

Medhya is the name of a man, an ancient sacrificer, in a hymn of the Rigveda.<sup>1</sup> In the Śāṅkhāyana Śrauta Sūtra<sup>2</sup> he is erroneously transmuted into Pṛṣadhra Medhya Mātariśvan, the patron of Praskaṇva Kāṇva.

<sup>1</sup> viii. 52, 2.

<sup>2</sup> xvi. 11, 26.

Cf. Weber, *Episches im vedischen Ritual*,

39; Ludwig, *Translation of the Rigveda*, 3, 163.

**Medhyātithi.** See Medhātithi.

**Menakā.** See 2. Menā.

1. **Menā** in a few passages of the Rigveda denotes 'woman'.<sup>1</sup> The word is also used in the sense of the 'female' of an animal, either mare<sup>2</sup> or cow.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rv. i. 62, 7; 95, 6; ii. 39, 2.

<sup>2</sup> Rv. i. 121, 2.

<sup>3</sup> x. 111, 3.

Cf. Fischel, *Indische Studien*, 2, 316, 317.

2. **Menā**<sup>1</sup> or **Menakā**<sup>2</sup> is mentioned in the Rigveda<sup>3</sup> and in the Brāhmanas<sup>4</sup> as the daughter, or perhaps wife, of Vṛṣanaśva. The meaning of the legend connected with her is quite unknown. Cf. Maināka or Mainaga.

<sup>1</sup> This is the ordinary form of the name.

<sup>2</sup> So Ṣaḍviṃśa Brāhmana, i. 1, where the masculine form Mena is the epithet of Vṛṣanaśva.

<sup>3</sup> Rv. i. 51, 13, where Sāyana tells the legend from the Śātyāyanaka. Cf. Oertel, *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 16, ccxl.

<sup>4</sup> Ṣaḍviṃśa Brāhmana, i. 1; Śatapatha Brāhmana, iii. 3, 4, 18; Taittirīya Āraṇyaka, i. 12, 3; Lātyāyana Śrauta Sūtra, i. 3, 17.

Cf. Eggeling, *Sacred Books of the East*, 16, 81, n.

**Meṣa** denotes 'ram' in the Rigveda<sup>1</sup> and later,<sup>2</sup> while Meṣī means 'sheep'.<sup>3</sup> Both words are also used to denote the

<sup>1</sup> i. 43, 6; 116, 16; viii. 2, 40; x. 27, 17, etc.

<sup>2</sup> Av. vi. 49, 2; Vājasaneyi Saṁhitā, iii. 59; xix. 90; xxiv. 30; Taittirīya Saṁhitā, vii. 4, 12, 1; Ṣaḍviṃśa Brāh-

mana, i. 1; Śatapatha Brāhmana, iii. 3, 4, 18, etc.

<sup>3</sup> Rv. i. 43, 6; Vājasaneyi Saṁhitā, iii. 59; xxiv. 1; Taittirīya Brāhmana, i. 6, 4, 4, etc.