

Vṛddha-vāsinī in the Nirukta (v. 21) denotes the 'female jackal.'

1. Vṛṣa. See Vṛṣa.

2. Vṛṣa Jāna ('descendant of Jana') is the name of a famous Purohita, who was unfortunate enough, while with his royal master, Tryarūṇa, to see a boy killed by the chariot which the king drove too fast. He thereupon recalled the boy to life. The story is told briefly in the Pañcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa,¹ the Śātyāyanaka,² the Tāṇḍaka,³ was also narrated in the Bhāllavi Brāhmaṇa,⁴ and is preserved in the Bṛhaddevatā.⁵ Sieg⁶ has endeavoured to trace the story in part in the Rigveda,⁷ but there is a consensus of opinion⁸ against the correctness of such a view.

¹ xiii. 3, 12.

² See Sāyaṇa on Rv. v. 2, and the Jaiminiya version in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 18, 20.

³ See Sāyaṇa, *loc. cit.*

⁴ Referred to in the Bṛhaddevatā, v. 23, apparently as cited in the Nidāna. The passage is not in the extant text of the Nidāna Sūtra. See Sieg, *Die Sagenstoffe des Rgveda* 65, n. 5.

⁵ v. 14 *et seq.*, where see Macdonell's notes.

⁶ *Op. cit.*, 64-76.

⁷ v. 2.

⁸ Ludwig, Translation of the Rigveda, 4, 324; Hillebrandt, *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft*, 33, 248 *et seq.*; Oldenberg, *Sacred Books of the East*, 46, 366 *et seq.*; *Rgveda-Noten*, 1, 312. On the other hand, Geldner, *Festgruss an Roth*, 192, supports the tradition. Cf. Weber, *Indische Studien*, 10, 32.

Vṛścika in the Rigveda¹ and the Atharvaveda² denote 'scorpion.' Its poison was feared³ like that of serpents. It is described as lying torpid in the earth during winter.⁴

¹ i. 191, 16.

² x. 4, 9, 15; xii. 1, 46; Śāṅkhāyana Aranyaka, xii. 27.

³ Rv., *loc. cit.*; Av. x. 4, 9, 15.

⁴ Av. xii. 1, 46.

Cf. Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 98.

Vṛṣa is the name of a plant of some kind in the Kāthaka Saṃhitā.¹ Later the *Gendarussa vulgaris* is so styled. Maitrāyaṇī Saṃhitā² has Vṛṣa, which Böhtlingk³ takes to mean a small animal, a quite possible sense. Cf. Yevāṣa.

¹ xxx. 1.

² iv. 8, 1.

³ Dictionary. General Index to Supplements, 376.