

21.

(*The Ishtâpûrta aparijyâni offerings.*)

Then the burnt offering called the *Ishtâpûrta aparijyâni*² is to be performed by the king who brings the sacrifice. The king should perform this ceremony before he receives the sacrificial inauguration (*dikshâ*). (When performing it) he throws four spoonfulls of melted butter in the Ahavanîya fire, saying, "to the preservation of the *Ishtâpûrta*! May Indra the mighty give us again (recompensate us for what we have sacrificed). May the Brahma give us again full compensation for what has been sacrificed."

Then after having recited the Samishta Yajus mantras³ which are required when binding the sacrificial animal to the pillar, he repeats the words, "May Agni Jâtavedâs, recompensate us! May the Kshattra give us full compensation for what we have sacrificed, Svâhâ." These two Ahutis are the *Ishtâpûrta aparijyâni* for a princely person when bringing a sacrifice. Therefore both are to be offered.

² Lit. the recompensation (*aparijyâni*) of what has been sacrificed (*ishṭa*) and filled (*ishṭâpûrta*). *Isṭa* means only "what is sacrificed," and *âpûrta* "filled up to." For all sacrifices go up to heaven, and are stored up there to be taken possession of by the sacrificer on his arrival in heaven (See Rigveda, 10, 14, 1 *saṁgachhasva—ishṭâpûrtena*, join thy sacrifices which were stored up). The opinions of the ancient Acharyas or Brahmanical Doctors, about the proper meaning of this word, were already divided, as Sâyaṇa says. Some understood by it the duties of the castes and religious Brahmanical orders, as far as the digging of wells and making of ponds are concerned (which was a kind of religious obligation). Others meant by *ishṭa* what refers to Smârta (domestic) offerings, and *pûrta* they interpreted as referring to the solemn sacrifices (*śrâuta*.)

³ The Adhvaryu takes Darbha grass and melted butter (in a spoon) in his hands, and sacrifices for them. This is called *Samishta*. The Yajus or sacrificial formula required at the time is *devâ gâtuvîdo*. *Svâhâ* must be repeated twice. (*Oral information.*)