

Script for Ezra 5.3-6.12

Speaking parts

- Narrator 1 and Narrator 2
- Tattenai and Shethar-bozenai (officials) – give letter 1
- A record keeper from Ecbatana - give report
- Darius (King) - give letter 2

Silent roles

- Haggai and Zechariah (prophets),
- Zerubbabel and Joshua (the building project leaders),
- the Jewish people and a group of other prophets

Script

Narrator 1: Now the prophets, Haggai and Zechariah son of Iddo, prophesied to the Jews who were in Judah and Jerusalem, in the name of the God of Israel who was over them. Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and Jeshua son of Jozadak set out to rebuild the house of God in Jerusalem; and with them were the prophets of God, helping them.

Narrator 2: At the same time Tattenai the governor of the province Beyond the River and Shethar-bozenai and their associates came to them and spoke to them thus...

Tattenai and Shethar-bozenai: Who gave you a decree to build this house and to finish this structure?’

Narrator 1: They also asked them this...

Tattenai and Shethar-bozenai: ‘What are the names of the men who are building this building?’

Narrator 2: But the eye of their God was upon the elders of the Jews, and they did not stop them until a report reached Darius and then answer was returned by letter in reply to it.

Narrator 1: The copy of the letter that Tattenai the governor of the province Beyond the River and Shethar-bozenai and his associates the envoys who were in the province Beyond the River sent to King Darius; they sent him a report, in which was written as follows

See attached letter (Letter 1) which Tattenai or Shethar-bozenai should read out.

Narrator 2: Then King Darius made a decree, and they searched the archives where the documents were stored in Babylon. But it was in Ecbatana, the capital in the province of Media, that a scroll was found on which this was written.

See attached record which the record keeper from Ecbatana should read out.

Narrator 1: A letter comes from King Darius...

See attached letter (Letter 2) which Darius should read out.