

Videgha is the name of a man, **Māthava**, in the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa.¹ It is legitimate to assume² that it is a name given to him as king of the Videghas who are the later Videhas.

¹ i. 4, 1, 10 et seq.

² Cf. Eggeling, *Sacred Books of the East*, 12, xli, n. 4; 104, n.; Weber

Indische Studien, 1, 170; *Indische Streifen*, 1, 13; *Indian Literature*, 134.

Videha is the name of a people who are not mentioned before the Brāhmaṇa period. In the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa¹ the legend of **Videgha Māthava** preserves clearly a tradition that in Videha culture came from the Brahmins of the West, and that **Kosala** was brahminized before Videha. The Videhas, however, derived some fame later from the culture of their king **Janaka**, who figures in the Brhadāraṇyaka Upaniṣad² as one of the leading patrons of the Brahman doctrine. In the Kauṣītaki Upaniṣad³ the Videhas are joined with the **Kāśīs**; in the list of peoples in the Aitareya Brāhmaṇa⁴ the Videhas are passed over, probably because, with Kosala and Kāśī, they are included in the term **Prācyas**, 'easterners.' Again, in the Śāṅkhāyana Śrauta Sūtra⁵ it is recorded that the Kāśī, Kosala, and Videha kingdoms had each the one Purohita, **Jala Jātūkarnya**; and in another passage of the same text⁶ the connexion between the Videha king, **Para Ātṇāra**, and the Kosala king, **Hiraṇyanābha**, is explained, while the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa⁷ speaks of **Para Ātṇāra** as the Kosala king, descendant of **Hiraṇyanābha**.

Another king of Videha was **Namī Sāpya**, mentioned in the Pañcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa.⁸ In the Saṃhitās of the Yajurveda⁹ 'cows of Videha' seem to be alluded to, though the commentator on the Taittirīya Saṃhitā merely takes the adjective *vaidehī* as 'having a splendid body' (*viśiṣṭa-deha-sambandhinī*), and the point of a place name in the expression is not very obvious. The Videhas also occur in the Baudhāyana Śrauta Sūtra¹⁰ in Brāhmaṇa-like passages.

The boundary of Kosala and Videha was the **Sadānirā**,

¹ i. 4, 1, 10 et seq.

² iii. 8, 2. Cf. iv. 2, 6; 9, 30; Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, xi. 3, 1, 2; 6, 2, 1; 3, 1; Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa, iii. 10, 9, 9.

³ iv. 1.

⁴ viii. 14.

⁵ xvi. 29, 5.

⁶ xvi. 9, 11, 13.

⁷ xiii. 5, 4, 4.

⁸ xxv. 10, 17.

⁹ Taittirīya Saṃhitā, ii. 1, 4, 5; Kāthaka Saṃhitā, xiv. 5.

¹⁰ ii. 5; xxi. 13.