§ III The Nineveh Manuscripts of Chapter Three (IGI 3)

TITLE IF A MAN'S EYES ARE TROUBLED

šumma(DIŠ) amēlu(NA) īnāšu(IGI.MEŠ-šú) dalhā(LÙ.LÙ)

= Assur Medical Catalogue 1. 9.

Sigla notations:

N = Nineveh, Neo-Assyrian. A, B, C, ... designate the different manuscripts. Translation in italics are tentative reconstructions based on parallels.

Base Manuscript: NE (BAM 516), collated.

Museum number: British Museum, K 2533 + 2545 + 2575 + 3320 + 5906 + 8110 + 13439

+ 13719 + 14786 + 16424 + Sm 970A (+) K 4120 [top left col. i].

Origin and date: Nineveh, 7th century BC.

Type of tablet: Two-column, portrait-oriented tablet. The two vertical dividing rul-

ings of the tablet were done with an instrument, presumably with

the stylus. There are round holes visible at empty spaces.

Measurements: ca. $25 \times 16,4 \times 2,6$ cm (lower edge).

Copy: BAM 516.

Photo/CDLI nr.: Plates 27-31/P432416.

Literature: Köcher 1980b: xii-xiii, BAM 516; Fincke 2000: 331; Scurlock and An-

dersen 2005: 793; Scurlock 2006: nos. 121-125, 128; Fincke 2009;

Geller 2010a: 193; Scurlock 2014: 756; Attia 2015.

§ III.1 Related Manuscripts containing IGI 1 and 2 from Nineveh

The texts included represent parallels and partial parallels from the other tablets of the IGI treatise.

Manuscript: **NA** (BAM 510), see § **I.1**, parallels: 1.

Manuscript: **NC** (BAM 514), see § **I.1**, parallels: 1.

Manuscript: **ND** (BAM 515), see § II.1, parallels: 1.

§ III.2 Related other Manuscripts from Nineveh

The texts included represent parallels and partial parallels which are considered important for the compilation of the IGI-treatise. They come from other tablets and fragments from Nineveh containing prescriptions for sick eyes or from the UGU-treatise.

Manuscript: NI (BAM 480), see § V.1, parallels: 54'.

Manuscript: **NF** (BAM 520), see § **IV.1**, parallels: 2ff.

Manuscript: **NS** (AMT 18/4), see § **IV.6**, parallels: 49f.'.

§ III.3 Related Manuscripts from Different Cities

The texts included here represent parallels and partial parallels which are considered important for the compilation of the IGI-treatise. These are manuscripts coming from other periods and from cities other than Nineveh.

Sigla notations:

A = Assur, Late Assyrian. A, B, C, ... designate the different manuscripts.

Am = Assur, Middle Assyrian. A, B, C, ... designate the different manuscripts.

Bo = Boğazköy, Hattuša, Hittite period. A, B, C, ... designate the different manuscripts.

x = unknown provenance, Late Babylonian. A, B, C, ... designate the different manuscripts.

Initial capital letters designate tablets in Assyrian script or northern scripts, and small letters tablets in Babylonian script.

Parenthesis [0] on a siglum designate a parallel text and not a duplicate.

Hattuša

Manuscript: **BoB** (**KUB 37/2**), photo collated, parallels: 81f.', 89'.

Origin and date: Boğazköy, Hattuša. Hittite period.

Type of tablet: Too fragmentary to judge.

Copy: KUB 37/2.

Photo: Mainzer Photoarchiv, http://www.hethport.uni-wuerzburg.de

/HPM/index.html, CTH 890.

Literature: Stol 1986: 297; Schwemer 1998: 17 fn. 56 (Paläeographie); Fincke

2000: 333; Arnott 2002: 43; Schwemer 2005/6: 224 fn. 43; Schwemer

2013: 156. Abusch et al. 2016: 10.

Manuscript: **BoC (KUB 4/55)**, ph. collated, parallels: 81f.', 89'.

Museum number: Istanbul, Bo 5726.

Origin and date: Boğazköy, Hattuša. Hittite period.

Type of tablet: Too fragmentary to judge.

Copy: KUB 4/55.

Photo: Mainzer Photoarchiv, http://www.hethport.uni-wuerzburg.de

/HPM/index.html, CTH 890.

Literature: Schwemer 2013: 156; Abusch et al. 2016: 10.

Assyrian

Manuscript: **AmB (BAM 25),** collated, parallels: 75ff.', 81f.' Museum number: Vorderasiatisches Museum, Berlin, VAT 16464.

Origin and date: Assur, Middle Assyrian.

Type of tablet: Fragment of a presumably multi-column tablet. BAM 25 seems to

be an indirect join to BAM 13 and 17. The paleography of all fragments suggest Middle- or Early Neo-Assyrian dating rather than

Late Assyrian.

Measurements: $3,6 \times 3 \times 1,2$ cm.

Copy: BAM 25. CDLI nr.: P285127.

Literatur: Köcher 1963a: xvi, BAM 25; Stol 1986: 297; Scurlock and Andersen

2005: 784; Attia 2015: 76f.

Manuscript: **AH (BAM 209)**, collated, parallels: 9ff.

Museum number: Vorderasiatisches Museum, Berlin, VAT 13756 + 13771 (+) 14162

Origin and date: Assur, Late Assyrian.

Type of tablet: One-column, portrait oriented tablet. Measurements: $ca. 16 \times 8,5 \times 2,3$ (towards the middle) cm.

Copy: BAM 209. CDLI nr.: P285298.

Literature: Köcher 1964: xii, BAM 209; Fincke 2000: 329; Scurlock and Ander-

sen 2005: 188, 788; Scurlock 2006: 95 fn. 171, no. 126, Attia 2015: 72,

80.

Babylonian

Manuscript: **uA (SpTU 50)**, see § **I.4**, parallels: 1,

Manuscript: **xA (CM 37)**, see **§ I.4**, parallels: 1.

Manuscript: **xB (BM 40737)**, collated, parallels: 37ff.'.

Museum number: British Museum, BM 40737.

Origin and date: According to Fincke 2009: 84, 93, the tablet's provenance is un-

known. But, according to the British Museum Collection online, the

tablet comes from Jimjima (Babylon). Late Babylonian.

Type of tablet: Too fragmentary to judge.

Measurements: $6,4 \times 3,7 \times 0,23$ cm. Copy: Fincke 2009: 94. Photo: Fincke 2009: 104. Literature: Fincke 2009.

§ III.4 Synopsis of the Prescriptions of Chapter Three (IGI 3)

- 1 Prescription for troubled eyes: preparation of medication with honey in oil.
- **2ff.** Prescription against flash of light and ghost afflictions: magnetite, minerals, stones, copper, and plants crushed and spattered into the eyes; salve from kidney of black ox in fat, daubing: prognosis for recovery.
- **7f.** Prescription, presumably for the same case as the previous: seeds of plants and trees used for fumigation of the eyes and temples.
- **9ff.** Prescription against ghost affliction and light phenomena, behavior like a goat: plants, resin ...
- **14ff.** Too broken.
- **24ff.'** Broken incantations: the second one concerns cloudy and blurred eyes.
- **27ff.'** Medical application with plants and activities on the roof during the night; collecting drugs in the morning; application onto the eyes; rinsing the eyes with the sap of a *kasû*-plant.
- Eye salve against ghost affliction: stones, minerals and plants in water; maceration overnight; mixed in sesame oil and smeared onto the eyes; also, dissolved in beer and consumed; additionally, the drugs were put in a leather bag around the neck of the patient: prognosis for recovery.
- **36'** The previous prescription has to be applied on the 21st day.
- **37'** Prescription for the same case: smearing the eyes with minerals.
- Prescription for the same case: pounded black frit in ghee smearing the eyes; pounded lapis lazuli in ghee smearing the eyes.
- **39'** Prescription for the same case: pounded sardonyx in ghee and smearing the eyes; pounded *šimbizidû*-galena in the milk from a woman in maternity, smearing the eyes.
- Prescription for the same case: pounded obsidian in ghoose fat and smearing the eyes: prognosis for recovery.
- 41ff.' Prescription against ghost affliction: plants, magnetite, stones, old partridge fat, wax; these 11 drugs are mixture against 'Hand of the Ghost' applied by daubing onto the eyes: prognosis for recovery.
- **44f.'** Too fragmentary.
- **46ff.'** No diagnosis (but presumably same as the previous): mixture of marrow from a sheep's bone, black cumin, pomegranate; ingredients pounded in honey, ghee and cedar oil, probably with daubing.

- **49f.'** Prescription for a man who cannot see and has heat stroke: bat guano, white plant, saline solution in mountain honey and ghee, daubing the eyes.
- Prescriptions for diminished eyesight: pounded black snake fat, plants, resins, saline solution, black cumin in copper patina and mountain honey; daubing; washing the eyes with a *plant sap*; daubing and application with a lead spoon (or salve).
- **55f.'** Fragmentary prescription: bandaging with plants.
- **57ff.'** Fragmentary prescription: bandaging and daubing: prognosis for recovery.
- **62ff.'** Fragmentary prescription: Hands of Šulpaea and Ištar, presumably fumigation over charcoal, daubing: prognosis for recovery.
- Fragmentary prescription, vision problems caused by Hand of Ištar, pounded ingredient(s) in honey and ghee, daubing: prognosis for recovery.
- Prescription for eye 'perforation' (*šīlu*), sleepless state and abnormal condition: mixture of fat from black snake in ghee and mountain honey, daubing.
- **70ff.'** Prescriptions for lengthened eye 'perforation' (*šīlu*), the patient cannot get out of bed: heated up leaves of different trees in water and in a tannour-oven; crushing and sifting gazelle droppings, ox dung, flour of roasted grain, and knead (everything) in the sap of a *kasû*-plant; bandaging. In addition, drinking of *aktam*-plant in beer: prognosis for recovery.
- 73 Definition of *Sîn-lurmâ* as day blindness.
- 74 Definition of *Sîn-lurmâ* as night blindness.
- **75ff.'** Prescription for day/night blindness: parts of donkey liver and neck tendons twisted into a string and placed on the neck of the person. Ritual/medical application in the morning with holy water vessel and cloth, fumigation with juniper in an incense burner. Colloborative ritual/medical application action by the physician $(as\hat{u})$, the exorcist $(ma\check{s}ma\check{s}u)$ and the patient. The $ma\check{s}ma\check{s}u$ and the patient utter short spells.
- **81ff.'** Prescription for day/night blindness: incisions in the 'pole' of a liver: The physician $(as\hat{u})$ gathers apprentice exorcists $(ma\check{s}ma\check{s}u)$ giving them instruction; mixture of ghee and first class sesame oil, daubing.
- 84' There was presumably a medical application with the above prescription.
- **85f.'** Incantation addressing Ea.
- **87f.'** Medical application accompanying the previous incantation involving eating of the lobe of the lung.
- **89ff.'** Prescription presumably for day/night blindness: incision of the 'pole' of a liver, involvement of the lips: prognosis for recovery. Rest too fragmentary.
- **93ff.'** Instruction for making a salve with a lead spoon: pounded plants, different sulphurs, bitumen, ox kidney fat (mixed) into lead, daubing with finger. The prescription is labelled as a tested and a checked healing ointment from the *ummânu*.

The following lines contain no prescriptions but enumerations of drugs and memos for remedies.

- **97f.'** Enumeration of nine plant drugs and wax as a mixture for the eyes.
- **99ff.'** Enumeration of nine plant-based drugs and instruction for making a softening ointment: boiling of drugs over charcoal, pounding and mixing them in oil and white wax.
- **102f.'** Enumeration of seven plant-based drugs and instruction for making a mixture for the eyes: roasting the drugs, pounding them in fat, wax and ghee, daubing.
- **104f.'** Enumeration of minerals, stones, plants, sulphur, ox fat, lead, 'lead spoon' (salve), designated as belonging to the physician $(as\hat{u})$.
- **106ff.'** Further fragmentary enumeration of drugs.