

GOD TEŠUP AND HURRIAN ATTRIBUTES

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Abstract

Being Indo-European tribe and founded a great civilization in Anatolia during 2.000 BC, the Hittites had a polytheistic religion. Most of these gods of the Hittites who had thousands of gods/goddesses are either Anatolia or Mesopotamia originated. "God Tešup" namely the "God of Storm" is the main god. Written as "ADAD" in Akkadian Language, written as "Taru" in Proto-Hattian language, written as "Tarḫunt-" in Luwian cuneiform and hieroglyphic, the Tešub's equivalent in Hittite language is unknown. The name of the God is usually mentioned as "U or IM" ideograms in the Hittite cuneiform tablets. This God is the highest god of the state pantheon since the beginning of the Hittite history as the "Storm God of Hatti State" or "Storm God of the Sky". The Storm God whose holly animal is "Bull" is the protector of the Kingdom and the justice around the state and the master of the Hatti state as well. In the Hittite cuneiform texts such as the epithets of "Powerful Storm God, Storm God of Fear, Mighty Storm God and Hero Storm God", the powers of the god are mentioned. On the other hand the epithets of the Storm God as "Storm God of the Palace, Storm God of the Head, Storm God of the Scepter, Storm God of the Army, Storm God of the Peace" reveals that it is the protector of the Hittite Kingdom.

It is known that God Tešup had a family, from the texts which was mentioned. In the written documents, his wife was Goddess Hepat who was identified with the Hittite Goddess, Goddess of Sun of the Arinna City according to the Syrian beliefs, and Šarrumma was his son.

The relief no. 42 among the god portrayals with the hieroglyphic-Luwian legends written in Hurrian language at the rock sanctuary of Yazılıkaya located 1,5 km northeast of Boğazköy, belongs to this God. In the meantime the rock sanctuary of Yazılıkaya can be identified as the "House of the Storm God".

Through the Hittite cuneiform texts, we get to know that God Tešub who rules the Hittite state pantheon has Hurrian attributes:

These are, in alphabetical order: 1. argaba ueri, 2. ari mudri, 3. ini iriri, 4. nerambi šalanni, 5. šauri úeri, 6. tupanziki, 7. udmi takruḫari kuḫaḫi, 8. ušuni nirni

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