

# Sumerian Gods and Goddesses

Anunnaki- “those who came to earth from heaven”

Igigi- “those who observe and see”

Land of the Watchers

The Dawn of Civilization: The Temple was the place of the union of heaven and earth in the ancient world. The Temple or Ekur- “House which is like a mountain” was also the Dur-An-Ki, “the bond of heaven and earth.”

Anu- Heaven(ly One) + Antu- In.Anna (Ishtar)- Anu’s Beloved  
Enlil- Lord of the Command (Heavenly Command) + Ninlil (Lady of the Command)  
Enki(Ea)- Heavenly Earth, Lord of the Earth+ Damkina (Ninki) Lady of the Earth  
(Ea-He whose home is the waters [Oannes])

Temple- E.Anna “Abode of Anu”

|                                     |                                      |                              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Marduk- firstborn son of Enki       | An.Shargal                           | Ninmah-daughter of Anu       |
| Nergal- son of Enki                 | Ki.Shargal                           | Nin.Uru.Ulla                 |
| Ninurta- son of Enlil, warrior      | En.Uru.Ulla                          |                              |
| Shamash- God of the Sun             | Bilu Nipru- (Bel Nimrod?) Lord Nipru | + Beltis (Mother of Ninurta) |
| Dumuzi- son of Enli, shepherd       | (the Conquering/Hunter Lord)         |                              |
| Nim.Gir.Sig- Chief of Illumination  | EreshKigal- In.anna’s elder sister   |                              |
| Nin.Gir.Su + Bau                    | Nin.Hur.Sag- Healer                  |                              |
| Ishkur- son of Enlil (Adad, Teshub) | Nin.Sirara- Lady of Bright Metal     |                              |

Din.Gir- Just/Righteous Ones

E.Din- Home/Abode of the Righteous

| <u>City</u>                                 | <u>Leader</u>                        | <u>God</u>                   |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Eridu (House Built Faraway circa. 4000 BCE) | Nudimmud (he who fashions artifacts) | Ea/Enki                      |
| Bad Tabira                                  | Nugig                                | Nannar/Sin (God of the Moon) |
| Larak                                       | Pabilsag                             | Ninurta (War)                |
| Sippar                                      | Utu                                  | Shamash (Sun)                |
| Shuruppak                                   | Sud                                  | Ninmah (Medicine)            |

Cities imply specialization between farming and industry; must have buildings, streets, and markets; develop commerce and trade; effect transportation and long distance communication; develop reading, writing, and arithmetic for record-keeping; cities also require law and order, an administrative hierarchy, and an appointed chief executive.

Nam.Lugal.Anta- “Kingship was lowered from heaven”

Kingship was first established at Eridu and represented what the community considered the “Earth” and we trace the origin of the word itself to this city: Erde-German; Erda-Old German; Jordh-Icelandic; Jord-Danish; Airtha-Gothic; Erthe-Middle English; Eredtz-Aramaic; Ertz-Kurdish; Eretz-Hebrew; and Arq-Arabic.

Symbols of Anu’s kingship included a crown/tiara, a scepter or staff, and a coiled measuring cord representing justice. The Lands of E.Din was also known as the Abzu (Fatherland?). The Abzu was located in the Ut.Tu and reachable by boat that traversed the “Great Distant Sea.” Its Arali (Underworld) was 120 beru of waters away from the quay on the Euphrates (roughly 10 days by boat). The region was also known as Meluhha and Assyrian inscriptions identify Meluhha as Kush (Ethiopia/Nubia).

From the Atra-Hasis Epic:

“The Gods clasped hands together, cast lots, then divided. Anu, their father, was the King; Enlil, the Warrior, was the Commander. Anu went up to heaven leaving the earth to His underlings. The seas, enclosed as with a loop, to Enki were given. After Anu had gone up to heaven, Enki went down to the Abzu.”

The Mutiny of the Anunnaki:

“Inuma ilu awilum...

When the gods, like men, bore the work and suffered the toil-indeed the toil of the gods was great- the work was heavy and there was much distress.”

“They toiled deep in the mountains, they counted periods of their toil. For ten periods, they suffered their toil; for twenty periods, they suffered their toil; for 30...; for 40...; excessive was their toil for forty periods, (.....) they suffered the work night and day. They were busy complaining, backbiting. Grumbling in their excavations they said, ‘Let us confront (.....), the Commander, that He may relieve us of our heavy work. Let us break the yoke!’”

Then Enlil visits the Abzu:

“Come, let us unnerve Him in His dwelling! Let us proclaim a mutiny, let us adopt hostilities and battle!” The gods heeded his words and set fire to their tools, they put flame to their earth cutters and fire to their grinders. Throwing them away, they went to the “Gate” of the Hero Enlil. They reached Enlil’s place, Kalkal barred the way while Nusku awakened Enlil. They shouted, “Kill Enlil!!!” He asked, “Is it against me that this is being done? What do my own eyes see? Who is the instigator of this conflict?” They shouted, “Every single one of us has declared battle!!! Our work is heavy, distress is great-excessive toil is killing us!” When Enlil heard these words, his tears flowed. He contacted Anu and offered to resign His command and return to Nibiru, but He (Anu) demanded the instigator be put to death. A council convened and Enki opened His mouth and addressed the gods, his brethren. He said, “We have Ninmah, she is belet-ili (a birth-giving goddess), let her fashion a Lulu (a living creature), let Amelu bear the toil of the gods! Let her create a Lulu Amelu, Let him bear the yoke!” The gods asked how? “The creature whose name you uttered-it exists, bind on it the image of the gods!”

In the assembly, the great Anunnaki who administer destinies declared, “Yes!”

Then the Anunnaki mixed their Teema (seed) with the Tiit (fruit) of the Abzu. In Bit Shimti (Gen. 2:7) the gods prepared a purifying bath into which one god was bled and Ninmah mixed blood and flesh to capture the image of the gods upon the newborn. (Gen. 1:27; 2:7)

“You commanded me a task, and I have completed it...I have removed your heavy work. I have imposed your toil on Awilum. You raised a cry for Awiluti-I took off your yoke, I established your freedom!”

The gods then ran to her and kissed her feet, and renamed her Ninuti and called her Mami (the mother).

“Out of the gods blood they fashioned mankind, they imposed on it tasks to let the gods be free; it was work beyond comprehension.”

“With picks and spades they built the shrines, they built the canal banks, they grew the food for the people and for the sustenance of the gods.”

Time passed: They settled the land, and the people multiplied.

“The land was bellowing like a bull.” and Enlil was not happy: “the god was disturbed by their commotion.”

“Enlil heard their bellowing and said to the great gods, “The bellowing of mankind has become too intense for me; by their commotion, I am deprived of sleep.” “Let there be a plague!” Enlil wishes to destroy mankind, but Enki wants to save the ‘Seed of Mankind’ by telling Ziusudra/Noah “A deluge will be sent to destroy mankind” and He instructed him to build an Ark to take on board the ‘Seeds of all Living Things’.

Man of Shuruppak, son of Ubar-Tutu,

Tear down the house, build a ship!

Give up possessions, seek thou life!

Forswear all belongings, keep the soul alive!

Aboard the ship take thou the seed of all living things!