

for the Brahman (if he support him), then the gods protect him (the king)" he speaks about the Purohita.

27.

(The three divine Purohitas. Who is fit for the office of a Purohita. By repeating of what mantra and performance of what ceremony the King has to engage him.)

The Brahman who knows the (following) three (divine) Purohitas, as well as the three appointers to this office, should be nominated to such a post. Agni is one of (these three) Purohitas; his appointer is the earth; the (other) Purohita is Vâyu, his appointer is the air; the (third) Purohita is Aditya, his appointer is the sky. Who knows this is (fit for the office of a) Purohita; but he who does not know it, is unworthy of holding such an office.

That king who appoints a Brâhmaṇa who has this knowledge to be his Purohita and protector of his kingdom, succeeds in making (another) king his friend, and conquers his enemy. The king who does so obtains by means of (his own) royal dignity that (for another), and by means of (his) bravery that for another (*i. e.* he defeats him). The subjects of such a king obey him unanimously and undivided.

(Now follows the mantra for appointing the Purohita).

"*Bhûr, Bhuvah, Svar, Om!* I am that one, thou art this one; thou art this one, I am that one; I am heaven, thou art the earth; I am the Sâman, thou art the Rik. Let us both find here our livelihood (support). Save us from great danger (just as was done) in former times; thou art (my) body, protect mine. All ye many herbs, of a hundred kinds, over which the king Soma rules, grant me (sitting) on this seat, uninterrupted happiness. All ye herbs ruled by