

a woman taking bath in Sarasvatī his seed fell into water; when it was collected in a jar by the sage, the seed got divided into seven parts; from it were born seven seers, from whom sprang the Maruts (*tatrarṣayaḥ sapta jātā jajñire marutām gaṇāḥ* /... *evam ete samutpannā marutām janayiṣṇavaḥ*) 9. 37. 29-32 (Ni. on Bom. Ed. 9. 38. 37 (*eteṣāṃ tapasā maruto 'dityām utpannā iti kalpāntaraviṣayo 'yam arthaḥ*); (8) The Brāhmaṇa Ruṣaṅgu, when he decided to give up his body in old age, asked his sons to carry him to Pṛhūdaka, a *tīrtha* on Sarasvatī; when he was carried to the river by his sons, he took bath there (*āplutaḥ*) and, knowing the qualities of the *tīrtha*, told his sons: "one who gives up his body on the northern bank of Sarasvatī will not have to worry about imminent death" (*nainam śvomaraṇam tapet*) 9. 38. 24-29; (9) Baka Dālhbhya, when insulted by Dhṛtarāṣṭra, son of Vicitravīrya (9. 40. 1; probably different from the son of Ambikā and the father of the Kauravas), kindled fire at a desolate *tīrtha* on Sarasvatī (*avākīrṇe sarasvatyās tīrthe prajvālya pāvakaṃ* 9. 40. 12; Ni., however, who reads *avākīrṇam* takes it as the name of a *tīrtha*: *avākīrṇam nāma dālhbhyasevitaṃ tīrtham jagāma* Bom. Ed. 9. 41. 1) and started giving offerings of flesh of dead animals; as a result the kingdom of Dhṛtarāṣṭra began to waste away; he was therefore advised to propitiate Baka in a bower in the water of Sarasvatī (*apām kuñje sarasvatyās tam prasādaya pārthiva*) and request Baka to forgive him for his fault 9. 40. 10-21; (also see No. 27 below); (10) For the sacrifice of Yayāti, son of Nahuṣa, Sarasvatī brought in her currents clarified butter and milk (*ghṛtaṃ payaś ca susrāva*); in that sacri-

fice, Sarasvatī fulfilled the wishes of Brāhmaṇas by producing many juices (?) in accordance with their wishes (*yatra yatra hi yo vipro yān yān kāmān abhīpsati / tatra tatra saricchreṣṭhā sasarja subahūn rasān*) 9. 40. 30, 33; (11) Viśvāmitra practised severe austerities on an excellent *tīrtha* (not named) of Sarasvatī and became a Brāhmaṇa 9. 39. 23, 28-29; the *āśrama* of Vasiṣṭha was at Sthāpūtīrtha on the eastern bank of Sarasvatī and that of Viśvāmitra on the western bank; at the *tīrtha* Vasiṣṭhāpavāha, Viśvāmitra was able to displace Vasiṣṭha with the help of severe austerities (*vasiṣṭham cālayām āsa tapasogreṇa*) 9. 41. 4, 8; Viśvāmitra wanted Sarasvatī to bring Vasiṣṭha to him swiftly so that he could kill him (Vasiṣṭha); Viśvāmitra therefore thought of Sarasvatī; she appeared before him, trembling with fear, and asked him what she might do for him; Viśvāmitra told the river what he wanted her to do; hearing that Sarasvatī was pained; she just stood there all the while shaking with fear; Viśvāmitra asked her again to bring Vasiṣṭha quickly to him; she was worried what to do as she was afraid of the curses of both the sages; she went to Vasiṣṭha and informed him what Viśvāmitra's desire was; Vasiṣṭha saw her pale and lean and told her to carry him to Viśvāmitra and save herself from the latter's curse; hearing that Sarasvatī reflected on what she might do which would turn out beneficial to Vasiṣṭha as he had been merciful to her; when she saw on the other bank Viśvāmitra engaged in giving offerings she thought that to be the right moment to act swiftly (*sarasvaty abhyacintayat / idam antaram ity eva* 9. 41. 26-27); she washed away a part of