Pārāśaryāyaņa is mentioned in the first two Vamsas (lists of teachers) in the Brhadaranyaka Upanisad1 as a pupil of Pārāśarya.

1 ii. 5, 21; iv. 5, 27 (Mādhyamdina = ii. 6, 3; iv. 6, 3, Kānva).

Pārikuţa is an obscure word—probably corrupt—occurring in a verse cited in the Aitareya Brāhmaņa (viii. 22, 7), and apparently meaning 'attendant.'

Pārikṣita, 'descendant of Parikṣit,' is the patronymic of Janamejaya in the Aitareya Brāhmaņa¹ and the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa.2 The Pārikṣitīyas appear in the Satapatha Brāhmana³ and the Śānkhāyana Śrauta Sūtra⁴ as performers of the horse sacrifice. In a Gatha there cited they are called Pariksitas. Apparently they were the brothers of Janamejaya, named Ugrasena, Bhīmasena, and Śrutasena. In the Brhadāranyaka Upanisad⁵ the question whither they have gone is made the subject of a philosophical discussion. It is clear that the family had passed away before the time of the Upanisad, and it is also clear that there had been some serious scandal mingled with their greatness which they had, in the opinion of the Brahmins, atoned for by their horse sacrifice with its boundless gifts to the priests. Weber sees in this the germ of the Epic stories which are recorded in the Mahābhārata.

The verses relating to Parikşit in the Atharvaveda7 are called Pāriksityah in the Brāhmanas.8

Pāri-plava, 'cyclic,' is a term applied to the Ākhyāna, or 'tale,' which is to be recited at the Asvamedha ('horse

¹ vii. 27 and 34; viii. 11. 2 xiii. 5, 4, 1. Cf. Gopatha Brāhmaṇa, i. 2, 6; ii. 6, 12.

³ xiii. 5, 4, 3.

⁵ iii. 3, 1. 4 xvi. 9. 7.

⁶ Indian Literature, 125, 126; 135, 136. The later legend of the Pariksitas and Vāmadeva's mares is dealt with by Weber in Vedische Beiträge (1894).

⁷ xx. 127, 7-10; Śānkhāyana Srauta Sūtra, xii. 17; Scheftelowitz, Die Apokryphen des Rgveda, 156, 157.

⁸ Aitareya Brāhmaņa, vi. 32, 10; Kausitaki Brāhmaņa, xxx. 5; Gopatha Brahmana, ii. 6, 12; Weber, op. cit., 136, n. 144.