

morning time, at sunrise, it burns but slowly. Thence the Hotar should repeat the Shastras at the morning libation with a feeble voice.

When the sun is rising higher up (on the horizon) it burns with greater force. Thence the Hotar should repeat the Shastras at the midday libation with a strong voice.

When the sun faces men most (after having passed the meridian), it burns with the greatest force. Thence the Hotar should repeat the Shastras at the third (evening) libation with an extremely strong voice. He should (only) then (commence to) repeat it so (with the greatest force of his voice), when he should be complete master of his full voice. For the Shastra is Speech. Should he continue to repeat (the Shastras of the third libation) with the same strength of voice with which he commenced the repetition, up to the end, then his recitation will be admirably well accomplished.

The sun does never set nor rise. When people think the sun is setting (it is not so). For after having arrived at the end of the day it makes itself produce two opposite effects, making night to what is below and day to what is on the other side.

When they believe it rises in the morning (this supposed rising is thus to be accounted for). Having reached the end of the night, it makes itself produce two opposite effects, making day to what is below and night to what is on the other side.²⁴ In fact the sun never sets. Nor does it set for him who has such a knowledge. Such a one becomes united with the sun, assumes its form, and enters its place.

²⁴ This passage is of considerable interest, containing the denial of the existence of sunrise and sunset. The author ascribes a daily course to the sun, but supposes it to remain always in its high position on the sky, making sunrise and sunset by means of its own contrarieties.