

Sumerian Picture of Tiamat

By Johan Oldenkamp

The picture below dates back to about 2000 years Before our Common Era (BCE). It is one of many representations created in ancient Sumer. What can we see on this picture, besides four individuals and a vase?



At the top in the middle, it clearly looks like a depiction of the central star of our solar system. *Wholly Science* names this star Helios. Helios is the King of the Day. Next to it, we see a very thin crescent with a representation of a full moon. *Wholly Science* names this moon Luna. Luna is the Queen of the Night.

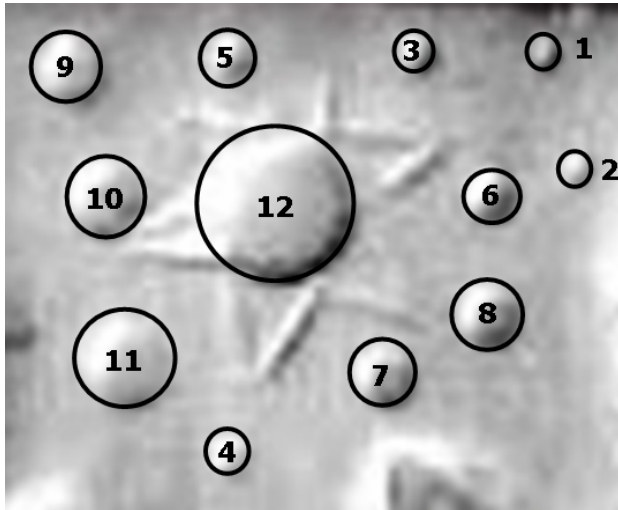
Below the sun King Helios and the moon Queen Luna, there are three more spheres. The lowest of these three is surrounded by a ring. Is that perhaps a representation of the planet Saturn, also known as the Lord of the Rings? If so, then the middle one probably represents Jupiter, and the top one most likely depicts Mars. According to Zecharia Sitchin (1920 – 2010), the “straw” between Mars and Jupiter represents the asteroid belt.

The interpretation of the straw being a representation of the asteroid belt might be questionable. However, Sitchin could very well be right about the other celestial bodies. If so, then the Sumerians knew about the rings of Saturn many thousands of years before we, in our current era, could see them through our telescopes.

The perhaps most famous Sumerian figure was created by the cylinder seal that is catalogued under “VA/243” in the German State Museum in East Berlin. It’s one of the most ancient Sumerian cylinder seals, and it is at least 4500 years old. It creates this picture:



Between the heads of the individuals on the left-hand side, there are twelve spheres. When we count the main spheres of our solar system (from our perspective), then there are currently only eleven celestial bodies. In his book “The Twelfth Planet” that appeared in 1976, Sitchin concluded that the missing twelfth sphere was known to Sumerians as “Nibiru”. However, according to my research, that conclusion is wrong. Below, I proof that this additional heavenly body, that is currently no longer present in our solar system, was the planet known as *Tiamat*.



The figure on the left-hand side shows these twelve spheres numbered according to the ordering of the sizes of their diameters. The smallest sphere is the one in the upper right corner. According to my interpretation, this sphere represents Pluto. The largest sphere is the one in the middle. It is depicted as the core of a six-pointed star known as the Seal of Solomon. The name “Solomon” is a triple reference to Helios: *Sol* (Latin), *Om* (Sanskrit), and *On* (Ancient Egyptian). I assume that we can all agree that this sphere represents the central star of our solar system.

Sitchin claimed that the sphere numbered as 9 in the picture above represents Nibiru. However, this does not make any sense. My research shows that it is not this number 9, but the largest planet that is missing, meaning the sphere numbered as 11 in the picture above. Only the remains of this planet are currently present in our solar system, referring to what is known as the asteroid belt. This asteroid belt used to be a planet. This planet between Mars and Jupiter was named *Tiamat*. It was also known as *Phaeton*, *Vulcan*, *Rahab*, *Typhon*, or *Tistrya*. This planet was mostly covered with surface water (oceans), and it had at least three moons. *Tiamat*’s diameter was about 15 times larger than the one of our home planet, named *Terra* by *Wholly Science*. Seen from the surface of *Terra*, *Tiamat* appeared as a second sun, due to the surface waters brightly reflecting the sun light emitted by *Helios*.

The table below shows the names of the twelve celestial bodies of our solar system (from our perspective), together with their diameter in kilometers and their relative diameter in the Sumerian picture (where *Helios*’ diameter is set to the value of 100).

No.	Name	Diameter	
1	Pluto	2,306	21,6
2	Luna	3,473	22,4
3	Mercury	4,880	27,2
4	Mars	6,794	28,4
5	Venus	12,104	32,8
6	Terra	12,756	34,8
7	Neptune	49,532	42,0
8	Uranus	51,118	43,2
9	Saturn	120,536	51,2
10	Jupiter	142,984	53,2
11	<i>Tiamat</i>	191,340	60,8
12	<i>Helios</i>	1,392,684	100,0

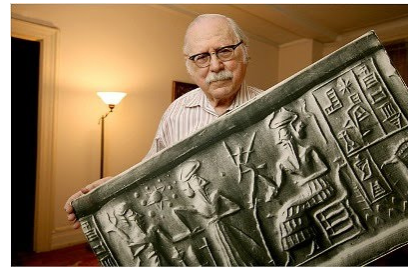
Though this is not a perfect match, it does make a lot of sense. First of all, the positioning of Tiamat (number 11) is between Mars (number 4) and Saturn (number 10). That is precisely the positioning of Tiamat before it exploded. Furthermore, Luna (number 2) is depicted next to Terra (number 6). That is precisely the current positioning of Luna.

Before Tiamat exploded and became the current asteroid belt, it had (at least) three moons (Sitchin mentions the total amount of 11 moons of Tiamat). These three moons are nowadays known as Ceres, Pluto, and Luna. After the explosion of Tiamat, Ceres started to orbit Helios at about the same distance as before, together with many fragments of Tiamat. The diameter of Ceres is less than 1000 kilometers, and it is not shown in the Sumerian representation of our solar system. Both Pluto and Luna are placed in a kind of second ring around Helios. My conclusion is that this was done in order to signify that both Pluto and Luna are moons (or secondary planets), while all spheres in the first ring correspond to (primary) planets.



Can we, based on all this, conclude that Sitchin was wrong, and that there never was a celestial body known as Nibiru? Perhaps there is more to this famous depiction created by a cylinder seal like the one shown to the left.

The picture to the right shows Sitchin with his most important Sumerian depiction. The symbols to the right represent names, and the statement of “your servant”.



Let us now take a closer look at the three individuals. The height of the sitting individual equals those of both standing individuals, which is rather remarkable. Even more remarkable is the sphere close to the nose of the standing individual closest to the sitting individual.



Does this sphere represent Nibiru? If so, then we can indeed refer to it as the tenth planet or “Planet X”, as NASA named it (in which “X” both refers to “unknown”, as to the Roman numeral 10).

For more on this, visit the website Pateo.nl and click on “PateoPedia” in the menu on the left-hand side on this website.