

# Terms of Ornithomancy in Hittite

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## Abstract

Although a number of Hittite texts concerning the bird oracle (ornithomancy) are preserved, the meanings of the terms describing the flights of birds remain obscure. The present paper examines all the relevant terms in order to establish their meanings.

### 1. Introduction

Hittite is the oldest attested Indo-European language, spoken in the second millennium BCE in Anatolia, and is usually divided into three stages: Old Hittite (ca. 1650-1450), Middle Hittite (ca. 1450-1350), and New Hittite (ca. 1350-1190). Over 30,000 cuneiform tablets and tablet fragments have been found in various genres such as historical documents, letters, laws, myths, and ritual or festival scenarios. In addition, there are some Middle Hittite and many New Hittite divinatory or oracle texts, in which the Hittites sought answers to the questions concerning field campaigns, mistakes in cult rituals, ascension to the throne, interpretations of dreams, illnesses and so forth. As an oracle technique bird flights were often observed in order to know what answer the deity gives to the question the Hittites asked. The meanings of the technical terms describing the bird flight, however, have remained unclear so far, in spite of some previous studies, e.g. Ünal (1973: 27-56), Archi (1975), Beal (2002: 65-71, 73), and Haas (2008). This paper will examine all the relevant technical terms to determine their meanings. It is to be noted that the text KUB 18.5, which is often mentioned in the above literature, is in Middle Hittite<sup>1</sup>, and with a few exceptions will not be considered here. The same is the case with all the other Middle Hittite bird oracle texts.

### 2. Structure of New Hittite Bird Oracle Texts

The observation of the bird flight in the New Hittite period can be seen in the so-called New Hittite bird oracle texts. A New Hittite bird oracle text contains, when completely recorded, the following sections in one paragraph: the question to the deity, expected results, observation protocols, the name and title of the bird watcher (augur) and achieved results [see **Table 1**]. From the observation protocols the details of the correct procedures of the observation can be learned, as can be seen from the following schematic description of their structure.

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<sup>1</sup> Košak (2005) 81a under Bo 2397.

### 3. Structure of an Observation Protocol

Each observation protocol is, with a few exceptions, made up of at least three parts. Each protocol part has the name and number of the bird(s) which entered the vision as well as the description of the behavior of the observed bird(s). As an example the structure of an observation protocol with three parts is presented here:

1st protocol part	1st bird observation	1st observation field
2nd protocol part	2nd bird observation	
EGIR KASKAL- <i>NI</i> , “behind the road”		field change
3rd protocol part	3rd bird observation	2nd observation field

The description EGIR KASKAL-*NI* (= Akkadian *ARKI ḪARRĀNI*) “behind the road” occurs only once in one protocol and normally after at least two protocol parts. Although the expression “before the road” is not attested, it is possible to deduce from the formulation that the augur first watched the field this side of the road and observed the bird appearing there. Then he watched the field behind (the other side of) the road and observed the bird appearing there. Unlike the Middle Hittite observation protocols such as KUB 18.5 the word *ÍD* “river” does not occur in the New Hittite observation protocols. Now let us look into the observation fields that are found in the texts more closely.

### 4. Observation Fields

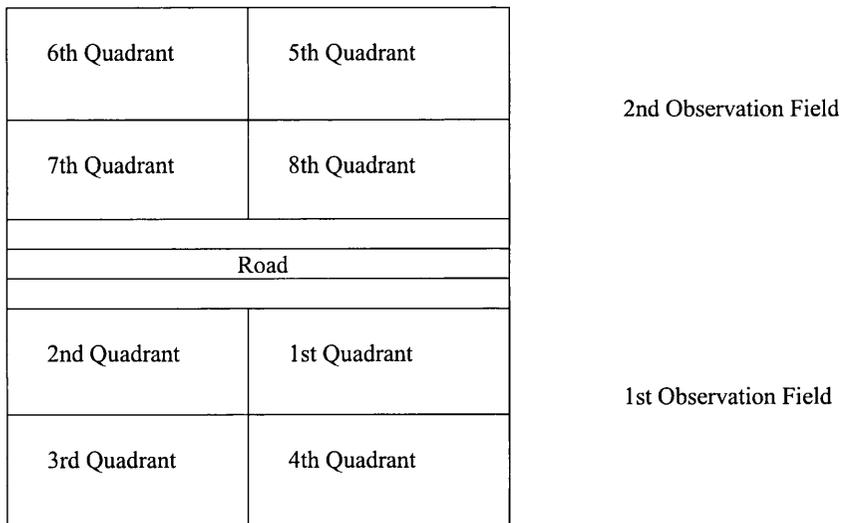
In Column IV of KUB 49.60 a drawing of the observation field is found, although due to the break of the clay tablet only the right half is preserved [see **Figure 1**]. Since the word “road” is mentioned, which divides the observation field into two areas, it becomes clear that the drawing of KUB 49.60 represents a surface on the ground. When the diagonal line is disregarded, the observation field is a quadrangle composed of four smaller quadrangles of the same size, to be called *quadrants* hereafter. To facilitate further explanation the four quadrants in the first observation field are numbered from 1 to 4. Thus:

2nd Quadrant	1st Quadrant
3rd Quadrant	4th Quadrant

Similarly the four quadrants of the second observation field behind the road are numbered from 5 to 8.  
Thus:

6th Quadrant	5th Quadrant
7th Quadrant	8th Quadrant

The two observation fields, the first of which lies “before the road” and the second “behind the road”, will look like the following from the bird’s perspective.



X Augur

In the following only the first observation field will be studied in more detail. All the explanation

applies naturally to the second observation field.

## 5. Descriptions of the Flight of Birds

For the description of the direction of the flight the following pieces of information are important:

- I. Where it was seen
- II. From where it came in flying
- III. To where it flew away

Many protocol parts include at least one of these items, and when two or three descriptions are given, they are found in this order.

In rare cases description IV is found beside I to III. Thus:

- IV. Where it is located

Descriptions I, II, III and IV will be called ‘main descriptions’ here, because in every protocol part at least one of these four descriptions is found. Other descriptions, such as perching, beak movement, encounter with another bird, etc., to be called ‘additional descriptions’, will not be dealt with in this paper (with the exception of the quadrant change; see 7.2 below).

## 6. Main Description I: *NIMUR*-sentence

In main description I, which concerns the question “where the bird was seen”, the Akkadian verb *AMĀRUM* (= Hitt. *au(š)/u(wa)-*) “to see” is used, usually in the verbal form *NI-MUR* (G-stem 1pl. preterit) “we saw”. This *NIMUR* sentence has the following structure:

numeral	bird name	- <i>ma</i>	<i>gun./tar.</i>	verb
∅	BN (Akk. Sg.)	-∅/ <i>ma</i>	<i>gun./tar.-li<sub>12</sub>-an</i>	<i>NI-MUR</i>
<i>n</i> ( <i>n</i> =2,3 ...)	BN (Akk. Pl.)			

“A ...-bird we saw in the *gun./tar* (area)”.

“(*n* number of) ...-birds we saw in the *gun./tar* (area)”.

For the definition of in the *gun.* and *tar.* see section 7.3 below.

## 7. Main Description II: *uwa*-sentence

In dealing with the question “from where the bird came in flying” the Hittites confronted a problem, as the Hittite language does not have a special word for “to fly”. It is therefore with the verb *uwa-* “to come” that they expressed the event of a bird flying into the observation field. This *uwa*-sentence has the following structure:

numeral	bird name	- <i>ma</i>	- <i>kán</i>	tech. terms	verb
∅	BN (Nom. Sg.)	-∅/ <i>ma</i>	-∅/ <i>kán</i>	<u>A</u> / <u>B</u> / <u>C</u> / <u>D</u>	<i>ú-it</i>
<i>na-aš</i>		-∅			
<i>n</i> ( <i>n</i> =2,3 ...)	BN (Nom. Pl.)	-∅/ <i>ma</i>			
<i>na-at</i>		-∅			
					<i>ú-e-er</i>

“A ...-bird came in flying ..... / It came in flying .....”.

“(n number of) ...-birds came in flying ..... / They came in flying .....”.

In this formula ten combinations of technical terms are known. It is convenient for further considerations to classify these combinations as follows (in the table below under C and D only the singular forms are listed; the plural forms would be *gun./tar.-li<sub>12</sub>-uš*):

A	1	EGIR UGU SIG <sub>5</sub> -za
	2	EGIR GAM <i>ku-uš</i> .
	3	<i>pé.-an ku-uš</i> .
	4	<i>pé. -an SIG<sub>5</sub>-za</i>
B	1	<i>zi.-an SIG<sub>5</sub>-za</i>
	2	<i>zi.-an ku-uš</i> .
C	1	<i>zi.-an gun.-liš</i> (or: <i>gun.-liš zi.-an</i> )
	2	<i>zi.-an tar.-liš</i> (or: <i>tar.-liš zi.-an</i> )
D	1	<i>pa.-an gun.-liš</i> (or: <i>gun.-liš pa.-an</i> )
	2	<i>pa.-an tar.-liš</i> (or: <i>tar.-liš pa.-an</i> )

In the bird observation protocols in New Hittite many technical terms are found in abbreviated forms, while those in Middle Hittite unabbreviated forms are often used.

### 7.1 Technical Terms in the Combination A

EGIR corresponds to the Hittite *appan* “back”. *pé.-an* — less often *pé.* — is an abbreviation of *peran* “in front”. Seen from the augur a back area and a front area of the four quadrants are to be observed. The antonyms EGIR and *pé.-an* then denote the following quadrants of the first observation field:

EGIR : first and second quadrants

*pé.-an* : third and fourth quadrants

2. EGIR	1. EGIR
3 . <i>pé.-an</i>	4. <i>pé.-an</i>

UGU and GAM correspond to the Hittite *šarā* “upwards” and *katta* “downwards”, respectively. They are only attested as EGIR UGU SIG<sub>5</sub>-za and EGIR GAM *ku-uš*.

SIG<sub>5</sub>-za corresponds to the Hittite *aššuwaz*, the ablative singular of *aššu-*, meaning “from the favorable (area)” (i.e., from the favorable area in the direction of the unfavorable area). *ku-uš*. is an abbreviation of *kuštayati*. This word occurs only in the bird observation protocols and always as the antonym of SIG<sub>5</sub>-za. The meaning of *ku-uš*. is therefore to be determined as “from the unfavorable (area)” (i.e. from the unfavorable area in the direction of the favorable area). In the KIN-oracle as well as the liver oracle the right side is normally positive and the left side negative. This is presumably true of the bird oracle. The antonyms SIG<sub>5</sub>-za and *ku-uš*. therefore refer to the following quadrants in the first observation field:

SIG<sub>5</sub>-za : first and fourth quadrants

*ku-uš*. : second and third quadrants

2. <i>ku-uš</i> .	1. SIG <sub>5</sub> -za
3. <i>ku-uš</i> .	4. SIG <sub>5</sub> -za

The meanings of the terms in the combination A are to be put together as follows:

		combination of terms	meaning
A	1	EGIR UGU SIG <sub>5</sub> -za	“back from the favorable (area) upwards”
	2	EGIR GAM <i>ku-uš.</i>	“back from the unfavorable (area) downwards”
	3	<i>pé.-an ku-uš.</i>	“in front from the unfavorable (area)”
	4	<i>pé.-an SIG<sub>5</sub>-za</i>	“in front from the favorable (area)”

From the definitions as established above the combination A in an *uwa*-sentence can be illustrated as follows (notice also the direction of the arrow, which shows the direction of the flight; see also section 7.2 below) :

2. EGIR GAM <i>ku-uš.</i> →	1. EGIR UGU SIG <sub>5</sub> -za ←
3. <i>pé.-an</i> <i>ku-uš.</i> →	4. <i>pé.-an</i> SIG <sub>5</sub> -za ←

The drawing of KUB 49.60 seems to confirm this definition. There just beside the fourth quadrant the words *pé.<sup>12</sup> [SIG<sub>5</sub><sup>13</sup>]-za* are found below the sentence NU.ŠE-*du* “It shall be unfavorable!” (see **Figure 1**).

## 7.2 Change of the Quadrant

In section 7.1 the direction of the flight in the combination A was shown to be parallel to the horizontal line. In this section the grounds for this interpretation are presented.

A protocol part has usually only one *uwa*-sentence with the combination A of terms. However, two *uwa*-sentences with the combination A occur many times, in which case the following two types are to be distinguished:

1. *uwa*-sentence with the combination A — intermediate sentence — *uwa*-sentence with the combination A  
(Change of quadrant between the righthand and lefthand quadrants)
2. *uwa*-sentence with the combination A (— no intermediate sentence —) *uwa*-sentence with the combination A

(Change of quadrant between the back and front quadrants)

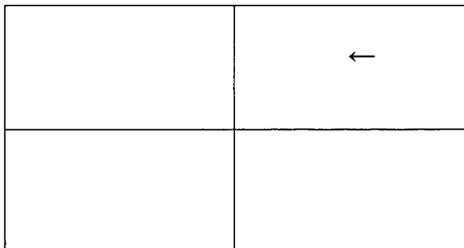
For the combination of terms in the first *uwa*-sentence A<sub>1</sub> (EGIR UGU SIG<sub>5-za</sub>) is chosen as an example:

	Typ 1: right/left	Typ 2: back/front
quadrant	1	1
<i>uwa</i> -sentence	EGIR UGU SIG <sub>5-za</sub>	EGIR UGU SIG <sub>5-za</sub>
interm. sentence	<i>nu-za EGIR-pa ME-aš</i>	no intermediate sentence
quadrant	2	4
<i>uwa</i> -sentence	EGIR GAM <i>ku-uš</i> .	<i>pé.-an SIG<sub>5-za</sub></i>

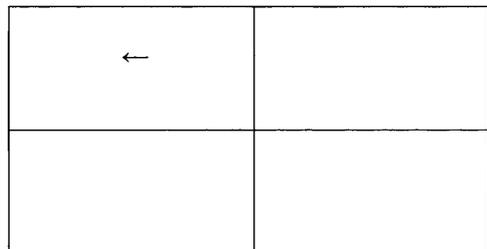
The two types of descriptions can only be explained as follows:

**Type 1: right / left**

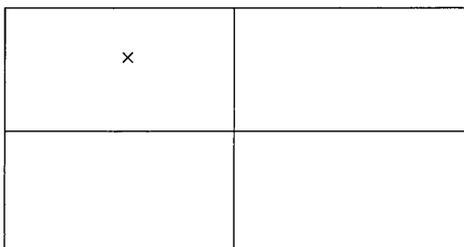
1. A bird comes in flying in the first quadrant (EGIR UGU SIG<sub>5-za</sub>).



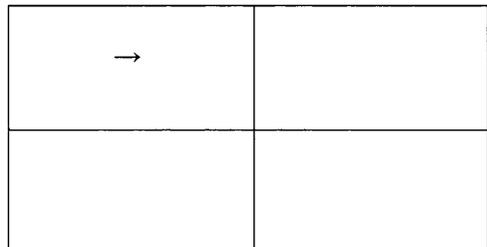
2. It flies into the neighboring quadrant to the left.



3. Turning around in the flight: "It goes on flying while turning back".

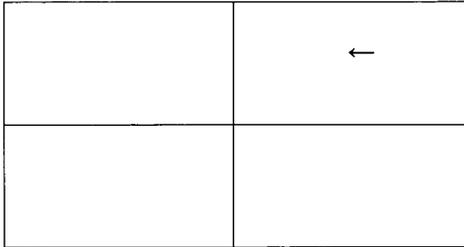


4. It comes flying into the second quadrant (EGIR GAM *ku-uš*).

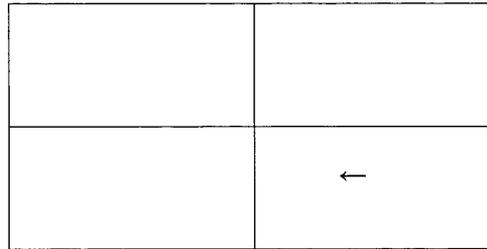


**Type 2: back / front**

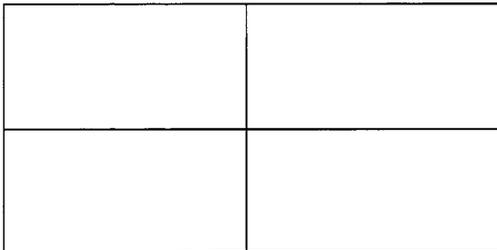
1. A bird comes in flying in the first quadrant (EGIR UGU SIG<sub>5</sub>-za).



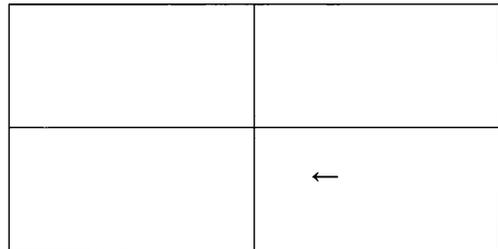
2. It flies into the neighboring quadrant in the front.



3. No intermediate sentence, i.e. it does not make a turning back in the flight.



4. It comes flying into the fourth quadrant (*pé.-an* SIG<sub>5</sub>-za).



It is to be noted that this description of the flight direction is a fundamental description. The flight direction of the combination A may not always be exactly parallel to the horizontal line. This fact is important especially in the interpretation of type 2 (The interpretation of the intermediate sentence as the turning back in flight as well as the notion of ‘fundamental description’ originate from V. von Seckendorff [p.c.]).

### 7.3 *gun.* and *tar.*

*gun* and *tar.* occur with a few exceptions only in the bird observation protocols. *tar.li-* is an abbreviation of *taruyali-*, but there is so far no unabbreviated form attested for *gun.li-*. In this paper, however, it is assumed that *gun.* like *tar.* represents an abbreviation.

When there are a *NIMUR*-sentence (see section 6 above) and a *uwa*-sentence (see section 7 above) with the combination A in a protocol part, only the following combinations between the term *gun.* or *tar.* in the *NIMUR*-sentence and the combination A in the *uwa*-sentence are attested:

		combination of terms	<i>gun.</i>	<i>tar.</i>
A	1	EGIR UGU SIG <sub>5</sub> -za	×	
	2	EGIR GAM <i>ku-uš.</i>		×
	3	<i>pé.-an ku-uš.</i>	×	
	4	<i>pé.-an</i> SIG <sub>5</sub> -za		×

It follows from this that the antonyms *gun.* and *tar.* refer to the following quadrants:

*gun.* : the first and third quadrants.

*tar.* : the second and fourth quadrants.

2. <i>tar.</i>	1. <i>gun.</i>
3. <i>gun.</i>	4. <i>tar.</i>

#### 7.4 *pa.-an*

*pa.-an* is found only in the New Hittite bird observation protocols and is an abbreviation of *pariyawan*, not of *pariyan*. In the Middle Hittite protocol KUB 18.5 *pariyan* “across” occurs as a preposition always with *ÍD-an* “river” (acc. sg.), while *pariyawan* — like *pa.-an* — is used as an adverb without governing a noun in the accusative. In an *uwa*-sentence *pa.-an* occurs always either with *gun.* or with *tar.*, but never with SIG<sub>5</sub>-za or *ku-uš.* It follows from this that *pa.-an* must denote a diagonal or oblique movement. In this paper *pa.-an* is translated as “obliquely”. The combination D has the following meanings:

		combination of terms	meaning
D	1	<i>pa.-an gun.-liš</i>	“obliquely in the <i>gun.</i> (area)”
	2	<i>pa.-an tar.-liš</i>	“obliquely in the <i>tar.</i> (area)”

The combination D in an *uwa*-sentence can be illustrated as follows (note also the direction of the flight; see the arrows):

2. <i>pa.-an tar.-liš</i> ↓	1. <i>pa.-an gun.-liš</i> ✓
3. <i>pa.-an gun.-liš</i> ↗	4. <i>pa.-an tar.-liš</i> ↖

### 7.5 *zi.-an*

*zi.-an* is an abbreviation of *zilawan*, which is attested only in the bird observation protocols. By means of the comparison with the combinations A (see section 7.3 above) and D (see 7.4 above) the meaning of *zi.-an* can be defined as “lengthways”. Thus the combinations B and C have the following meanings:

		combination of terms	meaning
B	1	<i>zi.-an SIG<sub>5</sub>-za</i>	“lengthways in the favorable (area)”
	2	<i>zi.-an ku-uš.</i>	“lengthways in the unfavorable (area)”
C	1	<i>zi.-an gun.-liš</i>	“lengthways in the <i>gun.</i> (area)”
	2	<i>zi.-an tar.-liš</i>	“lengthways in the <i>tar.</i> (area)”

The two combinations B and C in an *uwa*-sentence can be illustrated as follows (note also the direction of the flight; see the arrows):

2. <i>zi.-an ku-uš.</i> ↓	1. <i>zi.-an SIG<sub>5</sub>-za</i> ↓
3. <i>zi.-an ku-uš.</i> ↑	4. <i>zi.-an SIG<sub>5</sub>-za</i> ↑

2. <i>zi.-an tar.-liš</i> ↓	1. <i>zi.-an gun.-liš</i> ↓
3. <i>zi.-an gun.-liš</i> ↑	4. <i>zi.-an tar.-liš</i> ↑

### 8. Main Description III: *pai*-sentence

Description III refers to the question “to where” the bird flew away. In the Hittite texts the situation in which a bird flew away from the observation filed is expressed with the verb *pai*- “to go”. This *pai*-sentence has the following structure:

numeral	bird name	- <i>ma</i>	- <i>kán</i>	tech. terms	verb
∅	BN (Nom. Sg.)	-∅/ <i>ma</i>	-∅/ <i>kán</i>	A' (1, 2) /B/C/D	<i>pa-it</i>
<i>na-aš</i>		-∅			
<i>n</i> (n=2,3 ...)	BN (Nom. Pl.)	-∅/ <i>ma</i>			<i>pa-a-ir</i>
<i>na-at</i>		-∅			

“A ...-bird flew away ...” / It flew away ...”

“*n* (number of) ...-birds flew away ... / They flew way ...”

In this case there are eight combinations in all of technical terms. Unlike in an *uwa*-sentence A'1 here means “away in the middle”, and A'2 “away in front”. The rest of examples from B to D are the same as in an *uwa*-sentence.

		combination of terms	meaning
<b>A'</b>	1	<i>2-an ar-ḥa</i>	“away in the middle”
	2	<i>pé.-an ar-ḥa</i>	“away in front”
<b>B</b>	1	<i>zi.-an SIG<sub>5</sub>-za</i>	“lengthways in the favorable (area)”
	2	<i>zi.-an ku-uš.</i>	“lengthways in the unfavorable (area)”
<b>C</b>	1	<i>zi.-an gun.-liš</i>	“lengthways in the <i>gun.</i> (area)”
	2	<i>zi.-an tar.-liš</i>	“lengthways in the <i>tar.</i> (area)”
<b>D</b>	1	<i>pa.-an gun.-liš</i>	“obliquely in the <i>gun.</i> (area)”
	2	<i>pa.-an tar.-liš</i>	“obliquely in the <i>tar.</i> (area)”

Less often the phrase *gun.-liš* or *tar.-liš* occurs before *pé.-an* or *2-an ar-ḥa*, respectively.

Like in the case of an *uwa*-sentence above the combinations of terms A' to D in a *pai*-sentence can be illustrated as below (compare the direction of the arrow in the *uwa*-sentence and *pai*-sentence).

**combination of terms A' in a *pai*-sentence**

2. ( <i>tar.-liš</i> ) 2- <i>an ar-ḫa</i> ←	1. ( <i>gun.-liš</i> ) 2- <i>an ar-ḫa</i> →
3. ( <i>gun.-liš</i> ) <i>pé.-an ar-ḫa</i> ←	4. ( <i>tar.-liš</i> ) <i>pé.-an ar-ḫa</i> →

**combination of terms C in a *pai*-sentence**

2. <i>zi.-an tar.-liš</i> ↑	1. <i>zi.-an gun.-liš</i> ↑
3. <i>zi.-an gun.-liš</i> ↓	4. <i>zi.-an tar.-liš</i> ↓

**combination of terms B in a *pai*-sentence**

2. <i>zi.-an ku-uš.</i> ↑	1. <i>zi.-an SIG<sub>5</sub>-za</i> ↑
3. <i>zi.-an ku-uš.</i> ↓	4. <i>zi.-an SIG<sub>5</sub>-za</i> ↓

**combination of terms D in a *pai*-sentence**

2. <i>pa.-an tar.-liš</i> ↖	1. <i>pa.-an gun.-liš</i> ↗
3. <i>pa.-an gun.-liš</i> ↙	4. <i>pa.-an tar.-liš</i> ↘

9. Sequence of Main Descriptions I to III

Main description I (“where?”) cannot occur alone but is always followed by II (“from where?”) and/or III (“to where?”). Main descriptions II and III can occur each alone, and they can follow I either each alone or together. Whether main descriptions II and III occur singly or together depends on the combinations of terms.

	I	II	III
1	∅	A	A', B, C, D
	<i>gun./ tar.</i>		
2	∅	B, C, D	∅
	<i>gun./ tar.</i>		
3	∅	∅	B, C, D
	<i>gun./ tar.</i>		<i>gun./tar.-liš + A'</i>

The existence of main description I probably has to do with who the augur was who observed the bird. As a rule main description I occurs in the observation protocols carried out by the augurs Piyammu, Zapalli or Zella by name. These augurs record not only the direction of the flight, but also the place where the bird appeared. Occasionally, however, main description I is found with other augurs.

10. Main Description IV: nominal sentence

Main description IV, which concerns the question “where” the bird is found, is a nominal sentence with the following structure:

numeral	bird name	-ma	predicate
∅	BN (Nom. Sg.)	-∅/-ma	<i>gun./ tar.-liš</i>
<i>n</i> ( <i>n</i> =2,3 ...)	BN (Nom. Pl.)		<i>gun./ tar.-li<sub>12</sub>-uš</i>

“*A* ... -bird is in the *gun./tar.* (area)”

“*n* (number of) ...-birds are in the *gun./tar.* (area)”

Main description IV occurs always alone, i.e., it never follows I, and is never followed by II and/or III.

	<b>I</b>	<b>IV</b>	<b>II</b>	<b>III</b>
<b>4</b>	∅	+	∅	∅

In this case a protocol part is made up with a single nominal sentence, i.e., without description of the flight. In the New Hittite bird observation protocols in nominal sentences the following bird names are known: *ḫarliti-*, *ḫūwa(ra)-* (a kind of owl, perhaps eagle owl), *šūrašūra-* “crow (?)”, *urayanni-* and UGA<sup>MUŠEN</sup> “crow, raven”. (The reading “4 *ḫar-li-ti-in-zi*” — instead of “*za-ḫar-li-ti-in-zi*” — in KUB 18.12 Vs. 10 originates from D. Groddek [by letter] ).

The distinction between main descriptions I to III (“where”, “from where” and “to where”) and main description IV reminds one of the distinction between “birds of wing” (*aves alites*) and “birds of crying” (*aves oscines*) in the Roman bird oracle.

main description	birds
I, II, III	‘birds of wings’ ( <i>aves alites</i> )
IV	‘birds of crying’ ( <i>aves oscines</i> )

### 11. Interpretation of the Bird Flight

In every observation protocol at least one *uwa*-sentence with the combination A occurs (see section 7.1 above). This combination of terms therefore would play a decisive role for the interpretation of the bird flight. In the following in order to clarify the points text examples for the observation protocol from the texts KUB 5.17 + KUB 18.55 are presented. They have the following features in common; they all have:

- a. three protocol parts.
- b. main descriptions I to III, without additional description
- c. an *uwa*-sentence with the combination A in every main description II
- d. an excellent condition of the tablet; all the combination A is preserved.

Text Examples: KUB 5.17 (=A<sub>1</sub>) + KUB 18.55 (= A<sub>2</sub>)

Nr. 1: Vs. II A<sub>1/2</sub> 1’/9’-A<sub>1</sub> 8’

The question and expected results are not preserved. For the reconstruction cf. KUB 5.25 IV 35’; KBo 41.182, 10’; KBo 47.223 (+ KBo 47.227) Rs. (III) 6’.

A<sub>1/2</sub> 1’/9’ § [ma-a-an-mu-za ku-u-uš MUŠEN<sup>HL</sup>]<sup>1A</sup> UL ħa-<sup>1</sup>la<sup>1</sup>-[a -i]r (?)

A<sub>1/2</sub> 2’/10’ [nu MUŠEN<sup>HLA</sup> a]<sup>r</sup>’-ħ[a<sup>2</sup> pé-eš-šî-y]a<sup>2</sup>-an-du (?) [ ]

A<sub>1/2</sub> 3’/11’ [BN (acc. sg.)-i]n ħun.-li<sub>12</sub>-an<sup>1</sup> [NI]<sup>1</sup>-[MUR na-aš-kán] pé.-an ku-uš. ú-i[<sup>t</sup>’]

A<sub>1</sub> 4’ [na-aš-kán] [pé.]<sup>1</sup>-an ar-ħa pa-it { \* \* } TI<sub>8</sub><sup>MUŠEN</sup>-[ma<sup>1</sup>(GÁN)] tar.-li<sub>12</sub>-an NI-MUR

A<sub>1</sub> 5’ [na-aš-k]án EGIR GAM ku-uš. ú-it na-aš 2-an ar-ħa pa-it

A<sub>1</sub> 6’ [EGIR] KASKAL-NI! a-li-li-in tar.-li<sub>12</sub>-an NI-MUR

A<sub>1</sub> 7’ [na-a]š-kán EGIR GAM ku-uš. ú-it na-aš 2-an ar-ħa pa-it

A<sub>1</sub> 8’ [a]r-ħa-wa<sup>1</sup> pé-eš-šîr §

1’/9’ § [If these birds] did not [set me] in motion (?),

2’/10’ [the birds] shall re[ject it]! (?)

3’/11’-A<sub>1</sub>4’ A [ ... ]-i-bird we [s]aw in the *gun.* (area). It came in flying in front from the unfavorable (area), [and] flew away in front.

4’-5’ An eagle we saw in the *tar.* (area). [It] came in flying back from the unfavorable (area) downwards, and flew away in the middle.

6’-7’ [Behind] the road: An *alili*-bird we saw in the *tar.* (area). [I]t came in flying back from the unfavorable (area) downwards, and flew away in the middle.

8’ “They [re]jected (it)”. §

In connection with this protocol there follows a new question whether the king of Ḫatti can have victory over the king of Aššur. By means of a KIN-oracle (symbol) this question is investigated and then as a control the bird is observed.

**Nr. 2: Vs. II A<sub>1</sub> 13’–19’**

A<sub>1</sub> 13’ § IŠ-TU<sup>LÚ</sup>IGI.MUŠEN IR-TUM QA-TAM-MA-pát nu MUŠEN<sup>HLA</sup> SI×SÁ-an-du

A<sub>1</sub> 14’ ħu-u-ša-an tar.-li<sub>12</sub>-an NI-MUR na-aš-kán pé.-an SIG<sub>5</sub>-za ú-it

A<sub>1</sub> 15’ na-aš 2-an ar-ħa pa-it šal-u-wa-ya-an *gun.*-li<sub>12</sub>-an NI-MUR

A<sub>1</sub> 16’ na-aš-kán EGIR UGU SIG<sub>5</sub>-za ú-it na-aš-kán pé.-an ar-ħa pa-it

A<sub>1</sub> 17’ EGIR KASKAL-NI 2 TI<sub>8</sub><sup>MUŠEN.HLA</sup> *gun.*-li<sub>12</sub>-an NI-MUR

A<sub>1</sub> 18’ na-at-kán EGIR UGU SIG<sub>5</sub>-za ú-e-er

A<sub>1</sub> 19’ na-<sup>1</sup>at<sup>1</sup>-kán pé.-an ar-ħa pa-a-ir SI×SÁ-at §

13' § The question is posed by the augur in exactly the same way. The birds shall confirm (it)!

14'-15'	A <i>hūša</i> -bird we saw in the <i>tar</i> . (area). It came in flying in front from the favorable (area), and flew away in the middle.
15'-16'	A <i>šaluwaya</i> -bird we saw in the <i>gun</i> . (area). It came in flying back from the favorable (area) upwards, and flew away in front.
17'-19'	Behind the road: Two eagles we saw in the <i>gun</i> . (area). They came in flying back from the favorable (area) upwards, and flew away in front.
19'	“It was confirmed”. §

The analysis of the two texts can be represented in the following tables:

Nr. 1	bird name	I NIMUR	II <i>uwa-</i>	III <i>pai-</i>
1	[ ... ]- <i>i-</i>	<i>gun</i> .	<i>pé.-an ku -uš.</i>	<i>pé.-an arḫa</i>
2	TI <sub>8</sub> <sup>MUSEN</sup>	<i>tar</i> .	EGIR GAM <i>ku-uš.</i>	<i>2-an arḫa</i>
3	<i>alili-</i>	<i>tar</i> .	EGIR GAM <i>ku-uš.</i>	<i>2-an arḫa</i>
no augur name			<b>[a]rḫa-wa peššir</b>	

Nr. 2	bird name	I NIMUR	II <i>uwa-</i>	III <i>pai-</i>
1	<i>hūša-</i>	<i>tar</i> .	<i>pé.-an SIG<sub>5</sub>-za</i>	<i>2-an arḫa</i>
2	<i>šaluwaya-</i>	<i>gun</i> .	EGIR UGU <i>SIG<sub>5</sub>-za</i>	<i>pé.-an arḫa</i>
3	TI <sub>8</sub> <sup>MUSEN.ḪLA</sup>	<i>gun</i> .	EGIR UGU <i>SIG<sub>5</sub>-za</i>	<i>pé.-an arḫa</i>
no augur name			<b>SI×SÁ-at</b>	

In Text 1 all the birds flew from the **unfavorable** (area), and the achieved result is “**They rejected (it)**”. In Text 2 on the contrary all the birds flew exclusively from the **favorable** (area), and the achieved result is “**It was confirmed**”.

Having gone through all the bird oracle texts known to me I have found out the following rule of “achieved results”.

1. If the birds exclusively or more often flew from the **favorable** (area), the achieved result is: “**It was confirmed**”.
2. If the birds exclusively or more often flew from the **unfavorable** (area), the achieved result is: “**They rejected (it)**”.

### Postscript

After the preparation of this paper in August 2008 the following monograph appeared, which unfortunately could not be gone into.

Haas, Volkert. *Hethitische Orakel, Vorzeichnungen und Abwehrstrategien. Ein Beitrag zur hethitischen Kulturgeschichte*. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2008.

### Abbreviations

KBo : *Keilschrifttexte aus Boghazköy. Wissenschaftliche Veröffentlichungen der Deutschen Orient-Gesellschaft*. Leipzig: Hinrichs, 1916–1921; Berlin: Gebr. Mann Verlag, 1954– .

KUB : *Keilschrifturkunden aus Boghazköi*. Berlin: Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Vorderasiatische Abteilung, 1921–1944; Akademie Verlag, 1953–1990.

OA : *Oriens antiquus*. Rome. 1962–1990.

RHA : *Revue hittite et asianique*. Paris. 1930/32–1978[1980].

SMEA : *Studi micenei ed egeo-anatolici*. Rome. 1966– .

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Table 1 Structure of the New Hittite bird oracle text

§ (paragraph line)		
question	either	opening question (= new question)
	or	control by bird observation after another oracle method <i>IŠTU<sup>LÚ</sup> IGI.MUŠEN (/ LÚ<sup>LÚ</sup> MUŠEN.DÙ / LÚ<sup>LÚ</sup> IGI.DÙ) IR-TUM</i> <i>QATAMMA-pát</i> “the question is posed by the augur in exactly the same way”
	or	control after (another) bird observation <i>nu IGI-anda ... MUŠEN<sup>HI.A</sup> NIMUR</i> “we observed the birds as control ...”
expected results	either	<i>nu MUŠEN<sup>HI.A</sup> SI×SÁ-andu (= handandu)</i> “the birds shall confirm (it)!”
	or	<i>nu MUŠEN<sup>HI.A</sup> arḫa peššiyandu</i> “the birds shall reject (it)!”
observation protocol		[theme of this paper]
augur's name		<i>UMMA ...</i> “as follows ...”
achieved	either	<i>SI×SÁ-at-wa (= handaittat-wa)</i> , “it was confirmed”
results	or	<i>arḫa-wa peššir</i> , “they (= the birds) rejected (it)”
§ (paragraph line)		

*pe.<sup>12</sup> [SIG<sub>5</sub><sup>12</sup>]-za*

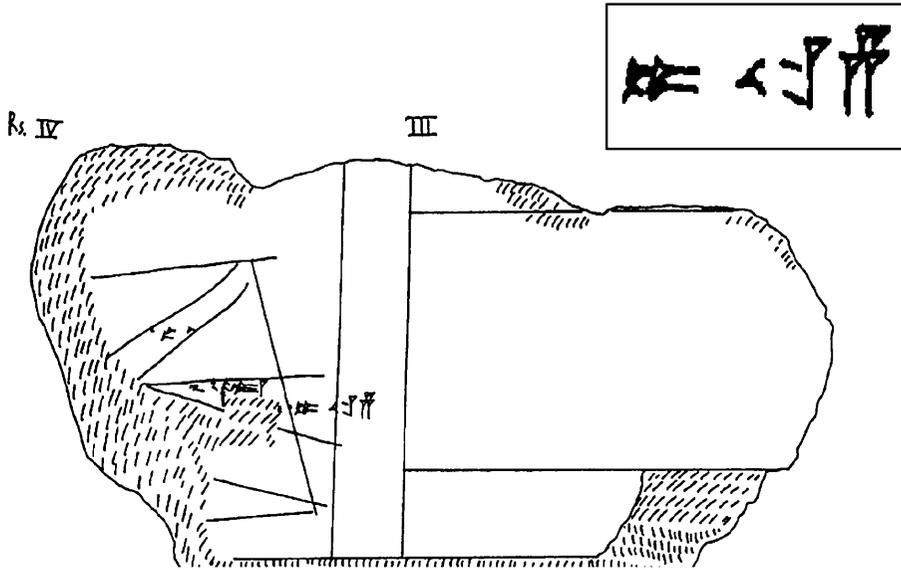


Figure 1 : KUB 49.60 Rs.

## ヒッタイト語における鳥占い術語

佐久間 保彦

キーワード: ヒッタイト語 鳥占い *gun. tar. zi.-an pa.-an*

### 要旨

鳥占いに関するヒッタイト語文書は数多く残されているが、鳥の飛行についての専門用語はこれまで十分に解明されていなかった。本論文は、関連するすべての術語を調査し、それらの意味を解明することを目指す。

(さくま やすひこ)