

hymn of the Rigveda,⁵ and is evidently alluded to in two others.⁶ The great battle took place on the Paruṣṇī, but there was also a fight on the Yamunā with Bheda, the Ajas, Śigrus, and Yakṣus. As the Yamunā and the Paruṣṇī represent opposite ends of the territory of the Tṛtsus (for we cannot with Hopkins⁷ safely identify the streams), it is difficult to see exactly how the ten kings could be confederated, but it should be noted that the references to the ten kings occur in the two later hymns,⁸ and not in the hymn⁵ describing the battle itself: besides, absolute numerical accuracy cannot be insisted upon.

It is difficult exactly to determine the character of the Tṛtsus; especially in their relation to the Bharatas, who under Viśvāmītra's guidance are represented as prospering and as advancing to the Vipāś and Śutudrī.⁸ Roth ingeniously brought this into connexion with the defeat of his enemies by Sudās, which is celebrated in the seventh book of the Rigveda—a book attributed to the Vasiṣṭha family—and thought that there was a reference in one verse⁹ to the defeat of the Bharatas by Sudās. But it seems certain that the verse is mistranslated, and that the Bharatas are really represented as victors with Sudās.¹⁰ Ludwig¹¹ accordingly identifies the Tṛtsus and the Bharatas. Oldenberg,¹² after accepting this view at first,¹³ later expressed the opinion that the Tṛtsus were the priests of the Bharata people, and therefore identical with the Vasiṣṭhas. This view is supported by the fact that in one passage¹⁴ the Tṛtsus are clearly described as wearing their hair in the peculiar manner affected by the Vasiṣṭhas,¹⁵ and would in that passage thus seem to represent the Vasiṣṭhas.

⁵ vii. 18.

⁶ vii. 33 and 83.

⁷ *India, Old and New*, 52. No such conjecture was made by him in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 15: 259 et seq.

⁸ Rv. iii. 33; 53: 9-12.

⁹ vii. 33. 6. See Roth, *op. cit.*, 90, 121; Muir, *Sanskrit Texts*, i², 320; Macdonell, *Sanskrit Literature*, 154, 155; von Schroeder, *Indiens Literatur und Cultur*, 35, 36; Hillebrandt, *Vedische Mythologie*, i, 110, 111; Bloomfield,

Journal of the American Oriental Society, 16, 41.

¹⁰ Oldenberg, *Buddha*, 406; Weber, *Episches im vedischen Ritual*, 34.

¹¹ Translation of the Rigveda, 3, 175.

¹² *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft*, 42, 207. Cf. Bergaigne, *Religion Védique*, 2, 362.

¹³ *Buddha*, 405, 406.

¹⁴ Rv. vii. 33. 1 (*śvityaṁ āharaṇāt hapādaḥ*).

¹⁵ Rv. vii. 83. 8 (*śvityaṁ hapādaḥ*).