

Treaty of Esarhaddon with Baal of Tyre – (Transcription)

Treaty of Esarhaddon, King of Assyria, eldest son of [...], with Baal, King of Tyre

Esarhaddon, King of Assyria, these cities which.... [The Royal Deputy whom] I have appointed over you,... the elders of your country,...the royal deputy [...] with them...the ships... do not listen to him, [do not...] without the royal deputy; nor must you open a letter which I send you without (the presence) of the royal deputy. If the royal deputy is absent, wait for him and then open it, [do] not...

If a ship of Baal or of the people of Tyre is shipwrecked off (the coast of) the land of the Philistines or anywhere on the borders of Assyrian territory, everything that is on the ship belongs to Esarhaddon, King of Assyria, but one must not do any harm to any person on board ship, they should list their names and inform the King of Assyria.

These are the ports of trade and the trade roads which Esarhaddon, King of Assyria, granted to his servant Baal; toward Akko, Dor, in the entire district of the Philistines, and in all the cities within Assyrian territory, on the seacoast, and in Byblos, across the Lebanon, all the cities in the mountains, all the cities of Esarhaddon, King of Assyria, which Esarhaddon, King of Assyria gave to Baal [...], to the people of Tyre, in their ships or all those who cross over, in the towns of Baal, his towns, his manors, his wharves, which [...], to [...], as many as lie in the outlying regions, as in the past [...] they..., nobody should harm their ships. Inland, in his district, in his manors...

May Ninlil, who resides in Nineveh, “tie you to” a swift dagger. May Ishtar, who resides in Arbela, no grant you mercy and forgiveness. May Gula, the great physician, [put illness and weariness in] your hearts, an unhealing sore in your body, bathe [in your own blood as if in water]. May the seven gods, the warrior gods, cause your downfall with their fierce weapons. May Bethel and Anath-Bethel deliver you to a man-eating lion. May the great gods of heaven and earth, the gods of Assyria, the gods of Akkad, and the gods of Eber-nari curse you with an indissoluble curse. May Baal-sameme, Baal-malage and Baal-saphon raise an evil wind against your ships, to undo their moorings, tear out their mooring pole, may a strong wave sink them in the sea, a violent tide [...] against you. May Melqart and Eshmun deliver your land to destruction, your people to be deported; from your land [...]. May they make food to disappear from your mouth and clothes from your body, oil for your ointment. May Astarte break your bow in the thick of battle, and have you crouch at the feet of your enemy, may a foreign enemy divide your belongings.

Tablet of the treaty established with Baal of Tyre

Source: The Ancient Near East Volume II – A New Anthology of Texts and Pictures
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