

Brāhmaṇa⁵² the ceremony on acceptance as a pupil required merely the name of the pupil. So Kavaṣa is taunted in the Rigveda Brāhmaṇas⁵³ as being the son of a female slave (Dāsi), and Vatsa cleared himself of a similar imputation by a fire ordeal.⁵⁴ Moreover, a very simple rite was adequate to remove doubts as to origin.⁵⁵ In these circumstances it is doubtful whether much value attaches to the Pravara lists in which the ancestors of the priest were invoked at the beginning of the sacrifice by the Hotṛ and the Adhvaryu priests.⁵⁶ Still, in many parts of the ritual the knowledge of two or more generations was needed,⁵⁷ and in one ceremony⁵⁸ ten ancestors who have drunk the Soma are required, but a literal performance of the rite is excused. Moreover, there are clear traces of ritual variations in schools, like those of the Vasiṣṭhas and the Viśvāmitras.

6. *The Conduct of the Brahmin.*—The Brahmin was required to maintain a fair standard of excellence.⁵⁹ He was to be kind to all⁶⁰ and gentle,⁶¹ offering sacrifice and receiving gifts.⁶² Especial stress was laid on purity of speech;⁶³ thus Viśvantara's excuse for excluding the Śyāparṇas from his retinue was their impure (*apūtā*) speech.⁶⁴ Theirs was the craving for knowledge⁶⁵ and the life of begging.⁶⁶ False Brahmins are those who do not fulfil their duties⁶⁷ (*cf. Brahmapandhu*).

⁵² xi. 5, 4, 1; and *cf.* a citation in the scholiast on Kātyāyana Śrauta Sūtra, i. 6, 14: 'Whoever studies the Stomabhāgas (a peculiarity of the Vasiṣṭhas) is a Vasiṣṭha'; Weber, *Indische Studien*, 10, 73.

⁵³ Aitareya Brāhmaṇa, ii. 19; Kauṣṭaki Brāhmaṇa, xii. 3; Weber, *op. cit.*, 2, 311.

⁵⁴ Pañcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa, xiv. 6, 6.

⁵⁵ Taittirīya Saṃhitā, vi. 2, 6, 4; Kāthaka Saṃhitā, xxv. 3; Pañcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa, xxiii. 4, 2.

⁵⁶ See Weber, *op. cit.*, 9, 321; 10, 78-81; Max Müller, *Ancient Sanskrit Literature*, 380 *et seq.*

⁵⁷ *Cf.*, e.g., Taittirīya Saṃhitā, ii. 1, 5, 5; Kāthaka Saṃhitā, xiii. 5.

⁵⁸ Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, v. 4, 5, 4; Weber, *op. cit.*, 10, 85-88.

⁵⁹ Weber, 10, 88-96; Max Müller, *Ancient Sanskrit Literature*, 407 *et seq.*

⁶⁰ Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, ii. 3, 2, 12.

⁶¹ *Ibid.*, ii. 3, 4, 6.

⁶² *Ibid.*, xiii. 1, 5, 6.

⁶³ *Ibid.*, iii. 2, 1, 24. *Cf.* iv. 1, 3, 17; Nirukta, xiii. 9; Kāthaka Saṃhitā, xiv. 5; xxxvii. 2; Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, xxiii. 62.

⁶⁴ Aitareya Brāhmaṇa, vii. 27; Muir, *Sanskrit Texts*, i², 438.

⁶⁵ Bṛhadāraṇyaka Upaniṣad, iii. 8, 8; v. 1, 1.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.*, iii. 4, 1; iv. 4, 26.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.*, vi. 4, 4.