

# SUMERIAN PANTHEON

The Sumerian Pantheon had more than three thousands gods. However, there were some gods who were more important than others. Here some of the most important gods and goddesses:

ADAD was the storm god, also responsible for floods.

AN was the sky god and symbolized heaven. He was portrayed as a bull whose bellowing was thunder. He was in charge of the assembly of gods, and his wife was Ki, the Earth.

ANU was the god of the sky.

APSU was the sweet-water ocean. The union of Apsu and Tiamat brought forth the first gods.

ARURU (also known as Ninmah, Nintu, Ninhursaga, Belet-ili or Mami) was the almighty gentle mother goddess of the earth and birth. She first created humanity from clay.

ASHNAN was the goddess of grain. She was created by Enlil to provide food and clothes for the gods.

BEL was the cleverest of the clever and sage of the gods.

ENKI was the water god of Earth air and magic. Even though Enlil was considered to be “the Father of the Gods” he was banished to the world of the dead by the assembly of the gods for doing wrong.

ENLIL was the god of the sky and the tempest.

ERESHKIGAL was a compassionless and violent goddess of gloom, death and the dead.

ERRAGAL was the god of the underworld.

GERRA was the god of fire.

INANNA was the goddess of morning and evening stars, of love and fertility.

IRRA was a plague god.

ISHTAR was the goddess of love and war

ISHUM was the god of fire, and was skilled at using weapons. He lights the way in front of Erra and the Sebitti.

KI was the god of earth.

NABU was the god of writing and wisdom.

NAMMU was the goddess who gave birth to the heavens and the earth.

NAMTAR was the god herald of death.

NANA was a virgin mother goddess of the Spirit of vegetation and fertility.

NANNA was the god of the Moon.

NEDU was the god guardian of the first gate of the underworld.

NINGIZZA was a god of the Underworld and a guardian of the gate of heaven.

NINHURSAG was the earth goddess. From her union with Enki came Ninsar, the goddess of plants.

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NINSUN was the great queen, Gilgamesh's mother and Lugalbanda's mate. She is wise, 'knows everything' and interprets Gilgamesh's dreams.

SHAMASH was the god of justice. Shamash and his wife, Aya, had two important children: Kittu represented justice, and Misharu was law.

TAMMUZ was a god of agriculture. He died in midsummer, and was brought back from the underworld by his lover Ishtar.

UTU was the sun god.

