
Vito Messina

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1 In the so-called Mūrāš[shin]u archive records of deposit and promissory notes were kept that show the entrepreneurial activities of a high-rank person: Mūrāšu was a rent and tax farmer, and as a contractor for Esagila he ran the temple’s agricultural business. Through these documents the Author recovers the transactions between Mūrāšu and other traders, ascertaining that he frequently deposited funds together with other persons – his own funds, or temple funds administrated by him – and suggesting that sometimes these records of deposit were intended to be used as
negotiable financial instruments, namely cheques. According to the Author, the purpose of such a deposit could actually be explained as a money investment, since depositaries reinvesting in their turn are known from other areas of the Hellenistic world.

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Thèmes : 3.2.2. Pré-Achéménides et Achéménides

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