

regarded as poisonous, and are spoken of as found in the mountains, in forests, in waters, in plants, and in the human body. In accordance with widespread primitive ideas, they are considered to be the causes of disease in men and animals. The Atharvaveda contains three hymns<sup>2</sup> as charms directed against them. The first of these hymns is of a general character, the second is meant to destroy worms in cattle, and the third is intended to cure children of worms. When found in men, worms are said to have their place in the head and ribs,<sup>3</sup> and to creep into the eyes, nose, and teeth.<sup>4</sup> They are described as dark brown, but white in the fore part of the body, with black ears, and as having three heads.<sup>5</sup> They are given many specific names: **Alāṇḍu**, **Ejatka**, **Kaṣkaṣa**, **Kiṭa**, **Kurūru**, **Nilāṅgu**, **Yevāṣa**, **Vaghā**, **Vṛkṣasarpī**, **Śaluna**, **Śavarta**, **Śīpavitnuka**, **Stega**.

<sup>2</sup> Av. ii. 31, 4.

<sup>4</sup> Av. v. 23, 3.

<sup>5</sup> Av. v. 23, 4 et seq.

Cf. Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 98, 393; Kuhn, *Zeitschrift für vergleichende*

*Sprachforschung*, 13, 49 et seq.; 113 et seq.; Bloomfield, *Hymns of the Atharvaveda*, 313 et seq.; Weber, *Indische Studien*, 13, 199; Whitney, *Translation of the Atharvaveda*, 73.

**Kṛmuka** is the name in the **Kāthaka Saṃhitā** and the **Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa**<sup>2</sup> of a species of wood used for fuel.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> xix. 10.

<sup>2</sup> vi. 6, 2, 11.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* (*Kṛāmuha* as applied to *samidh*).

**Kṛṣa** is mentioned with **Samvarta** as a pious sacrificer to Indra in one of the **Vālakhilya** hymns of the **Rigveda**<sup>1</sup> and in another<sup>2</sup> as a speaker of truth, while a third is traditionally<sup>3</sup> ascribed to his authorship. He seems also to be mentioned with **Śayu** as a protégé of the **Aśvins** in another hymn of the **Rigveda**,<sup>4</sup> but here the word may merely denote the 'feeble man.'<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> viii. 54, 2.

<sup>2</sup> viii. 59, 3.

<sup>3</sup> *Indische Studien*, 1, 293, n.

<sup>4</sup> x. 40, 8.

<sup>5</sup> Roth, *St. Petersburg Dictionary*, s.v.

Cf. Ludwig, *Translation of the R̥gveda*, 3, 132, 164.