

(*The relation of the rice cake offering to that of flesh.
The Vapâ and Purodâs'a offerings*).

The Purodâs'a (offered at the animal sacrifice) is the animal which is killed. The chaff and straw of the rice of which it consists are the hairs of the animal, its husks²⁴ the skin, its smallest particles the blood, all the fine particles to which the (cleaned) rice is ground (for making, by kneading it with water, a ball) represent the flesh (of the animal), and whatever other substantial part²⁵ is in the rice, are the bones (of the animal). He who offers the Purodâs'a, offers the sacrificial substance of all animals (for the latter is contained in the rice of the Purodâ'sa). Thence they say : the performance of the Purodâs'a offering is to be attended to.

Now he recites the Yâjyâ for the Vapâ (which is about to be offered) : *yuvam etâni divi, i. e.* Ye, O Agni and Soma, have placed, by your joint labours, those lights on the sky ! ye, Agni and Soma, have liberated the rivers which had been taken (by demons), from imprecation and defilement. (Rigveda 1, 93, 5.)

The man who is initiated into the sacrificial mystery (the Dîkshita) is seized by all the gods (as their property). Thence they say : he should not eat of a thing dedicated (to the gods).²⁶ But others say : he should eat when the Vapâ is offered ; for the Hotar

²⁴ The husks, *tusha*, fall off when the rice is beaten for the first time ; the thinnest particles, which fall off, when the grains are completely made bare and white by continued beating, are called *phalî-karâṇas*.

²⁵ *Kiṁchithkam sâram*. *Kiṁchithka* is an adjective of the indefinite pronoun *Kiṁchit*, having as Sây. remarks, the sense of "all."

²⁶ The text offers some difficulties ; it literally means : he should not eat of the Dîkshita, which latter word can here not be taken in its usual sense, "one initiated into the sacrificial rites," but in that of a thing consecrated to the gods. Sây. gets over the difficulty by inserting the word *grihe* after *dîkshitasya*, and understands it of a meal to be taken in the house of a sacrificer when the Vapâ offering is performed.