

Kratu-vid Jānaki ('descendant of Janaka') is mentioned in the Aitareya Brāhmaṇa (vii. 34) as having learned a certain doctrine regarding Soma from Agni.

Kraya, 'sale,' is a word which does not actually occur in the R̥gveda, though the verb *kṛī*, from which this noun is derived, is found there.¹ Both noun and verb are common in the later Saṃhitās.² Sale appears to have regularly consisted in barter in the R̥gveda:³ ten cows are regarded as a possible price for an (image of) Indrā to be used as a fetish, while elsewhere not a hundred, nor a thousand, nor a myriad are considered as an adequate price (*śulka*) for the purchase of Indra.⁴ The Atharvaveda⁵ mentions, as possible objects of commerce, garments (*dūrśa*), coverlets (*ṣavasta*), and goatskins (*ajina*). The haggling of the market was already familiar in the days of the R̥gveda,⁶ and a characteristic hymn of the Atharvaveda⁷ is directed to procuring success in trade. The 'price' was called **Vasna**, and the 'merchant' **Vaṇij**, his greed being well known.⁸

There is little evidence of a standard of value in currency having been adopted. When no specific mention is made of the standard, the unit was probably the cow.⁹ In a considerable number of passages of the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa¹⁰ and elsewhere,¹¹ however, the expression *hiranyaṃ śata-mānaṃ* suggests that there must have been some standard other than

¹ iv. 24, 10.

² *Kraya*: Taittirīya Saṃhitā, iii. 1, 2, 1; vi. 1, 3, 3; Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, viii. 55; xix. 13; Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, iii. 3, 2, 10, etc.; *kṛī*: Av. iii. 15, 2; Taittirīya Saṃhitā, vi. 1, 10, 3; vii. 1, 6, 2, etc.; *apa-kṛī*: Av. viii. 7, 11; *pari-kṛī*: Av. iv. 7, 6, etc.; *vi-kṛī*: Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, iii. 49, etc.

³ iv. 24, 10.

⁴ Rv. viii. 1, 5.

⁵ iv. 7, 6.

⁶ iv. 24, 9. See Oldenberg, *R̥gveda-Noten*, 1, 419, 420, correcting Sieg, *Die Sagenstoffe des R̥gveda*, 91, and Geldner's *Kommentar* on iv. 24.

⁷ iii. 15. See Bloomfield, *Hymns of*

the Atharvaveda, 352; Whitney, *Translation of the Atharvaveda*, 111, 112.

⁸ Rv. i. 33, 3, and see Paṇi.

⁹ Cf. Harisvāmin on Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, xiii. 4, 2, 1, where he renders *śahasrārha* as equal to 'worth a thousand cows,' in which Eggeling follows him; Śaṃkṣiptasāra on Kātyāyana Śrauta Sūtra, xxii. 10, 33.

¹⁰ xii. 7, 2, 13; 9, 1, 4; xiii. 1, 1, 4; 2, 3, 2; 4, 1, 13; xiv. 3, 1, 32. Cf. v. 5, 5, 16; xiii. 4, 1, 6.

¹¹ Pañcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa, xviii. 3, 2, where a long series of compounds of numerals with *-māna* occurs; Kāthaka Saṃhitā, viii. 5; xiv. 8; xxii. 8.