

**A-bhrātaraḥ** ('brotherless').—The lot of girls without brothers is referred to in the Rigveda<sup>1</sup> as unsatisfactory—apparently they became prostitutes. The Nirukta<sup>2</sup> expressly forbids marriage with a brotherless maiden, probably because of the risk of her being made a *putrikā* ('adoptive daughter') by her father—that is, any son of hers being counted as belonging to her father's, instead of to her husband's, family. See **Ayogū**.

<sup>1</sup> i. 124, 7; iv. 5, 5. Cf. Av. i. 17, 1.

<sup>2</sup> iii. 5 (*abhvātri*).

Cf. Bloomfield, *Hymns of the Atharvaveda*, 259; Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 328.

**Abhri** ('spade') is a Vedic word<sup>1</sup> of frequent occurrence. Various possible materials and forms are enumerated in the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa.<sup>2</sup> It may be made of bamboo or of the wood of Vikaṅkata or Udumbara. It may be a span or a cubit in size. It is hollow, and either one or both edges are sharp. From this it would appear that the handle was made of some wood, but the head of some metal.

<sup>1</sup> Av. iv. 7, 5. 6 (*abhri-khāte* is 'dug out with a spade,' not 'prepared ground' with Roth, St. Petersburg Dictionary, s.v.); x. 4, 14; *hiranya-yibhir abhribhiḥ*, 'with golden spades');

Vājasaneyi Saṅhitā, v. 22; xi. 10; xxxvii. 1; Pañcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa, xvi. 6; Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, ii. 3, 2, 15, etc.

<sup>2</sup> vi. 3, 1, 30 et seq.

**Amatra** was a vessel into which the Soma, after being pressed, was poured,<sup>1</sup> and out of which the libation to the god was made.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rv. ii. 14, 1; v. 51, 4; vi. 42, 2, etc.

<sup>2</sup> Rv. x. 29, 7.

Cf. Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 278; Oldenberg, *Rgveda-Noten*, 1, 61.

**Amalā**.—This plant<sup>1</sup> is probably the *Emblica officinalis*, or Myrobalan tree; also called **Āmalaka**, or **Āmalakā**.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Jaiminiya Upaniṣad Brāhmaṇa, i. 38, 6.

<sup>2</sup> The reading in Chāndogya Upani-

ṣad, vii. 3, 1, is *vāmalaḥ*, which may give *ā°* or *ā°*.

**Amā-jur** is an epithet<sup>1</sup> denoting maidens 'who grow old at home' without finding husbands, or, as they are elsewhere called, 'who sit with their father' (*pitṛ-ṣad*). A well-known example of such was **Ghoṣā**.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rv. ii. 17, 7; viii. 21, 15; x. 37, 3.

<sup>2</sup> Rv. i. 117, 7. Cf. Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 305.