

OUTLINE OF LATE-2ND-MILLENNIUM B.C. SUZERAINTY TREATY FORMS:

1. **Preamble**: Identifies author of the covenant.
2. **Historical Prologue**: Mentions past relationship between the two parties; past benefactions by suzerain form the basis for vassal's gratitude and future obedience.
3. **Stipulations**: The obligations laid upon the vassal by the sovereign.
4. a. **Deposition**: A copy of the covenant is deposited in the vassal's sanctuary.
b. **Public Reading**: The covenant terms are periodically read to the people.
5. **Witnesses**: A list of gods invoked to witness the covenant.
6. a. **Curses**: Invoked on the vassal if he breaks the covenant.
b. **Blessings**: Invoked on the vassal if he keeps the covenant.

SINAI COVENANT & LATE-2ND-MILLENNIUM SUZERAINTY TREATY FORMS:

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| 1. <u>Preamble</u> : | Exod. 20:1 | Deut. 1:1-5 |
| 2. <u>Historical Prologue</u> : | Exod. 20:2 | Deut. 1:6-4:49 |
| 3. <u>Stipulations</u> : | | |
| Basic : | Exod. 20:3-17,
22-26 | Deut. 5-11 |
| Detailed : | Exod. 21-23, 25-31
(Lev. 1-25?) | Deut. 12-26 |
| 4. a. <u>Deposition</u> : | Exod. 25:16; | Deut. 31:9, 24-26 |
| b. <u>Public Reading</u> : | [Exod. 24:7] | Deut. 31:10-13 |
| 5. <u>Witnesses</u> : | Exod. 24:4 [8] | Deut. 30:19; 31:19;
32:1-43 |
| 6. a. <u>Curses</u> : | (Lev. 26:14-33) | Deut. 27, 28:15-68 |
| b. <u>Blessings</u> : | (Lev. 26:3-13) | Deut. 28:1-14 |

[The pioneering work here is G. E. Mendenhall's, based on Hittite treaties, in Biblical Archaeologist 17 (1954): 26-46, 50-76. The above is adapted from Kenneth Kitchen's analysis, based on expanded parallels, in his Ancient Orient and Old Testament (1966): 90-102. See also P. C. Craigie, Deuteronomy (NICOT) (1976): 20-24, and refs. in each.]