Jan Tavernier. "The Functions of Abrupt Spellings in the Elamite Writing System"

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- 1 This article discusses the abrupt spellings (the type (C)VC-VC and also, as it appears from the treatment of the author, (C)VC-V) in the Elamite cuneiform writing system from the Old up to the Achaemenid Elamite period and in various kinds of texts (administrative, royal and legal) in Elamite and also Akkadian language.
- 2 Tavernier identifies four functions for this kind of spelling: 1. to mark the boundary between two components of a compound, especially in proper names, e.g. Akkadian (in the Old Elamite period) *A-in-un-ak^{ki}* / *A'in-Unak* / 'house of Unak'; Middle Elamite *^dHu-ban-e-lu* / *Hupan-elu* / 'divine name'. 2. To distinguish the morpheme boundaries (i.e. roots and affixes), e.g. Middle Elamite *^{as}Li-ia-an-ib-ba* / *Liyan-(i)p* / 'the people from Liyan'; Neo-Elamite *hi-iš-e* [/ *hiš-e* / 'his name']. 3. To indicate consonant clusters, especially in Achaemenid Elamite renderings of Old Iranian forms, e.g. Achaemenid Elamite *^{hal}Ha-ik-iš-ti-bar-ra* / *Axštibara-* /; *^{hal}Ba-ka₄-bu-ik-iš-ša* / **Bagabuxša-* / . 4. To indicate a phonetic complement, attested especially in the later periods, e.g. Neo-Elamite *^{as}A-a-pir^{ir}-ra*; Achaemenid Elamite *hu-ut-taš^{is}-da*.

- 3 According to this research, the abrupt spellings are more often attested in Elamite texts than in Akkadian ones and occur more frequently in the later (i.e. Neo- and Achaemenid Elamite) periods.
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