

Abhīsu is a common Vedic word¹ denoting the ‘reins’ or ‘bridle’ of the chariot horses. The use of the plural is due to the fact that two or four horses, possibly five (*daśābhīsu* ‘ten-bridled’),² were yoked to the car.

¹ Rv. i. 38, 12; v. 44, 4; vi. 75, 6; viii. 33, 11; Av. vi. 137, 2; viii. 8, 22; Vājasaneyi Samhitā, xxxiv. 6; Sata-

patha Brāhmaṇa, v. 4, 3, 14 (where it = <i>raśmayah</i> , ‘reins’), etc.	² Rv. x. 94, 7.
--------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------

Abhy-agni Aitāsāyana.—This man was, according to the Aitareya Brāhmaṇa,¹ unfortunate enough to quarrel with his father, **Aitāsa**. The result was that he and his progeny were called the worst of the **Aurvas**. In the version of the Kauṣītaki Brāhmaṇa,² the **Aitāsāyana Ajāneyas** take the place of the **Abhyagnis** and the **Bhrgus** of the **Aurvas**, the latter being probably a branch of the former family.

¹ vi. 33.

² xxx. 5. Cf. Hillebrandt, *Vedische Mythologie*, 2, 173.

Abhyā-vartin Cāyamāna appears in a Dānastuti (‘Praise of Gifts’) in the Rigveda,¹ and as conqueror of the **Vṛcivants** under the leader **Varaśikha**. It is probable though not absolutely certain, that he is identical with the **Sṛñjaya Daivavāta**, mentioned in the same hymn² as having the **Turvaśas** and **Vṛcivants** defeated for him by Indra. In this case he would be prince (*samrāj*) of the **Sṛñjayas**. **Daivavāta** is mentioned elsewhere³ as a worshipper of Agni.

Abhyāvartin is also referred to as a Pārthava. Ludwig⁴ and Hillebrandt⁵ maintained that he is thus a Parthian, the latter using the evidence of the two places mentioned in the description⁶ of **Daivavāta**’s victories, **Hariyūpiyā** and **Yavyāvātī**, as proofs for the western position of Abhyāvartin’s people in Arachosia, in Iran. But Zimmer⁷ is probably right in holding that the name Pārthava merely means ‘a descendant of Pṛthu,’ and that its similarity to the Iranian Parthians is only on a par with the numerous other points of identity between the Indian and Iranian cultures.

¹ vi. 27, 8, 5.

² vi. 27, 7.

³ iv. 15, 4.

⁴ Translation of the Rigveda, 3, 198 et seq.

⁵ *Vedische Mythologie*, 1, 105; 3, 268.

n. 1. Cf. Grierson, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 1908, 604 et seq.

⁶ Rv. vi. 27, 5, 6.

⁷ *Altindisches Leben*, 133 et seq., 433; Bergaigne, *Religion Védique*, 2, 362.