

# The TanakhML Project

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wayyiš#m#‘û s##rê y#hûd##h ûb#in#y#min kî-b##nê  
haggôl#h bônîm hêk##l layhw#h ’#l#hê yi##r#’#l

wayyigg#šû ’el-z#rubb#b#el w#’el-r#’šê h#’#b#ô#t#  
wayy#’m#rû l#hem nib##neh ’imm#k#em kî k##k#em  
nid##rôš l#’l#hêk#em w#lô ’#nah##nû z#b##h#îm  
mîmê ’#sar h#add#n melek# ’aššûr hamma#’leh  
’#t##nû p#h

wayy#’mer l#hem z#rubb#b#el w#y#šûa’ ûš#’r r#’šê  
h#’#b#ô#t# l#yi##r#’#l l#’-l#k#em w#l#nû lib##nô#t#  
bayit# l#’l#hê#nû kî ’#nah##nû yah#ad# nib##neh  
layhw#h ’#l#hê yi##r#’#l ka#’šer s#iww#nû  
hammelek# kôreš melek#-p#r#s

way#hî ‘am-h#’#res# m#rappîm y#d#ê ‘am-y#hûd##h  
ûm#b#ah#lîm ’ô#t##m lib##nô#t#

w#s#k##rîm ‘#lêhem yô#’s#îm l#h#p##r ‘#s##t##m  
k#l-y#mê kôreš melek# p#ras w#’ad#-mal#k#û#t#  
d#r#y#weš melek#-p#r#s

ûb##mal#k#û#t# ’#h#aš#w#rôš bit##h#illat# mal#k#û#t#ô  
k#t##b#û #it##n#h ‘al-y#š#b#ê y#hûd##h wîrûš#l#im

ûb#îmê ûb#îmê ’ar#tah##ša##t#’ ’ar#tah##ša##t#’  
k#t#ab# k#t#ab# biš#l#m biš#l#m mit##r#d##t#  
mit##r#d##t# t##b##’#l t##b##’#l ûš#’#r ûš#’#r  
k#n#w#t##yw k#n#w#t##yw ‘al-’ar#tah##ša##t#  
’ar#tah##ša##t# melek# melek# p#r#s ûk##t##b# p#r#s  
hanniš#t#w#n ûk##t##b# k#t#ûb# hanniš#t#w#n  
k#t#ûb# ’#r#mî#t# ûm#t#ur#g#m ’#r#mî#t#  
ûm#t#ur#g#m ’#r#mî#t# ’#r#mî#t#  
r#h#ûm b#’#l-t##’#m w#šim#šay s#p##r#’ k#t#ab#û  
’igg#r#h h##d##h ‘al-y#rûš#lem l#’ar#tah##ša##t#’  
mal#k#’ k#n#m#’

’#d#ayin r#h#ûm b#’#l-t##’#m w#šim#šay s#p##r#’  
ûš#’#r k#n#w#t##hôn dîn#y#’ wa#’p#ar#sat##k##y#’  
t#ar#p#l#y#’ ’#p##r#s#y#’ ’ar#k#w#y#’ b##b##l#y#’  
šûšan#k##y#’ deh#y#’ ’#l#m#y#’

1 Now when the adversaries of Judah and Benjamin heard that the children of the captivity builded the temple unto the LORD God of Israel;

2 Then they came to Zerubbabel, and to the chief of the fathers, and said unto them, Let us build with you: for we seek your God, as ye do; and we do sacrifice unto him since the days of Esarhaddon king of Assur, which brought us up hither.

3 But Zerubbabel, and Jeshua, and the rest of the chief of the fathers of Israel, said unto them, Ye have nothing to do with us to build an house unto our God; but we ourselves together will build unto the LORD God of Israel, as king Cyrus the king of Persia hath commanded us.

4 Then the people of the land weakened the hands of the people of Judah, and troubled them in building,

5 And hired counsellors against them, to frustrate their purpose, all the days of Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign of Darius king of Persia.

6 And in the reign of Ahasuerus, in the beginning of his reign, wrote they unto him an accusation against the inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem.

7 And in the days of Artaxerxes wrote Bishlam, Mithredath, Tabeel, and the rest of their companions, unto Artaxerxes king of Persia; and the writing of the letter was written in the Syrian tongue, and interpreted in the Syrian tongue.

8 Rehum the chancellor and Shimshai the scribe wrote a letter against Jerusalem to Artaxerxes the king in this sort:

9 Then wrote Rehum the chancellor, and Shimshai the scribe, and the rest of their companions; the Dinaites, the Apharsathchites, the Tarpelites, the Apharsites, the Archevites, the Babylonians, the Susanchites, the Dehavites, and the Elamites,

ûš#’#r ’ummayy#’ dî hag##lî ’#s#nappar rabb#’  
w#yaqqr#’ w#hôt##b# himmô b#qir#y#h dî š#m#r#y#in  
ûš#’#r ‘#b#ar-nah#r#h ûk##’enet#

10 And the rest of the nations whom the great and noble Asnapper brought over, and set in the cities of Samaria, and the rest that are on this side the river, and at such a time.

d#n#h d#n#h par#šeg#en par#šeg#en ’iggar#t#’  
’iggar#t#’ dî dî š#lah#û š#lah#û ‘#lôhî ‘#lôhî  
‘al-’al-’ar#tah##š#t#’ ’ar#tah##š#t#’ mal#k#’  
mal#k#’ ‘ab##d##k#’ ‘ab##d##yik#’ ’#n#š ‘ab##d##k#’  
’#n#š ‘#b#ar-’#b#ar-nah#r#h ûk##’enet# nah#r#h  
ûk##’enet#

11 This is the copy of the letter that they sent unto him, even unto Artaxerxes the king; Thy servants the men on this side the river, and at such a time.

y#d#îa’ leh#w#’ l#mal#k#’ dî y#hûd##y#’ dî s#liqû  
min-l#w#t##k#’ ‘#leyn#’ ’#t#ô lîrûš#lem qir#y#t##’  
m#r#d##t#’ ûb#i’y#t#’ b#nayin w#šûrayy#’ šak##lilû  
w#’uššayy#’ yah#ît#û

12 Be it known unto the king, that the Jews which came up from thee to us are come unto Jerusalem, building the rebellious and the bad city, and have set up the walls thereof, and joined the foundations.

k#’an y#d#îa’ leh#w#’ l#mal#k#’ dî h#n qir#y#t##’  
d##k#’ tit##b#n#’ w#šûrayy#h yiš#tak##l#lûn  
min#d#h-b##lô wah#l#k#’ l#’ yin#t#n#n#n w#’app#t##m  
mal#k#’îm t#han#ziq

13 Be it known now unto the king, that, if this city be builded, and the walls set up again, then will they not pay toll, tribute, and custom, and so thou shalt endamage the revenue of the kings.

k#’an k#l-q#b##l dî-m#lah# hêk##l#’ m#lah##n#’  
w#’ar#wat# mal#k#’ l#’ ’#rîk#-lan#’ l#meh##z#’  
‘al-d#n#h š#lah##n#’ w#hôd#a#’n#’ l#mal#k#’

14 Now because we have maintenance from the king's palace, and it was not meet for us to see the king's dishonour, therefore have we sent and certified the king;

dî y#b#aqqar bis#p#ar-d#k##r#nayy#’ dî ‘#b##h#t##k#’  
ût##haš#kah# bis#p#ar d#k##r#nayy#’ w#t#in#da’ dî  
qir#y#t##’ d##k#’ qir#y#’ m#r#d##’ ûm#han#z#qat#  
mal#k#’în ûm#d#in#n w#’eš#taddûr ‘#b##d#în  
b#g#awwahn min-yôm#t#’ ‘#l#m#’ ‘al-d#n#h  
qir#y#t##’ d##k#’ h#h##r#b#at#

15 That search may be made in the book of the records of thy fathers: so shalt thou find in the book of the records, and know that this city is a rebellious city, and hurtful unto kings and provinces, and that they have moved sedition within the same of old time: for which cause was this city destroyed.

m#hôd##’în ‘#nah##n#h l#mal#k#’ dî h#n qir#y#t##’  
d##k#’ tit##b#n#’ w#šûrayy#h yiš#tak##l#lûn l#q#b##l  
d#n#h h##l#q ba’#b#ar nah#r#’ l#’ ’îtay l#k#’

16 We certify the king that, if this city be builded again, and the walls thereof set up, by this means thou shalt have no portion on this side the river.

pit##g##m#’ š#lah# mal#k#’ ‘al-r#h#ûm b#’#l-t##’#m  
w#šim#šay s#p##r#’ ûš#’#r k#n#w#t##hôn dî  
y#t##b#în b#š#m#r#y#in ûš#’#r ‘#b#ar-nah#r#h š#l#m  
ûk##’et#

17 Then sent the king an answer unto Rehum the chancellor, and to Shimshai the scribe, and to the rest of their companions that dwell in Samaria, and unto the rest beyond the river, Peace, and at such a time.

niš#t#w#n#’ dî š#lah##t#t#n ‘#leyn#’ m#p##raš q#rî  
q#d##m#y

18 The letter which ye sent unto us hath been plainly read before me.

ûminnî #îm t##’#m ûb#aqqarû w#haš#kah#û dî  
qir#y#t##’ d##k#’ min-yôm#t#’ ‘#l#m#’ ‘al-mal#k#’în

19 And I commanded, and search hath been made, and it is found that this city of

mit##na###'##h                      ûm#rad#                      w#'eš#taddûr  
mit##'##b#ed#-bahh

old time hath made  
insurrection against kings,  
and that rebellion and  
sedition have been made  
therein.

ûmal##k#în taqqîp#în h#wô 'al-y#rûš#lem w#šallî#în  
b#k##l '##b#ar nah#r#h ûmidd#h b##lô wah#l#k#  
mit##y#h#b# l#hôn

20 There have been mighty  
kings also over Jerusalem,  
which have ruled over all  
countries beyond the river;  
and toll, tribute, and  
custom, was paid unto them.

k#'an #îmû t##'##m l#b#at#t##l#' gub##rayy#' 'ill#k#  
w#qîr#y#t##' d##k# l#' t#it##b#n#' 'ad#-minnî  
t#a'##m#' yitt###m

21 Give ye now  
commandment to cause  
these men to cease, and that  
this city be not builded,  
until another commandment  
shall be given from me.

ûz#hîrîn h#wô š#lû l#me'##bad# 'al-d#n#h l#m#h  
yi##g# h##b##l#' l#han#z#qat# mal#k#în

22 Take heed now that ye  
fail not to do this: why  
should damage grow to the  
hurt of the kings?

'd#ayin min-dî par#šeg#en niš#t#w#n#' dî  
'ar#tah##ša##t mal#k#' q#rî q#d##m-r#h#ûm  
w#šim#šay s#p##r#' ûk##n#w#t##hôn '##zalû  
b#ib##hîlû lîrûš#lem 'al-y#hûd##y#' ûb#at#t#ilû  
himmô b#'ed##r#' w#h##yil

23 Now when the copy of  
king Artaxerxes' letter was  
read before Rehum, and  
Shimshai the scribe, and  
their companions, they went  
up in haste to Jerusalem  
unto the Jews, and made  
them to cease by force and  
power.

b#'d#ayin b#t##lat# '##b#îd#at# bêt#-'##l#h#' dî  
bîrûš#lem wah#w#t# b##l#' 'ad# š#nat# tar#tên  
l#mal#k#û# d#r#y#weš melek#-p#r#s

24 Then ceased the work of  
the house of God which is at  
Jerusalem. So it ceased unto  
the second year of the reign  
of Darius king of Persia.

