

of a teacher who appears to have been needlessly invented to explain the Gauṣūkta Sāman (chant), which is really the Sāman of Goṣūktin.

Graha ('seizing') is a term applied to the sun in the Śatapatha Brāhmana,¹ most probably not in the later sense of 'planet,' but to denote a power exercising magical influence.² The sense of 'planet' seems first to occur in the later literature, as in the Maitrāyaṇī Upaniṣad.³ The question whether the planets were known to the Vedic Indians is involved in obscurity. Oldenberg⁴ recognizes them in the Ādityas, whose number is, he believes, seven : sun, moon, and the five planets. But this view, though it cannot be said to be impossible or even unlikely, is not susceptible of proof, and has been rejected by Hillebrandt,⁵ Pischel,⁶ von Schroeder,⁷ Macdonell,⁸ and Bloomfield,⁹ among others. Hillebrandt¹⁰ sees the planets in the five Adhvaryus mentioned in the Rigveda,¹¹ but this is a mere conjecture. The five bulls (*ukṣānaḥ*) in another passage of the Rigveda¹² have received a similar interpretation with equal uncertainty,¹³ and Durga, in his commentary on the Nirukta,¹⁴ even explains the term *bhūmija*, 'earth-born,' which is only mentioned by Yāska, as meaning the planet Mars.¹⁵ Thibaut,¹⁶ who is generally sceptical as to the mention of planets in the Veda, thinks that Bṛhaspati there refers to Jupiter ; but this is extremely improbable, though in the Taittirīya Saṃhitā¹⁷ Bṛhaspati is made the regent of Tiṣya. A reference to the

¹ iv. 6, 5. 1.

² St. Petersburg Dictionary, s.v.; Eggeling, *Sacred Books of the East*, 26, 432, n. 2.

³ vi. 16. See Weber, *Indian Literature*, 98, n.

⁴ *Religion des Veda*, 185 et seq.; *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft*, 50, 56 et seq.

⁵ *Vedische Mythologie*, 3, 102 et seq.

⁶ *Göttingische Gelehrte Anzeigen*, 1895, 447.

⁷ *Vienna Oriental Journal*, 9, 109.

⁸ *Vedic Mythology*, p. 44.

⁹ *Religion of the Veda*, 133 et seq.

¹⁰ *Vedische Mythologie*, 3, 423.

¹¹ iii. 7, 7.

¹² i. 105, 10. Cf. also i. 105, 16, with Oldenberg's note.

¹³ Hopkins, *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 24, 36.

¹⁴ i. 14.

¹⁵ See Weber, *Jyotiṣa*, 10, n. 2.

¹⁶ *Astronomie, Astrologie, und Mathematik*, 6.

¹⁷ iv. 4 10, 1. Cf. Macdonell, *Vedic Mythology*, pp. 102-104.