, 15 Larak was overthrown. 16 Kingship was taken to Sippar, 17 (in) Sippar (ruled) the king: 18 Meduranki reigned for 7,200 years, 19 Sippar was overthrown. 20 Kingship was taken to Šuruppak, 21 (in) Šuruppak (ruled) the king: 22 Uburtutu 23 reigned for 36,000 years, 24 Šuruppak was overthrown. 25 Total: eight kings, five cities; 26 total: 222,600 years. 27 The flood [came] down(?), the (office of) king was lost.
The Sumerian King List


An electronic edition, based on sources available in 1999, is available at the Electronic Text Corpus of Sumerian Literature (www-etcsl.orient.ox.ac.uk).

Two further sources exist in the Schøyen Collection and are presented here as texts Nos. 98 and 99. They will be treated to a more extensive study in Gianni Marchesi’s new edition of the Sumerian king lists, currently in preparation.

No. 98

This is a large square tablet, inscribed on its two faces with three columns of archaizing cuneiform text, rather crudely achieved. Two columns occupy the convex face and one the flat face. A fourth column is vacant. This is a very clear example of a tablet begun on the wrong side, for the text begins at the top left of the convex face. The content is the opening section of the Sumerian King List, from the antediluvian institution of kingship to the fourth king of the first post-diluvian dynasty of Kiš.

The tablet is very probably Old Babylonian but employs an elaborately archaizing script.


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The tablet is very probably Old Babylonian but employs an elaborately archaizing script.
1 When kingship was sent down from heaven, 2 (in) Eridu there was kingship. 3 (In) Eridu Alulim was king, 4 he reigned 28,800 years; 5 Alalgar was king, 6 he reigned 36,000 years; 7 two kings reigned its 64,800 years. 8 Eridu was overthrown, 9 its kingship was taken to Bad-tibira. 10 (In) Bad-tibira Amme-sipa-anna 11 reigned 21,600 years; 12 Amme-gal-anna was king, 13 he reigned 18,000 years; 14 the shepherd Dumuzi 15 reigned 36,000 years; 16 three kings 17 reigned its 75,600 years. 18 Bad-tibira was overthrown, 19 its kingship was taken to Larak. 20 (In) Larak En-sipa-zi-anna was king, 21 he reigned 21,600 years: 22 one king 23 reigned its 21,600 years. 24 Larak was overthrown, 25 its kingship was taken to Sippar. 26 (In) Sippar Amme-dur-anna was king, 27 he reigned 18,000 years: 28 one king 29 reigned its 18,000 years. 30 Sippar was overthrown, 31 its kingship was taken to Šuruppak. 32 (In) Šuruppak Uburtutu [was] king, 33 [he reigned] 20,400 (?) years; 34 Ziusudra [was king, 35 he reigned 36,000 (?) years: 36 two kings 37 reigned its 56,400] years. 38 Five cities [there were,] 39 ten kings 40 [reigned] their 236,400 years. 41 The flood swept (everything) flat. 42 After the flood swept (everything) flat, 43 when kingship was sent down from heaven, 44 in Kiš there was kingship. 45 In Kiš Lu-gušurra was king, 46 he reigned 1,200 years; 47 Kullassina-bel 48 reigned 840 years, 49 Nanzizlittarku 50 reigned 1,200 years, 51 En-dara-anna reigned for seven times seven years, three months, three days and a half.
MS 3429 is a rectangular fragment with one face inscribed in two columns with Old Babylonian cuneiform. The other face is obscured by a modern addition of clay crudely moulded by hand to form a convex surface. This clay remains firmly attached, even after baking, and it has been thought prudent not to detach it. The left edge is ragged and bears the impressions of a blunt tool, so it would seem that the fragment was separated from a larger piece by piercing through and prising apart. Both interventions were motivated by a desire to pass the fragment off as complete.

The text surviving on the two remaining columns is two passages from the Sumerian King List. The text of the left-hand column contains the end of the first dynasty of Uruk (the dynasty of Gilgamesh) and the whole of the first dynasty of Ur. The text of the right-hand column holds the end of the second dynasty of Kiš and the solitary king of Hamazi. In the Weld-Blundell prism and other similarly complete manuscripts the former passage precedes the latter, so if the present tablet was conventionally arranged, the surviving inscribed face is from the obverse. It was no doubt a multi-column tablet that perhaps once bore the entire list.

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No. 99

MS 3429

Pl. LXXXIV

---

col. i'

1' [me-lám]-'an'-[na]
2' [mu] '6' i-ak
3' lugal-'ki-GǐN
4' mu 6 'i-ak'
5' 12 lugal
6' [mu-bi] géš-u+géš-u+géš-u 8,31 / i-ak
7' [unu]ḡ-gā "tukul ba-siģ'
8' [na]m-lugal-bi
9' [úrjim]-šē ba-de₆₉
10' [úrjim]-m₉₉
11' [mes-an]-né-pâd-'da'
12' [lu-ga]l-àm
13' [mu] 2,20 i-ak
14' [mes]-'ki-ág'-nun-na
15' [dum]u mes-an-né-pâd-da
16' [mu] 30 i-ak
17' [e]-'lu-lu'
18' [mu] 25 i-ak
19' [ba]-'lu-lu'
20' [mu] 36 'i'-[ak]
21' 4 lug[al]

---

col. ii'

1' 'mu 6,0 i'-[ak]
2' 'men'-nun-[na] / dumu TŪG-e-[ke₉₉]
3' mu 3,0 i-a[k]

---

4' lugal-m[u]
5' mu 7,0 i-ak
6' i-bi'-s[e₇₉]
7' mu 4,40 i-a[k]
8' 8 lugal
9' mu-bi géš-u+géš-u+géš-u+géš-u+géš-u
10' kiṣ̄ kī "tukul ba-si[g]
11' 'nam-lugal-bi'
12' [hi]-ma-zì'-šê ba-d[e₉₉]
13' [hi]-ma-zì ki
14' [ha-ta-ni]-i₉₉
15' lugal-àm
16' mu 7 (or 7,0) i-ak
17' 1 lugal
18' mu-'bi₉₉ 7 (or 7,0) i-a[k]
19' [ha-ma-zì]-kî "tukul b[a-siģ]
20' [nam-lugal]-b[i]
21' [unug]-šê ba-[de₇₉]

remainder lost

... 'i'- [Melam]-anna ' reigned six(?) [years;] ' Lugalki-GǐN ' reigned six years; ' twelve kings ' reigned its 2,311 [years;] ' Uruk was [defeated] in battle, ' its kingship ' was taken to Ur. ' In Ur ' [Mes]-anne-padda ' was king, ' he reigned 140 [years;] ' [Mes]-kiang-nunna, ' Mes-anne-pad-
da’s [son], 16 reigned thirty years; 17 Elulu 18 reigned twenty-five [years;] 19 Balulu 20 [reigned] thirty-six years; 21 four kings 22 [reigned its 237 years . . .

. . . 23 [TÚG-e reigned] 360 years; 24 Men-nunna, TÚG-e’s son, 25 reigned 180 years; 26 Lugalmu 27 reigned 420 years; 28 Ibbi-Suen 29 reigned 280 years: 30 eight kings 31 reigned its 3,195 years. 32 Kiš was defeated in battle, 33 its kingship 34 was taken to Hamazi. 35 (In) Hamazi 36 Hataniš 37 was king, 38 he reigned seven (or 420) years: 39 one king 40 reigned its seven (or 420) years. 41 Hamazi was [defeated] in battle, 42 its [kingship] 43 was [taken to Uruk. . . .
# A List of Reigns of Kings of Ur and Isin

**No. 100**  
**MS 1686**  
**Pl. LXXXV**

MS 1686 is a clay tablet inscribed on both faces and two edges with twenty-one lines of Old Babylonian cuneiform. The content is a list of the kings of the Third Dynasty of Ur and the First Dynasty of Isin and the years of their reigns, from Ur-Nammu to Damiq-ilšu (conventionally 2112–1794 BC). The text has elicited much previous attention. It was first published by Edmond Sollberger in 1954 in transcription only, when the tablet was in the Erlenmeyer Collection in Basle (Sollberger 1954 Text A). Sollberger noted the existence of a near duplicate in the same collection (Text B), but he did not give a full transcription, only notes on variants and other differences. Sollberger’s transcription of Text A and notes on Text B were repeated by Kirk Grayson in his study of the Babylonian king lists, where the text was catalogued as “King List 2. Ur-Isin King List” (Grayson 1980: 90).

After the sale of the Erlenmeyer Collection, the tablet bearing Text A was acquired by the Schøyen Collection, and its photograph subsequently published on the collection’s website (http://www.schoyencollection.com/babylonianhist.htm) and in an exhibition catalogue (Lippincott 1999: 255 no. 265). In 2007, in ignorance of the collection’s public online statement that MS 1686 is the very tablet presented to scholarship by Sollberger fifty years previously, it was republished, ostensibly for the first time and in a cuneiform copy made without first-hand inspection of the tablet, as a “new version of the Ur-Isin King List” (Friberg 2007: 233–34, 491). The preparation of a second copy for this volume largely vindicates Sollberger’s decipherment.

The tablet bearing Text B found a new home in Italy and was subsequently published in photograph (rev. only), transcription, and Italian translation by Mario Fales (Fales 1989: 144–45). The subscript of Text A lacks the expected addition of regnal years and makes better sense when emended to agree with Text B: šu+nigin u[r]-namma-t[a] en-na da-mi-[i]-šu m[u-]{x}-bi 31[3] (cf. ibid.).

### A List of Reigns of Kings of Ur and Isin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line</th>
<th>Clay Text</th>
<th>Italian Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>18 mu ḍur-ṇamma lugal</td>
<td>18 years Ur-Namma (was) king</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>48 mu ḍul-gi lugal</td>
<td>48 years Šulgi (was) king</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9 mu aamar-šuen-na</td>
<td>9 years Amar-Šuen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9 mu ḍšu-šuen-{na}</td>
<td>9 years Šu-Šuen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>24 mu ḍi-bi-šuen</td>
<td>24 years Ibbi-Šuen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>33 mu ḍiš-bi-ėr-ťa</td>
<td>33 years Išbi-Erra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>10 mu šu-šu</td>
<td>10 years Šu-šu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>21 mu ḍi-din-da-gan</td>
<td>21 years Iddin-Dagan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lower edge</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>19 mu ḍiš-me-[a] /-gan</td>
<td>19 years İšme-Dagan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>11 mu ḍiš-pi-šu /-is-ta</td>
<td>11 years Lipit-İstar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rev.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>28 mu ḍur-nin-urta</td>
<td>28 years Ur-Ninurta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>22 mu ḍur-šin(suen)</td>
<td>22 years Bür-Sin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>5 mu ḍiš-pi-ši&lt;-t&gt; /-iš-en-lil</td>
<td>5 years Lipit-Enlil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>8 mu ḍer-ra-i-mi /-ti</td>
<td>8 years Erra-imitti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>24 mu ḍen-lil-ba-ni</td>
<td>24 years Enlil-báni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>3 mu ḍa-bi-ia</td>
<td>3 years Zabbiya</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A List of Year Names of Kings of Ur

No. 101  MS 1915  Pl. LXXXVI

MS 1915 is an oblong tablet inscribed with twenty-two ruled lines of Ur III-period script. It was formerly perfectly preserved but much of the surface of the obverse disintegrated through the action of mineral salts when the tablet was baked. Fortunately a photograph exists of it before it suffered this damage. The content is a list of the names of the years of kings of Ur, from year 1 of Amar-Suen (AS) to year 3 of Ibbi-Suen (IS), twenty-one years in all (conventionally 2046–2026 BC). Year names were the standard method of dating at this time, and survive in lists and on documents as important sources for the reconstruction of third and second-millennium history (Horsnell 1999: I 123–42, Charpin 2004: 45–49). The year names listed on MS 1915 are all well known from the multitude of extant archival documents dated in the reigns of Amar-Suen and his successors. No doubt MS 1915 was written during the third year of Ibbi-Suen, either as a memorandum of useful dates for someone in a bureaucratic post that required familiarity with recent dates or as a training exercise for scribes destined for such a position.

Other lists of Ur III year names are extant, on both contemporaneous and later tablets. Those known by the 1930s were edited by Ungnad (1938: 136–38). Two of them begin with Amar-Suen year 1: a tablet from Nippur now in Philadelphia (BE I 127) and a tablet of uncertain provenance, now in New Haven (YOS I 26). The former ends with Šu-Suen 7 (our l. 17); the latter closes with Amar-Suen 8 (our l. 9). Both are documents of the Ur III period, like the present tablet.

There are two later copies of lists of Ur III year names: a fragment that contains years of Ibbi-Suen, Ibbi-Erā, Iddin-Dagan, and Išme-Dagan, which is the surviving corner of a much longer list of dates of Ur III and Isin I (UET I 292, see Sollberger 1954–56: 40–42), and a tablet that records dates of Šulgī of Ur (Wilcke 1985: 299–303). The former was excavated at Ur in No. 7 Quiet Street among tablets dated to Rim-Sin of Larsa (Charpin 1986: 37 U 7755), the latter found at Isin in a context dated stratigraphically to Samsuiluna of Babylon. These demonstrate the survival of the genre into the eighteenth century, when the function of date lists of reigns long past was surely academic. Their study, beside other chronological texts such as king lists, speaks for a desire among Old Babylonian scholars to connect past with present (cf. Wilcke 1988: 114).
obv.

1. mu d'amar-šuen lugal
   Year Amar-Suen (became) king
   AS 1
2. mu d'amar-šuen lugal-e
   Year king Amar-Suen
3. ur-bil-lum mu-ḫul
   sacked Urbillum
   AS 2
4. mu gši gu-za Šennišurri ba-šù
   Year Enlil’s throne was made
   AS 3
5. mu en-šmah-gal Šinquila ba-ḫug
   Year An’s Grand Sublime en was appointed
   AS 4
6. mu en Šin-gal Šinquila ba-ḫug
   Year the en of Inanna’s great shrine was
   appointed
   AS 5
7. mu Ša-aššur-Šalmaneser ba-ḫul
   Year Šaššu was sacked
   AS 6
8. mu Šu-Šul-šu-rišu Šinquila [ba-šul]
   Year Huḫnurri was sacked
   AS 7
9. mu en Šinquila ba-ḫug
   Year the en-priest of Eridu was appointed
   AS 8
10. mu en ga-eš Šinquila ba-ḫug
    Year the en-priest of Gaš was appointed
    AS 9

———

11. mu d'šu-šuen lugal
    Year Šu-Suen (became) king
    SS 1
12. mu má-dāra-abzu ba-ab-duḫ
    Year the boat Ibex of the Deep was caulked
    SS 2
13. [muš] šimun-šu-rišu ba-ḫul
    Year Simanum was sacked
    SS 3
14. mu bād maš-šu-rišu ba-šù
    Year the west wall was built
    SS 4
15. mu Šu-šul-šu-rišu ba-šù
    Year following the west wall was built
    SS 5
16. mu Šu-šul-šu-rišu ba-šù
    Year the Sublime Stele was set up
    SS 6
17. mu ma-da za-šab-ša-lišqi ba-ḫul
    Year the land of Zabšali was ravaged
    SS 7
18. mu má-guršu-rišu ba-šù
    Year the Sublime Barge was made
    SS 8

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rev.

19. mu Ša'ara ba-šù
    Year the temple of Šara was built
    SS 9

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20. mu d'išši-šuen lugal
    Year Ibbi-Suen (became) king
    IS 1
21. mu en Šinquila maš-e / Šinquila i-pād
    Year the en of Inanna of Uruk was chosen by
    extispicy
    IS 2
22. mu Šu-šul-šu-rišu ba-ḫul
    Year Šimmurrum was sacked
    IS 3
A List of Year Names of Rîm-Sîn of Larsa

This is a tablet in landscape format inscribed on both faces in an elegant and practised Old Babylonian hand with fifteen lines of text, divided into eight by rulings. The content is a list of the names of the first eight years of Rîm-Sîn I of Larsa (1822–1763 BC), of which the last is partly erased. Traces of further erasures suggest that the tablet originally held still more text. Probably it was written in or near Larsa during Rîm-Sîn’s reign as a scribal exercise.

The year names of Rîm-Sîn have been studied by the late D. O. Edzard (1957: 176–78) and Marten Stol (1976: 18–23), and listed anew by Marcel Sigrist (1990: 37–60); they are well known from legal, commercial, and administrative documents dated to his reign. The available lists of Larsa year names, edited by Ungnad (1938: 149–55) and Stol (1976: 2–5), are lacunose, and the present tablet is a useful addition to their number. It is noteworthy for the variant name of Rîm-Sîn’s father, usually Kudurmabug, in l. 3: Kudunnabug.

obv.

1 [m]u dî-im-[sîn] lugal
2 'mu' ē šikur ša larsam-[ma] / 'ù' ē rūbā'-ul-e-gar-ra ša zar-bi-lum-ki mu-un-na-dû
5 mu 2 alam-urud[ku-du-ur-ma-bu-ug] ū i na-rú-a / ē-gal-bar'-raššē ū i'-ni-ku,-re-eš
6 mu ē rūbā'-ul-e-gar-ra / ša adab (UD).N[UN] kî mu-un-dû-a

rev.

[ù] 'alam kû'-sig mrdušîn(suen)-i-din'-nam lugal larsam-[ma] / [m]u-un-[dû]-a
7 mu 'kâ'-gal-a min-a-bi ša maš-kán-šabra 'mu-un'[dû]
8 'mu' ē de-en-'ki' (line partly erased)

1 Year Rîm-Sîn (became) king.
2 Year he built the temple of Adad in Larsa and the temple of Baraulegarra in Zarbilum.
3 Year he sent four copper statues of Kudurmabug into the temple of Šamaš and built the temple of Ninmar in Ašdubba.
4 Year he built the temple of Ištar, the temple of Šîn and the temple of Ea in Larsa.
5 Year he sent in two copper statues of Kudurmabug and a stele to the Outer Palace.
6 Year he built the temple of Baraulegarra [in Adab, rev. and] made a golden statue of Šîn-iddinam, king of Larsa.
7 Year he [built] the two city gates of Maškan-šāpir.
8 Year [he built] the temple of Ea . . .