

of the air a fire-place, (*âgnîdhrîya*), and out of the sky two repositories for food (*havirdhâna*). Such they made these worlds in opposition to the castles (into which the three worlds had been transformed by the Asuras). The gods said, Let us perform the burnt offerings called Upasads ²⁰ (*i. e.* besieging). For by means of an *upasad*, *i. e.* besieging, they conquer a large (fortified) town. Thus they did. When they performed the first Upasad, they drove by it them (the Asuras) out from this world (the earth). By the performance of the second, they drove them out of the air, and by the performance of the third, out of the sky. Thus they were driven out of these worlds. The Asuras driven out of these (three) worlds, repaired to the Ritus (seasons). The gods said, Let us perform the Upasads. Thus they did.

These Upasads being three, they performed each twice ; (thus) they became six. There are six Ritus (seasons) ; thus they drove them (the Asuras) out of the Ritus. The Asuras driven out of the Ritus, repaired to the months. The Devas said, Let us perform the Upasads. Thus they did. The Upasads being six, Let us perform each twice, that makes twelve. There are twelve months. They drove them out of the months. The Asuras driven out of the months repaired to the half months. The Devas said, Let us perform the Upasads. Thus they did. The Upasads being twelve, they performed each twice : that makes twenty-four. There are twenty-four half months. They turned them (the Asuras) out of the half months. The Asuras, turned out of

appropriated for the performance of the *Ishtis*. The latter place is called *Prâchîna vañs'a*. This *sadas* is the sitting room for the king Soma after his removal from the *Prâchîna vañs'a*.

²⁰ There is throughout this chapter a pun between the two meanings of *upasad* "siege," and, a certain ceremony, observable.