

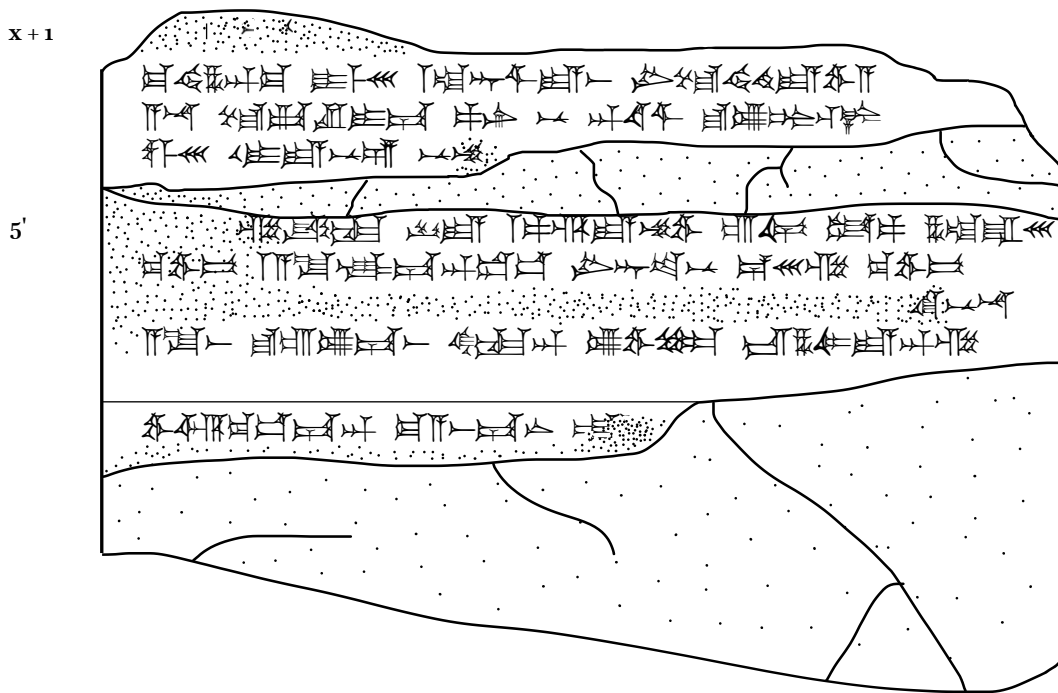
A Hittite tablet recounting the Trojan War?

Michele Bianconi, University of Oxford

1 April 2024

A newly found Hittite tablet shows the correspondence between an unidentified Hittite sovereign and an individual named Pariyamuwa, presumably king of the city. The first line seems to refer to an attack by the sons of Attaršiya of Ahhiyawa to the city of Taruiša/Troy, both known to us from other Hittite sources (e.g. *CTH* 147, the “Indictment of Madduwatta”). The presence of Lycian (Luqqa/Lukka = Lycia) troops within the ranks of the Trojans is well attested in the *Iliad*, but the most striking passage is at the end, where direct reference to songs about the fall of Wiluša/Ilion is made. The apparently dactylic (spondaic) rhythm of the Luwian fragment is surely coincidental.

Keilfischurkunden aus Boghazköi 24.1



1' x x x
ma-ah-ha-an-ma DUMU.MEŠ ^m*At-tar-ši-ya-aš* LÚ KUR ^{URU}*Aḫ-ḫi-ya-wa-a*
A-NA KUR ^{URU}*Ta-ru-i-ša pa-er nu* ^dUTU-ŠI' ^{URU}*Lu-uq-qa-az*
 ÉRIN.MEŠ *u-i-ya-nu-un nu-m* ^f*u ...*

5' $z[i-ik-ka \text{ } \check{\text{š}}\text{EŠ-YA}^{\text{m}} Pa-ri-ya-mu-wa \text{ } \acute{U}\text{-UL EGIR-pa } \check{h}a-at-ra-e\check{s}$
 $ku-wa-pí^{\text{m}} A-la-ak-\check{s}a-an-du-u\check{s}^{\text{U}}]_{TAR-TE-NU} e-e\check{s}-zi \text{ } ku-wa-pí \text{ } [$
 $[$ $k]i-nu-na$
 $a-la-a\check{s}^{\text{URU}} \acute{U}-i-lu-\check{s}a-a\check{s} \check{h}ar-ka-an \text{ } lu-wi-li \text{ } i\check{s}-\check{h}a-mi-ya-an-zi$

wa-ar-ku-uš-ša-an ma-a-aš-ša-ni SÌ[R[?]

X X X

but when the sons of Attaršiya, the leader of the land of Ahhiyawa,
went to the land of the city of Taruiša, I, my Majesty, from Lukka
sent troops. Now (to) m[e ...]

But you, my brother Pariyamuwa, did not write back.

Where is the Crown-Prince Alakṣandu? Where [...]

Now

they sing in Luwian (of) the destruction of steep (?) Wiluša:

— — —

“The wrath, o god(dess), si[ng...