

# PROSOBAB

Prosopography of Babylonia (c. 620–330 BCE)

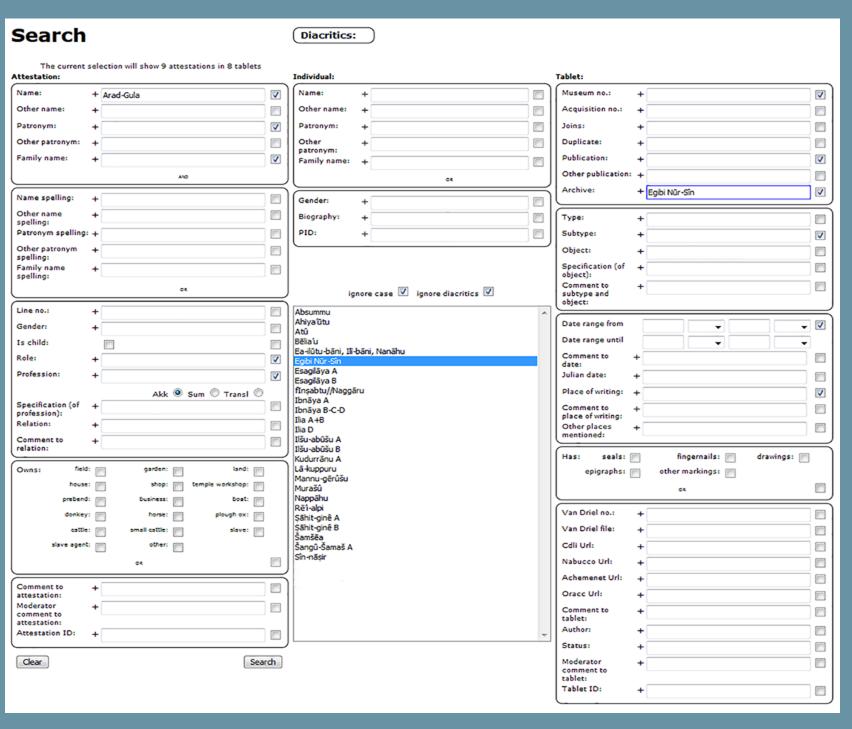
an online database



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### Preview

We are currently collecting data and working on the public user interface. Here we offer an example of how the database can be used for your own research questions. E.g., you search for individuals named Arad-Gula attested in the Egibi archive.



In the search result you see the attestations (which mostly refer to the same individual here) listed separately.

List	1			Number of re	cords: 50	▼ Prev	Next					
search												
Name	Patronym	Family name	Museum no.	Publication	Archive	Date	Place of writing	▲ Role	Professions	Subtype		
Arad-Gula	Marduk-šumu-uşur	Nabāya	BM 31203	Abraham 2004, no. 40	Egibi Nūr-Sîn	04.VIII.[-] [-]	Babylon	scribe (ṭupšarru)		receipt	edit 1	
Arad-Gula		Adad-šamê	BM 41399	Wunsch 2000, no. 6	Egibi Nūr-Sîn	08.XI.00 Ner	Babylon	sealer of the tablet	dayyānu	purchase	edit 2	
Arad-Gula	Marduk-šumu-uşur	Nabāya	BM 30273	Abraham 2004, no. 114	Egibi Nūr-Sîn	29.X.13 Dar I	Ālu-ša-Kī-Bēl	witness, regular (mukinnu)		partnership, creation	edit 3	
Arad-Gula	Marduk-šumu-uşur	Nabāya	BM 30787	Abraham 2004, no. 94	Egibi Nūr-Sîn	07.III.05 Dar I	Babylon	witness, regular (mukinnu)		work contract	edit 4	
Arad-Gula	Marduk-šumu-uşur	Nabāya	BM 30927	Abraham 2004, no. 99	Egibi Nūr-Sîn	26.IX.06 Dar I	Hahhuru-ša-Kalbāya	witness, regular (mukinnu)		purchase	edit 5	
Arad-Gula	Marduk-šumu-uşur	Nabāya	BM 31521+	Wunsch 2000, no. 13	Egibi Nūr-Sîn	02.I.10 Dar I	Babylon	witness, regular (mukinnu)		exchange	edit 6	
Arad-Gula	Marduk-šumu-uşur	Nabāya	MNB 1870	Abraham 2004, no. 140	Egibi Nūr-Sîn	12.XI.07 Dar I	Babylon	witness, regular (mukinnu)		receipt	edit 7	
Arad-Gula	Marduk-šumu-uşur	Nabāya	unknown	Abraham 2004, no. 1	Egibi Nūr-Sîn	06.XI.[06] Dar I	[ Babylon	witness, regular (mukinnu)		receipt	edit 8	
Arad-Gula	Nergal-iddin	Eppēš-ilī	BM 31203	Abraham 2004, no. 40	Faibi Nür-Sîn	04.VIII.[-] [-]	Babylon	witness, regular (mukinnu)		receipt	edit 9	

From there you can take a look at summaries of the individual attestations. These are linked to screens containing detailed information about the text and each attestation in that text, as well as the itemized biographies of the individuals.

Tablet ID 1170  Museum no. BM 30273  Publication Abraham 2004, no. 114  Archive Egibi Nūr-Sîn  Link to tablet tablet/1170		Text type Subtype and object	(suluppū (da	, creation Babylonian d		ing Ālu-ša-Kī-Bēl (Bab ate 29.X.13 Dar I 508	ylon) CDLI url Nabucco url Achemenet url	ı	
		Comment to tablet: 51 kor of dates have been invested for 3 years.					Oracc url Author	Maarja Seire (04/06/2018) edit tablet	
ttestations Name	Patronym	Family name	Gender	Role		Prof. Akk.	Prof. Transl.	▲Line no.	PID
Marduk-näsir-ap	oli Itti-Marduk-balātı	<u>Egibi</u>	Male	business partner,	investing			1, 6	5
Šamaš-ina-tēšî-	<u>-ētir Šamaš-iddin</u>	<u>Šamaš-abāri</u>	Male	guarantor business partner,	acting			3,7,8	
Arad-Gula	Marduk-šumu-usu	r <u>Nabāya</u>	Male	witness, regular (	mukinnu)			rev. 12	8
<u>Itti-Nabû-balātu</u>	<u>Murānu</u>	Eppēš-ilī	Male	witness, regular (	mukinnu)			rev. 13	
Nabû-bullissu	Gimillu	Bābūtu	Male	witness, regular (	mukinnu)			rev. 13	
<u>Šamaš-ētir</u>	<u>Šamaš-iddin</u>	<u>Šamaš-abāri</u>	Male	witness, regular (	mukinnu)			rev. 15	
Nabû-ahu-ittanr	nu <u>Nabû-šumu-usur</u>	Šangû-Nanāy	<u>a</u> Male	witness, regular (	mukinnu)			rev. 17	
<u>Erībāya</u>	Nabû-zēru-ibni		Male	witness, regular (	mukinnu)			rev. 18	
<u>Gűzánu</u>	<u>Kalbāya</u>	<u>Šangû-Nanāy</u>	<u>a</u> Male	witness, regular (	mukinnu)			rev. 19	
Marduk-rēmanni	i <u>Marduk-balāssu-i</u>	gbi <u>Nabāya</u>	Male	scribe (ṭupšarru)				rev. 20	
Darius			Male	king in date		šar Bābili u mātāti	king of Babylon and the	e lands rev. 22	

1 Introduction

Prosobab is an online database of recorded inhabitants of Babylonia between c. 620 and 330 BCE.

The database is a research tool for historians working on the Babylonian and Persian Empires in southern Mesopotamia. It is developed in the framework of the ERC project "Persia and Babylonia" at Leiden University and will be released in phases, starting in early 2019.

## 6 Queries

Prosobab provides an extensive search tool which allows combined flexible queries. The search results can be viewed in multiple ways and lead to details of a chosen tablet, attestation or identified person. It is possible to save search results and to export data as excel files for further use, including the application of Social Network Analysis.

## 2 Digital prosopography

"Prosopography is the investigation of the common background characteristics of a group of actors in history by means of a collective study of their lives." (Stone 1971: 46)

The flexibility of Prosobab's digital format offers advantages over traditional (print) prosopographies, especially in light of the open-ended nature of the Babylonian text corpus and of changing standards of data sharing.



## 5 Users

Prosobab is developed for users with different levels of expertise in the underlying text corpus. A browse function will provide easy entry into the database for users without knowledge of Babylonian naming practices. Advanced researchers will be able to search for specific individuals and to call up complex information, including Babylonian words and personal name spellings.

## 3 Sources

Prosobab draws its data from c. 7,500 cuneiform tablets from private archives. These records document tens of thousands of people going about their daily lives in Babylonia's major cities during a period of intense political, economic and social change.

The exceptional research value of this text corpus has long been recognized. Prosobab contributes to the accessibility of this material by offering a structured database of all persons mentioned in these texts, along with their itemized biographies.

Prosobab intends to align with other digital initiatives relating to the same corpus, including, e.g., NaBuCCo and ACHEMENET.

## 4 Data collection

Prosobab collects all person-data contained in these sources in two steps.

In a first step, we collect evidentiary data. This consists of all information given about a named entity in a text. In addition to the name information itself (spelling, patronymic, family name), this includes elements such as the date and nature of the transaction, the person's role, and the type of objects she or he is attested with.

In a second step, we produce conclusional data. This consists of identifying unique persons from the name attestations and creating itemized biographies for each of them.



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**Website:** https://prosobab.leidenuniv.nl/

Programmer: Wouter Olivier
IT support: Bas van Stein
Using MySQL 4.7.7, PHP, JavaScript, jQuery

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Stone, L. 1971: "Prosopography," Daedalus 100/1, 46–79.
Tablet: LB 1708, NINO Leiden, photo © M. Groß

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