The path which the Moon goes in, the Sun goes along.
The path which the Moon goes in, Jupiter goes along.
The path which the Moon goes in, Venus goes along.
The path which the Moon goes in, Mars goes along.
The path which the Moon goes in, the planet Mercury, whose name is Ninurta, go[es along].
The path which the Moon goes in, the planet Saturn goes along.

The information in Mul-Apin II i 1–6 indicates that the editors of *Mul-Apin* correctly recognized that all seven ancient planets were to be found along a single band of the sky. This band, which is today called the ecliptic, is inclined in relation to the paths of the stars due to the inclination of the earth's axis. Thus the planets could be seen in the Paths of Anu, Enlil, or Ea at different times of the year. It is probable, however, that the editors of *Mul-Apin* did not mean to equate the irregular paths of Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn with the more regular courses of the Moon and Sun. Later, Mul-Apin II i 38–67 (Hunger Pingree Mul-Apin 80–86) provides accurate information concerning the periods of the planets. This indicates that the editors of *Mul-Apin* understood planetary motion, despite the fact that the star-catalogue in Mul-Apin I places Jupiter in the Path of Enlil, and Mercury, Venus, Mars, and Saturn in the Path of Anu.

The Path of the Sun in Mul-Apin

The apparent position of the Sun in the sky changes with the seasons. In the northern hemisphere, the Sun describes a more northerly arc during spring and summer, and a more southerly arc during the autumn and winter. At the spring and vernal equinoxes, the Sun describes an arc along the celestial equator. The Sun reaches its northernmost and southernmost locations at the summer and winter solstices, which occur in *Mul-Apin* on the fifteenth of Tammuz and Tebet (Mul-Apin II ii 25, 35). At the latitude of Babylon, the Sun rises and sets approximately 30° north of due east and west at the summer solstice and approximately 30° south of due east and west at the winter solstice. At the equinoxes, the fifteenth of Nisan and Tishreh (Mul-Apin II ii 21, 31), the Sun appears to rise and set due east and west. Mul-Apin II explains this apparent motion of the Sun in terms of the stellar paths:

1. *ultu* UD.1^{kam} *šá* ^{itu}*addari adi* u_4 30^{kam} *šá* ^{itu}*aiari* ^{d}*šamaš ina ḫarrān*(kaskal) *šu-ut* ^{d}*a-nim*
2. *illak*(du)*-ma zi-qu u ṣē*[*tu*](UD.D[A])

3. *ultu* UD.1^{kam} *šá* ^{itu}*simāni adi* u_4 30^{kam} *šá* ^{itu}*abi* ^{d}*šamaš*
4. *ina ḫarrān šu-ut* ^{d}*en-líl illak-ma ebēru*($buru_{14}$) *u uš-šú*

5. [*ul*]*tu* UD.1^{kam} *šá* ^{itu}*ulūli adi* u_4 30^{kam} *šá* ^{itu}*araḫsamni* ^{d}*šamaš*
6. *ina ḫarrān šu-ut* ^{d}*a-nim illak-ma zi-qu u ṣētu*

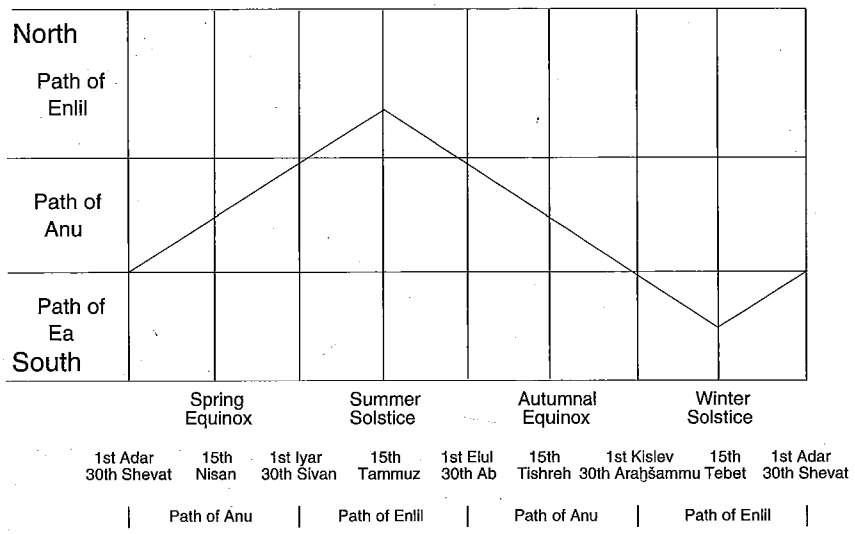
7. [*ultu* UD.1[k]^{am} *šá* ^{itu}*kislīmi adi* u_4 30^{kam} *ša* ^{itu}*šabāṭi* ^{d}*šamaš ina ḫarrān*
8. *šu-ut* ^{d}*é-a illak-ma kuṣṣu*(en.te.na)

Mul-Apin II Gap A 1–6 (Hunger Pingree Mul-Apin 88–89)

1. From the 1st of Adar to the 30th of Iyar, the Sun
   travels in the Path of Anu; breeze and warm weat[her].
3. From the 1st of Sivan to the 30th of Ab, the Sun travels
   in the Path of Enlil; harvest and heat.
5. [Fr]om the 1st of Elul to the 30th of Arahsamnu, the Sun
   travels in the Path of Anu; breeze and warm weather.
7. [From the 1s]t of Kislev to the 30th of Shevat, the Sun
   travels in the Path of Ea; cold weather.

In the passage, the Sun is said to cross from one stellar path to another every 90 days. The equinoxes and solstices fall midway through these periods, on the 45th day. The Sun travels in the Path of Anu for 45 days before and after the equinoxes; the Sun travels in the Path of Enlil for 45 days before and after the summer solstice; and the Sun travels in the Path of Ea for 45 days before and after the winter solstice:

The Movement of the Sun according to Mul-Apin



The progression of the Sun through the stellar-paths Anu–Enlil–Anu–Ea–Anu is the same as that of the Moon in Mul-Apin I Section 8 (see p. 170). Thus, the description of the movement of the Sun in *Mul-Apin* confirms that the Path of Enlil and Ea are northern and southern bands of the sky and that the Path of Anu is located along the celestial equator. The placement of the Sun in the