



Text of Fragment A	Translation
	<b>The tyranny of Nabonidus</b>
<b>1</b> [i-nu x x x] /x\ -ni-š <u>u</u>	[When...] ...
<b>2</b> [x x x ki-i]b-ra-a-tì	[... of the four quar]ters
<b>3</b> [x x x] /x x\ GAL ma-tu-ú iš -šak-na a-na e-nu-tu ma-ti-š <u>ú</u>	[x x x] /x x\ An incompetent person [i.e., Nabonidus] was installed to exercise lordship over his country.
<b>4</b> /ù <sup>?</sup> [x x x]-ši-li ú-ša-áš-ki-na se-ru-šu-un	/and <sup>?</sup> [...] he imposed upon them.
<b>5</b> ta-am-ši-li É-SAG-ÍL i-te-[pu-uš-ma x x x t]i <sup>?</sup> a-na UR <sup>ki</sup> ù si-it-ta-a-tì ma- <u>ha</u> -za	An imitation of Esagila he ma[de, and...]... for Ur and the rest of the cultic centers,
<b>6</b> pa-ra-aš la si-ma-a-ti-šu-nu ta-[ak-li-im la-me-si x x x la] pa-lih <sub>u</sub> 4-mi-šá-am-ma id-de-né-eb-bu-ub ù /ana ma-ag\ -ri-tì	a ritual which was improper to them, an [unholy] di[splay offering x x x without] fear he daily recited. Irreverently,
<b>7</b> sat-tuk-ku ú-šab-ti-li ú-l[a-ap-pi-it pél-lu-de-e x x x iš]-tak-ka-an qé-reb ma- <u>ha</u> -zi pa-la- <u>ha</u> <sup>d</sup> AMAR.UTU LUGAL DINGIR <sup>mes</sup> i[g-m]ur kar-šu-uš-šu	he put an end to the regular offerings (and) he in[terfered in the cultic centers; x x x he] established in the sacred centers. By his own plan, he did away with the worship of Marduk, the king of the gods,
<b>8</b> le-mu-ut-ti URU-šu [i-t]e-né-ep-pu-/uš\ u4-mi-ša-am-/ma x x\ [x x x ÛG] <sup>mes</sup> -šú i-na ab-ša-a-ni la ta-ap-šu-úh-tì ú-hal-li-iq kul-lat-si-in	he continually did evil against Marduk's city. Daily, [...] without interruption, he imposed the corvée upon its inhabitants unrelentingly, ruining them all.
	<b>Marduk's anger</b>
<b>9</b> a-na ta-zi-im-ti-ši-na <sup>d</sup> EN.LÍL DINGIR <sup>mes</sup> ez-zi-iš i-gu-ug-m[a x x x] ki-su-úr-šu-un DINGIR <sup>mes</sup> a-ši-ib ŠÀ-bi-šu-nu i-zi-bu at-/ma\ -an-šu-un	Upon hearing their cries, the lord of the gods became furiously angry and [x x x] their borders; the gods who lived among them forsook their dwellings,
<b>10</b> i-na ug-ga-ti-ša ú-še-ri-bi a-na qé-reb ŠU.AN.NA <sup>ki d</sup> AMAR.UTU t[i-iz-qa-ru] <sup>d</sup> EN.LÍL DINGIR <sup>m</sup> ]eš us-sa-ah-ra a-na nap- <u>har</u> da-ád-mi šá in-na-du-ú šu-bat-su-un	angry that he [sc. Nabonidus] had brought them to Babylon. Marduk, the ex[alted, the lord of the gods], turned towards all the habitations that were abandoned and
	<b>Marduk finds a new king for Babylon</b>
<b>11</b> ù ÛG <sup>mes</sup> KUR šu-me-ri ù UR <sup>ki</sup> ša i-mu-	all the people of Sumer and Akkad, who

<p>ú ša-lam-ta-áš ú-sa-/ah\-\hi-ir ka-/bat\-[ta-áš] ir-ta-ši ta-a-a-ra kul-lat ma-ta-a-ta ka-li-ši-na i-hi-it-ib-re-e-ma</p>	<p>had become corpses. He was reconciled and had mercy upon them. He examined and checked all the entirety of the lands, all of them,</p>
<p><b>12</b> iš-te-'e-e-ma ma-al-ki i-šá-ru bi-bil ŠÀ-bi-ša it-ta-ma-ah qa-tu-uš-šu <sup>m</sup>Ku-ra-áš LUGAL URU an-ša-an it-ta-bi ni-bi-it-su a-na ma-li-ku-ti kul-la-ta nap-har iz-zak-ra šu-/um-šú\</p>	<p>he searched everywhere and then he took a righteous king, his favorite, by the hand, he called out his name: Cyrus, king of Anšan; he pronounced his name to be king all over the world.</p>
<p><b>13</b> <sup>kur</sup>qu-ti-i gi-mir um-man-man-da ú-ka-an-ni-ša a-na še-pi-šu ÛG<sup>meš</sup> sal-mat SAG.DU ša ú-ša-ak-ši-du qa-ta-a-šú</p>	<p>He made the land of Gutium and all the Umman-manda [i.e., the Medes] bow in submission at his feet. And he [i.e., Cyrus] shepherded with justice and righteousness all the black-headed people,</p>
<p><b>14</b> i-na ki-it-ti ù mi-šá-ru iš-te-né-'e-e-ši-na-a-ti <sup>d</sup>AMAR.UTU EN GAL ta-ru-ú ÛG<sup>meš</sup>-šú ep-še-e-ti-ša dam-qa-a-ta ù ŠÀ-ba-šu i-ša-ra ha-di-iš ip-pa-li-i[s]</p>	<p>over whom he [i.e., Marduk] had given him victory. Marduk, the great lord, guardian of his people, looked with gladness upon his good deeds and upright heart.</p>
	<p><b>Cyrus takes Babylon</b></p>
<p><b>15</b> a-na URU-šu KÁ.DINGIR<sup>meš ki</sup> a-la-ak-šu iq-bi ú-ša-as-bi-it-su-ma har-ra-nu TIN.TIR<sup>ki</sup> ki-ma ib-ri ù tap-pe-e it-tal-la-ka i-da-a-šu</p>	<p>He ordered him to go to his city Babylon. He set him on the road to Babylon and like a companion and a friend, he went at his side.</p>
<p><b>16</b> um-ma-ni-šu rap-ša-a-ti ša ki-ma me-e ÍD la ú-ta-ad-du-ú ni-ba-šu-un <sup>giš</sup>TUKUL<sup>meš</sup>-šu-nu sa-an-du-ma i-ša-ad-di-ha i-da-a-šu</p>	<p>His vast army, whose number, like water of the river, cannot be known, marched at his side fully armed.</p>
<p><b>17</b> ba-lu qab-li ù ta-ha-zi ú-še-ri-ba-áš qé-reb ŠU.AN.NA<sup>ki</sup> URU-šu KÁ.DINGIR<sup>meš ki</sup> i-ti-ir i-na šap-ša-qí, <sup>md</sup>NÀ.NÍ.TUKU LUGAL la pa-li-hi-šu ú-ma-al-la-a qa-tu-uš-šú</p>	<p>He made him enter his city Babylon without fighting or battle; he saved Babylon from hardship. He delivered Nabonidus, the king who did not revere him, into his hands.</p>
<p><b>18</b> ÛG<sup>meš</sup> TIN.TIR<sup>ki</sup> ka-li-šu-nu nap-har KUR šu-me-ri u URI<sup>ki</sup> ru-bé-e ù šak-kanak-ka ša-pal-šu ik-mi-sa ú-na-áš-ši-qu še-pu-uš-šu ih-du-ú a-na LUGAL-ú-ti-šú im-mi-ru pa-nu-uš-šú-un</p>	<p>All the people of Babylon, all the land of Sumer and Akkad, princes and governors, bowed to him and kissed his feet. They rejoiced at his kingship and their faces shone.</p>
<p><b>19</b> be-lu ša i-na tu-kul-ti-ša ú-bal-li-tu mi-tu-ta-an i-na pu-uš-qu ù ú-de-e ig-mi-lu kul-la-ta-an ta-bi-iš ik-ta-ar-ra-bu-šu iš-tam-ma-ru zi-ki-ir-šu</p>	<p>Lord by whose aid the dead were revived and who had all been redeemed from hardship and difficulty, they greeted him with gladness and praised his name.</p>
	<p><b>Cyrus' titles</b></p>
<p><b>20</b> a-na-ku <sup>m</sup>Ku-ra-áš LUGAL kiš-šat LUGAL GAL LUGAL dan-nu LUGAL TIN.TIR<sup>ki</sup> LUGAL KUR šu-me-ri ú ak-ka-</p>	<p>I am Cyrus, king of the world, great king, mighty king, king of Babylon, king of Sumer and Akkad, king of the four</p>

<i>di-i</i> LUGAL <i>kib-ra-a-ti er-bé-et-ti</i>	quarters,
<b>21</b> DUMU <sup>m</sup> <i>Ka-am-bu-zi-ia</i> LUGAL GAL LUGAL URU <i>an-ša-an</i> DUMU DUMU <sup>m</sup> <i>Ku-ra-áš</i> LUGAL GAL LUGA[L U]RU <i>an-ša-an</i> ŠÀ.BAL.BAL <sup>m</sup> <i>ši-iš-pi-iš</i> LUGAL GAL LUGAL URU <i>an-šá-an</i>	the son of Cambyses, great king, king of Anšan, grandson of Cyrus, great king, king of Anšan, descendant of Teispes, great king, king of Anšan,
<b>22</b> NUMUN <i>da-ru-ú ša</i> LUGAL-ú-tu <i>ša</i> <sup>d</sup> EN <i>u</i> <sup>d</sup> NÀ <i>ir-a-mu pa-la-a-šu a-na tu-ub</i> ŠÀ-bi-šú-nu <i>ih-ši-ha</i> L[UGA]L-ut-su <i>e-nu-ma a-n[a q]é-reb</i> TIN.TIR <sup>ki</sup> <i>e-ru-bu sa-li-mi-iš</i>	of an eternal line of kingship, whose rule Bêl and Nabu love, whose kingship they desire for their hearts' pleasure. When I entered Babylon in a peaceful manner,
	<b>The prince of peace</b>
<b>23</b> <i>i-na ul-ši</i> <i>ù ri-ša-a-ti i-na</i> É.GAL <i>ma-al-ki ar-ma-a šu-bat be-lu-ti</i> <sup>d</sup> AMAR.UTU EN GAL ŠÀ-bi <i>ri-it-pa-šu ša ra-im</i> \ TIN.TIR <sup>ki</sup> <i>ši-m[a]/a-tiš</i> \ <i>iš-ku</i> <sup>?</sup> <i>-na-an-ni-ma</i> <i>u<sub>4</sub>-mi-šam a-še-'a-a pa-la-/ah</i> \-šú	I took up my lordly abode in the royal palace amidst rejoicing and happiness. Marduk, the great lord, /established as his fate ( <i>šimtu</i> ) \ for me a magnanimous heart of one who loves Babylon, and I daily attended to his worship.
<b>24</b> <i>um-ma-ni-ia rap-ša-ti i-na qé-reb</i> TIN.TIR <sup>ki</sup> <i>i-ša-ad-di-ha šú-ul-ma-niš nap-har</i> KU[R <i>šu-me-ri</i> ] /ù \ URI <sup>ki</sup> <i>mu-gal-[l]i-ti ul ú-šar-ši</i>	My vast army marched into Babylon in peace; I did not permit anyone to frighten the people of [Sumer] /and \ Akkad.
<b>25</b> /URU <sup>ki</sup> \ KÁ.DINGIR.RA <sup>ki</sup> <i>ù kul-lat ma-ha-zi-šu i-na ša-li-im-ti áš-te-'e-e</i> DUMU <sup>meš</sup> TIN.TIR <sup>[ki x x x š]</sup> <i>a ki-ma la ŠÀ-[bi DING]IR-ma ab-šá-a-ni la si-ma-ti-šú-nu šu-ziz-/zu</i> \	I sought the welfare of the city of Babylon and all its sacred centers. As for the citizens of Babylon, [x x x upon wh]om he [i.e., Nabonidus] imposed a corvée which was not the gods' wish and not befitting them,
<b>26</b> <i>an-hu-ut-su-un ú-pa-áš-ši-ha ú-ša-ap-ti-ir sa-ar-ma-šu-nu a-na ep-še-e-ti-[ia dam-qa-a-ti]</i> <sup>d</sup> AMAR.UTU EN GA[L]-ú <i>ih-de-e-ma</i>	I relieved their wariness and freed them from their service. Marduk, the great lord, rejoiced over [my good] deeds.
<b>27</b> <i>a-na ia-a-ti</i> <sup>m</sup> <i>Ku-ra-áš</i> LUGAL <i>pa-li-ih-šu</i> <i>ù</i> <sup>m</sup> <i>Ka-am-bu-zi-ia</i> DUMU <i>gi-it</i> ŠÀ-bi- <i>[ia</i> <i>ù a-n[a nap-h[ar] um-ma-ni-ia</i>	He sent gracious blessing upon me, Cyrus, the king who worships him, and upon Cambyses, the son who is [my] offspring, [and up]on all my army,
	<b>Religious measures</b>
<b>28</b> <i>da-am-qí-iš ik-ru-ub-ma i-na šá-lim-ti ma-har-ša ta-bi-iš ni-it-t[a-al-la-ak i-na qí-bi-ti-šú]</i> <i>šir-ti nap-har</i> LUGAL <i>a-ši-ib</i> BÁRA <sup>meš</sup>	and in peace, before him, we mov[ed] around in friendship. [By his] exalted [word], all the kings who sit upon thrones
<b>29</b> <i>ša ka-li-iš kib-ra-a-ta iš-tu tam-ti e-li-ti a-di tam-ti šap-li-ti a-ši-ib</i> n[a-gi-i né-su-ti] LUGAL <sup>meš</sup> KUR <i>a-mur-ri-i a-ši-ib kuš-ta-ri ka-li-šú-un</i>	throughout the world, from the Upper Sea to the Lower Sea, who live in the dis[tricts far-off], the kings of the West, who dwell in tents, all of them,
<b>30</b> <i>bi-lat-su-nu ka-bi-it-ti ú-bi-lu-nim-ma</i>	brought their heavy tribute before me and

<p><i>qé-er-ba ŠU.AN.NA<sup>ki</sup> ú-na-áš-ši-qu še-pu-ú-a iš-tu [ŠU.AN.NA<sup>k</sup>]<sup>i</sup> a-di URU aš-šur<sup>ki</sup> ù MÜŠ-EREN<sup>ki</sup></i></p>	<p>in Babylon they kissed my feet. From [Babylon] to Aššur and (from) Susa,</p>
<p><b>31</b> <i>a-kà-dè<sup>ki</sup> KUR èš-nu-nak URU za-am-ba-an URU me-túr-nu BÀD.DINGIR<sup>ki</sup> a-di pa-at<sup>kur</sup> qu-ti-i ma-ha-z[a e-be]r-ti<sup>id</sup> IDIGNA ša iš-tu pa<sup>1</sup>-na-ma na-du-ú šu-bat-su-un</i></p>	<p>Agade, Ešnunna, Zamban, Me-Turnu, Der, as far as the region of Gutium, the sacred centers on the other side of the Tigris, whose sanctuaries had been abandoned for a long time,</p>
<p><b>32</b> <i>DINGIR<sup>meš</sup> a-ši-ib ŠÀ-bi-šú-nu a-na áš-ri-šu-nu ú-tir-ma ú-šar-ma-a šu-bat da-rí-a-ta kul-lat ÛG<sup>meš</sup> -šú-nu ú-pa-ah<sup>hi</sup>-ra-am-ma ú-te-er da-ád-mi-šú-un</i></p>	<p>I returned the images of the gods, who had resided there [i.e., in Babylon], to their places and I let them dwell in eternal abodes. I gathered all their inhabitants and returned to them their dwellings.</p>
<p><b>33</b> <i>ù DINGIR<sup>meš</sup> KUR šu-me-ri ù URI<sup>ki</sup> ša<sup>md</sup> NÀ.NÍ.TUKU a-na ug-ga-tì EN DINGIR<sup>meš</sup> ú-še-ri-bi a-na qé-reb ŠU.AN.NA<sup>ki</sup> i-na qí-bi-ti<sup>d</sup> AMAR.UTU EN GAL i-na ša-li-im-tì</i></p>	<p>In addition, at the command of Marduk, the great lord, I settled in their habitations, in pleasing abodes, the gods of Sumer and Akkad, whom Nabonidus, to the anger of the lord of the gods, had brought into Babylon.</p>
	<p><b>Cyrus' prayer</b></p>
<p><b>34</b> <i>i-na maš-ta-ki-šu-nu ú-še-ši-ib šú-ba-at tu-ub ŠÀ-bi {ut} kul-la-ta DINGIR<sup>meš</sup> ša ú-še-ri-bi a-na qé-er-bi ma-ha-zi-šu-un</i></p>	<p>May all the gods whom I settled in their sacred centers ask daily</p>
<p><b>35</b> <i>u<sub>4</sub>-mi-ša-am ma-har<sup>d</sup> EN ù<sup>d</sup> NÀ ša a-ra-ku U<sub>4</sub><sup>meš</sup> -ia li-ta-mu-ú lit-taz-ka-ru a-ma-a-ta du-un-qí-ia ù a-na<sup>d</sup> AMAR.UTU EN-ia li-iq-bu-ú ša<sup>m</sup> Ku-ra-áš {-áš} LUGAL pa-li-<u>hi</u>-ka u<sup>m</sup> Ka-am-bu-zi-ia DUMU-šú</i></p>	<p>of Bêl and Nâbu that my days be long and may they intercede for my welfare. May they say to Marduk, my lord: "As for Cyrus, the king who reveres you, and Cambyses, his son,</p>
<p><b>Text of Fragment B</b></p>	
<p><b>36</b> <i>/x\ [x x x- i]b šu-nu lu-ú /x x x x x x x x\ ÛG<sup>meš</sup> TIN.TIR<sup>ki</sup> /ik-tar-ra-bu\ LUGAL-ú-tu KUR.KUR ka-li-ši-na šu-ub-ti né-eh-tì ú-še-ši-ib</i></p>	<p>[end of prayer]." The people of Babylon blessed my kingship, and I settled all the lands in peaceful abodes.</p>
	<p><b>Building activities</b></p>
<p><b>37</b> <i>[x x x KUR.]GI<sup>mušen</sup> 2 UZ.TUR<sup>mušen</sup> ù 10 TU.GUR<sub>4</sub><sup>mušen.meš</sup> e-li KUR.GI<sup>mušen</sup> UZ.TUR<sup>mušen.meš</sup> ù TU.GUR<sub>4</sub><sup>mušen.meš</sup></i></p>	<p>I [daily increased the number offerings to N] geese, two ducks, and ten turtledoves above the former offerings of geese, ducks, and turtledoves.</p>
<p><b>38</b> <i>[x x x u<sub>4</sub>-m]i-šam ú-ta-ah<sup>hi</sup>-id BÀD im-gur-<sup>d</sup>EN.LÍL BÀD GAL-a ša TIN.TIR<sup>k</sup>[<sup>i</sup> ma-as-š]ar/ta\ -šú du-un-nu-nù áš-te-'e-e-ma</i></p>	<p>[...] Dur-Imgur-Enlil, the great wall of Babylon, its de[fen]se, I sought to strengthen</p>
<p><b>39</b> <i>[x x x] ka-a-ri a-gur-ru šá GÚ ha-ri-šì ša LUGAL mah<sup>hi</sup>-ri i-p[u-šu-ma la ú-ša]k-/li-lu\ šì-pi-ir-šu</i></p>	<p>[...] The quay wall of brick, which a former king had bu[ilt, but had not com]pleted its construction,</p>

<p><b>40</b> [x x x <i>la ú-ša-as-<u>hi</u>-ru URU</i>] /a\ -na <i>ki-da-a-ni ša LUGAL ma-ah-ra la i-pu-šu um-man-ni-šu di-ku-u[t ma-ti-šu i-na (or: a-na) q]é-/reb\ ŠU.AN.NA<sup>ki</sup></i></p>	<p>[...who had not surrounded the city] on the outside, which no former king had made, (who) a levy of work[men (or: soldiers) had led] in[to] Babylon,</p>
<p><b>41</b> [x x x <i>i-na ESIR.HÁD.RÁ</i>]/A\ <i>ù SIG<sub>4</sub>.AL.ÛR.RA eš-ši-iš e-pu-uš-ma [ú-šak-lil ši-pir-ši]-in</i></p>	<p>[... with bitumen] and bricks, I built anew [and completed th]eir [job].</p>
<p><b>42</b> [x x x <sup>giš</sup>IG<sup>meš</sup> <sup>giš</sup>EREN MAH<sup>meš</sup>] <i>ta-ah-lu-up-tì ZABAR as-ku-up-pu ù nu-ku-š[e-e pi-ti-iq e-ri-i e-ma KÁ<sup>meš</sup>-š]i-na</i></p>	<p>[... magnificent gates of cedar] with a bronze overlay, thresholds and door-sockets [cast in copper, I fixed in all] their [doorways].</p>
<p><b>43</b> [<i>ú-ra-at-ti x x x š]i-ti-ir šu-mu šá<sup>m</sup> AN.ŠÁR-DÛ-IBILA LUGAL a-lik mah-ri-[ia šá qer-ba-šu ap-pa-a]l-sa<sup>1</sup></i></p>	<p>[x x x] An inscription with the name of Aššurbanipal, a king who had preceded [me, I s]aw [in its midst].</p>
<p><b>44</b> [x x x]/x x x\[x x x]-x-tì</p>	<p>[...]</p>
<p><b>45</b> [x x x]/x x x\[x x a-na d]a-rí-a-tì</p>	<p>[...] for eternity.</p>