

The Kurdish Historical Hallucination Reaches New Limits

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It was brought to our attention that a post on TikTok under the Kurdish Rojava FM account had featured another of those wild Kurdish fabricated claims. That account was not found when we searched for it the other day; however, an account under [tarinhanarai](#)¹ had reposted that claim. In the post, it is claimed that a cuneiform text featuring a map of Kurdistan, dated to 15,000 years ago in Mesopotamia, was being exhibited in a United States museum.²



Our Notes:

1. Cuneiform did not exist 15,000 years ago.

Cuneiform script was invented around 3400 to 3200 BC in southern Mesopotamia during the late Uruk period, in Sumer. That makes it approximately 5,300 years old. A claim of 15,000 years ago would correspond to roughly 13,000 BC, which predates the invention of writing by about 10,000 years.³ Chronologically, this is impossible. Even if one were to assume that the Kurdish activist mistakenly

¹ Accessed 02/21/2026 <https://www.tiktok.com/@tarinhanarai>

² Kurds use either modified farsi Arabic or modified Latin for writing, depending where they live. Since this is related to a Rojava link, hence modified Latin is used for the post description. BTW, the term Rojava is a modern Kurdish invention that reflect the so-called western parts of the Kurdish region (i.e. Syria).

³ See the Metropolitan Museum of Art (Timeline of Art History): Cuneiform emerges around 3400–3000 BC. The British Museum: earliest writing originates in late Uruk period (~3300 BC).

intended to write 5,000 instead of 15,000 years, authentic Sumerian tablets from that period were inscribed on clay, not carved on polished circular stone objects of this type. Such a form does not correspond to known Sumerian writing media or stylistic conventions.

2. There were no maps as we understand them today 15,000 years ago. One of the oldest surviving world maps is the Babylonian Map of the World, a clay tablet dating to approximately the 6th century BC. It depicts Babylon at the center, bisected by the Euphrates River and surrounded by a circular ocean. While it names several regions, including Assyria⁴, it is symbolic rather than geographically precise by modern standards. The concept of Kurdistan as a political or geographic entity did not exist in ancient Mesopotamian antiquity. The term “Kurdistan” itself is medieval in origin, emerging in Islamic administrative usage many millennia later. Therefore, a “map of Kurdistan” carved onto a prehistoric stone object is historically impossible.

3. The alleged U.S. museum exhibition.

The post claims that a United States museum is displaying this object. Museums have names, locations, and publicly accessible catalogues. What is the name of the institution? Where is it located? Why are no details provided? The absence of such basic information raises serious doubts about the claim.

4. Provenance and documentation.

Major museums publish provenance records, catalog numbers, excavation history, dating methodology, and scholarly references. No reputable U.S. museum would exhibit an object of this magnitude without full archaeological documentation and academic transparency.

5. Chronological impossibility in human development.

Around 13,000 BC, Mesopotamia was in the Epipalaeolithic period. Societies were primarily hunter gatherers, generally semi nomadic or nomadic. There were no writing systems, no states, no formal cartography, no cuneiform, and no archaeological evidence of carved stone maps of this type. The technological, political, and cultural conditions required for such an artifact simply did not exist.

6. The presentation of the image.

The image appears to be digitally manipulated. It is shown placed on a table with a blurred background of paintings, giving the impression of an art exhibition rather than an archaeological display. A genuine artifact of such supposed antiquity and uniqueness would be presented in a proper archaeological or historical context, not casually displayed among modern artwork. The presentation itself suggests fabrication.

There is nothing in this claim that withstands historical or archaeological scrutiny. It is unsupported, chronologically impossible, and lacking academic references. The image appears to depict a contemporary political symbol (the sun in the modern Kurdish flag) alongside unrelated cuneiform signs in an attempt to manufacture antiquity.

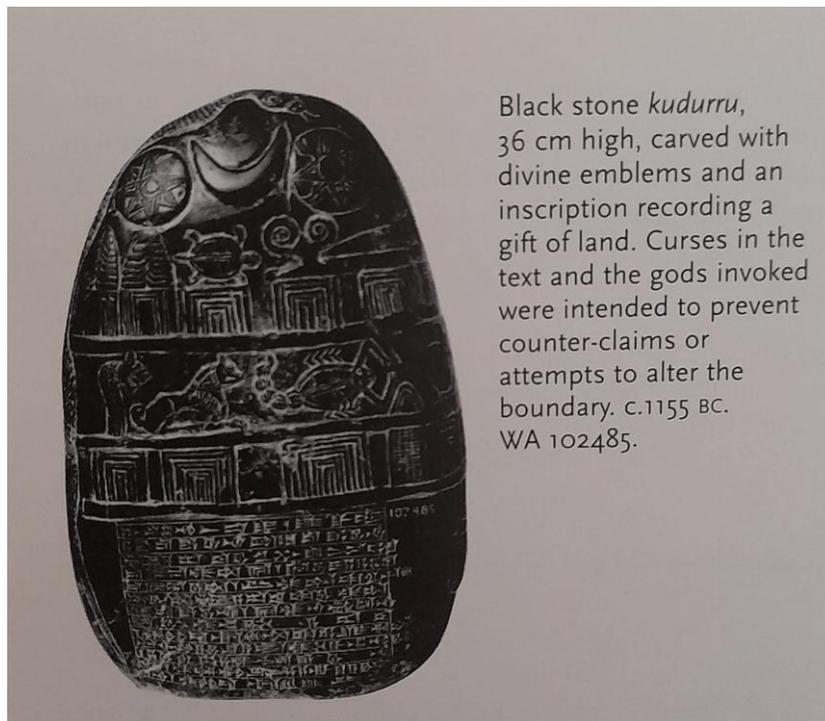
Now, to facts. Owning land was a major form of security and wealth in Babylonia, so written deeds transferring or proving ownership were created from almost the beginning of writing and sometimes given permanent form by inscription on stone.

⁴ Clive, Thompson. “From Ptolemy to GPS, the Brief History of Maps”. July 2017. Accessed 02/20/2026. <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/brief-history-maps-180963685/>

The term kudurru has been applied to those third millennium documents, but it primarily refers to deeds produced between the fourteenth and seventh centuries BC. Kassite kings granted large tracts of land to faithful servants' gifts recorded on stone boulders or blocks and also on clay, the kudurru.⁵

These monuments were kept in temples, perhaps occasionally in shrines on the property, to publicize the donation; legally valid sealed tablets were preserved in archives. Some were carved with symbols of the gods in relief, rarely with captions to aid identification, and, from the eleventh century BC onwards, some had a picture of the Babylonian king concerned. They gave details of the property, occasionally with a plan, the reason for the presentation, notices of special conditions, such as tax exemption, lists of witnesses and curses in the names of the gods on anyone who should feloniously change the situation. In a few cases kudurrus relate disputes over ownership, giving the history.

It is a habit among Kurdish nationalists to claim every word that sounds close to Kurd as Kurdish. Here it is kudurru and earlier we had Qardu, Karda, Kardokh, Corduene, etc.⁶



Black stone *kudurru*, 36 cm high, carved with divine emblems and an inscription recording a gift of land. Curses in the text and the gods invoked were intended to prevent counter-claims or attempts to alter the boundary. c.1155 BC. WA 102485.

Historical claims must be supported by verifiable archaeological evidence, credible scholarship, and documented provenance. Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence. In this case, none has been provided. This Kurdish created piece is clearly fake.

⁵ A) J.A. BRINKMAN and U. SEIDL , 'Kudurru', *Reallexikon der Assyriologie* 6 (Berlin/New York 1980-3) 267-77.

B) I.J. GELB, P. STEINKELLER and R.M. WHITING, *Earliest Land Tenure Systems in the Near East: Ancient Kudurrus* (Chicago 1991)

C) L.W. KING, *Babylonian Boundary Stones and Memorial Texts in the British Museum* (London 1912).

⁶ Aprim, Fred. "Kurd is not Related to Qardu, Kardu, Kardukh, Carduni, etc.". www.fredaprim.com 2024.