

In the first example we have instead of **בְּאַמָּה** the phrase **בְּאַמָּת אִישׁ**, which is its equivalent, and in the second **בְּאַמָּה וְנִטְמָה**, in which **הָאַמָּה וְנִטְמָה** — ‘the sacred cubit’ stands in the same construction as **הָאַמָּה** ‘the cubit’.

In the case of the noun of weight **שֶׁקֶל**, we have, on the other hand, one passage in which it is omitted before a designation of the kind of **שֶׁקֶל**, similar to the phrase **בְּאַמָּה**, viz.,

עֲשָׂרָה עֲשָׂרָה הֵבִי בְּשֶׁקֶל הַקֹּדֶשׁ ‘each spoon [weighing] ten [shekels counting] according to the sacred shekel’ (Num. 7 86).

Here the full expression would be

עֲשָׂרָה עֲשָׂרָה שֶׁקֶלִים בְּשֶׁקֶל הַקֹּדֶשׁ.

The phrase **בְּאַמָּה**, therefore, may be regarded as an abbreviation for **אַמָּה בְּאַמָּה** or **אַמָּת בְּאַמָּה** after a numeral. Probably the ellipsis began in the later form, the repetition of the singular appearing especially superfluous.

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Hosea's Birthplace

According to Christian tradition, Hosea was born at *Belemoth* or *Belemon* (see Simson's *Hosea*, 1851, p. 2; Nowack's *Hosea*, 1880, p. ix; cf. EB 2126, 9; EB¹¹ 13, 784, n. 1).¹ Pseudepiphanius (RE⁸ 5, 421, 16) says of Hosea: *οὗτος ἦν ἐκ Βελεμωθ τῆς φυλῆς Ἰσσαχαρ*; cf. Nestle, *Marginalien und Materialien* (Tübingen, 1893) II, p. 22, below. This place has never been identified, but it seems to be a corruption of *Ibleam* which appears in 1 Chr. 6 55 as **בְּלַעַם** and in Judith 8 3 as **Βελαμων** or **Βαλαμων** (cf. *ibid.* 4 4: **Βελαμων** or **Αβελμων**, **Βαιλων**, and in 7 3: **Βελβαιμ**, **Αβελβαιμ**). S has in 8 3 **בֵּית בַּעֲלָמֹן** (EB 527). Hosea is said to have been an Issacharite, and *Ibleam* belonged to the district of Issachar (RE⁸ 17, 426, 7). Josh. 17 11 and Jud. 1 27 do not prove that *Ibleam* was a Manassite town. It was included in the Plain of Jezreel, and the Plain was regarded as Issacharite territory. In Jud. 1 27 **ס**^v has **Βαλακ**,

¹ For the abbreviations see above, p. 41.

Ⲅ^A Βαλααμ for ⲡϮⲗⲓ (Ⲅ^L Ιεβλααμ). In 2 K 9 27 we find in
 Ⲅ^V Εκβλααμ — Ⲅ^A Ιβλααμ, Ⲅ^L Ιεβλααμ.

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The Semitic root *lak*, to press

In my paper on Heb. *melkh*, counsel, I stated (above, p. 55) that the stem *malak*, to deliberate, was derived from the root *lak* which appears in Arab. *lāka*, *ḡalūku*, to chew (or *champ*, as a horse on his bit) so that *malak*, to deliberate, is originally to *chew* or *ruminate* in the sense of *to deliberate*. The primary meaning of the root is preserved in Arab. *malaka* 'l-*ajīna*, to knead (i. e. to *press*, *squeeze*, *thump*), the dough. But *alaka* 'l-*lijāma* stands for 'alaka, whereas *alaka*, to send, is a transposition of *la'aka*, to send, from which we have *mal'ak*, ἄγγελος.

To chew — to press between the teeth. The original meaning of the root *lak* is to *press*. This may mean also to *thrust*, *push*, *strike* or to *urge*, *strive eagerly*. We find these meanings in the Arabic stems *lakka*, *laka'a*, *lakaṭa*, *lakaḥa*, *lakada*, *lakaza*, *lakaša*, *lakada*, *laka'a*, *lakama*, *lakina*, *lakiḡa*, and in the modern Arabic *laklak* and *lakaf*. Also *tahālaka* 'alā *šaḡ'i** (cf. *laki'a* or *lakiḡa bi-ša'i'i** — *ḡali'a bihi aḡ lazimahu*) must be derived from this root. Cf. also Ethiop. *lak'a*, to impress, inscribe. For Heb. *hišlīk* (from *šalak*, a causative of the root *lak*; see GB¹⁶ 795^a, below) cf. Arab. *laḡiḥa* and *laḡifa*.

Allied roots are *laq*, *lah*, *lax*; also *lat*, *laṭ*, *laz*. The root *laq* appears in *lāqa*, *laqqa*, *laḡiḥa*, *laḡaza*, *laḡisa*, *laḡaṭa*, *laḡa'a*, *laḡifa*, *laḡlaḡa*, *laḡima*, *laḡiḡa*, *ḡalaḡa*, *halaḡa*, *halḡama*, *šalaḡa*. Also *laḡina*, to understand readily, means originally to *swallow*; cf. French *il faut lui mâcher tous ses morceaux*, i. e. you must explain to him the simplest thing. Heb. *ḡālq*, locust, is derived from the same root.

The root *lah* appears in *alāḥḥa*, *lahaba*, *lahaza*, *lahḥaḡa*, *lahaṭa*, *alḥafa*, *lahana fi-'l-qirā'ati*. Heb. *lēḥi*, jaw, means originally *mâchoire* (cf. JBL 33, 292). For the root *lax* cf. *laxxa* *fi-kalāmihī*, *laxaba*, *laxafa*, *laxama*.