

WOMEN OF ASSUR AND KANESH

Texts from the Archives of Assyrian Merchants

by

Cécile Michel



CONTENTS

Series Editor's Foreword	ix
Acknowledgments	xi
Abbreviations and Conventions	xv
List of Figures	xxix
Map of the Old Assyrian Period	xxx
 Introduction	 1
The History of Women and Gender in Assyriology	3
Old Assyrian Archives and Women	6
The Role of Women in Society and Economy	23
 Chronology, Calendars, and Metrology	 39
The Old Assyrian Eponym System	39
Old Assyrian Kings	40
Old Assyrian Months, Half-Months, and Weeks	40
The Anatolian Dating System	41
Old Assyrian Weights and Measures	43
 1. Marriage and Divorce	 45
From Betrothal to Marriage	46
Monogamy and Bigamy	68
Divorce	85
Widowhood and Remarriage	102
 2. Women and Family	 111
Women and Inheritance	113
Women Protected against Their Father's or Husband's Creditors	146
Women in Debt	151
Women and Family Responsibility for Debt	159
Female Slaves	169

3. Housewives.....	195
Motherhood.....	197
Raising Children.....	204
Provisioning and Food.....	213
Heads of the Household.....	223
Women at Home.....	236
Farming Activities of Anatolian Women.....	248
4. Businesswomen.....	255
Weaving as a Remunerative Profession.....	256
Separate Assets for Men and Women.....	271
Women Lend, Buy, and Invest.....	282
Women Representing Their Husbands.....	301
Women, Archives, and Seals.....	315
Women and Writing.....	333
5. Religion and Social Mores.....	339
Women's Feelings and Advice on Behavior.....	341
Women's Religion and the Spirits of the Dead.....	354
Women Consecrated to Gods.....	376
6. Portraits of Assyrian and Anatolian Women.....	395
Akatiya and Šimat-Suen, Sisters of Ušur-ša-Ištar.....	397
Ahaha, a Woman Consecrated to the God Aššur.....	411
Tarâm-Kûbi, Wife of Innaya, and Her Sister, Šimat-Aššur.....	426
Ištar-bašti I, Wife of Imdilum, and Her Daughter, Ištar-bašti II/Zizizi.....	434
Kunnaniya, a Lonely Anatolian Woman.....	444
Šiṣahšušar, a Housewife Owning Cattle.....	459
Hatala, a Woman Involved in Trade.....	469
Anna-Anna, Married to Ennum-Aššur.....	472
Texts Edited.....	483
Texts Concordance.....	483
Reverse Texts Concordance.....	487
Bibliography.....	493
Indexes.....	531
Abbreviations.....	531
Personal Names.....	531

CONTENTS

vii

Geographical Names and Nisbe	556
Gods and Goddesses	557
Eponyms (<i>limum</i>)	558
Weeks (<i>hamuštum</i>)	559
Months	559
Professions and Titles	560
Commented Words and Expressions	560
Cited Texts	562
Subjects	563