

Sattras or sacrificial sessions, the principal rules for the Hotri performances of which are laid down in the third chapter of the fourth book. They are applicable for Sattras which last for a whole year. The two last chapters of the fourth, and the first four chapters of the fifth book describe very minutely the duties of the Hotar during the ten principal days of the Dvâdasâha, which may be performed as a Sattrâ, or as a Ahîna (a Soma sacrifice lasting for more than one, and less than thirteen days).

The last chapter of the fifth book is taken up with miscellaneous matter, such as the penances required of an Agnihotri when he becomes guilty of some fault, or if some misfortune should befall him regarding his duties towards his sacred fires, and the question, whether the Agnihotram (daily burnt offering) is to be offered before or after sunrise; it further treats of the duties of the Brahmâ priest, how he has to perform the penances for mistakes committed by any one of the performing priests.

The whole sixth book treats, after some remarks on the offices of the Grâvastut and Subrahmanya, almost exclusively of the duties of the six minor Hotri-priests, principally at the great Soma sacrifices, which last for one week at least, or for a series of weeks (*shalâha*). We find in it descriptions of the so-called Shilpa Shastras, or "skilful (rather very artificial) recitations" of the minor Hotars. These Shastras, principally the Vâlakhilyas, the Vṛishâkapî, Evayâmarut, and the so-called Kuntâpa hymns, are no doubt the latest additions, looking like decora-