

Sa-patna, 'rival,' is a common word in the later Samhitās,¹ being also found in the tenth Maṇḍala of the Rigveda.² It is a curious masculine formed by analogy from **Sa-patnī**, 'co-wife,' and so 'female rival.'

¹ Av. i. 19, 4; x. 6, 30; xii. 2, 46; Taittiriya Samhitā, i. 6, 2, 2; iii. 2, 8, 5, etc.

² x. 166, 1, etc.; also in the compound *sapatna-han*, 'slaying rivals,' x. 159, 5, etc.; Av. i. 29, 5, etc.

Sa-patnī occurs in the Rigveda in the sense of 'co-wife';¹ in the first and the last Maṇḍalas it means co-wife as a 'rival.'² In post-Vedic Sanskrit the word becomes a synonym for 'rival.'

¹ iii. 1, 10; 6, 4.

² i. 105, 8; x. 145, 1-5 (cf. in verse 2, | *patim me kevalam kuru*, 'make my husband exclusively mine').

Sapta-gu is the reputed author of a Rigvedic hymn in a verse of which he is mentioned.¹

¹ x. 47, 6. Cf. Bloomfield, *American Journal of Philology*, 17, 423.

Sapta Sindhavaḥ, 'the seven rivers,' occur only once in the Rigveda as the designation of a definite country,¹ while elsewhere² the seven rivers themselves are meant. Max Müller³ thinks that the five streams of the Panjab, with the Indus and the **Sarasvatī**, are intended; others⁴ hold that the **Kubhā** should be substituted for the **Sarāsvatī**, or that perhaps the **Oxus**⁵ must originally have been one of the seven. Zimmer⁶ is probably right in laying no stress at all on any identifications; 'seven' being one of the favourite numbers in the Rigveda and later.

¹ viii. 24, 27.

² Rv. i. 32, 12; 34, 8; 35, 8; 71, 7; 102, 2; iv. 28, 1; viii. 96, 1, etc.; Vājasaneyi Samhitā, xxxviii. 26; Atharvaveda, iv. 6, 2; Taittiriya Samhitā, iv. 3, 6, 1, etc.

³ *Chips*, 1, 63. Cf. Muir, *Sanskrit Texts*, 1^a, 490, n.

⁴ Ludwig, Translation of the Rig-

veda, 3, 200; Lassen, *Indische Alterthumskunde*, 1^a, 3; Whitney, *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 3, 311.

⁵ Cf. Thomas, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 1883, 371 et seq.

⁶ *Altindisches Leben*, 21.

Cf. Hopkins, *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 16, 278; India, *Old and New*, 33.