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TWO ASSYRIAN KING LISTS

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OF THE two Assyrian king lists here published in transliteration, translation, and photographs, one, known as the "Khorsabad King List," came to light over twenty years ago, and the other designated as "SDAS King List," is made public here for the first time.

The Khorsabad King List was found on the site of ancient Dūr-Šarru-kin in the course of excavations conducted there in the season of 1932/33 by the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. A photograph of the obverse of the tablet was reproduced in Gordon Loud and Charles B. Altman, *Khorsabad*, Volume II ("Oriental Institute Publications," Vol. XL [Chicago, 1938], Pl. 57, No. 74), and in several editions of the *Handbook* published by the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. The photograph shows the shape of the tablet and its state of preservation, but, since it has been taken at an angle, it was not clear enough to allow scholars to read the inscription. A beautiful photograph of the reverse was published in the English illustrated periodical *The Sphere* under the date of April 7, 1934. This is the photograph which was reproduced in an article by Ernst F. Weidner, "Die Königsliste aus

Chorsābād," *Archiv für Orientforschung*, XIV (1941-44), 362-69. In the same article Weidner offered a partial transliteration of the Khorsabad King List, based on the photograph of the reverse. A discussion of the whole king list and a partial transliteration of individual passages were given by A. Poebel, "The Assyrian King List from Khorsabad," *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, I (1942), 247-306, 460-92; II (1943), 56-90.

The second king list published here came to light under circumstances so unusual as to be almost unbelievable. The present owner of this tablet inherited it from a relative who had bought it from natives in Mosul before the first World War. Toward the end of 1953 the owner of the tablet brought it to Dr. Siegfried H. Horn, professor at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., and generously left it with the seminary on a permanent loan basis. As far as can be ascertained, the tablet had not been shown before to any competent scholar, nor had the value of its contents been recognized until Dr. Horn was given the opportunity to inspect the tablet. During the Christmas vacations of 1953 Dr. Horn brought the tablet to Chicago and intrusted it to the writer for publica-

tion, under the condition that it be published within the limits of one calendar year from the date of January 1, 1954. The new tablet was to be designated as the "SDAS King List."

The first aim of this article is to fulfil the condition set by Dr. Horn, in the interest of scholarship, in respect to the date of publication of the SDAS tablet. Since it would have been impossible to reconstruct the broken parts of the SDAS King List without utilizing the Khors. King List, special permission had to be secured from the Oriental Institute to publish the latter in transliteration and photograph. To Professor Horn, a former student of mine; to Professor Carl H. Kraeling, the director of the Oriental Institute; to Professor Arno Poebel; and to the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* is due an expression of gratitude for making possible the speedy publication of the preliminary report. A definitive publication by Professor Poebel, containing copies, transliterations, translations, notes, and

photographs of the Assyrian king lists, is in preparation.

The measurements of the SDAS tablet are $170 \times 135 \times 23$ millimeters. About five-sixths of the tablet is preserved. The protuberance at the head of the tablet is perforated lengthwise to hold string or a piece of metal or wood about 4-5 millimeters in diameter. The tablet contains four columns, two on the obverse and two on the reverse. Significant units are separated by horizontal lines. In all these points, both in size and in shape, the SDAS list is almost identical with the Khors. list. The formal differences pertain mainly to the number of lines in each column and to the horizontal lines marking the significant units.

The variant readings of the Khors. and SDAS king lists are marked in this publication by an asterisk. The variants are many, but only a few are significant: SDAS List ii 7 assigns 50 years to Išmê-Dagan I, while the Khors. List gives 40 years; SDAS ii 29 assigns 24 years to

Puzur-Aššur III, while the Khors. List is here destroyed, and the Nassouhi List (*Archiv für Orientforschung*, IV, 3) gives 14 years; SDAS iii 10 assigns 37 years to Tukulti-Ninurta I, while the numbers in the Khors. and Nassouhi lists are not clear in this respect; SDAS iii 11 has *a-da-ri*, where Khors. List has *da-a-ri* (neither of which is clear); SDAS iii 39 reads clearly *Aš+šur-ēn-ka-la*, where the Khors. List has [. . . .k]a-bi, to be taken apparently as [DINGIR-kab-k]a-bi, owing to a scribal error.

Furthermore, the following new and important information concerning some points in the Assyrian king lists should be noted: With the help of SDAS i 38-ii 6 it is now possible to reconstruct fully the statement concerning Šamši-Adad I; according to SDAS iii 15, the father of Ninurta-apil-Ekur was Ili-ihadda (or Ili-ihadda) and not Nabû-dan, as thought previously; SDAS iv 24-27 gives two kings at the end of the list who are not covered in the Khors. List, namely, Tukulti-apil-Ešarra III with 18 years and

Šulmānu-ašarid V with 5 years. Unfortunately, the SDAS gives us no new information concerning the regnal years of the Assyrian kings who ruled before Šamši-Adad I and, what is even more disappointing, is destroyed in the crucial passages ii 34 f., where we would have been very happy to find the number of regnal years of Aššur-rabi I and Aššur-nādin-aḫḫē I.

Textual notes to the transliteration of the SDAS King List: i 20: The reading *nu?* in AD.MEŠ-šū-nu?-ni is reconstructed in accordance with the Khors. List; both the original and the photos of the SDAS List show only *u*.

ii 8: After MU.MEŠ there are traces of a horizontal wedge, probably erased.

iii 15: The reading DINGIR-i-ḫad-da was suggested by Professor Landsberger, who compares PAN-i-ḫad-da in II R 63 iv 10 = Tallqvist, *Assyrian Personal Names*, p. 16.

iii 15: The sign after *lib-lib* cannot be read with any assurance; what we expect is *lib-lib-bi ša*, as in the Khors. List.