

Brāhmaṇa⁴ it appears in the form of Methī to denote the post to which the sacrificial cow is tied. The word is very variously spelt, Medhi and Methī also being found.

⁴ xiii. 9, 17. Cf. Jaiminiya Brāhmaṇa, i. 19, 1 (*Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 23, 329).

Medha is a word of uncertain sense occurring in a Vāḷakhilya hymn of the Rigveda.¹ According to the St. Petersburg Dictionary, the proper name of a sacrificer may be meant.

¹ viii. 50, 10 (cf. viii. 49, 10), where, as a rule, the sense of 'sacrifice' is accepted as adequate.

Medhātithi,¹ **Medhyātithi**² ('having a guest at the sacrifice') appear to be the names of one and the same man, a descendant of Kaṇva and a famous Vedic Ṛṣi, to whom the authorship of various hymns³ is attributed in the Anukramaṇī (Index). To him Indra is said in the Rigveda⁴ to have come in the form of a ram: this myth is perpetuated in the Subrahmanyā formula⁵ recited by the priest while the Soma is being carried within the sacrificial enclosure, when Indra is hailed as 'ram of Medhātithi.' He appears also as a rival of Vatsa, whom he accused of low birth, but who convinced him of his error by undergoing a fire ordeal (cf. Divya).⁶ In the Atharvaveda⁷ he is mentioned with many other sages, and occurs elsewhere⁸ also as a sage.

¹ This is the form of the later texts and of Rv. viii. 8, 20, where he occurs with Kaṇva.

² This is the usual form in the Rv.: i. 36, 10. ii. 17; viii. 1, 30; 2, 40; 33, 4; 49, 9; 51, 1; ix. 43, 3.

³ i. 12-23; viii. 1-3; 22, 23; ix. 41-43. In the ascriptions Medhātithi and Medhyātithi are confused.

⁴ viii. 2, 40. Cf. i. 51, 1, where, however, there is no mention of Medhātithi.

⁵ Jaiminiya Brāhmaṇa, ii. 79; Śaḍ-vimśa Brāhmaṇa, i. 1; Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, iii. 3, 4, 18; Taittiriya Aranyaka, i. 12, 3. Moreover, the

legend is alluded to in the Śātyāyanaka. See Sāyaṇa on Rv. i. 51, 1; viii. 2, 40, and Oertel, *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 16, ccxl. On the explanation of the legend, cf. Weber, *Indische Studien*, 9, 38 et seq.

⁶ Pāṇcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa, xiv. 6, 6.

⁷ iv. 29, 6.

⁸ As a Gr̥hapati at the sacrifice of the Vibhīndukīyas, Jaiminiya Brāhmaṇa, iii. 233 (*Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 18, 38); Pāṇcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa, xv. 10, 1; Kauṣītaki Brāhmaṇa, xxviii. 2. Cf. Ludwig, Translation of the Rigveda, 3, 102, 105; Macdonell, *Vedic Mythology*, p. 146.