

STUDIA MEDITERRANEA

Piero Meriggi dicata

editit
Onofrio Carruba

PAVIA – 1979

I N D I C E

I

Pubblicazioni di Piero Meriggi (dal 1969)	1
Stylios ALEXIOU — Nouvelle identification del villes crètoises . . .	5
Sedat ALP — Das hethitische Wort für "Palast"	17
Alfonso ARCHI — Auguri per il Labarna	27
R. D. BARNETT — The god on wheels, or, the seal of Shema ⁴	53
William C. BRICE — The pictographic tablets from Jemdet Nasr . . .	65
Onofrio CARRUBA — Commento alle nuove iscrizioni di Licia	75
John CHADWICK — La grande tavoletta di Pilo relativa all'oro	97
Karlheinz DELLER — Claudio SAPORETTI — Marv 8 e il tasso d'inte- resse nell'epoca medioassira	105
Giuseppe F. del MONTE — Il mitologema di Katahziwuri	109
Mario DORIA — Riflessioni sulla cronologia relativa di alcuni muta- menti fonetici del greco premiceneo	121
Sargon ERDEM — Le strisce di piombo di Kululu	143
Massimo FORLANINI — Appunti di geografia etea	165
Carlo GALLAVOTTI — myc. <i>do-de</i> , gr. δῶ in Esiodo, e un'iscri- zione achea del sesto secolo	187
Vladimir I. GEORGIEV — Rhadamanthys, Sarpedon und Minos	199
Louis GODART — Une battue dans la jungle des idéogrammes	205
Cyrus H. GORDON — Ebla and the Minoan problem	209
Oliver R. GURNEY — The anointing of Tudhaliya	213
Roberto GUSMANI — Su due termini della trilingue di Xanthos	225
Hans G. GÜTERBOCK — Hieroglyphische Miscellen	235

Alfred HEUBECK – Lyk. $\chi\tilde{n}tawata$	247
Harry A. HOFFNER – The Hittite word for "Tribe".	261
Philo H. J. HOUWINK ten CATE – The Mashuiluwas affair: a join (KBo XIX 46) and a duplicate (KBo IX 77) to Mursilis's com- prehensive annals (12th year of his reign)	267
Fiorella IMPARATI – Il culto della dea Ningal presso gli ittiti	293

II

Mustafa KALAÇ – Hieroglyphisch – Luwisches	325
Annelies KAMMENHUBER – Zu den unveröffentlichten Texten aus Boğazköy	333
Emmanuel LAROCHE – Les représentants lyciens de l'anatolien <i>appa</i>	347
Lorenza M. MASCHERONI – Un'interpretazione dell'inventario KBo XVI 83 + 26 e i processi per malversazione alla corte di Ḫattuša	353
Clelia MORA – Sulla mitologia ittita di origine anatolica	373
Anna MORPURGO DAVIES – J. D. HAWKINS – The hieroglyphic inscription of Bohça.	387
Erich NEU – Hethitisch <i>kurur</i> und <i>taksul</i> in syntaktischer Sicht	407
Günter NEUMANN – Zum Namen Kilikien	429
Heinrich OTTEN – Zu einigen mittelhethitischen – <i>sk</i> – formen	439
Paolo Emilio PECORELLA – Un gruppo di sigilli cilindrici del Vicino Oriente	445
Emilio PERUZZI – Il segno '10' in protoindiano	467
† Franco PINTORE – Tarwanis	473
Vittore PISANI – Lexistorica	495
Massimo POETTO – Una nuova iscrizione luvio–geroglifica del museo di Maraş	501

Anna Maria RIZZI-MELLINI – Un’istruzione etea di interesse storico: KBo XVI 24 + 25	509
Cornelis J. RUIJGH – Le syllabogramme *34/35 du lineaire B: valeur possible $ru_2 = lu$	555
Anna SACCONI – La tavoletta My X 1	573
Mirjo SALVINI – Una ”bilingue” assiro–urartea	575
Ruggero STEFANINI – Hieroglyphica	595
Oswald SZEMERÉNYI – Anatolica I (1–7)	613

THE PICTOGRAPHIC TABLETS FROM JEMDET NASR

William C. Brice — Manchester

The early Sumerian tablets recovered at Jemdet Nasr by the Oxford and Field Museum Expedition in 1926 were published with commendable urgency by Stephen Langdon in 1928 in Volume VII of the Oxford Editions of Cuneiform Texts. Langdon catalogued 188 specimens from the 1926 season, and appended another six from the campaign of 1928, bringing the total to 194.

These tablets were divided for retention between Oxford and Baghdad. This preliminary account is based on autopsy of the specimens in the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford and on inspection of the Ashmolean's photographic record of the full corpus. I am indebted particularly to Professor Oliver Gurney and Dr. Roger Moorey for their expert help and advice.

In addition to the tablets published by Langdon, some twenty pieces were recovered in 1927, during which season Watelin worked without Langdon who had contracted jaundice in Baghdad. These fragments are stored in the Ashmolean under the index numbers 1927, 46 - 65. As far as I can ascertain, they have not yet been published.

Langdon's publication deserves high regard for its promptness and also for the accuracy of its identifications. However, the line drawings are in effect rough sketches and do not convey accurately the shapes of the pieces, so that it is often hard to estimate how much of a particular tablet is missing. Moreover, there are some duplications, one piece (No. 27) is published in mirror image, and some joins have been made since 1928.

Evidently there is need for a new edition, which should include an ordered index of the sign-groups. Meanwhile, I offer here an analysis of a few examples in an attempt to establish how the inscriptions are arranged.

No. 117 is a simple instance of a totalled account. The thirteen sheep (*udu*) recorded on the reverse are made up of three categories (the first of

which is missing) on the observe, specified by signs adjoined to the generic *udu* sign.

No. 103 is a somewhat more elaborate example of the same kind. The first entry, *šangu ni-šub*, ‘the Priest’s portion’, is followed by two others of the same general nature. The ‘totalling’ formula, Langdon’s signs numbered 168/23, ‘food/corn’, is recorded on the edge and then repeated on the reverse with the numeral ‘220’. It appears that the fraction strokes here indicate ‘1/6’.

No. 11. Here again the total is secure, though the significance of the higher unit (Langdon’s number 155, *h* in the *gur* system) is not certain. It seems that the panels run vertically in pairs, the lower entry being in each case a kind of appendix to the upper, which contains the numeral. As on tablet No. 103, the ‘totalling’ formula is repeated on the turn-over, though on second writing the first part of the *ni-šub* ligature is omitted.

No. 74. Some details of this tablet are uncertain, but enough is preserved to make it clear that the reverse contains a list of totals following the familiar *ni-šub* formula. The third totalled column (reading vertically) evidently combines two varieties of *udu*, indicated by two different prefixes, which are both written out in the total.

Peculiar to this tablet is the arrangement indicated in the third row of the analysis (that is, reading across). As shown in the blocked panels, in four cases the numeral associated with a main sign is then subdivided into two or three categories in a kind of inserted appendix.

The ‘colophon’ on the reverse is lengthy, but punctuated by three entries of the familiar sign *en* (‘Lord’ – Langdon’s number 317).

No. 40 opens with this same sign, *en*, and proceeds to list six commodities with their quantities under four separate days. The reverse gives the totals for each of the six commodities, and then what is apparently a ‘grand total’ after the formula *ni-šub eš ba* (‘Portion of the House – Rations’). The final row of entries on the reverse is much damaged and obscure.

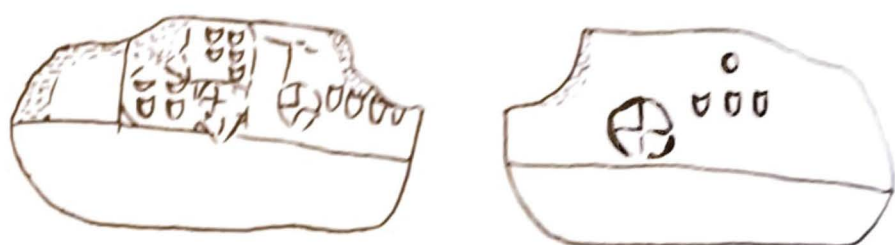
No. 140. This is shown as an example of a tablet which is essentially literary. While most of the corpus is basically ideographic in structure, occasional tablets, of which this is an example, contain lengthy phrases and only simple numerals.

Nos. 104-192-193-194 (+). Finally, this piece, which is specially mentio-







ned by Langdon (Preface, p. VIII) as an illustration of “the love of grammatical learning characteristic of the Sumerian people”, is drawn here in its present form, several fragments having been added since Langdon’s time. The two pieces doubtless belong to the same tablet, though there is no join. This catalogue was compared Langdon with the Fara piece 12587. It illustrates the large number of possible ligatures of vessel-signs, and reminds us of the possible richness and complexity of this sort of writing-system.

Conclusion. On systematic analysis, the Jemdet Nasr pictographic script evidently has much in common with the other early writing systems of Iraq and Iran. Though physically similar to the Uruk type, with their panelled arrangements, the Jemdet Nasr tablets resemble in structure the Susa archives with their orderly and often complex methods of listing and totalling, and their elaborate and numerous ligatured signs. The interest of this style of writing extends beyond Mesopotamia, for, as Professor Meriggi has argued (*Minos* 12, 1972, 9-17), it bears remarkable resemblances to the accounting system of early Crete.

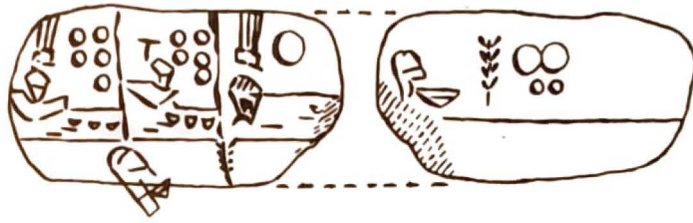
This preliminary study of the early tablets of Jemdet Nasr is offered to Professor Meriggi with respect and gratitude for his insight into the early writing systems of the Middle East, and especially for his monumental edition of the Proto-Elamite archives of Susa.



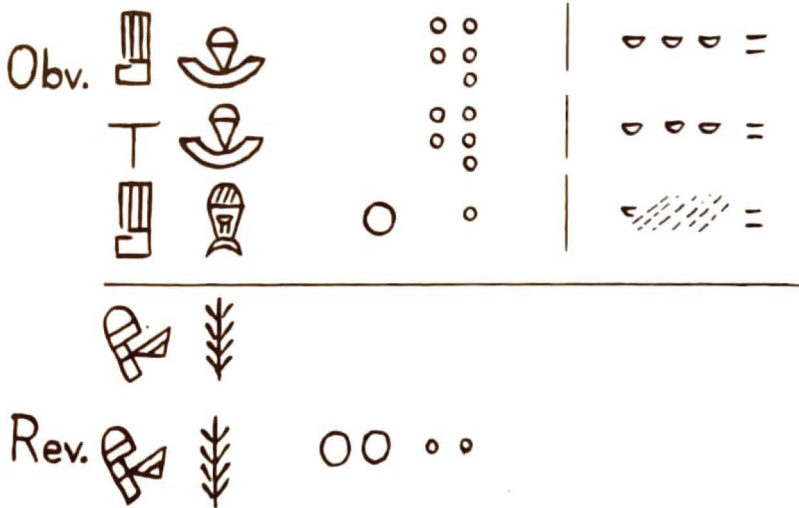
117 (1926, 626)

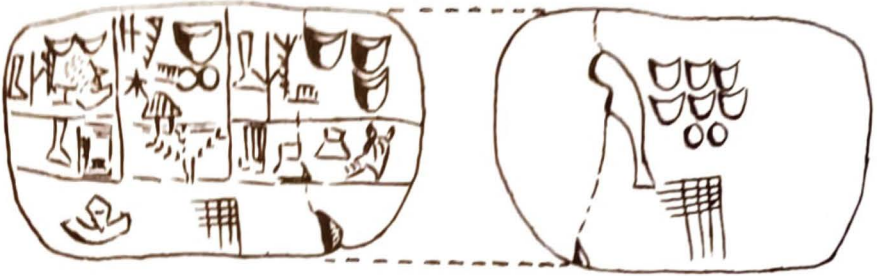
Obv.  
 
 

Rev.  

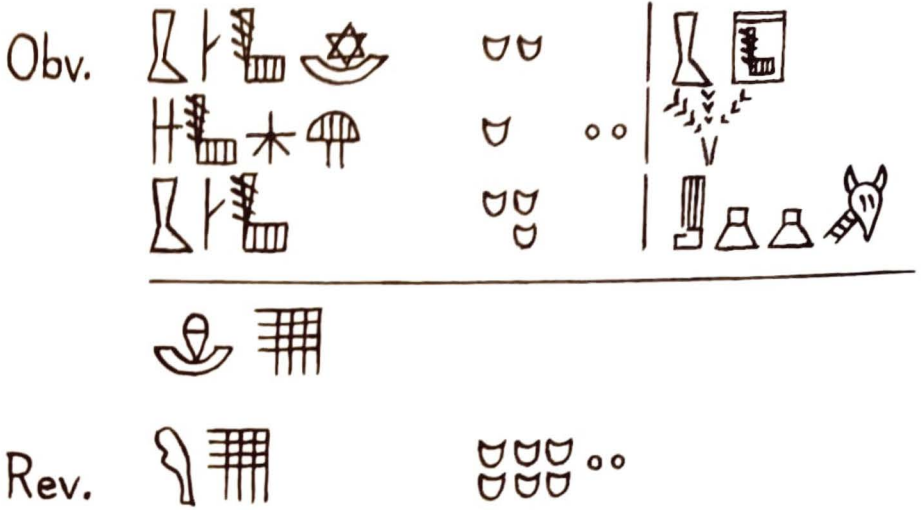


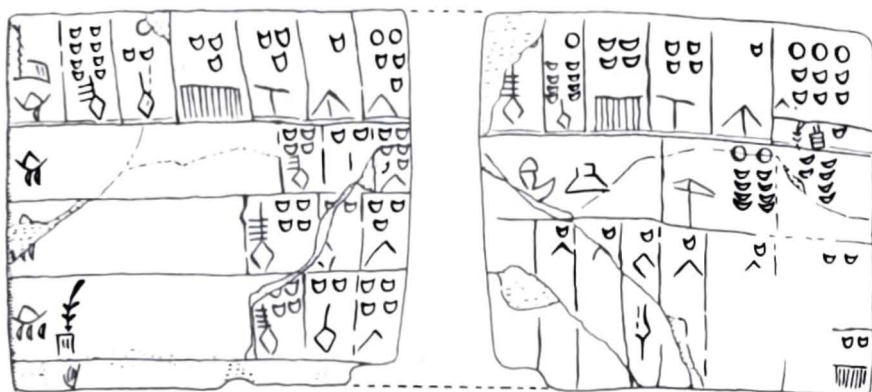
103 (1926, 630)





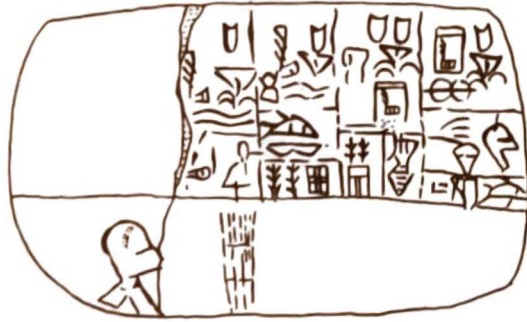
11 (1926, 602)



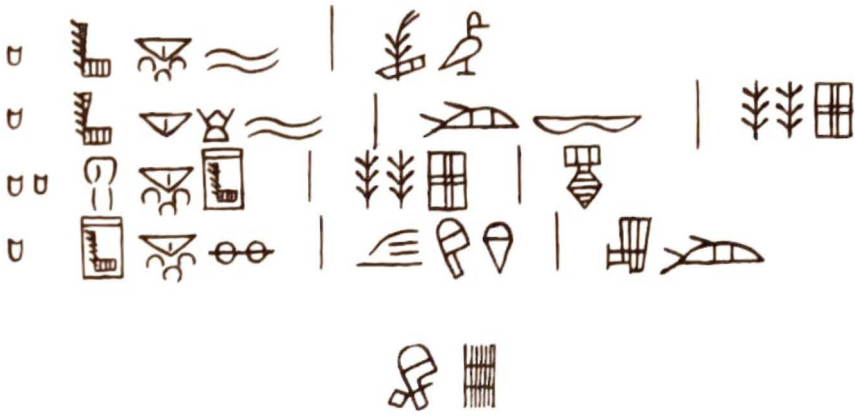


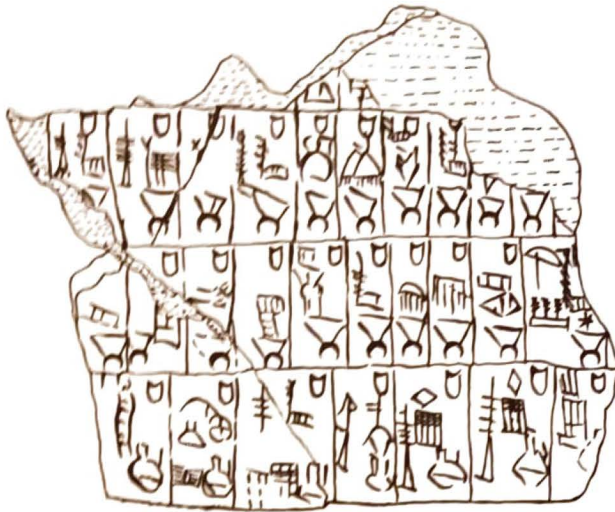
40 (1926, 563)





140 (1926, 579)





104 - 192 - 193 - 194(+) (1928, 445 A,B,C)