

hymn is Vis'. He thus slays whosoever Kshatra he wishes by means of the Vis'.

Should he think, "I will cut off from the sacrificer the Vis' (relation, subject, offspring) on both sides," he need only dissect (at the beginning and end) the Nivid by the call *s'om̃savom*. Thus he cuts the sacrificer off from his Vis' on both sides (from father and mother, as well as from his children). Thus he should do who has sinister designs towards the sacrificer. But otherwise (in the manner first described) he should do to him who desires for heaven (if he be friendly to him).

He concludes with the verse, *vayah suparnā upasedur* (10, 73, 11), i. e. "the poets with good thoughts have approached Indra, begging like birds with beautiful wings; uncover him who is enshrouded in darkness; fill the eye (with light); release us who are bound (by darkness), as it were, with a rope (*nidhā*)."

When he repeats the words "uncover him," &c., then he should think that the darkness in which he is enshrouded, might go by means of his mind. Thus he rids himself of darkness. By repeating the words "fill the eye," he should repeatedly rub both his eyes. He who has such a knowledge keeps the use of his eyes up to his old age. In the words "release us," &c. the word *nidhā* means rope. The meaning is, release us who are tied with a rope, as it were.

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(Why the Marutas are honoured with a separate Shastra.)

Indra when he was about to kill Vṛitra, said to all the gods, "stand near me, help me." So they did. They rushed upon Vṛitra to kill him. He perceived they were rushing upon him for the purpose of