

Drapsa is a common word from the Rigveda onwards¹ for a 'drop': according to Sāyaṇa,² a 'thick drop' as opposed to *stoka*, a 'small drop.' Hence there frequently occurs the expression *dadhi-drapsa*, 'drop of curds.'³ In the Rigveda⁴ the word normally denotes the thick drops of Soma or the Soma itself.

In two passages⁵ Roth⁶ sees the sense of 'banner,' which is adopted by Oldenberg.⁷ Geldner,⁸ on the other hand, considers that 'dust' is meant, but this interpretation is not very probable. Max Müller⁹ renders the word 'rain-drop' in one of the passages.

¹ Rv. i. 94, 11 (perhaps a 'drop' of fire); v. 63, 4 ('rain-drop'); vii. 33, 11 (= *retas*); Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, vi. 1, 2, 6; *drapsin* ('thick-flowing'), xi. 4, 1, 15.

² Taittirīya Saṃhitā, i, p. 70, 7. Cf. the epithet *uru-drapsa*, Taittirīya Saṃhitā, iii. 3, 10, 2; Sāyaṇa, on Av. xviii. 4, 18, takes *drapsa* to mean 'drops of curd'; so Agnisvāmin on Lāṭyāyana Śrauta Sūtra, iii. 2, 4.

³ Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, ix. 2, 3, 40.

⁴ ix. 78, 4; 85, 10; 89, 2; 97, 56;

106, 8; x. 12, 4; 17, 11, 12. Cf. Taittirīya Saṃhitā, iii. 3, 9, 1.

⁵ iv. 13, 2, and *drapsin* in i. 64, 2.

⁶ St. Petersburg Dictionary, s.v. *salvan*; Böhtlingk, Dictionary, s.v. *drapsa*, *drapsin*.

⁷ Sacred Books of the East, 46, 357; Rgveda-Noten, i, 64, 65.

⁸ Vedische Studien, 3, 57, 58; Rigveda, Glossar, 88.

⁹ Sacred Books of the East, 32, 104. Cf. Macdonell, Vedic Mythology, p. 80, with reference to Rv. i. 64, 2.

Cf. Macdonell, *op. cit.*, pp. 105, 113.

Drāpi occurs several times in the Rigveda¹ in the sense of 'mantle' or 'cloak.'² Sāyaṇa, however, renders the word by 'coat of mail'³ (*kavaca*). This seems needless, but none of the passages are very decisive one way or the other.

¹ i. 25, 13; 116, 10; iv. 33, 2; ix. 86, 14; 100, 9; Av. iii. 13, 1.

² Roth, St. Petersburg Dictionary, s.v.; Muir, Sanskrit Texts, 5, 472; Schrader, Prehistoric Antiquities, 333.

³ Cf. Max Müller, Ancient Sanskrit Literature, 536; Pischel, Vedische Studien, 2, 201, 202.

Dru denotes a vessel made of wood,¹ and in particular the vessel used at the Soma sacrifice,² perhaps, as Hillebrandt³ suggests, to catch the Soma juice when running through the sieve. In the Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa⁴ the word simply means 'wood.'

¹ Rv. i. 161, 1; v. 86, 3; viii. 66, 11; in x. 101, 10, the mortar seems meant. In v. 86, 3, Böhtlingk takes it to denote a 'wooden handle.'

² ix. 1, 2; 65, 6; 98, 2.

³ Vedische Mythologie, i, 191, 192.

⁴ i. 3, 9, 1. So often in compounds, e.g., Rv. ii. 7, 6; vi. 12, 4, etc.