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A table of contents for *Journal of Biblical Literature* can be found here:

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Heb. mardût, chastisement and chastity

In 1 S 20 30 (J¹) Saul calls his son Jonathan běn-na' yát ham-mardût. This does not mean Thou son of the perverse, rebellious woman (AV) but thou son of an unchaste woman which is equivalent to the Shakespearean whoreson; cf. Lagarde, Mitteil. 1, 236; Driver, Budde, Schlögl, and Kautzsch's AT³ ad loc. I have explained the two preceding verses in OLZ 12, 66; OC 33, 90. The literal translation of this phrase is son of a woman who has been led astray with regard to discipline or moral training, chastity; cf. GK § 128, x; for the article prefixed to mardût see § 126, e. Heb. na' yâ corresponds to Arab. ingáyâ, to be led astray; Arab. gayî (= gayî) denotes error, sin (Heb. 'ayôn = gayiân) and Arab. yáladu gáijatin signifies bastard. S has bar hassîrát mardûtâ, son of a woman lacking discipline (or chastity). Syr. ţĕlîtâ dĕ-lâ rĕdîtâ is an ill-bred (badly brought up) girl.

Syr. mardûtâ (Nöldeke, Syr. Gr.2 § 138, B) means discipline and chastisement, and both chastisement and chastity are derived from Lat. castigare which means not only to chastise, but also to restrain. The original meaning of castus, chaste, is restrained; cf. eykpaths approdiction, Heb. canû' = Arab. darû' (GB¹⁶ 688b) and our continent = chaste. The verbs to chaste and to chastise were formerly used for to reduce to submission. To discipline may mean also to keep in subjection, regulate, govern, which is the usual meaning of radâ in Hebrew; but the primary connotation of this stem is to beat. This may mean to strike, to strike with the foot in moving, to tread upon, to overcome, vanquish, conquer (cf. JSOR 1, 8, below). We speak of a beaten path or the beat of a policeman, just as Arab. tariq, path, is derived from táraga, to beat, and Assyr. kibsu, path, from kabâsu, to tread (JHUC, No. 306, p. 4). Syr. mardîtâ therefore denotes course, journey.

Assyr. $rad\hat{u}$ means to go, march, run, flow. Assyr. $rad\hat{u}$, to drive, to lead, to reign, signifies originally to cause to go (cf. Syr. $\acute{a}rd\hat{i}$ and Heb. $h\^{o}l\^{i}\underline{k}$, 2 K 5 19) and the primary meaning of Assyr. $rad\^{u}$, to pursue (cf. $rad\^{a}du$ and Ethiop. $r\^{o}da$) is to go after, whereas Heb. $rad\^{a}f$ is a transposition of $par\^{a}du$ (JBL)

35, 158). Assyr. $red\hat{u}$, to unite sexually, means to tread = to copulate; cf. our the cock treads the hen and Syr. $d\check{e}r\hat{u}\underline{k}t\hat{a}$, concubine, from $dara\underline{k}$, to tread (Nöldeke, Syr. Gr. § 113). Syr. $d\check{e}ra\underline{k}$ 'al- $\acute{u}t(t\check{e}t)\hat{a}$, to force a woman, does not correspond to Heb.' $inn\hat{a}$ issâ, but to Arab. $d\acute{a}jala=j\hat{a}ma'a$, which is identical with $d\acute{a}kala=u\acute{a}t'a$; the j=g=k is not due to the l (AJP 17, 489, n. 1; JBL 36, 141, n. 3) but to the d; cf. Assyr. durgu, path =durku (Heb. $d\ddot{a}rk$). Heb. $dar\acute{a}k$ $q\ddot{a}\dot{s}t$ means originally to subdue the bow (see below. p. 161). The e in Assyr. $red\hat{u}$ suggests a final'; $red\hat{u}$ may therefore correspond to Arab. $r\acute{a}da'a=j\acute{a}ma'a$. As a rule, Arab. $r\acute{a}du'a$ means to check, restrain; cf. above. the remark on Lat. castigare, to restrain.

15 νίε κορασίων αυτομολούντων, which may mean O son of runaway slavegirls (so Stade, GVI 1, 240) has been defended by Klostermann. E has uáldu 'anâled rekûsât, son of impure girls. If the original text had been hen na rôt môredôt (AJSL 26, 22, n. 40) it would not have been corrupted to ben-na uát ham-mardut: cf. the remarks on 6 προ του γενέσθαι υμάς for bě-tärm rädt hóg alêkém, before Fate descend upon you, JBL 38, 154. 6 may have combined M mardût with Syr. merîd, fugitive, and maroda which means not only rebellious, but also deserter. Αὐτόμολος denotes transfuge, deserter, traitor. But the rendering of JV, thou son of perverse rebellion, which was given in the margin of AV as the literal meaning of the Hebrew phrase, is untenable, although we have in Syriac not only mardûtû, discipline, chastisement, from rědů to tread, go, run, flow, instruct. chastise, but also murdûtû, rebellion, impudence, from měrád. While we have in Hebrew the abstract malket, the corresponding Syriac form is malkûtû with k, not k (Nöldeke, Syr. Gr.² § 138).

The stem marad may be derived from a noun with prefixed m (JBL 34, 55; 37, 227) and the original meaning may be to kick (cf. AV, 1 S 2 29). Heb. merî, obstinacy, on the other hand, means originally stoutness (cf. Assyr. marû, stout, fat) or stoutheartedness. The verb to stout was formerly used in the sense of to defy, resist. Also the primary meaning of Arab. maru a, to be manly, is to be stout, i. e. strong, sturdy, valiant, brave.

3 filic mulieris virum ultro rapientis means filic mulieris virosae. Horace (Sat. 1, 3, 109) says: venerem incertam rapientes

modo ferarum; Tacitus uses the phrase illicitas voluptates rapere. This verb means also to chase, pursue, run after. Ultro = sponte, unsolicited.

The objection has been raised (Löhr, Nowack) that mardût is Syriac rather than Hebrew, and that it is unparalleled in OT, but we must restore mardût in Is. 146 where we should read: rôdê ba-'áf gôjîm mardût bělî-hasók instead of A rôdê ba-'áf gôiîm murdáf bělî-haśák. On the other hand, Ewald wanted to read mirdôf instead of mardût in 1 S 20 30. The line in Is. 146 does not mean which trampled the nations in anger, unchecked was his trampling (rods do not trample nations) but which angrily chastised nations in relentless chastisement. Döderlein's reading mirdát, which has been adopted by the modern commentators, is not good. The first line of v. 6 is an explanatory gloss to the second line, just as the first line of Is. 51 10 is a gloss to the last line of the preceding verse (AJSL 23, 258, n. 13). Similarly Job 26 13 (With His breath He spread out the welkin, His hand slew the circler) is explained by the preceding verse (With His strength He quelled the sea, with His skill He smote the dragon). For the circler cf. AJP 29, 307, and for šifrár: Assyr. šuparruru (HW 684; cf. šugallulu, JBL 35, 322). The Hebrew text should be read as follows:

13 ברוחו שמים שפרר חוללה ידו 4ברְח:

נמש בכוחו רָגָע היָם ובתבְונתו מחץ־רָהב 13(۵) נחש 12(۵)

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Pelican and Bittern

In the Maccabean poem (c. 145 B. C.) predicting the fall of Nineveh, i. e. Antioch (Nah. 10; ZDMG 61, 285, l. 18) we find (Zeph. 214) the gloss: Both pelican and bittern (EB¹¹ 13, 387) will lodge on her capitals, Heb. gam-qât gam-qippôd bě-kaftô-rêhâ jalînu. I have explained the preceding line in JHUC, No. 316, p. 23. The Hebrew name for the pelican should be pronounced qât, not qa'át; cf. Cant. 56, 11; AJSL 23, 233;