

Ratha-nābhi, the 'nave of the chariot-wheel,' is mentioned in the Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā<sup>1</sup> and in the Upaniṣads.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> xxxiv. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Brhadāranyaka Upaniṣad, ii. 5 5; Aitareya Āraṇyaka, iii. 2, 4; Kauṣītaki

Upaniṣad, iii. 8; Chāndogya Upaniṣad, vii. 15, 1, etc.

Ratha-prota Dārbhya ('descendant of Darbha') is mentioned in the Maitrāyaṇī Saṃhitā (ii. 1, 3) perhaps as a king, but possibly as a priest.

Ratha-proṣṭha occurs as the name of a princely family in the Rigveda (x. 60, 5). See Subandhu.

Ratha-mukha in the later Saṃhitās<sup>1</sup> denotes the fore-part of a chariot. Cf. Rathaśīrṣa.

<sup>1</sup> Av. viii. 8, 23; Taittirīya Saṃhitā, iii. 4, 3, 2; v. 4, 9, 3, etc.

Ratharvī is the name of a snake in the Atharvaveda (x. 4, 5).

Ratha-vāhana is the name in the Rigveda<sup>1</sup> and later<sup>2</sup> for a movable stand to hold the chariot. According to Roth,<sup>3</sup> it corresponds to the Greek *βωμός*, on which the chariot rested when out of use. The word Rathavāhana-vāha is employed in the sense of the two horses that draw the stand.<sup>4</sup> Weber<sup>5</sup> thinks it was used to convey the war chariot to the scene of action.

<sup>1</sup> vi. 75, 8.

<sup>2</sup> Av. iii. 17, 3 = Taittirīya Saṃhitā, iv. 2, 5, 5 = Kāthaka Saṃhitā, xvi. 11 = Maitrāyaṇī Saṃhitā, ii. 7, 12 = Vāsiṣṭha Dharma Sūtra, ii. 34, 35. See also Kāthaka Saṃhitā, xxi. 10; Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa, i. 7, 9, 6; Sata-patha Brāhmaṇa, v. 4, 3, 23 *et seq.*

<sup>3</sup> *Festgruss an Böhtlingh*, 95 *et seq.*; Whitney, Translation of the Atharvaveda, 116.

<sup>4</sup> Taittirīya Saṃhitā, i. 8, 20, 1;

Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa, i. 8, 4, 3; Kāthaka Saṃhitā, xv. 9; Maitrāyaṇī Saṃhitā, ii. 2, 1.

<sup>5</sup> *Über den Vajapeya*, 27, n. 2, followed by Geldner, *Vedische Studien*, 2, 275. Weber, however, admits that the Rathavāhana may at times have served as a mere stand, like the Homeric *βωμός*, while Geldner expresses the opinion that it never has that sense. The use of the term Rathavāhanavāha shows that the stand was movable.