

Ikṣvāku.—In the Rigveda this name occurs but once,¹ and in a doubtful context. It is clear, however, that it denotes a prince; later interpretations make **Asamāti**, whose name is read into the hymn, an Ikṣvāku prince.² In the Atharvaveda³ also the name is found in only one passage, where it is uncertain whether a descendant of Ikṣvāku, or Ikṣvāku himself, is referred to; in either case he seems to be regarded as an ancient hero. In the Pañcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa⁴ mention is made of **Tryaruṇa Traidhātva Aikṣvāka**, who is identical with the **Tryaruṇa Traivṛṣṇa** of the Bṛhaddevatā,⁵ and with **Tryaruṇa Trasadasyu** in the Rigveda.⁶ The connection of Trasadasyu with the Ikṣvākus is confirmed by the fact that **Purukutsa** was an Aikṣvāka, according to the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa.⁷ Thus the Ikṣvāku line was originally a line of princes of the Pūrus. Zimmer⁸ places them on the upper Indus, but they may well have been somewhat further east.⁹ Later Ikṣvāku is connected with Ayodhyā

¹ x. 60, 4.

² Cf. Jaiminiya Brāhmaṇa, iii. 167; Sātyāyanaka in Max Müller, Rigveda, 4, c-cvii, 167; *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 18, 42; Bṛhaddevatā, vii. 85 et seq., with Macdonell's notes.

³ xiv. 39. 9. Cf. Bloomfield, *Hymns of the Atharvaveda*, 680; Whitney, *Translation of the Atharvaveda*, 961.

⁴ xiii. 3, 12.

⁵ v. 14 et seq.

⁶ v. 27, 3. Cf. Sieg, *Die Sagenstoffe des Rgveda*, 68-75; Macdonell, *Bṛhaddevatā*, 2, 170; Oldenberg, *Vedic Hymns*, 366 et seq.; Ludwig, *Translation of the Rigveda*, 3, 133, 138; 4, 324.

⁷ xiii. 5, 4, 5.

⁸ *Altindisches Leben*, 104, 130.

⁹ Cf. Pischel, *Vedische Studien*, 2, 218; Geldner, *ibid.*, 3, 152.

I. Iṭa.—This word occurs twice in the Atharvaveda. In the first passage¹ it seems to denote a bulrush of the sort that dies in a year; in the second² it refers to the reed work of the house.

¹ vi. 14, 3. Cf. iv. 19, 1; Bloomfield, *Hymns of the Atharvaveda*, 464.

² ix. 3, 18. Cf. Pischel, *Zeitschrift*

der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft, 35, 718.

2. Iṭa appears as a Rṣi and a protégé of Indra in one hymn of the Rigveda.¹ Roth,² however, thinks that the word is really part of a verb (*iṭ*) meaning 'to err, wander' (cp. *aṭ*), and

¹ x. 171, 1.

² *St. Petersburg Dictionary*, s.v.