No. 43

Fragment of Lugal-e

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Introduction

Only the upper edge, which is almost complete, and the first four lines are preserved in the small fragment MMA 86.11.459. It contains a part of the Ninurta myth Lugal-e, i.e., l. 311 from the seventh tablet of the myth, which is part of a speech made by the divine weapon Sar'ur addressed to its master, Ninurta. We find for the first time in this text an Akkadian translation to l. 311, although it is very fragmentary.

MMA 86.11.459 does not belong to a fragment of the Lugal-e myth that arrived in the Berlin Museum together with the tablets published in SBH (a comparison of the two fragments proves this). However, the sign-forms clearly show that this tablet was also written during the Seleucid-Parthian period.

Unfortunately, the original size of this tablet cannot be determined. The fragment might be interpreted as a school text that contained an excerpt of Tablet 7 of the myth Lugal-e on the obverse. The few traces on the reverse cannot be deciphered. They seem to be a Sumerian line rather than a colophon.

1. According to count by J. J. A van Dijk; see van Dijk, Lugale 2, p. 95.
2. SBH 71 = Lugal-e, Tablet 8, ll. 345–71.
3. We cannot exclude the possibility that the fragment MMA 86.11.459 may be a fragment of a commentary to Lugal-e. (For Lugal-e commentaries see I. L. Finkel, “On the Lugale Commentaries,” RA 80 [1986], pp. 190–91.)
43.

MMA 86.11.459

Plate 61

H. 27 mm  W. 54 mm  Th. 16 mm

Obverse

1. [l]u[gal-mu zà-zu ba-ra-an-ga-ti
2. ba-ra-an-ga-tuš ba-ra-an-[g]a-[ù-tu]
3. be-lu ul-la-nu1·u[k(?)-]ka . . .
4. u[l]-la-nu-uk-ka . . .
   (rest of obverse broken)

Reverse

   (beginning of reverse broken)

1'. x [. . .
2'. še en GAR še(?') 1'en1 x [. . .

Translation

Obverse

1, 3. My lord, beside you no other lives,
2, 4. no other resides, no other has been b[orn].
5. [Ninurta, from now on there is nobody in the mountains who rises up against you.]

Reverse

   (too fragmentary for translation)