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A JOIN TO THE HITTITE MITA TEXT

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The tablet published by A. Götze in 1929 as KUB 23 72 and thereafter known in Hittitological literature as the Mita text enjoys considerable importance because of the question of its date of composition.¹ Most Hittitologists who have expressed their opinions in print hold that it belongs in the 15th or early 14th century (Middle Hittite). A. Kammenhuber of Munich contests this early dating and follows the opinion of the first scholars to treat this and closely related texts,² placing it toward the end of the 13th century. KUB 23 72 was translated in its entirety in 1948 by O. R. Gurney, who also added comments of a philological and historical nature.³ H. Klengel published a small fragment in 1968 (KUB 40 10), which fits into a small lacuna on the reverse at the level of lines 36-39 and adds nothing unexpected there. No duplicate of this text has yet been identified.

Since it is through the kind permission of Prof. H. Otten of Marburg that I first gained access to a transliteration of the unpublished fragment 1684/u and make its contents known here with his assent, I should like to dedicate this brief note to him. 1684/u, which joins KUB 23 72 directly at lines 35-45 of the obverse, was recovered during the 1962 season from the dumps of the Winckler-Macridi excavations to the east of the Big Temple in the area marked on the excavation map as L/19.⁴ In all probability, therefore, KUB 23 72++ was originally excavated by Winckler from the Big Temple. The Madduwatta text (KUB 14 1 + KBo19 38) likewise came from this area, as H. Otten noted in 1969.⁵ And a fragment of annals of a king Tudḫaliya (CTH 142.3) which may belong to the Middle Hittite corpus was found in L/18 ('House on the Slope').

The transliteration which follows (of obv. 34-45) shows how the new piece fits in with the text of KUB 23 72.

1. Cf. H. Otten and V. Souček, *StBoT* 8 (1969) and 11 (1969); O. Carruba, *Die Sprache* 12 (1966) 79ff., *ZDMG Suppl.* 1/1 (1969) 226ff.; E. Neu, *IF* 73 (1968) 169ff.; Ph. Houwink ten Cate, *Records of the Early Hittite Empire* (1970); A. Kammenhuber, *Zeitschrift für vergleichende Sprachforschung* 83 (1969) 256ff., *MSS* 28 (1970) 51ff.; H. A. Hoffner, *JNES* 31 (1972) 29-35. E. Laroche in his new *Catalogue des textes hittites* (1971) 19, has declared his uncertainty over the dating of these texts. J. D. Muhly, *Historia* 23 (1971) 139ff., has supported Kammenhuber's position.

2. E. Forrer, *Caucasica* 9 (1931) 7 and 20; A. Götze in *RLA* 1 153 s.v. *Arnuwandaš IV*; A. H. Sayce, *RHA* 1 (1930) 5-8.

3. *Liverpool Annals of Archeology* 28 (1948) 32ff.

4. According to information kindly supplied to me by Prof. H. G. Güterbock, who also generously gave me access to his photo of 1684/u.

5. *StBoT* 11 (1969) 7.

1684/u+KUB 23 72

34. [. . . -]ša-ri nu-za-kán URU-ri ša-ra-a a-pu-u-un tar-na-i nu ka-a-ša
 35. [. . .]ú²-ša ka-a-ša ^dUTU-ŠI li-in-ga-nu-nu-un nu a-áp-pa I-NA
 URU.Pa-aḥ-ḥu-wa
 36. [. . . i]š ^mPi-ig-ga-na-a-aš nu ^mMi-i-ta-aš me-ek-ki ku-it wa-aš-ta-aš-
 ki-it
 37. [. . .]i-da-a-lu-uš an-tu-wa-aḥ-ḥa-aš NI-IŠ DINGIR-LIM-kán a-pa-
 a-aš-ša šar-ra-aš-ki-it
 38. [. . .]IR.MEŠ ^dUTU-ŠI za-aḥ-ḥi-ia-at nu-za-kán A-BU-ŠU ŠUM-an
 ḥal-za-iš nam-ma-aš-za
 39. [. . .]ŠA ^dUTU-ŠI ku-i-uš URU.DIDLI.ḪIA ^mMi-i-ta-aš a-pa-a-aš-
 ša ḥar-kán-zi URU.Ḫal-mi-iš-na-an ku-i-uš
 40. [. . . URU.DIDLI.ḪIA] ^mḪa-aš-ša-a-na-aš ku-iš⁶ ḥar-ta nu-wa-ra-aš
 LÚ.IŠ e-eš-ta ú-ga-wa-az Ú-UL im-ma LÚ-aš nu-wa-ra-aš
 Ú-UL pé-eh-ḥi
 41. [. . .]DAM.MEŠ-ŠU-NU DUMU.MEŠ-ŠU-NU
 DUMU.DUMU.MEŠ-ŠU-NU SAG.GEMÉ.IR.MEŠ-ŠU-
 NU GUD.ḪIA-ŠU-NU UDU.ḪIA-ŠU-NU QA-DU MI-
 IM-MI-ŠU-NU ar-nu-ut-ten
 42. [. . .]-an ma-ši-wa-an-ta-an le-e ap-te-ni É ^mKa-li-mu-na-ia QA-DU
 DAM-ŠU DUMU.MEŠ-ŠU GUD.ḪIA-ŠU UDU.ḪIA-
 ŠU
 43. [. . . pí-i]š-ten ŠA ^dUTU-ŠI-ia A-NA GIŠ.TUKUL ku-i-e-eš pí-ra-an
 ar-ḥa iš-pár-te-er LÚ.MEŠ URU.A-ar-ḥi-i-ta
 44. [. . .] ku-iš šu-ma-a-aš A-NA LÚ.MEŠ URU.Pa-aḥ-ḥu-wa an-da ú-
 wa-an-za na-an ḥu-u-ma-an-ta-an an-da
 45. [. . . -ŠU-N]U DUMU.MEŠ[-ŠU-NU . . .]x šu-me-en-za-an-kán
 URU-ri ku-e-da-ni-ik-ki EGIR-an

The furthest extension of 1684/u toward the original lefthand edge of the obverse is approximately the same as obverse line 1 of KUB 23 72. At these two points there remains missing a bit less than one third of the total original width of the tablet.⁷

Obv. 42 is to be restored: [. . . SÍG.ma-iš-ta-]an ma-ši-wa-an-ta-an, based upon rev. 8 and 15 and KBo 16 47 8'. The two occurrences of the word in KUB 23 72 (rev. 8 and 15) show that the determinative is truly SÍG 'wool' and not SIG₇ '10,000,' as Otten thought in the KBo 16 47 8' occurrence, which he did not notice was the same word as in KUB 23 72 rev. 8.⁸ E Laroche⁹ was right to connect this word with the Luwian passive participle

6. The photo shows a sign impressed over an erased sign. Preferable reading *iš*, although *it* is perhaps not quite excluded.

7. Cf. Götze's remark on published hand copy of KUB 23 72 obv.

8. H. Otten, *Istanbuler Mitteilungen* 17 (1967) 56 and 57 with note 8.

9. *Dictionnaire de la langue louvite* (1959) 70.

maštaimi-, although the forms written with BA (*baštaimi-*) which he cites may have to be kept apart, as they do not clearly modify garments or textiles. From the occurrences now known for SĠG.*maišta-* it would appear that it denotes a strand of yarn. In the Mita passage: É *Ḫa-aš-ša-a-na* É ^m[*Ka-li-m*]u-na *ar-nu-an-zi nu ḫ[u-u-ma-an pa-ra-]q pi-an-zi a-ap-pa* SĠG.*ma-iš-ta-qn ma-ši-wa-an-ta-an Ū-UL a[p-pa-an-zi]* (rev. 7-8) it may be translated "they bring (to His Majesty) the estates of Ḫaššana and [Kalim]una ... and hand [over] e[verything]; [they] h[old] back not so much as a strand of yarn." The yarn strand is an item of nugatory value, similar to the use of *ezzan tarú* in the Telepinu Proclamation and the Ḫattušili III apology¹⁰ and Hebrew *ḥuṭ* 'thread, yarn strand' in Genesis 14:23. In KBo 16 47 8' the passage, which reads: [*ma-*]a-an SĠG.*ma-iš-ta-an-na ma-ši-wa-an-ta-an wa-aš-ta-an-zi*, should be translated: "[I]f they sin even (enclitic -a) with respect to so much as a strand of yarn." The use of this figure, which appears only in these two texts, would appear to belong to the Middle Hittite idiom which fell into disuse in the empire period.

The name ^mPigganā in obv. 36 occurs again in rev. 34: ^mPi-ig[-ga-na-a-aš]. The name formation is very similar to ^mḪukkanā, also borne by a man residing in this zone during the early 14th century,¹¹ and to ^mḪaššana, whose name occurs in obv. 40 and rev. 7 (in the latter place without the personal name wedge). In addition ^mḪaššana occurs in another Middle Hittite text (KUB 31 103 8') which also mentions the 'men of the city Paḫ[ḫuwa]' (KUB 31 103 edge line 1).¹²

Other points of less immediate importance will be left for the more detailed treatment, which this enlarged text now so clearly deserves.

10. H. Hoffner, *Alimenta Hethaeorum* (1974) 33; M. Tsevat, *JBL* 87 (1968) 460.

11. J. Friedrich, *Staatsverträge des Hatti-Reiches*, 2 (1930) 103ff.

12. H. G. Güterbock in Ph. Houwink ten Cate, *Records of the Early Hittite Empire* (1970) 4 with note 14, and on pages 46ff. often cited as Cat. 178.10.