

- Col. 4) The numbers of RÜSTER and NEU, Hethitisches Zeichenlexikon;
- Col. 5) The Neo-Assyrian signs, from the ELLERMEIER and STUDT font NeoAssyrian.ttf (see ELLERMEIER and STUDT, Sumerisches Glossar, Band 3 Teil 6, Hardegsen 2003, Handbuch Assur, together with CD-ROM; with the aid of AutoText circa 9000 Sumerian and Akkadian transliterations can be converted into cuneiform signs, bitmaps as well as TrueTypes). A few signs were additionally digitized especially for this sign list;
- Col. 6) The sign names (conventional readings) according to MesZL, HA etc.;
- Col. 7) The Unicode codepoint numbers (here the entries »A & B« and »A & B & C« indicate the numerous characters that can only be written by combining two or three shorter signs);
- Col. 8) The Unicode sign names (conventional readings);
- Col. 9) Comments.

According to the IC(U)E proposals, including N2786 (June 2004, the »final proposal«, where MesZL is quoted and used a few times) all existing non-Unicode cuneiform fonts are failures. For the Hardegsen font the reader may simply have a look at column 5 of the revised Bachmann list, and he will immediately recognize that the Hardegsen Font is an excellent tool. As to my own »Akkadian RB«, let me state that the users of MesZL (and Babylonisch-Assyrische Lesestücke³, 2006) did not yet rebuke the aged author (*1929) for the bad quality of his fonts and for not having waited till a superior Neo-Assyrian font would have been standardized by IC(U)E and the Unicode Consortium. For the Helsinki font in its actual form see PH. TALON, Enūma eliš (Helsinki 2005, with forthcoming review by BORGER in *Orientalia* NS).

The dogma »There is no Code but Unicode and Unicode is the Standard« is not valid for cuneiform studies!

It is difficult to believe that Unicode 5.0 will ever be a starting point for a generally acceptable comprehensive set of cuneiform fonts for other periods and regions.

Presently the only publication using the signs of a Unicode cuneiform font (based on proposal N2698, January 29, 2004; not yet on N2786, June 8, 2004) is TINNEY's electronic »ePSD« (July 31, 2004). Printouts are present in several libraries. The cuneiform signs in this »provisional draft« are clear, but their use leaves much to be desired. Characters not found in N2698 are simply silently omitted. The enlarged version »PSD draft – not for citation« (April, 2005) in the printout known to me has no cuneiform signs at all. To this enlarged version four electronically prepared indices have been added. The second index of the PSD draft, comprising 66 pages, is arranged according to the IC(U)E conventional readings. Apparently the users were supposed to make themselves perfectly acquainted with all conventional readings used by IC(U)E, in order to profit by the blessings of the Unicode standard.

The list of BACHMANN & STUDT may be helpful for students who would like to find references to Unicode codepoints and conventional readings on the basis of MesZL Chapter II.

A printout of this list combined with a printout of

- <http://www.unicode.org/charts/PDF/U12000.pdf> and
- <http://www.unicode.org/charts/PDF/U12400.pdf>

may pave the way to TINNEY's »Cuneiform Classic«. It should, however, be kept in mind that TINNEY's font, which contains numerous signs reconstructed from later sources, is not a real paleographical tool on the level of MITTERMAYER, aBZL and FOSSEY, Manuel II.

Very recently Mrs. STUDT discovered in the inexhaustible Internet an open type font by GEORGE DOUROS, called »Akkadian.otf« (2007). The cuneiform signs of »Akkadian.otf« are identical with the