

Varaśikha is the name of a leader whose tribe is mentioned in the Rigveda¹ as being defeated by **Abhyāvartin Cāyamāna**

¹ vi. 27, 4, 5. Cf. Ludwig, Translation of the Rigveda, 3, 156; Hillebrandt, *Vedische Mythologie*, 1, 105; Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 133, who thinks that Varasikha was the leader of the **Turvaśa-Vrcivants**, but this is conjectural,

and not very probable. Cf. **Pārthava**. In the *Bṛhaddevatā*, v. 124 *et seq.*, the form of the name is **Vāraśikha** ('descendant of Varasikha'), occurring in the plural only.

Varāha, 'boar,' is found in the Rigveda¹ and later.² The god Rudra is described as the 'boar of heaven.'³ The use of dogs to hunt the boar is once alluded to.⁴ The variant form of the word, **Varāhu**, is not used except metaphorically of divinities.⁵

¹ i. 61, 7; viii. 77, 10; ix. 97, 7; x. 28, 4 (cf. **Kroṣṭr**), etc.

² Av. viii. 7, 23; xii. 1, 48; **Kāthaka** *Samhitā*, viii. 2; xxv. 2, etc.; *Maitrāyaṇi Samhitā*, iii. 14, 19, etc.

³ Rv. i. 114, 5. Cf. *Taittirīya Samhitā*, vi. 2, 4, 2; vii. 1, 5, 1, etc.

⁴ Rv. x. 86, 4, an obscure passage.

⁵ Rv. i. 88, 5; 121, 11; *Taittirīya Āraṇyaka*, i. 9, 4.

Cf. Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 81, 82; Hopkins, *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 17, 67, who points out that, even in the Rigveda, its use is predominantly metaphorical, x. 28, 4, and x. 86, 4, being the only clear instances of the real sense, and of these x. 86, 4, is doubtful. See also Geldner, *Vedische Studien*, 3, 66 *et seq.*

Varu is held by **Sāyaṇa** to be a proper name in several passages of the Rigveda,¹ where it is accented as a vocative followed by *suṣāṃne*. Roth² considers that the name must be **Varosuṣāman**, despite its doubtful formation.

¹ viii. 23, 28; 24, 28; 26, 2.

² St. Petersburg Dictionary, s.v.

Cf. Oldenberg, *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft*, 39, 84, 85.

Varuṇa-gr̥hita, 'seized by Varuṇa,' is found in several passages¹ as a description of a man afflicted with dropsy, which is the disease sent by Varuṇa as a punishment for sin.²

¹ *Taittirīya Samhitā*, ii. 1, 2, 1; vi. 4, 2, 3; **Kāthaka** *Samhitā*, xii. 4; **Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa**, iv. 4, 5, 11; *Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa*, i. 6, 4, 1, etc.

² Rv. vi. 74, 4; vii. 88, 7; Av. ii. 10, 1; iv. 16, 6, 7; xiv. 1, 57; 2, 49, etc.

Cf. Oldenberg, *Religion des Veda*, 203; Macdonell, *Vedic Mythology*, p. 29, n. 16.