

tain whether a kind of bird<sup>2</sup> or fly,<sup>3</sup> or long-eared beast<sup>4</sup> is intended.

<sup>2</sup> Mahidhara on Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, *loc. cit.*

<sup>3</sup> Sāyaṇa on Taittirīya Saṃhitā, v. 5, 12, 1; 18, 1.

<sup>4</sup> Sāyaṇa on Taittirīya Saṃhitā, v. 5, 12, 1.

Cf. Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 99.

**Śakuna**, 'bird,' is mentioned frequently in the Rigveda<sup>1</sup> and later.<sup>2</sup> It usually denotes a large bird,<sup>3</sup> or a bird which gives omens.<sup>4</sup> Zimmer<sup>5</sup> compares *κύκνος*, which also is a bird of omen.

<sup>1</sup> iv. 26, 6; ix. 85, 11; 86, 13; 107, 20; 112, 2; x. 68, 7; 106, 3; 123, 6; 165, 2.

<sup>2</sup> Av. xii. 1, 51; 3, 13; xx. 127, 4; Taittirīya Saṃhitā, iii. 2, 6, 2; Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, xviii. 53, etc.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. Av. xi. 2, 24, as compared with **Vayas**; Nirukta, iii. 18.

<sup>4</sup> Cf. Kauṣītaki Brāhmaṇa, vii. 4; Maitrāyaṇi Upaniṣad, vi. 34, etc.

<sup>5</sup> *Altindisches Leben*, 430.

**Śakuni**, 'bird,' is used practically like **Śakuna**, but with a much clearer reference to divination. It was smaller than the **Śyena** or **Suparṇa**,<sup>1</sup> gave signs,<sup>2</sup> and foretold ill-luck.<sup>3</sup> When it is mentioned<sup>4</sup> in the list of sacrificial victims at the Aśva-medha ('horse sacrifice'), a special species must be meant: later the falcon is so called, but the 'raven' may be intended; the commentator on the Taittirīya Saṃhitā thinks that it is the 'crow.' It is mentioned several times elsewhere.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rv. ii. 42, 2.

<sup>2</sup> Rv. ii. 42, 1; 43, 3.

<sup>3</sup> Av. x. 3, 6.

<sup>4</sup> Taittirīya Saṃhitā, v. 5, 19, 1; Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, xxiv. 40; Maitrāyaṇi Saṃhitā, iii. 14, 21.

<sup>5</sup> Av. ii. 25, 2; vii. 64, 1; xi. 9, 9;

Kāṭhaka Saṃhitā, xxv. 7; Aitareya Brāhmaṇa, ii. 15, 12; iv. 7, 3; Sata-patha Brāhmaṇa, xiv. 1, 1, 31; Chāndogya Upaniṣad, vi. 8, 2, etc.

Cf. Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 88, 430.

**Śakuni-mitra** is one of the names of **Vipaścīti Pārāśarya** in the Jaiminiya Upaniṣad Brāhmaṇa (iii. 41, 1).

**Śakunta** is a name for 'bird' in the Atharvaveda (xi. 6, 8).