

## THE ASSYRIAN CALENDAR.

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The Babylonian Year was divided into 12 months of 30 days each, with an intercalary month every 6 years. The night had originally been divided into 3 watches, but afterwards the more accurate division into hours came into use, the day and the night severally containing 6 *casbu* (or *asli* as the Assyrians called them). According to the lunar division, the 7th, 14th, 19th, 21st, and 28th, were days of "rest," on which certain works were forbidden; and the two lunations were divided each into three periods of 5

ASSYRIAN NAME.	JEWISH (Aramaic) NAME.	ENGLISH MONTH (roughly).
1. Ni'sannu	Ni'san	March
2. Airu	Iyyar	April
3. 'Sivanu or Tsivan	Sivan	May
4. Duzu	Tammuz	June
5. Abu	Ab	July
6. Ululu	Elul	August
7. Tasritu	Tisri	September
8. Arakh-samna ("the 8th month.")	Marchesvan	October
9. Cisilivu or Cuzallu	Chisleu	November
10. Dharbitu	Tebet	December
11. Sabahu	Sebat	January
12. Addaru	Adar	February
Arakh-makru ("the incidental month.")	Ve-Adar	*

days, the 19th ending the first period of the 2nd lunation. Each month was under the protection of some deity, and its Accadian name answers to the corresponding sign of the Zodiac. The Assyrians seem to have once possessed a calendar of their own, in which the months had native names, like the old Jewish Calendar with its Bul, Ethanin, etc. Thus the third month was called "The Royal," and another month *mukhur ili*, "The Gift of the Gods." But along with the Jews they afterwards adopted the Aramaic Calendar, which was based upon that of the Accadians; indeed, the names of the months in this Calendar, wherever they are explicable, seem to be derived from the Accadian titles of the months and Zodiacal signs. This Aramaic-Accadian Calendar began with Nisan.

ACCADIAN NAME.	ZODIACAL SIGN.	DEITY TO WHOM THE MONTH WAS DEDICATED.
<i>Sara zig-gar</i> ("the sacrifice of righteousness," or "of Bel.")	Aries (the most usual object of sacrifice.)	Anu and Bel
<i>Khar sidi</i> ("the propitious bull.")	Taurus	Hea
<i>Mun-ga</i> ("of bricks," & <i>Kas</i> ("the twins."))	Gemini	Sin (the moon-god.)
<i>Su kul-na</i> ("seizer of seed.")	Cancer	Adar
<i>Ab ab-gar</i> ("fire that makes fire.")	Leo	"The Queen of the spear" (Allat)
<i>Ki Gingir-na</i> ("the errand of Istar.")	Virgo	Istar
<i>Tul-cu</i> ("the holy altar.")	Libra	Samas (the sun-god.)
<i>Apin am-a</i> ("the bull-like founder.")?	Scorpio	Merodach
<i>Gan ganna</i> ("the very clondy.")	Sagittarius	Nergal
<i>Abba uddu</i> ("the father of light.")?	Capricornus	Papsucul
<i>As a-an</i> ("abundance of rain.")	Aquarius	Rimmon (the air-god.)
<i>Se ki-sil</i> ("sowing of seed.")	Pisces	"The 7 Great Gods"
<i>Se dir</i> ("dark [month] of sowing.")	*	Assur

# END OF SAMPLE TEXT



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