

A-cyut.—He acted as Pratihartṛ at the Sattrā celebrated by the Vibhindukīyas and described in the Jaiminiya Brāhmaṇa.¹

¹ iii. 233. See *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 18, 38.

Aja, Ajā.—This is the ordinary name for goat in the Rigveda¹ and the later literature. The goat is also called **Basta**, **Chāga**, **Chagala**. Goats and sheep (*ajāvayak*) are very frequently mentioned together.² The female goat is spoken of as producing two or three kids,³ and goat's milk is well known.⁴ The goat as representative of Pūṣan plays an important part in the ritual of burial.⁵ The occupation of a goatherd (*ajapāla*) was a recognized one, being distinguished from that of a cowherd and of a shepherd.⁶

¹ *Aja* in Rv. x. 16, 4; i. 162, 2, 4; Av. ix. 5, 1; Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, xxi. 9, etc.; *ajā* in Rv. viii. 70, 15; Av. vi. 71, 1; Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, xxiii., 56, etc.

² Rv. x. 90, 10; Av. viii. 7, 25; Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, iii. 43, etc.

³ Taittiriya Saṃhitā, vi. 5, 10, 1.

⁴ Taittiriya Saṃhitā, iv. 1, 6, 1; v. 1, 7, 4. Cf. Hillebrandt, *Vedische Mythologie*, 3, 364, n. 4.

⁵ Rv. x. 16, 4, etc. Cf. p. 9.

⁶ Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, xxx. 11; Taittiriya Brāhmaṇa, iii. 4, 9, 1.

Aja.—The Ajas are named in one verse of the Rigveda¹ as having been defeated by the Tr̥tsus under Sudās. They are there mentioned with the Yaksus and Śigrus, and Zimmer² conjectures that they formed part of a confederacy under Bheda against Sudās. The name has been regarded as a sign of totemism,³ but this is very uncertain, and it is impossible to say if they were or were not Āryans.

¹ lvi. 18, 19.

² *Allindisches Leben*, 127. Cf. Ludwig, *Translation of the Rigveda*, 3, 173.

³ Cf. Maedonell, *Vedic Mythology*,

153; Keith, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 1907, 929; Aitareya Āraṇyaka, 200, 21; Risley, *Peoples of India*, 83 et seq.

Ajakava.—This name of a poisonous scorpion occurs once in the Rigveda.¹

¹ vii. 50, 1. Cf. Zimmer, *Allindisches Leben*, 99.

Aja-gara ('goat-swallower') occurs in the Atharvaveda¹ and in the list of animals at the Aśvamedha,² or horse sacrifice, as the

¹ xi. 2, 25; xx. 129, 17.

² Taittiriya Saṃhitā

5, 14, 1;

Maitrāyaṇī Saṃhitā, iii. 14, 19; Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, xxiv. 38.