

Vaginas depicted in Sumerian: a database with commentary

by Jennifer Ball © May 2, 2011



This is the Sumerian word for “woman,” rotated 90° clockwise. During the development of their writing, the Sumerians rotated everything counter-clockwise by 90° for reasons no one knows. Perhaps it was a simple form of encoding: the rotation makes it more difficult to see what the inscriptions resemble.

munus [WOMAN] (3079x: ED IIIb, Old Akkadian, Lagash II, Ur III, Early Old Babylonian, Old Babylonian, 1st millennium) wr. munus; nu-nus "woman; female" Akk. *sinništū*



munus

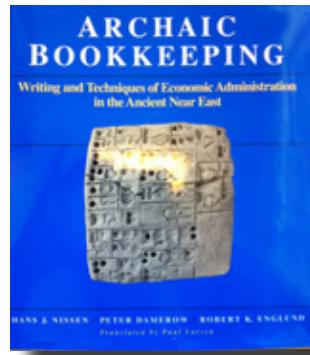
According to the Pennsylvania Sumerian Dictionary¹, the above triangular character means “woman” at least 3,079 times, starting in Early Dynasty IIIb, which Wikipedia gives as 2,540-2,350 BCE. This means that more than three thousand times a vagina stood as a representative of “female”—not just “woman” because female lamb has a vagina:

Woman outline from www.essex.ac.uk



**female lamb - kir
(rotated 90° cw)**

¹ <http://psd.museum.upenn.edu/epsd/index.html> : “The Pennsylvania Sumerian Dictionary Project is carried out in the Babylonian Section of the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology. It is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and private contributions.”



It turns out that this vagina-looking character is in a lot of Sumerian words that we wouldn't necessarily associate with vaginas: words like "pure" and "insulting" and "vessel." This vagina-looking graphic isn't the only character that signifies for "vagina" either. When something is important, there is not a one-to-one correlation between that thing and a sound or scrawl. Many sound combinations signify for "vagina" because vaginas make things happen.

Archaic Bookkeeping by Hans J. Nissen, Peter Damerow, Robert K. Englund, and translated by Paul Larsen (©1993) was recommended

ideograms specific qualifying signs. The signs designating the gender of young animals AMAR, namely KUR (☞) and SAL (▷), probably represented the male and female sexual organs; the sign GA (➡) stands for a "milk" jar.

☞	GU ₄	either bull or ox (representation of the head of a bull or ox with horns)
☜	AB ₂	cow (representation of a head of a cow, the horns pointing downwards)
▷	AMAR	calf (head of a calf without horns)
☞ ☞	KUR+AMAR	bull calf
▷▷	SAL+AMAR	heifer calf
▷ ➡	AB ₂ GA	milk cow
▷ ➡	AMAR GA	suckling (calf)

to me by Philip Jones, one of the two contacts listed on the Sumerian dictionary's website. In *Archaic Bookkeeping*, the authors describe the types of signs found in Sumerian. On page 89 you can find the description above of the sound combination "SAL," which also stood for "vagina." "SAL" plus the sign for "calf" means "heifer calf." My son told me that he learned in history that in Ancient Greek it was a complement for a woman to be called a "heifer." In Ancient Egypt, "cow" and "maid" were very close (see "Roots of the Word 'Idiot,'" www.originofalphabet.com). According to Kinsey, "Among boys raised on farms, about 17 per cent experience orgasm as the product of animal contacts which occur sometime after the onset of adolescence."¹ A male friend at UC Davis said that he knew of three male students who had claimed to have had sex with sheep, and they also claimed that a sheep's vagina was the closest of any animal's to a woman's (as if they'd tried other species besides sheep). Even Jared Diamond mentions this "aberrant" behavior on page 196 of *Guns, Germs, and Steel*: "The answer slowly emerged: he had confessed to repeated intercourse with sheep on a recent visit to the family farm; perhaps that was how he had contracted the mysterious microbe. This episode, related to me by a physician friend involved in the case..." We all hear it from our friends. The doctor friend only heard it after he had revived the gentleman who had been beaten by his translator who also happened to be his wife.

¹ Kinsey, Alfred Charles and Wardell Baxter Pomeroy, and Clyde Eugene Martin. *Sexual behavior in the human male*. Page 671.

Perhaps we all should consider that this behavior is less aberrant than once suspected. We exist because the drive for sex is strong. Who's to tell you that you can only mate with one species when you're newly human yourself? There is a word in Hebrew, *raba'*, that means to mate a woman with an animal. Just because they never achieved woman-animal admixtures doesn't mean they didn't try repeatedly (though, if you've read *Geek Love* by Katherine Dunn, you know that prenatal experiments with toxins could theoretically create all sorts of outcomes which could appear to be chimeric individuals; early humans conceived of beings that were animal-human mixes: the Sphinx, satyrs, Hathor the cow goddess, Taweret the hippo goddess of pregnancy, Bastet the cat goddess, and many more). There wasn't much entertainment in those days. *Raba'* meant excitement. In Greek *thel* is "nipple" and *thea* is "theater" (see bottom right.) Women were theater because that was the view men wanted to see. And if you didn't have a woman, you'd have a sheep. If you didn't have a sheep, you'd have men in women's clothing. Men in women's clothing is the underpinning of comedy. That and people falling down.

11. The leopard (*leopardus*) is born from the cross-mating of a lioness and a pard, and yields a third breed. So also Pliny in his *Natural History* (cf. 8.42) says a lion mates with a female pard, or a male pard with a lioness, and from either union this mixed-breed offspring is created, just like a mule or hinny.
 12. The rhinoceros (*rhinoceron*) is named with a Greek word; in Latin it means "horn on the nose." This is also the *monoceron*, that is, the unicorn (*unicornus*), because it has a single four-foot horn in the middle of its forehead, so sharp and strong that it tosses in the air or impales whatever it attacks. It often fights with the elephant and throws it to the ground after wounding it in the belly. 13. It has such strength that it can be captured by no hunter's ability, but, as those who have written about the natures of animals claim, if a virgin girl is set before a unicorn, as the beast approaches, she may open her lap and it will lay its head there with all ferocity put aside, and thus lulled and disarmed it may be captured.

Strong's Number: 7250	encodedOriginalWord
Original Word	רָבָע
Transliterated Word	raba'
Parts of Speech	Verb
Definition	1. to lie stretched out, lie down a. (Qal) 1. to lie down 1a b. for repose 1a c. for copulation (of woman with beast) d. (Hiphil) to cause to lay down (of cattle breeding)
Translated Words	KJV (3) - gender, 1; lie down, 2; NAS (4) - breed together, 1; lying down, 1; mate, 2;

Above is the definition for "raba'" from the Hebrew Lexicon at www.searchgodsword.com. Below left is page 252 from *The Etymologies of Isidore of Seville*, which demonstrates that in 636 AD they were trying to figure out which species had to have had sex with another in order to create new species. They also thought that a beast could be calmed by a virgin girl's lap, which is why virgins were often trotted out in front of armies in hopes to avoid battle. Below is page 101 from Borror's *Dictionary of Word Roots and Combining Forms* which defines Greek and Latin.

=thauma, -si, -st, -to (G). A wonder; wonderful
the, =a, (G): A view, spectacle; (L): tea
the, -i, (G): A god; (L): tea
the, -o (G). Run; a god
theat, -r (G). An audience; a theatre
thec, =a, -o (G). A case, box, chest, cup
thect, -o (G). Sharpened
theg, -o (G). Sharpen
thei (G): Run; a god; (L): tea
thei, -o (G). Sulphur
thel, =a, -i (G). A nipple
thel, -y (G). Female; tender
thelasm, -o (G). Suck, suckle
thelic, -o (G). Feminine

But don't believe me. Let's consult the Sumerians. Below is the Sumerian sign list of animals from page 89 of *Archaic Bookkeeping*. Think of this as a code for animals because the Sumerians (or whoever invented cuneiform because there's a debate about that) figured out that if you breed animals, you get more. This is apparent in the Biblical story of Laban as well, where he practiced selective breeding in order to short his controlling father-in-law.

Sign	Pronunciation	English meaning
	U ₈	ewe
	UDUNITA	ram
	UD ₅	nanny-goat
	MAŠNITA	billy-goat
	KIR ₁₁	female lamb
	SILANITA	male lamb
	EŠGAR	female kid
	MAŠ	male kid
+		

acters below, though not always a perfect fit, still would imply that the Sumerians were depicting the rear of the animals, the place where breeding was done, which would have mattered to an early culture.

The authors of *Archaic Accounting* did not order the animals the way I have because they are unaware of this relationship, which they make clear on page 116: "Abstract or arbitrarily shaped signs lacking any comprehensible association to the object depicted, for example, the circle and cross denoting 'small cattle.'"

(They still did an impressive job with this book.)

Sign comp. sex	Pronunciation	English meaning
	UDUNITA	ram
	SILANITA	male lamb
	MAŠNITA	billy-goat
	MAŠ	male kid
	U ₈	ewe
	UD ₅	nanny-goat
	EŠGAR	female kid
	KIR ₁₁	female lamb

When you reorder this list into males together and females together, and then you put the complementary sex of the animal ((ram to ewe, male lamb to female lamb, etc.) it appears that Sumerians are akin to electricians. Electricians (and musicians) call the respective electrical plugs "male" and "female." The relationship of the female to male char-

acter with the plus because a cow's vagina is level with its head (as with a sheep, donkey, goat, deer, gazelle, eland, etc.).

Below is an example from page 21 in *Archaic Bookkeeping* showing that a circle with a plus means "small cattle" (highlighted in pink). To the left is the gender sign for "woman" (which allegedly depicts the goddess Venus' mirror). The only difference between them is orientation of the two parts of the sign: circle and plus.

The Chinese had a similar character to the Sumerian's "small cattle" in the sinograph *tian2*, which means "field, arable land, cultivated." If you read my document "Meow" is just another name for 'cat'" (www.origino-falphabet.com), you will see that this target char-

Four categories of Sumerian Signs

The earliest written signs can be divided into four categories (fig. 91):

1. Partial or complete pictograms representing totally or *paris pro toto* the designated object (see, for example, the pictograms for "fish," "snake," or "ox")
2. Symbols, either natural or abstract, whose primary connotations are not recognizable and which therefore functioned presumably in a figurative sense (as in the case of the reed-bundle representing the goddess Inanna)
3. Abstract or arbitrarily shaped signs lacking any comprehensible association to the object depicted, for example, the circle and cross denoting "small cattle"
4. Numerical and metrological signs (discussed in chap. 6). It should be remembered, however, that during the period of the archaic texts from Uruk numbers were probably not conceived of as abstract values. Instead, scribes operated with a series of different numerical sign systems which varied considerably according to what was being counted or measured (e.g., grain, fields, animals).

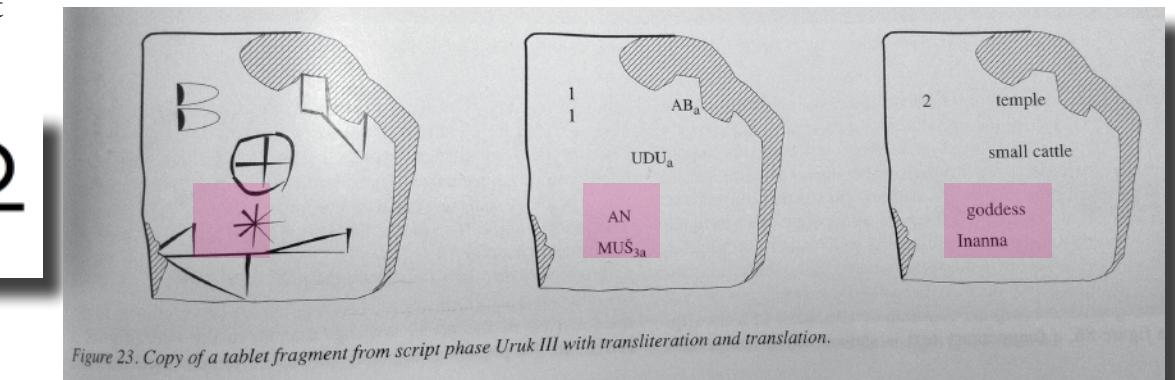


Figure 23. Copy of a tablet fragment from script phase Uruk III with transliteration and translation.

acter
meant
more

than "field." Some sources include "hunt." I think it also stands for "vagina" in certain contexts, such as in the word for "prostitute":

𠂔
Prostitute

U+7530 Seal script Jinwen Jiaguwen Jianbo
𠂔, field, arable land, cultivated

The Vagina Sumerian database

(Characters which include a vagina or mean "vagina." Keep in mind that, soundwise, š = sh, and that گ = ng)

sikil [PURE] (457x: ED IIIa, ED IIIb, Old Akkadian, Lagash II, Ur III, Early Old Babylonian, Old Babylonian, unknown) wr. sikil "(to be) pure" Akk. *ebbu; ellu*

[1] sikil

kisikil [WOMAN] (158x: ED IIIb, Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. ki-sikil; ^{lu}₂ki-sikil; mu-tin; mu-ti-in "young woman" Akk. *ardatu; batultu*

[1] ki-sikil

[2] ^{lu}₂ki-sikil (^{lu}₂-ki-sikil)

[3] mu-tin (ES)

[4] mu-ti-in (ES)

pel [DEFILE] (43x: Old Babylonian) wr. pe-el-la₂; pe-el "to defile; to be thin, light" Akk. *lu"û; qalâlu*

See šu *pela*[defile].

[1] pe-el-la₂

[2] pe-el

sikilda [INSULTING] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. sikil-du₃-a "insulting"

[1] sikil-du₃-a

dam [SPOUSE] (2104x: ED IIIa, ED IIIb, Old Akkadian, Lagash II, Ur III, Early Old Babylonian, Old Babylonian, unknown) wr. dam "spouse" Akk. *aššatu; mutu*

[1] dam

tam [TRUST] (47x: ED IIIb, Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. dam; tam "to trust; to believe" Akk. *qīapu*

[1] dam

[2] tam

adam [HABITATION] (37x: Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. a₂-dam "habitation" Akk. *namû*

[1] a₂-dam

dambanda [WIFE] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. $\text{dam}\text{-}\text{ban}_3\text{-da}$
"wife"

[1] dam-ban₃-da

dameḡir [WIFE] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. $\text{dam}\text{-eḡir}$ "junior
wife"

[1] dam-eḡir

damga [~PLOW] (27x: ED IIIb, Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr.
 $\text{geš}\text{dam}$; $\text{geš}\text{da-an-ga}$; $\text{geš}\text{dam-ga}$; $\text{kuš}\text{dam-ga}$ "a part of a
plow" Akk. *puqdu*

[1] $\text{geš}\text{dam}$ ($\text{geš}\text{dam}$)

[2] $\text{geš}\text{da-an-ga}$ ($\text{geš}\text{da-an-ga}$)

[3] $\text{geš}\text{dam-ga}$ ($\text{geš}\text{dam-ga}$)

[4] $\text{kuš}\text{dam-ga}$

namdam [MARRIAGE] (92x: ED IIIb, Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. nam-dam
"marriage"

[1] nam-dam

namdamgar [COMMERCE] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. nam-dam-gar₃ "commerce"

[1] nam-dam-gar₃

damgar [MERCHANT] (914x: ED IIIb, Old Akkadian, Lagash
II, Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. $\text{dam}\text{-gar}_3$ "merchant, trader"
Akk. *tamkāru*

[1] dam-gar₃

daḡal [WIDE] (745x: ED IIIb, Old Akkadian,
Lagash II, Ur III, Early Old Babylonian, Old
Babylonian, unknown) wr. daḡal; $\text{dam}\text{-gal}$;
 $\text{di}\text{-am}\text{-ga}\text{-al}$; $\text{da}\text{-ma}\text{-al}$ "(to be) wide; width,
breadth" Akk. *rupšu*

See [daḡal tag\[spread\]](#), [šu daḡal tag\[spread wide\]](#).

[1] daḡal (dagal)

[2] dam-gal

[3] di-am-ga-al

[4] da-ma-al (ES)

damgargal [MERCHANT] (4x: ED IIIb, Old Akkadian) wr. *dam-gar₃-gal*; *dam-gar₃*
"leading merchant"

[1]	
[2]	

dam-gar₃-gal
dam-gar₃

damkas [OFFICIAL] wr. *dam-kas₄* "an official"

[1]	
-----	--

dam-kas₄

damkaš [PROFESSION] wr. *dam-kaš₄* "a profession"

[1]	
-----	--

dam-kaš₄

damhara [BATTLE] (2x: ED IIIb, Old Babylonian) wr. *dam-ha-ra* "battle" Akk. *tamhāru*

[1]	
-----	--

dam-ha-ra

damšah [ANIMAL] wr. *dam-šah* "crocodile?, hippopotamus?" Akk. *dabū*

[1]	
-----	--

dam-šah

1. crocodile?, hippopotamus?

Akk. *dabū* "bear".

damšelum [PLANT] (26x: Ur III) wr. *dam-še-lum*; *gešhašhur*^{dam-še-lum} "a plant" Akk. *damšillu*

[1]		dam-še-lum
[2]		<i>gešhašhur</i> ^{dam-še-lum} (<i>gešhašhur</i> ^{dam-še-lum})
+	-0 (25x/96%); -ma (1x/4%).	
	3500	3000
	2500	2000
	1500	1000
	(no date)	

4 distinct forms attested; click to view forms table.

1. a plant (26x/100%)

~ ELA/Ur III/Umma 1(u) 1(diš) ma-na dam-še-lum AnOr 07, 311 r i 8; 6(diš) ma-na dam-še-lum JCS 26, 102 4 2; 9(diš) ma-na dam-še-lum YNER 8, 03 o ii 17. unknown/Ur III/Umma 1(u) ma-na dam-še-lum UTI 4, 2886 o ii 6; 3(diš) ma-na dam-še-lum SANTAG 6, 119 r ii 15; 2(diš)[#] ma-na dam-še-lum SANTAG 6, 119 o ii 12; 3(diš) ma-na dam-še-lum SANTAG 6, 119 o iii 4.

See: *hašhur* *damšelum*; *šim* *damšelum*.

Akk. *damšillu* "(a kind of *cucumber*)?; plant name".

[1987] M. Powell, BSA 3 147.

gadam [SLUICE] wr. *ga-dam* "sluice, waterfall" Akk. *natbaktu*

[1]		ga-dam
-----	--	--------

1. sluice, waterfall

Akk. *natbaktu* "pouring; (mountain) gully".

[1]		ir-dam
-----	--	--------

1. pig-sty

Akk. *irritu* "weir, barrage; pigsty of reeds".

madam [BOUNTEOUS] (6x: Old Babylonian) wr. **ma-dam** "very plentiful"
Akk. *tuhhudu*



ma-dam

+ -0 (6x/100%).

	3500	3000	2500	2000	1500	1000
[1]				5		

2 distinct forms attested; click to view forms table.

1. very plentiful (6x/100%)

~

Akk. *tuhhudu* "very plentiful".

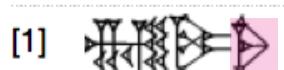
See ETCSL: [ma-dam=abundant yield.](#)

dumumunus [DAUGHTER] (660x: ED IIIb, Old Akkadian, Lagash II, Ur III, Early Old Babylonian, Old Babylonian, Middle Babylonian, unknown) wr. **dumu-munus** "daughter" Akk. *mārtu*



dumu-munus

namdumumunus [STATUS] (2x: Old Babylonian) wr. **nam-dumu-munus** "status as daughter"



nam-dumu-munus

nammunus [FEMININITY] (12x: Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. **nam-munus** "femininity"



nam-munus

šumsikil [VEGETABLE] (12x: Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. **šum₂-sikil**; **šum₂-sikil-lum** "an alliaceous vegetable" Akk. *šamaškilu*



šum₂-sikil



šum₂-sikil-lum

+ -0 (12x/100%).

	3500	3000	2500	2000	1500	1000	(no date)
[1]				9	2		

3 distinct forms attested; click to view forms table.

1. an alliaceous vegetable (12x/100%)

~ ELA/Ur III/Girsu mu sum[#]-[sikil x]-x-še₃ ASJ 09, 329 06 o i 9; [sum]-sikil ba-an-gar ITT 5, 10001 2. ELA/Ur III/Umma la₂-ia₃ 2(barig) 1(ban₂) [x sila₃?] sag sum-[sikil] AnOr 07, 380-06 1; 1(u) 7(diš) gin₂ ku₃ numun sum¹-sikil-ka sa₁₀-a YNER 8, 21 14. ELA/Ur III/Ur [...] sum^{1?}-sikil UET 3, 0899 2. ELA/Ur III/unclear 7(aš) 1(barig) 5(ban₂) 3(diš) sila₃ sag sum[#]-[sikil] AAS 200 o iii 10. unknown/Ur III/Umma 1(geš'u) [...] 6(geš₂) sa sum[#]-[sikil] SANTAG 6, 340 o vii 14; 3(ban₂) sum[#]-sikil SANTAG 7, 031 o iv 2.

~ u LEX/Old Babylonian/Nippur sum-sikil[#] [...] OB Nippur Ura 4 Seg.3, 13. ELA/Ur III/Umma [... sum]-sikil UTI 3, 2189 2. ~ tutuba[~vegetable] LEX/Old Babylonian/Nippur sum-sikil tu-tu-ba^{sar} OB Nippur Ura 4 Seg.3, 12.

Akk. *šamaškilu* "a type of onion".

[2003] M. Powell, RIA 10 20-21.

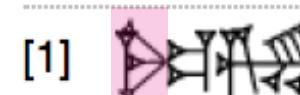
[1992] P. Steinkeller and J.N. Postgate, LAT 76.

[1987] M. Stol, BSA 3 59-62.

[1987] H. Waetzoldt, BSA 3 23-40.

[1985] K. Mackawa, BSA 2 99; 101.

munusgešgi [PERFORMER] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. **munus-geš-gi** "type of cult performer"



munus-geš-gi (munus-
geš-gi)

I include the snake (right) in order to show the relationship of "snake" to "in-law."

muššatur [SNAKE] (15x: Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. muš-ša₃-tur₃; muš-ša₃-tur "a (mythical) snake; horned viper"
Akk. *bašmu*

[1]		muš-ša ₃ -tur ₃ (muš-šag ₄ -tur ₃)
[2]		muš-ša ₃ -tur

mussa [IN-LAW] (53x: ED IIIb, Old Akkadian, Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. mussa; mi₂-us₂-sa; mi₂-sa₂ "son-in-law"
Akk. *emu šehru*

[1]		mussa (mi ₂ -us ₂ -sa ₂)
[2]		mi ₂ -us ₂ -sa
[3]		mi ₂ -sa ₂

mussa [IN-LAW] (53x: ED IIIb, Old Akkadian, Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. mussa; mi₂-us₂-sa; mi₂-sa₂ "son-in-law"
Akk. *emu šehru*

[1]		mussa (mi ₂ -us ₂ -sa ₂)
[2]		mi ₂ -us ₂ -sa
[3]		mi ₂ -sa ₂

niğmussa [GIFT] (73x: Old Akkadian, Ur III) wr. nig₂-mi₂-us₂-sa₂; niğ₂-mussa; niğ₂-mi₂-us₂-sa "a betrothal gift"
Akk. *terhātu*

[1]		nig ₂ -mi ₂ -us ₂ -sa ₂
[2]		niğ ₂ -mussa (nig ₂ -mussa)
[3]		niğ ₂ -mi ₂ -us ₂ -sa (nig ₂ -mi ₂ -us ₂ -sa)

niğgalla [JEWELLERY] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. niğ₂-gal₄-la "jewellery (for or in the form of female genitals)"

[1]		niğ ₂ -gal ₄ -la (nig ₂ -gal ₄ -la)
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gidlam [SPOUSE] (120x: Old Babylonian) wr. gidlam; gidlam₂; gidlam₃ "(equal ranking) spouse"
Akk. *hā'iru; hīrtu*

[1]		gidlam (gidlam)
[2]		gidlam ₂ (gidlam ₂ , nitadam, nitadam ₂)
[3]		gidlam ₃ (gidlam ₃)

hilzum [FORTRESS] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. hi-il-zum "fortress"

[1]		hi-il-zum
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gaZUM [VESSEL] wr. ga-ZUM "a vessel"

[1]		ga-ZUM
-----	--	--------

1. a vessel

[1992] P. Steinkeller and J.N. Postgate, LAT 54.

ah [SPITTLE] (12x: Old Babylonian) wr. ah₆; uh₃; ^aah "a paste; phlegm, mucus, sputum; foam, scum; saliva, spittle; poison" Akk. *hahhu; hurhummatu; illātu; imtu; ru'tu; rupuštu; uhu*

[1]		ah ₆ (uh ₂)
[2]		uh ₃
[3]		^a ah

namlukur [CONCUBINAGE] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. nam-lukur "concubinage"



nam-lukur

namlukur [PRIESTHOOD] (2x: Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. nam-lukur "office of lukur-priestess"



nam-lukur

lukurunak [BREWER] (5x: Old Babylonian) wr. lu₂-kurun-na; ^flu₂-kurun-na; lu₂-kurun "brewer" Akk. *sābitu*; *sābū*



lu₂-kurun-na



^flu₂-kurun-na



lu₂-kurun

+ -0 (4x/80%); -ka (1x/20%).

	3500	3000	2500	2000	1500	1000	(no date)
[1]				2			
[2]				1			
[3]							

4 distinct forms attested; click to view forms table.

1. brewer (5x/100%)

~ LEX/Old Babylonian/Nippur lu₂-^{kaš}kurun₂-na OB Nippur Lu 102.

See: [munus lukurunak](#).

Akk. *sābitu* "female brewer"; *sābū* "brewer".

Junior wives of kings were often foreigners because princesses were a good bargaining chip when negotiating with other kingdoms. You can see evidence of this below in the word "lukur" which is both "(junior) wife of a deified king" or "stranger, foreigner." Interesting how close this word is to "lucrē," which means "gain, profit," from Latin *lucrum* (OED). "Namlukur" means "concubinage" (see previous page, top). The prefix "nam" makes this an official designation.

lukur [PRIESTESS] (172x: ED IIIb, Old Akkadian, Ur III, Early Old Babylonian, Old Babylonian) wr. lukur "a priestess; (junior) wife of a deified king" Akk. *nadītu*; *qadištu*



lukur

lukur

lukur [PRIESTESS] wr. lukur "a priestess; (junior) wife of a deified king" Akk. *nadītu*; *qadištu*

lukur [STRANGER] wr. lu₂-kur₂ "stranger, foreigner" Akk. *nakru*

lukurkura

lukurkura [PERSON] wr. lu₂-kur₂-kur₂-ra "very strange person"

lukurunna [FEMALE] wr. lu₂-kurun-na "female innkeeper"



lu₂-kurun-na

1. female innkeeper

geme₂karkid_x(|SAL.UŠ|)kar-kid₃; karkid_x(|SAL.UŠ|)
"prostitute" Akk. *harīmtu*

[1]		kar-kid (kar-KID)
[2]		geme ₂ kar-kid ₃
[3]		kar-kid ₃
[4]		geme ₂ kar-kid ₃ kid
[5]		geme ₂ kar-kid ₃ kid ₃
[6]		geme ₂ kar-kid
[7]		geme ₂ karkid _x (SAL.UŠ)kar-kid ₃
[8]		karkid _x (SAL.UŠ)

geme [WORKER] (4025x: ED IIIb, Old Akkadian, Lagash II,
Ur III, Early Old Babylonian, Old Babylonian, unknown)
wr. *geme₂*; *gi₄-in* "female worker" Akk. *amtū*

[1]		geme ₂
[2]		gi ₄ -in (ES)

namgeme [~WORKER] (35x: Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. *nam-geme₂* "status as slave woman"

[1]		nam-geme ₂
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namerešdiğir [PRIESTHOOD] (2x: Old Babylonian) wr. *nam-ereš-diğir* "office of the erešdiğir-priestess" Akk. ?

[1]		nam-ereš-diğir
-----	--	----------------

namegir [LADYSHIP] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. *nam-eğir₃* "ladyship"

[1]		nam-eğir ₃
-----	--	-----------------------

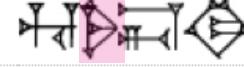
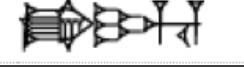
namereš [LADYSHIP] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. *nam-ereš-a* "ladyship"

[1]		nam-ereš-a
-----	--	------------

munusgešgi [PERFORMER] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. *munus-geš-gi* "type of cult performer"

[1]		munus-geš-gi (munus-geš-gi)
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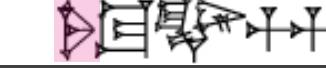
gambi [CRANE] (6x: ED IIIa, Old Babylonian) wr. gambi^{mušen}; mušen^{gambi}; ga-
i^{mušen} "crane"

[1]		gambi ^{mušen}
[2]		mušen ^{gambi}
[3]		ga-i ^{mušen}

kibninka [BIRD] (2x: Old Babylonian) wr. ki-nin-ka₆^{mušen} "a bird"

[1]		ki-nin-ka ₆ ^{mušen}
-----	---	---

ninkamašmaš [RODENT] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. ^dnin-ka₆-maš-maš "rodent"

[1]		^d nin-ka ₆ -maš-maš
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kir [LAMB] (1113x: Old Akkadian, Lagash II, Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. kir₁₁
"female lamb" Akk. *buqamtu*

[1]		kir ₁₁
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zarah [STORK]

zarah [STORK] wr. za-ra-ah^{mušen} "stork, heron" Akk. *igirû; laqlaqqu*

[1]		za-ra-ah ^{mušen}
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1. stork, heron

Akk. *igirû* "heron"; *laqlaqqu* "stork, also desig. of vulva".

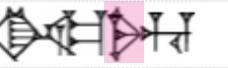
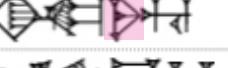
A-RA-AK-MUŠEN = a-wu-ri-qa₂-a-nu-um OB
Diri Nippur Seg.7, 13.

Akk. *laqlaqqu* "stork, also desig. of vulva".

[2004] N. Veldhuis, Nanše 213-214.

[1997-1998] R. de Maaijer and B. Jagersma, AfO

igira [HERON] (15x: Old Babylonian) wr. igira₂^{mušen};
i₃-gi₄-ra^{mušen}; igira_x(KI.KA.SAL|)^{mušen}; i-gi-ra^{mušen}
"heron" Akk. *igirû*

[1]		igira ₂ ^{mušen}
[2]		i ₃ -gi ₄ -ra ^{mušen}
[3]		igira _x (KI.KA.SAL) ^{mušen}
[4]		i-gi-ra ^{mušen}

eme [DONKEY] (354x: ED IIIb, Old Akkadian, Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. eme₃; eme₆; eme₅; eme₇; eme_x(|SAL.EN|) "female donkey" Akk. *atānu*

- | | | |
|-----|--|-----------------------------|
| [1] | | eme ₃ |
| [2] | | eme ₆ |
| [3] | | eme ₅ |
| [4] | | eme ₇ |
| [5] | | eme _x (SAL.EN) |

imma [VULVA] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. im-ma "vulva" Akk. *guruš-garaš*

- | | | |
|-----|--|-------|
| [1] | | im-ma |
|-----|--|-------|

gala [VULVA] (58x: Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. gal₄-la; gal₄ "female genitals, vulva" Akk. *biṣṣūru*

- | | | |
|-----|--|----------------------|
| [1] | | gal ₄ -la |
| [2] | | gal ₄ |

laga [VULVA] (3x: Old Babylonian) wr. la-ga "vulva" Akk. *gurištu; laqlaqqu*

- | | | |
|-----|--|-------|
| [1] | | la-ga |
|-----|--|-------|

GAM [VULVA] (5x: ED IIIb) wr. GAM "vulva" Akk. *hurdatu*

- | | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| [1] | | GAM |
|-----|--|-----|

mug [GENITALS] wr. **mug₂** "female genitals, vulva"

Akk. *biṣṣūru; īru*

[1]



mug₂

1. female genitals, vulva

Akk. *biṣṣūru* "female genitals, vulva"; *īru* "(nakedness, i.e.) pudenda (of man, woman)".

penzer [GENITALS] (2x: Old Babylonian) wr. **pe-en-ze₂-er** "female genitals"

[1]



pe-en-ze₂-er

murub [MIDDLE] (446x: Old Akkadian, Ur III) wr. **murub₆**; **murub₄**; **murub₂**; **murub**; **murub₃** "middle; female genitals, vulva; buttocks, rump; knob; mouth; gate (of city or large building); space between, distance; link; hips" Akk. *abullu*; *birītu*; *biṣṣūru*; *pinku*; *pū*; *qablu*; *qinnatu*; *īru*

[1]



murub₆ (*muru₁₃*, IUD@gl)

[2]



murub₄ (*muru₂*)

[3]



murub₂

[4]



murub

[5]



murub₃

garigak [COMB] (2x: Old Babylonian) wr. **ḡešga-rig₂-ak**; **ga-rig₂-ak** "carding comb"

[1]



ḡešga-rig₂-ak (*gešga-rig₂-ak*)

[2]



ga-rig₂-ak

garig [COMB] (98x: Old Akkadian, Ur III, Early Old Babylonian, Old Babylonian) wr. **ḡešga-rig₂** "comb" Akk. *muštu*

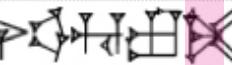
[1]



ḡešga-rig₂ (*gešga-rig₂*)

hurizum [STONE] (2x: Old Babylonian) wr. **na₄hu-ri₂-zum** "a stone" Akk. *hurīzu*

[1]



na₄hu-ri₂-zum

haš [THIGH] (20x: Old Babylonian) wr. **haš₂**; **haš₄** "lower body, abdomen; thigh" Akk. *emšu*; *šapru*

See haš bad[gallop], haš dab[hold firmly], haš dug[have sex] haš gal hur[scratch the groin], haš gid[pull the reins], haš ḡar[rejoice], haš rah[slap the thigh], haš tal[rejoice], haš tilrah[slap the thigh].

[1]



haš₂

[2]



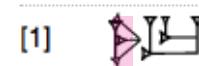
haš₄

urnig [LIONESS] (3x: Old Babylonian) wr. ur-nig "lioness" Akk. *nēštu*



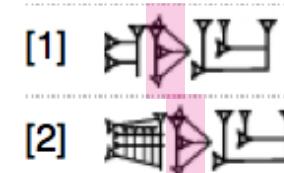
ur-nig

nig [BITCH] (16x: ED IIIa, Old Babylonian) wr. nig "female dog; lioness" Akk. *kalbatu*; *nēštu*



nig

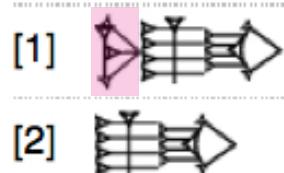
nig [PLOW] (2x: Old Babylonian) wr. ^{geš}nig; ^{kuš}nig "a part of a plow" Akk. *kalbatu*; *kurussu ša epinni*



^{geš}nig (^{geš}nig)

^{kuš}nig

ašgar [KID] (1320x: ED IIIb, Old Akkadian, Lagash II, Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. ^{munus}aš₂-gar₃; aš₂-gar₃ "female kid" Akk. *unīqu*



munus aš₂-gar₃

aš₂-gar₃ (ešgar)

megida [SOW] (7x: Old Akkadian, Old Babylonian) wr. megida_x(KUN);

megida; ^{munus}megida₂ "sow" Akk. *šahītu*



megida_x(KUN)



megida



^{munus}megida₂

ligidba [PLANT] (5x: Old Babylonian, unknown) wr. ligidba "a medicinal plant" Akk. *nikiptu*



ligidba

+ -0 (5x/100%).

	3500	3000	2500	2000	1500	1000	(no date)
[1]					1		

3 distinct forms attested; click to view forms table.

1. a medicinal plant (5x/100%)

~ LEX/Old Babylonian/unknown [[ligidba]] = = [ŠIM.AN.NIN].URTA[#] = *ni-ki-ip-tum* OB Diri "Oxford" 579. LEX/unknown/unknown DIGIR.NIN.IB SLT 015 prism i 21.

See: [i ligidba](#).

Akk. *nikiptu* "spurge, Euphorbia? (a shrub with male and female flowers, milky juice)".

See ETCSL: [ligidba=spurge?](#).

sal [THIN] (186x: ED IIIa, ED IIIb, Old Akkadian, Lagash II, Ur III, Early Old Babylonian, Old Babylonian, unknown) wr. sal "(to be) thin, fine; to spread" Akk. *raqāqu*

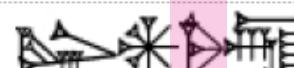
See *sag sal*[unmng].

[1]  sal

SALUŠ [SHEATH] wr. SAL.UŠ "sheath (of a dagger)"

[1]  SAL.UŠ

ansala [CULT] wr. ^{lu}₂an-sal-la; MU.AN.SAL.LA "a cultic performer"
Akk. *mahhû; ahurrû; kurgarrû; assinnu*

[1]  ^{lu}₂an-sal-la

[2]  MU.AN.SAL.LA

1. a cultic performer

Akk. *mahhû* "ecstatic, prophet"; *ahurrû*; *kurgarrû* "(a cultic performer)";
assinnu "(male cultic prostitute)".

asal [~ARCHITECTURE] wr. a-sal "an architectural term"

[1]  a-sal

1. an architectural term

[1995] A. Cavigneaux, ASJ 17 82-83.

asalbar [~ARCHITECTURE] (4x: Old Babylonian) wr. a-sal-bar;
a-sal₄-bar "an architectural term" Akk. *artī kīsi*

[1]  a-sal-bar

[2]  a-sal₄-bar

asalGAR [~ARCHITECTURE] wr. a-sal-GAR "an architectural term"

[1]  a-sal-GAR

1. an architectural term

[1995] A. Cavigneaux, ASJ 17 82-83.

barsal [SHEEP] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. bar-sal "a sheep"
Akk. *barsallu*

[1] bar-sal

gisal [SCREEN] (6x: Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. gi-sal "reed screen"
Akk. *gisallû*

[1] gi-sal

lušezarsala [PROFESSION] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. lu₂-še-zar-sal-la
"a profession"

[1] lu₂-še-zar-sal-la

masal [BOAT] wr. ^{geš}ma₂-sal "a boat" Akk. *mašallû*

[1] ^{geš}ma₂-sal (^{geš}ma₂-sal)

SALSAL [FISH] (1x: Old Babylonian) wr. SAL.SAL^{ku}₆ "type of fish"

[1] SAL.SAL^{ku}₆

šešal [GRAIN] wr. še-šal "a grain" Akk. *dillatu*

[1] še-šal

1. a grain

Akk. *dillatu* "(a cereal)".

[1984] M. Powell, BSA 1 60-62.

sala [~PLOW] (2x: Old Babylonian) wr. ^{geš}sal-la; sal-la "a designation of plows" Akk. *musirru*

[1] ^{geš}sal-la
[2] sal-la

usal [MEADOW] (23x: ED IIIb, Ur III, Old Babylonian) wr. u_2 -sal;
 u_8 -sal; SAL.|LAGAB×(GUD+GUD)|.DI?;
|LAGAB×(GUD+GUD)|.DI.UD.SAL? "meadow, pasture"
Akk. *aburriš; ušallu*

[1]		u_2 -sal
[2]		u_8 -sal
[3]		SAL. LAGAB×(GUD+GUD) .DI?
[4]		LAGAB×(GUD+GUD) .DI.UD.SAL?

usala nud [LIE DOWN] wr. u_2 -sal-la nud "to lie down peacefully"
Akk. *aburriš rabāšu*

(usalla[cvne] + nud[lie down])

[1]		u_2 -sal-la nud
-----	--	-------------------

1. to lie down peacefully

Akk. *aburriš rabāšu* "to lie/dwell in a green meadow".



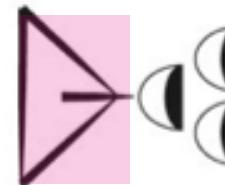
From the depiction above.
Could this signify a shrine or a
wedding?

From the UCLA Cuneiform Digital Library Initiative:

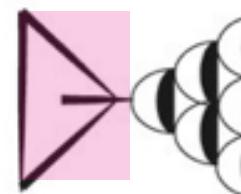
<http://www.cdli.ucla.edu/tools/SignLists/protocuneiform/archsigns.html>



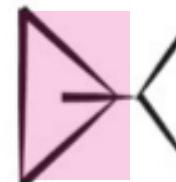
SAL



|SAL.KUR~al



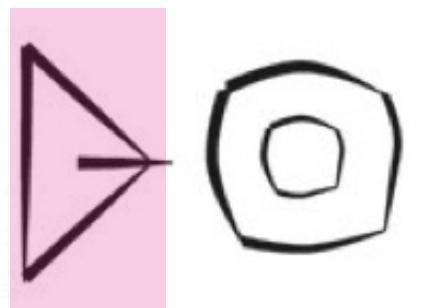
|SAL.LAM~bl



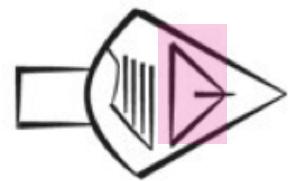
|SAL.SZU2|



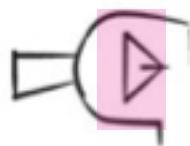
|SALx1(N58)|



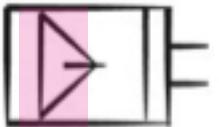
KIR11



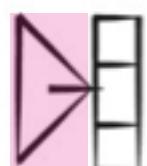
|DUG~bx(TAK4~a.SAL)|



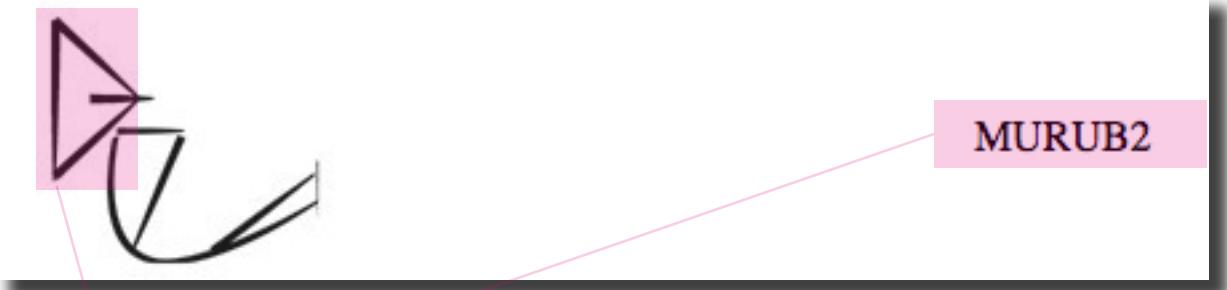
|MAH~bxSAL|



|ZATU737xSAL|



NIN



MURUB2

murub [MIDDLE] (446x: Old Akkadian, Ur III) wr. murub₆; murub₄; murub₂; murub; murub₃ "middle; female genitalia, vulva; buttocks, rump; knob; mouth; gate (of city or large building); space between, distance; link; hips" Akk. *abullu*; *birītu*; *bışṣūru*; *pinku*; *pû*; *qablu*; *qinnatu*; *ûru*

[1]		murub ₆ (muru ₁₃ , UD@gl)
[2]		murub ₄ (muru ₂)
[3]		murub ₂
[4]		murub
[5]		murub ₃