

Ghr̥ta, the modern Ghee or 'clarified butter,' is repeatedly mentioned in the Rigveda¹ and later² both as in ordinary use and as a customary form of sacrifice. According to a citation in Sāyana's commentary on the Aitareya Brāhmaṇa,³ the distinction between Ghr̥ta and Sarpis consisted in the latter being butter fully melted, while the former was butter melted and hardened (*ghanī-bhūta*), but this distinction cannot be pressed. Because the butter was thrown into the fire, Agni is styled 'butter-faced' (*ghr̥ta-pratīka*),⁴ 'butter-backed' (*ghr̥ta-pr̥sthā*),⁵ and 'propitiated with butter' (*ghr̥ta-prasatta*),⁶ and 'fond of butter' (*ghr̥ta-prī*).⁷ Water was used to purify the butter: the waters were therefore called 'butter-cleansing' (*ghr̥ta-pū*).⁸ In the Aitareya Brāhmaṇa⁹ it is said that Ājya, Ghr̥ta, Āyuta, and Navanīta pertain to gods, men, Pitrs, and embryos respectively.

¹ i. 134, 6; ii. 10, 4; iv. 10, 6; 58, 5, 7, 9; v. 12, 1, etc.

² Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, ii. 22, etc.; Av. iii. 13, 5, etc.; Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, i. 8, 1, 7 (with Dadhi, Mastu, Amikā); ix. 2, 1, 1 (Dadhi, Madhu, Ghr̥ta), etc.

³ i. 3 (p. 240, edition Aufrecht).

⁴ Rv. i. 143, 7; iii. 1, 18; v. 11, 1; x. 21, 7, etc.

⁵ Rv. i. 164, 1; v. 4, 3; 37, 1; vii. 2, 4, etc.

⁶ Rv. v. 15, 1.

⁷ Av. xii. 1, 20; xviii. 4, 41.

⁸ i. 3.

⁹ Cf. Zimmer, *Allindisches Leben*, 227.

Ghr̥ta-kaṣika is mentioned in the first two Vaṃśas (lists of teachers) of the Mādhyamīna recension of the Bṛhadāraṇyaka Upaniṣad¹ as a pupil of Pārāśaryāyana.

¹ ii. 5, 21; iv. 5, 27. Cf. Weber, *Indische Studien*, 4, 384.

Ghora Āṅgīrasa is the name of a mythical teacher in the Kauṣītaki Brāhmaṇa¹ and the Chāndogya Upaniṣad,² where he is teacher of the strange Kṛṣṇa Devakīputra. That the name is certainly a mere figment is shown by the fact that this 'dread descendant of the Āṅgīrases' has a counterpart in Bhiṣaj Ātharvaṇa,³ 'the healing descendant of the Atharvans,' while in the Rigveda Sūtras⁴ the *Atharvāṇo vedak* is connected

¹ xxx. 6. Cf. Āśvalāyana Śrauta Sūtra, xii. 10.

² iii. 17, 6.

³ Weber, *Indische Studien*, 3, 459.

⁴ Āśvalāyana Śrauta Sūtra, x. 7; Śāṅkhāyana Śrauta Sūtra, xvi. 2; *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 17, 181.