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NOTES BRÈVES

26) Ninurta *bēl nignakki* no more¹⁾ — In a recent contribution on the goddess Kusu, I assessed the evidence for the epithet *bēl nignakki* ‘Lord of the Censer’, said to be used of Ninurta in *Šurpu* III.²⁾ While concluding that the epithet is probably attributable to a misreading of traces, a problem remained in that it was listed by Tallqvist in his 1938 work *Akkadische Götterepitheta* without a reference,³⁾ apparently predating the first suggestion of the reading in *Šurpu*.

In fact, I overlooked the fact that the true originator of the suggested reading was not Köcher,⁴⁾ but Zimmern⁵⁾ in a 1915-16 review of the first few issues of Ebeling’s KAR. Zimmern supported his reading with reference to BBR 27 (K. 4245) which has since been re-edited by Livingstone as one of the duplicates to CBS 6060.⁶⁾ In my article, I offered the occurrence of the epithet in Tallqvist as a very tentative support to the equation of Uraš with the censer in CBS 6060. As it turns out, this resulted in a century of circular argumentation, and as the relevant line in *Šurpu* is not to be read *bēl nignakki* ‘Lord of the censer’, but rather *bēl kakki* ‘Lord of the weapon’, the most likely source of Tallqvist’s epithet is no longer valid. While it is still possible that Tallqvist knew of another attestation, there is no evidence of it, and until some is forthcoming the epithet should be forgotten.

This does not materially affect the conclusions reached in my article, as CBS 6060 still gives Uraš as an equation for the censer.

Notes

1. This note results from research conducted under the auspices of the project REPAC “Repetition, Parallelism and Creativity: an Inquiry into the Construction of Meaning in Ancient Mesopotamian Literature and Erudition” (2019-2024, University of Vienna) that has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (Grant agreement no. 803060).

2. Simons (RA) 2018: 144-145.

3. Tallqvist (*Götterepitheta*) 1938: 426.

4. Köcher (MIO) 1954: 228.

5. Zimmern (ZA) 1915-1916: 191, n. 1.

6. Livingstone (MMEW) 1986: 178-179.

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