

JAN BRAUN

(Warsaw)

An Unknown Inscription of Urlumma, King of Umma

On June 11, 1960, the Iraq Museum in Baghdad purchased a silver tablet with a cuneiform inscription in Sumerian. The tablet had been found at Umm al-Aqarib, near Yokha (ancient Umma). It certainly belongs to the category of foundation tablets.

One side of the tablet is convex, while the other is flat. Only the convex side is inscribed. Dimensions of the tablet: length 6.6 cm., width 4.6 cm., thickness 0.5 cm.

The tablet has been entered in the inventory book of the Iraq Museum under No. 62510.

The Directorate General of Antiquities of the Republic of Iraq has kindly given me the permission to publish its text.

To the left is a photograph of the tablet and below the transliteration and the translation of its text.

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | ^d n a g a r - p a - e ₃
u r - ^d l u m - m a
l u g a l u m m a
d u m u e n - a ₂ - k a l - l e | “For Nagarpae,
Urlumma,
king of Umma,
son of Enakale,
king of Umma,
built (his) temple.” |
| 5. | l u g a l u m m a
e ₂ - n i e - n a - d u ₃ | |

Comments

1. The god Nagarpae (= “Splendid Carpenter”) belonged, in principle, to the local pantheon of the Sumerian city of Umma. He was worshipped there until the period of the Third Dynasty of Ur (cf. G. G. Hackman, *Temple Documents of the Third Dynasty of Ur from Umma*. New Haven 1937, No. 277, 27). The theo-

phoric personal name Urnagar (= "Servant of Nagar"), occurring in the texts from Umma from the Sargonic period (cf. G. G. Hackman, *Sumerian and Akkadian Administrative Texts from Predynastic Times to the End of the Akkad Dynasty*, New Haven 1958, No. 251, 4), was certainly also connected with the worship of that god.

2. Urlumma, ruler of the Sumerian city-state of Umma, contemporaneous with Enanatum and Entemena of Lagash. Reigned in the sixth and seventh decades of the 25th century B.C.

3. The lection UB = umma for old Sumerian inscriptions from the territory of the city-state of Umma was suggested by E. Sollberger, *Or NS 28* (1958), p. 336 with fn 3.

The closest analogy to the text published above is borne by the foundation inscription of king Urlumma on a tablet made of lapis lazuli (Louvre, AO 22246), see *Collection de Clercq*, Vol. II, Paris 1903, pl. X, No. 6.