

deprives the evil spirits of any other share in the sacrifice.¹⁶ They say : one should not address the evil spirits in the sacrifice, any evil spirits whichever they might be (Rakshas, Āsuras, &c.); for the sacrifice is to be without the evil spirits (not to be disturbed by them). But others say : one should address them ; for who deprives any one, entitled to a share, of this share, will be punished (by him whom he deprives) ; and if he himself does not suffer the penalty, then his son, and if his son be spared, then his grandson will suffer it, and thus he resents on him (the son or grandson) what he wanted to resent on you.

However, if the Hotar addresses them, he should do so with a low voice. For both, the low voice and the evil spirits, are, 'as it were, hidden. If he addresses them with a loud voice, then such one speaks in the voice of the evil spirits, and is capable of producing Rakshas-sounds (a horrible, terrific voice). The voice in which the haughty man and the drunkard speak, is that of the evil spirits (Rakshas). He who has such a knowledge will neither himself become haughty, nor will such a man be among his offspring.

*Do not cut*¹⁷ *the entrails which resemble an owl* (when taking out the omentum), *nor should among your children, O slaughterers! or among their*

¹⁶ According to the Apastamba Sūtras, the priest takes the thick ends of the sacrificial grass in his left hand, besmears them with blood, and by the recital of the words, *rakshasam bhago ṣi*, i. e. "thou art the share of the evil spirits," he shakes it up and down, and pours it out from the middle of the bunch. See also the *Hiranyakes'ī Srāuta Sūtras*, 4, 12.

¹⁷ *Rāvishtha* is here to be traced to the root *ru* = *lu* to cut, *r* being put instead of *l*, just as we have here *urūka* instead of *ulūka*, an owl. Sāyana explains : *lavanam kuruta*. *Ravitā*, a cutter, and *ravat* conjunct., are traced by Sāy. to the root *ru*, to roar ; but there is no reason to take the word here in another sense than *rāvishtha* in the preceding sentence.