PROPHETS AND PROPHECY IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST

SECOND EDITION

by

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with contributions by

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9
Luwian Stela

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143. Til Barsip Stela

Text: Tell Ahmar 6.
Transliteration and translation: Hawkins 2006.
Discussion: Rieken 2004, 462–64; Payne 2012, 91–94; Poetto 2014, 795–96; Weippert 2014, 235; Nissinen 2017, 106–7, 210–11.

The stela bearing the Hieroglyphic Luwian text was found in June 1999 in the Euphrates River a few miles downstream from Tell Ahmar (see Bunnens 2006, 1–9). It is one of several stelae with Luwian inscriptions erected by Hamiyata and dates to the late tenth or early ninth century BCE (see for the historical context Hawkins 2000, 224–6). The *editio princeps* was made by Hawkins 2006, 11–31. The following translation is my own, incorporating some, but not all, previous suggestions. A number of clauses remain unclear due to problems with the readings of the signs or the formal and semantic analysis of individual words. Questionable interpretations are indicated by italics. Suspension dots represent words of unknown meaning.

Luwian /massana:ma/i-/ "one who belongs to a god" in §22 (for which see Melchert 2014, 9) is functionally equivalent to Hittite *šiuniyant-* "ecstatic," likewise from *"one pertaining to a god" (see *CHD* Š:506–7), a divinely inspired person through whom the gods express their will to humans. While the word is written in TELL AHMAR 6 as DEUS-*na-mi-i-sa*, in the similar TELL AHMAR 5 §11 (see Hawkins 2000, 232–33 and pl. 96) it is represented by CORNU+CAPUT-*mi-i-sa*, a human head with horns (or a horned cap), presumably indicating the appearance of at least some such persons.

1 §1 EGO-*wa/i-mi* ^{l}*ha-mi-ia-ta-sa* | IUDEX-*ní-sa* | *ma-su-wa/i-+ra/i-za-*<*sa*>(URBS) | REX-*ti-i-sa* (DEUS)TONITRUS-*si* SERVUS-ta_4/i_4-*i-sa*

§2 *wa/i-mu-***a* | *á-ia-ta/i5-na* | INFANS(-)*ní-**282-*wa/i-ra+a* CAELUM (DEUS)TONITRUS-*sa* (DEUS)*ia-*[ ] (DEUS)BONUS (DEUS) LUNA-*sa* | *á-ta-na* | (PES_2)*tara/i-za-mi-i-sa* (DEUS)SOL-*sa* (DEUS) CERVUS-*sa* ||

2 (DEUS)*kar-hu-ha-sa* (DEUS)*ku-*+AVIS (DEUS)*hi-pu-tà-sa* | EXERCITUS-*la/i/u-na-si-ha* (DEUS)*sà-*US-*ka-sa* (DEUS) FORTIS-*sa* (DEUS)*SARMA-sa* | "CAELUM"-*ti-sa* | "TERRA"-REL-+*ra/i-ti-sa-ha* (DEUS)AVIS-*ti-zi* (DEUS)*30-*tà-ti-zi a-tá* | *ta-sa*$^{?}$*-mi-zi* DEUS-*ní-zi* | (LITUUS)*á-za-ta*

3 §3 *wa/i-mu-***a* | *á-ma-za* | *tá-ti-ia-za* | "LIGNUM"-*la-ha-za* || | *pi-ya-ta*

§4 *a-wa/i* | *ku-ma-na mi-i-sa-***a* | *tá-ti-sa* | *ha-*IUDEX<+*ra/i*>$^{?}$*i-sa sa-tá-***a*

§5 | *mu-pa-wa/i-***a mi-i-*[*zí*]-**a* | *tá-ti-zi ta/i4-ní-zi-***a* (DEUS.ORIENS)*ki-sà-ta-ma-si-zi* (DEUS.ORIENS)*ki-sà-ta-ma-ti* | *ARHA* | "DELERE"*nú-*[*sà*]-*ha*

§6 [ ]-*wa/i* | (OCCIDENS)*i-pa-ma-si-zi* | *ARHA* | DELERE-*nu-sà-ha mi-ya-ti-***a* | (DOMINUS)*na-ní-ia-ti* | *314-*sa-ta-na-ti*

4 §7 | PRAE-*pa-wa/i*||-*mu* | *za-a-sa* | EXERCITUS-*la/i/u-na-si-sa* (DEUS) TONITRUS-*sa* | *hu-ha-sà-ta-si*

§8 | REL-*ia-pa-wa/i mi-i-sa-***a* | *tá-ti-sa* | *ARHA* (MORI)*wa/i-la-tá*

§9 | [*za-a-zi*]-*pa-wa/i-mu* DEUS-*ní-zi* | (MANUS)*su-hi-tà* | (LITUUS) *á-za-ta*

§10 *a-wa/i mi-ia-za-***a* | *tá-ti-ia-za* | *á-ta/i5-ma-za* | NEG_2-' | INFRA-*ta* LITUUS$^{?}$+*na*$^{?}$*-tà*$^{?}$

§11 | SUPER+*ra/i-a-ha-wa/i* | *na*$^{?}$*-ní-tà*

§12 DEUS-*na-za-pa-wa/i* | VIA-*wa/i-na* | (LITUUS)*tara/i-wa/i-i-ha*

5 §13 *wa/i-ma-za-ta-***a* | (MANUS)*su-za* |(*314)*ha-zi-wa/i-sà* PONERE-*wa/i*||-*ha*

§14 | CAPUT-*ti-pa-wa/i* | INFANS-*ní-i* | COR-*tara/i-na* | BONUS-*li-ia-nu-wa/i-ha* | ("CAPUT")*ha+ra/i-ma-hi-na*

§15 | *187-*wa/i-sa-pa-wa/i-ta* | 1-*ta-ti-i* | (PES_2)*tara/i-zi-ha*

§16 | FINES-*hi-zi-pa-wa/i* | *za-la-na* | PONERE-*wa/i-ha*

§17 | *za-a-sa-pa-wa/i-mu* | EXERCITUS-*la/i/u-na-si-i-sa* (DEUS) TONITRUS-*sa* | (LITUUS)*á-za-ta*

§18 *wa/i-ma-sa-***a* | LITUUS$^{?}$+*na*$^{?}$*-hi-i-tà* | VIA(-)*hu-sa-la-hi-tà-ha wa/i+ra/i-li-ta*

§19 *wa/i-ma-sa-***a* | PRAE-*na* | *hu-ha-sà-ta-si*

§20 *a-wa/i* | FINES-*hi-zi* | ("COR")*la-tara/i-ha*

6 §21 *ta/i4-ni-zi-pa-wa/i-mi-i-** | *ARHA* | ("DELERE")*mara/i-nu-wa/i-ha*

§22 *wa/i-mu-*a* DEUS-*na-mi-i-sa* | *á-sa5-za-ta*
§23 | EXERCITUS-*la/i/u-na-si-i-wa/i* (DEUS)TONITRUS-*na* | (SOLIUM) *i-sà-nu-wa/i*
§24 |*a-wa/i*| REL-*a-ti-i*|(ANNUS)*u-si-i*| FLUMEN*427.*311-*pa*-x|(PES_2) *i-ha* (DEUS)TONITRUS-*sa-ti* | (*314)*ha-sa-ta-na-ti-i* 5xCENTUM(-) *ta-na-ti* | ("SCALA+PES+ROTA")*za-la-la-ti-i* | *179.*347.5(-)*ia-ma-ti*
7 | *187(-)REL-*ta-na-ti-i-ha-wa/i* || EXERCITUS-*la/i/u-na-ti-i*
§25 | *ARHA-pa-wa/i* | REL-*i* |PES-*wa/i-i-ha*
§26 *a-wa/i* | *za-a-na* | EXERCITUS-*la/i/u-na-si-na* (DEUS)TONITRUS-*na pa-ti-i-*a* | (ANNUS)*u-si-i* | (SOLIUM)*i-sà-nu-wa/i-ha*
§27 *a-wa/i* | REL-*ia* | *527(-)*na-ta-ti-i* | (CURRUS)*wa/i+ra/i-za-ní-i-sa* | (SA_4)*sá-za-i*
§28 | *za-a-ti-pa-wa/i* EXERCITUS-*la/i/u-na-sa-na* (DEUS)TONITRUS-*ti-i* | 9-*u-za* | *pi-pi-sa-wa/i*
§29 [1]*ha-mi-ia-ta-sa-pa-wa/i-ta* | *á-ta/i5-ma-za* | REL-*i-sa* | *ARHA* | "MALLEUS"(-)AVIS-*la-i*||
8 §30 | NEG_2-*a-pa-wa/i* [1]*ha-mi-ia-ta-sa-na* | NEPOS-*sa-ta-ní-i* | REL-*i-sa* | MALUS-*wa/i-za-'* | POST-*ni a-tá* | (COR.ANIMAL)*za+ra/i-ti-ti-i*
§31 *pa-ti-pa-wa/i-*a* | *za-sa* | EXERCITUS-*la/i/u-na-si-i-sa* (DEUS) TONITRUS-*sa* LEO(ANIMAL)-*wa/i-sa* | *i-zi-ia-ru*
§32 *a-wa/i pa-si-na-*a* | (CAPUT)*ha+ra/i-ma-hi-na* FEMINA-*ti-i-na* | INFANS-*ni-na* | INFRA-*ta* | (BIBERE)*pa-sà-tú*
§33 *wa/i-tú-ta-*a* LOCUS-*ta/i4-wa/i-za* | NEG_3-*sa* CUM *u-sa-la-li-ti*
§34 | *á-na*(REGIO)-*i-ta-pa-wa/i* NEG_3-*sa-a-pa* | (PES_2)*i-ti* | *za-a-na* (DEUS)TONITRUS-*na* [1]*ha-mi-ya-ta-si-i-na* | *wa/i+ra/i-*273-na*

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§1 I am the ruler Hamiyata, king of Masuwari, servant of the Storm God.
§2 The Storm God of Heaven, Ea, the Grain God, the Moon God, the (favorably) inclined Sun God, Runtiya, Karhuha, Kubaba, Hebat, and Šauška of the Army, Teššub, Šarruma, Heaven and Earth, the … gods, the … gods, the … gods held me in regard *as an equal (even) in childhood.*
§3 They gave to me my father's rule,
§4 and while my father was in health,
§5 I myself destroyed my father's enemies, those of the east toward the east,
§6 [while] those of the west I destroyed with my lord's support.
§7 This Storm God of the Army ran before me.
§8 When my father died,
§9 these gods favored me in full.
§10 They did not … down my father's name,

§11 they even … it up.
§12 To the gods I *yielded* the way
§13 and established for them a full ritual.
§14 For man (and) boy I exalted (their) person(s) *as chiefs*.
§15 I turned at once into (a person) of *distinction*.
§16 I put the frontiers …
§17 This Storm God of the Army held me in regard,
§18 and he *became my own* in …ness and …ness.
§19 He ran before me,
§20 and I extended the frontiers,
§21 while I destroyed my enemies.
§22 The one belonging to a god said to me:
§23 "Erect the Storm God of the Army!"
§24 And in the year in which I went to … with the support of the Storm God with five hundred … vehicles and with the … army,
§25 —when I came away—
§26 in that year I erected this Storm God of the Army.
§27 And whenever the chariot …es with…,
§28 I give *a ninth*.
§29 But whoever erases Hamiyata's name,
§30 or whoever desires evil for Hamiyata's progeny,
§31 for him may this Storm God of the Army become a lion,
§32 and may he gulp down his head, wife, (and) child!
§33 Let him not … a *space* for him,
§34 and let him (the perpetrator) not go to the land Anaita to … this Storm God of Hamiyata!