

entering a village after having left the forest, Indra said to him, "The wanderer finds honey and the sweet Udumbara fruit; behold the beauty of the sun, who is not wearied by his wanderings. Therefore, wander, wander!"

Rohita then wandered for a sixth year in the forest. He met (this time) the Rishi *Ajigarta*, the son of *Suyavasa*, who was starving, in the forest. He had three sons, *S'unahpuchha*, *S'unahs'epa*, and *S'unolangûla*. He told him, "Rishi! I give thee a hundred cows; for I will ransom myself (from being sacrificed) with one of these (thy sons)." *Ajigarta* then excepted the oldest, saying "Do not take him," and the mother excepted the youngest, saying "Do not take him." Thus they agreed upon the middle one, *S'unahs'epa*. He then gave for him a hundred cows, left the forest, entered the village, and brought him before his father, saying, "O my dear (father)! by this boy I will ransom myself (from being sacrificed)." He then approached *Varuna* the king (and said), "I will sacrifice him to thee!" He said, "Well, let it be done; for a Brâhman is worth more than a Kshattriya!" *Varuna* then explained to the king the rites of the *Râjasûya* sacrifice, at which on the day appointed for the inauguration (*abhishechanîya*), he replaced the (sacrificial animal) by a man.

16.

(*The sacrifice with the intended human victim comes off. Four great Rishis were officiating as priests. S'unahs'epa prays to the gods to be released from the fearful death. The Rik verses which he used mentioned, and the different deities to whom he applied.*)

At this sacrifice *Vis'râmitra* was his Hotar, *Jama-dagni* his Adhvaryu, *Vasishtha* his Brahmâ, and *Ayasya* his Udgâtar. After the preliminary cere-