

## The Fall of Babylon Translation – (Transcription)

Eleventh year: The king stayed in Tema; the crown prince, the officials and his army were in Akkad. The king did not come to Babylon for the ceremonies of the month Nisanu, Nebo did not come to Babylon, Bel did not go out from Esaglia (Nebuchadnezzar's Temple) in procession, the festival of the New Year was omitted, but the offerings for the gods of Babylon and Borsippa were given according to the complete ritual.

...Tigris....[In the month of] Addaru the image of the Ishtar of Uruk...the...[the...]s of the sea country....[arm]y made an attack...[Seventeenth year:]...Nebo [went] from Borsippa for the procession of [Bel...] the king entered the temple Eturkamma, in the temple [partly unintelligible]. Bel went out in procession, they performed the festival of the New Year according to the complete ritual. In the month of...[Lugal-Marada and the other gods] of the town Marad, Zababa and the other gods of Kish, the goddess Ninlil and the other gods of Hursagkalama entered Babylon. Till the end of the month Ululu (all) the gods of Akkad...those from above the IM and those from below the IM, entered Babylon. The gods from Borsippa, Kutha,...and Sippar (however) did not enter. In the month of Tashritu, when Cyrus attacked the army of Akkad in Opis on the Tigris, the inhabitants of Akkad revolted, but Nabonidus massacred the confused inhabitants. The 14<sup>th</sup> day, Sippar was seized without battle. Nabonidus fled. The 16<sup>th</sup> day, Gobryas the governor of Gutium and the army of Cyrus entered Babylon without battle. Afterwards Nabonidus was arrested in Babylon when he returned there. Till the end of the month, the shield (carrying) Gutians were staying within Esaglia but nobody carried arms. In Esaglia and its pertinent buildings, the correct time (for a ceremony) was not missed.

In the month of Arahshamnu, the 3<sup>rd</sup> day, Cyrus entered Babylon, green twigs were spread in front of him. The state of "Peace" was imposed upon the city. Cyrus sent greetings to all Babylon. Gobryas, his governor, installed (sub) governors in Babylon. From the month of Kislimu to the month of Addaru, the gods of Akkad which Nabonidus had made come down to Babylon...returned to their sacred cities. In the month of Arahshamnu, on the night of the 11<sup>th</sup> day, Gobryas died. In the month of Arahshamnu, the ...th day, the wife of the king died. From the 27<sup>th</sup> day of Arahshamnu till the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of Nisanu an official "weeping" was performed in Akkad, all the people went around with their hair disheveled.

When the 4<sup>th</sup> day, Cambyses son of Cyrus, went to the temple of nigpa kalam ma sum ma, the priest of Nebo who...the bull....they came and made the "weaving" by means of the handles and when he led the image of [Nebo...] spears and leather quivers, from...Nebo returned to Esaglia, sheep-offerings in front of Bel and the god Marbiti.

Source: The Ancient Near East – An Anthology of Texts and Pictures  
by James Pritchard - 1958 Princeton University Press