

that the Gupta emperors were vaiśyas but this is wrong, as we have shown that they were certainly non-vaiśyas.

Professions were not determined rigidly according to caste. We find in our records that some brāhmaṇas followed non-brāhmaṇical professions. Likewise some kṣatriyas followed non-kṣatriya professions. We find in the Eran Stone Pillar Inscription of Budhagupta, of the year 165 (No. 18) that Mātṛviṣṇu, a brāhmaṇa, was a feudatory of the Guptas in Central India. Indraviṣṇu, and Varuṇaviṣṇu the great grand-father and grand-father respectively of the donor are described as pious brāhmaṇas who were engaged in spiritual and religious pursuits. In the Inscription the heroic and victorious character of Mātṛviṣṇu is stated. From the Indor Copper Plate Inscription of Skandagupta of the year 146 (No. 16), we come to know that two kṣatriyas Acalavarman and Bhrukuṇṭhasiṃha were merchants of the town of Indrapurā in U.P.

#### REFERENCES

1. Vg. part I, p. 351.
2. Amarakośa, 2.9.73, p. 331.
3. Fz. p. 1284, see *Svāmīn* and *Svāmīnī*.
4. Cf. Uy. 3/4 p. 146.  
'A daughter is called 'Duhitā' as she milks the cow.
5. No. 13. V. 6.
6. Hz. p. 323, note 2.
7. See Fz. p. 495, col. 2-3.
8. Ibid., col. 3.
9. (Dx)<sup>1</sup> p. 261.
10. Fz. p. 585, col. 1
11. Ibid., p. 877, col. 1
12. Ibid., p. 878, col. 3.
13. Supra, See Devakī
14. S.K. Chatterji, Hg. Part, II, p. 695 :  
'Rāmī (< Rāma), ś(y)āmī (< Śyāma), Bāmī (Vāmā, Vāmī).
15. Fz. p. 1204, col. 2.
16. S.K. Chatterji, Hg. Part II, p. 695 :  
ś(y)āmī (< Śyāma).
17. Fz. 1094, col. 2.
18. Cf. H.D. Sankalia, Pz. p. 107.
19. JJ. XIV, p. 242 (Mahābhāṣya, ed. by Kielhorn, Vol. I, p. 4).
20. Manu-smṛti, III. 8-9.
21. Vārāha-Gṛhya-sūtra, III, 1-3 : JJ. XIV, p. 233 : Cf. Pargiter, M. pp. 134-6.