

INSCRIPTION OF AGU-KAK-RIMI.

AN EARLY BABYLONIAN KING.

TRANSLATED BYW. ST. CHAD BOSCAWEN.

THIS inscription, which is as yet unpublished, is found on a terra cotta tablet, marked 527 in the British Museum. It was brought by Mr. Smith from Assyria, in his last expedition, and a translation of it was given by him in his work on *Assyrian Discoveries*, 1875. The inscription is contained in eight columns,

but four of them only are of any general interest, the remaining ones are very much broken. I have given a translation of the text in the *Transactions of the Society of Biblical Archæology*, Vol. IV., Part i.



INSCRIPTION OF AGU-KAK-RIMI.

COLUMN I.

- 1 AGU-KAK-RIMI ¹
 2 Son of TASI-GURUMAS
 3 of the noble seed of
 4 SUGA-MUNA
 5 The glory of ANU and BEL
 6 of HEA and MARDUK
 7 of the Sun and Moon
 8 the powerful hero
 9 of ISHTAR, the archer
 10 of the goddesses, am I.

- 11 King of Kings
 12 King of the obedient
 13 Son of TASI-GURUMAS
 14 Grandson of ²
 15 ABI
 16 The warrior
 17 in
 18 the offspring of
 19 AGU-RAGAS
 20 of the noble and royal race
 21 of UMMAH-ZIRITI
 22 I am
 23 Shepherd
 24 of a vast people

¹ "The Moon makes our brilliance."

² Literally "Heart of Hearts."

- 25 warrior
 26 Prince
 27 establisher
 28 of the foundation of the throne of his fathers
 29 I am.
-

- 30 King of the Kassi¹
 31 and (of the) Accadi
 32 King of the vast land
 33 of Babylonia
 34 Colonizer
 35 of the land of As-nun-nak with a people
 36 vast, King of Padan
 37 and Alman. King of the Goim,²
 38 male and female³
 39 the King, the establisher
 40 of the four regions
 41 worshipper of the great gods
 42 Lo ! MARDUK
 43 prince of Bit-Saggal⁴
 44 (to) Babylon
 45 the great gods
 46 (with) their noble mouths
 47 his return ordered
 48 MARDUK to Babylon
 49 his face set
 50³ MARDUK³
 51³ never³

¹ The *Kassidim* of the Bible.

² The tribes of Northern Elam, the old home of the Accadi or Highlanders.

³ Lacunæ.

⁴ This temple was the acropolis of Babylon, its name means "House of the lofty head."

COLUMN II.

- 1¹ I glorified
 2 and to take MARDUK
 3 to Babylon
 4 his face I set and
 5 (in) the paths of MARDUK
 6 Lover of my life
 7 I walked and
-
- 8 SARU SAMAS, (an Officer)
 9 to the land² to the land of Khani³
 10 I sent. Him MARDUK
 11 and ZIRAT-BANIT³
 12 they had taken hold of, and
 13 MARDUK and ZIRAT-BANIT
 14 lovers of my life
 15 to Bit-Saggal
 16 and Babylon
 17 I restored them
 18 In the temple of the Sun⁴
 19 for the (division) of the future
 20 I placed.
- [One or two lines are gone.]
- 23 four talents
 24 for the robes
 25 of MARDUK and ZIRAT-BANIT
 26 I had given and
 27 a splendid dress

¹ Lacunæ.² A country to the North-west of Assyria. It is mentioned on an obelisk of Tiglath Pileser I.³ Succoth-benoth of the Bible.⁴ A famous Babylonian temple.

- 28 a dress of gold and (blue)
 29 for MARDUK and ZIRAT-BANIT
 30 I had clothed them¹

[Here follows a long list of names of precious stones, the translation of which being very uncertain is omitted.]

- 35 (precious stones) to the shrine of MARDUK
 36 and ZIRAT-BANIT
 37 I had given
 38 and (with) quantities of robes
 39 the great
 40 divinity
 41 I had adorned
 42 horned crowns²
 43 lofty crowns
 44 of Lordship
 45 and image of divinity

COLUMN VII.

- 1 MARDUK
 2 to his throne
 3 I caused to enter
 4 a band of
 5 sons of the people³
 6 them
 7 a grove a house field
 8 to MARDUK
 9 and ZIRAT-BANIT⁴
 10 I dedicated them.
 11 Of the King AGU
 12 may his days be long

¹ Lacuna.

² Compare the crowns which adorn the winged bulls, lions, etc.

³ A temple guard of chosen soldiers.

⁴ The Succoth-benoth of 2 Kings xvii. 29, 31.

- 13 may his years be extended
 14 his life in prosperity
 15 may he live
 16 The highest heaven
 17 wide
 18 may he behold it

[Lacuna of six lines.]

- 25 The god¹
 26 (existing)¹
 27 for ever¹
 28 may he exist
 29 may he exalt (him)
 30 to the lordly King
 31 AGU
 32 who the shrine of MARDUK
 33 has made (and)
 34 sons of the people
 35 has dedicated

-
- 36 ANU and ANUNITU²
 37 in heaven may they be favourable to him
 38 BEL and BILAT
 39 In the house¹ and land of life
 40 may they seat him
 41 HEA³
 42 and DAV-KINA⁴
 43 dwelling in the great deep
 44 a life of days

¹ Lacunæ.

² The highest heaven was the realm of Anu.

³ Hea was the lord of chaos or the great deep.

⁴ The goddess of the underworld, also called *Bau*, the Heb. גימל.

- 45 long
 46 may they grant him
 47 The goddess ZIRA, lady of the great land¹
 [The remainder is lost.]

COLUMN VIII.

- 1 Greatness
 2 may he complete
 3 SIN² illuminator of heaven
 4 the revolver the paternal King
 5 many days may
 6 he appoint him
 7 The Prince the Sun
 8 ruler of heaven³
 9 and earth,
 10 his reign
 11 for days extended
 12 may he establish
 13 HEA
 14 the old Lord
 15 wisdom⁴
 16 may he complete for him
 18 MARDUK lover of his life
 19 Lord of fountains
 20 his (fertility)
 21 may he complete for him.

¹ An unknown goddess.

² The Moon.

³ The Sun was also called *dayan nisi*, "Judge of Men."

⁴ Hea was called "the lord of wisdom." Compare "Descent of Ishtar," col. ii., *Records of the Past*, Vol. I.

END OF SAMPLE TEXT



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