

Divodāsa Atithigva is one of the leading princes of the early Vedic age. He was a son of Vadhryaśva,¹ and father, or more probably grandfather, of **Sudās**, the famous king of the **Trtsu** family, among the **Bharatas**. Probably Pijavana was the son and Sudās the grandson. Divodāsa was naturally a **Bharata**,² and, like Sudās, was an opponent of the **Turvaśas** and **Yadus**.³ His great enemy was **Śambara**, the **Dāsa**, who was apparently chief of a mountain people,⁴ and whom he repeatedly defeated.⁵ He was also, it seems, like his father Vadhryaśva,⁶ an energetic supporter of the fire ritual, for Agni is once called by his name in the *Rigveda*.⁷ On the other hand, he was defeated, with **Āyu** and **Kutsa**, by Indra's aid. In several passages he seems closely connected with the singer family, the **Bharadvājas**.⁸

From one passage,⁹ where Divodāsa is said to have fought against the **Paṇis**, the **Pārāvatas**, and **Br̥saya**, Hillebrandt¹⁰ has inferred that he was engaged in conflicts with the tribes of Arachosia, and interpreting the name as the 'heavenly Dāsa'¹¹ conjectures that he was himself a Dāsa. This conclusion is not probable, for the **Sarasvatī** on which the battle in question took place, and which can hardly be the Haraqaiti of Arachosia, would naturally designate the later **Sarasvatī**, while the **Pārāvatas** are mentioned in the **Pañcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa**,¹² as in the east, about the **Yamunā**. Bergaigne's

¹ Rv. vi. 61, 1.

² Rv. vi. 16, 4. 5. 19. For Sudās as his descendant, see vii. 18, 25, with verse 23, where Pajavana is an epithet of Sudās.

³ As Atithigva, Rv. vii. 19, 8; as Divodāsa, ix. 61, 2.

⁴ Rv. i. 130, 7; ii. 12, 11; vi. 26, 5; vii. 18, 20. Cf. Macdonell, *Vedic Mythology*, p. 161.

⁵ See Rv. i. 112, 14; ii. 16, 18; iii. 4, 130, 7-10; ii. 19, 6; iv. 26, 3; 30, 20; vi. 26, 3. 5; 43, 1; 47, 21. 22; ix. 61, 2.

⁶ Rv. x. 69, 1 *et seq.* Cf. Ludwig, *Translation of the Rigveda*, 3, 176; Hillebrandt, *Vedische Mythologie*, i, 96, n. 2.

⁷ Daivodāsa, 'worshipped by Divodāsa': viii. 103, 2. Cf. vi. 16, 5. 19; 31, 1. For the defeat by Indra, cf. Rv. i. 53, 10; ii. 14, 7; vi. 18, 13; viii. 64, 2; Bergaigne, *Religion Védique*, 2, 337, 344.

⁸ Cf. Rv. i. 112, 13. 14; ii. 16, 18; vi. 16, 5; 31, 4; 47, 22 *et seq.*; **Pañcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa**, xv. 3, 7; Hillebrandt, *op. cit.*, i, 104.

⁹ vi. 61, 1 *et seq.*

¹⁰ *Op. cit.*, i, 97 *et seq.*

¹¹ This is very improbable. See Bergaigne, *op. cit.*, 2, 209; Oldenberg, *Religion des Veda*, 155; *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft*, 49, 175; 51, 272.

¹² ix. 4, 11. See **Pārāvata**.