DAILY ANUNNAKI TABLET REPORT

Marduk, the Anunnakū, and Royal Power

The Zinçirli Victory Stele

VA 2708 · P462948 · Q003327 · Esarhaddon 098

CORE LINE · OBVERSE 8

dMES e-tel dÍ-GÌ-GÌ u dGÉŠ.U-ki
mu-šar-bu-u LUGAL-ti-ia

Marduk is called pre-eminent among the Igīgū and Anunnakū and the one who magnifies the king’s rule.

WHAT THE STELE SUPPORTS

A public royal monument places the Anunnakū inside a ranked divine hierarchy used to authorize kingship.

WHAT IT DOES NOT SUPPORT

No extraterrestrials, spacecraft, genetics, mining, or advanced technology.

EXACT OBJECT PHOTOGRAPH

EDITION-GUIDED ROW FIELD

Photograph: Richard Mortel, CC BY 2.0. Exact monument inspected at original resolution.

29 AUGUST 2026 · TURKEY TIME



EXACT-OBJECT EVIDENCE

Where line 8 belongs

A defensible field registration, not a false sign-level box



REGISTRATION CLAIM

RINAP’s numbered edition places the Anunnakū clause at obverse line 8 inside this surviving opening field. The museum photograph verifies the exact object, field preservation, and row survival. It is not sharp or orthogonal enough for a new sign-by-sign collation, so the report does not draw a word box around GÉŠ.U-ki.

VISIBLE / DAMAGED / RESTORED

Exact photograph	Opening inscription field and row sequence survive on VA 2708.
Unbracketed edition text	Marduk · Igīgū · Anunnakū · kingship predicate.
Damaged-readable	šar in mu-šar-bu-u is marked damaged-readable.
Restored in core clause	None.
Reading mode	Edition-guided; photograph-visible at whole-field/row level.

EPIGRAPHIC TABLE

Line 8: text, translation, limits

Published rendering and cautious working translation kept separate

EDITION TRANSLITERATION

dMES e-tel dÍ-GÌ-GÌ u dGÉŠ.U-ki

mu-šar-bu-u LUGAL-ti-ia

All thesis-critical words are outside square brackets.

PUBLISHED TRANSLATION · RINAP

“the god Marduk, hero of the Igīgū and Anunnakū gods, the one who makes my kingship great”

CAUTIOUS WORKING TRANSLATION

“Marduk, the pre-eminent champion among the Igīgū and Anunnakū, the one who magnifies my kingship.”

GRAMMATICAL MINIMUM

Marduk is the named head of the title chain and the actor of the kingship-magnifying participle. The Igīgū and Anunnakū are coordinated groups governed by ‘pre-eminent/hero among.’

IMAGE-TO-TEXT VERDICT

High confidence in the edition’s reading and syntax; moderate confidence in registering line 8 within the photographed opening field; no claim of independent pixel-level sign identification. This is valid edition-guided evidence, not a fresh decipherment from a museum photograph.

AGENCY ANALYSIS

Divine authority ≠ operative action

The line supports hierarchy and royal authorization, not technical agency

MARDUK

Title holder and grammatical center

Pre-eminent/hero among the Igīgū and Anunnakū; magnifies Esarhaddon’s kingship.

IGĪGŪ + ANUNNAKŪ

Ranked divine collectives

Objects of the relational title. No campaign, building, travel, or craft verb is assigned to them here.

GREAT GODS

Fate and victory frame

Lines 11–12 say the great gods decree destiny and grant victorious might to the favored king.

ESARHADDON + ARMY

Operative earthly actors

The king’s inscription and relief present the military campaign, captives, and public monument as royal-imperial action.

ROLE FIREWALL

A divine hierarchy title can authorize a human king without making the divine collective the army, builders, craftsmen, transporters, or engineers. Proximity in one monument does not transfer the king’s acts to the Anunnakū.

EXACT MONUMENT CONTEXT

A public victory stele from Sam’al

The object’s material and political setting constrain the interpretation





OBJECT CONTROL

- VA 2708 · Esarhaddon 098 · Q003327 · CDLI composite P462948
- 322 × 135 × 50 cm; found at Zinçirli beside its base inside the outer city gate
- Composed after 22 Du’uzu 671 BCE in connection with Esarhaddon’s Egypt campaign
- Relief: Esarhaddon, divine symbols, and two captive figures; the identifications of the captives are debated

INTERPRETIVE LIMIT

The relief and campaign narrative document Assyrian royal ideology and earthly conquest. They do not depict the Anunnakū, a vehicle, a planet, or a technical system. The monument joins theology to imperial kingship; it does not turn theology into engineering history.

PHOTOS: O. S. M. AMIN · CC BY-SA 4.0

CORPUS RESULT

What this source adds — and where it stops

A useful kingship link with a strong agency limitation

MAIN TAKEAWAY

VA 2708 gives a materially public Anunnakū hierarchy title inside a royal victory and kingship program. Marduk is the agent who magnifies kingship; the Anunnakū are the ranked collective in his title.

CORPUS RELEVANCE

Advances the open kingship/priestly-rule gap by placing explicit Anunnakū language and royal authorization on one monumental object. It also strengthens the continuity of Akkadian Anunnakū usage in first-millennium state theology.

LIMIT / CONTRADICTION

The group is not the grammatical actor of conquest, construction, craft, transport, or decree in line 8. Esarhaddon and his army remain the operative actors; later fate language belongs to the great gods collectively.

NEXT SELECTION

Prefer a photographed non-royal administrative, canal, tax, transport, court, or workshop object where Anuna/Anunnakū is itself the unbracketed subject of a procedural verb.

PRIMARY SOURCE LINKS

- ORACC/RINAP Q003327 — oracc.museum.upenn.edu/rinap/rinap4/Q003327/html
- Leichty, RINAP 4 — oracc.museum.upenn.edu/rinap/downloads/Leichty_RINAP_4.pdf
- CDLI P462948 — cdli.earth/artifacts/462948
- Exact photo — commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Victory_stele_of_Esarhaddon.jpg

FINAL EVIDENCE CLASS: edition-guided · photograph-visible row-field survival