

a metaphor,³ also expresses the 'two worlds,' heaven and earth.⁴ Hillebrandt,⁵ however, thinks that the word properly means earth,⁶ in the dual heaven and earth,⁷ in the plural the triad, earth, atmosphere, and heaven,⁸ while in some passages⁹ Dhīṣaṇā denotes the Vēdi, the excavated ground used as an altar. This is not, however, certain, while it seems clear that the Vājasaneyi¹⁰ and Taittirīya¹¹ Saṃhitās understand the Dhīṣaṇās (dual) to be the planks over which the pressing of the Soma took place (*adhiṣavaṇa-phalake*).¹² Pischel¹³ sees in Dhīṣaṇā a goddess of wealth akin to Aditi and the earth.

³ Like Camṛ.

⁴ Rv. i. 160, 1; vi. 8, 3; 50, 3; 70, 3; x. 44, 8; in the plural, 'the three worlds,' Rv. v. 69, 2. In other passages, Rv. i. 22, 10; iii. 56, 6; v. 41, 8; vi. 11, 3; x. 35, 7, the sense of 'a genius of prosperity' was assigned to Dhīṣaṇā by Roth.

⁵ *Vedische Mythologie*, I, 175-181.

⁶ Rv. i. 22, 10; 96, 1; 102, 1; iii. 31, 13; 56, 6; vi. 19, 2; vii. 90, 3; viii. 15, 7; x. 30, 6; 35, 7; 96, 10.

⁷ See n. 3; also Rv. viii. 61, 2; *nivid* in Sāṅkhayana Śrauta Sūtra, viii. 19, 4.

⁸ Rv. iv. 36, 8; v. 69, 2; ix. 59, 2.

⁹ Rv. i. 109, 3, 4; iii. 2, 1; 49, 4 (or perhaps 'earth'); iv. 34, 1; v. 41, 8; vi. 11, 3; x. 17, 12.

¹⁰ vii. 26.

¹¹ iii. 1, 10, 1.

¹² Mahidhara on Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, vii. 26; Sāyaṇa on Taittirīya Saṃhitā, *loc. cit.*

¹³ *Vedische Studien*, 2, 82-87. Cf. Macdonell, *Vedic Mythology*, p. 124; Oldenberg, *Sacred Books of the East*, 46, 120-122.

Dhī, 'thought,' is used several times in the Rigveda¹ to denote the 'prayer' or 'hymn of praise' of the singer. One poet speaks of himself as 'weaving' such a prayer,² while another refers to his 'ancient ancestral hymn,' which he refurbishes presumably for use.³

¹ i. 3, 5; 135, 5; 151, 6; 185, 8; ii. 3, 8 (where it is connected with *Sarasvatī*); 40, 5, etc.

² Rv. ii. 28, 5.

³ Rv. iii. 39, 2.

Cf. Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 338.

Dhīti has in several passages of the Rigveda¹ practically the same sense as Dhī, 'prayer,' or 'hymn of praise.'

¹ i. 110, 1; iii. 12, 7; 52, 6; v. 25, 3; 53, 11; vi. 15, 9, etc.; Nirukta, ii. 24.

Dhīra Śāta-parṇeya ('descendant of Śataparnā') is mentioned in the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa (x. 3, 3, 1) as a pupil of Mahāśāla.