

itself in the sands of Patiala (see **Vinaśana**). Even Roth³ admits that this river is intended in some passages of the Rigveda. With the **Dṛṣadvatī**⁴ it formed the western boundary of Brahmāvarta (see **Madhyadeśa**). It is the holy stream of early Vedic India. The Sūtras⁵ mention sacrifices held on its banks as of great importance and sanctity.

In many other passages of the Rigveda,⁶ and even later,⁷ Roth held that another river, the **Sindhu** (Indus), was really meant: only thus could it be explained why the Sarasvatī is called the 'foremost of rivers' (*nadītāmā*),⁸ is said to go to the ocean,⁹ and is referred to as a large river, on the banks of which many kings,¹⁰ and, indeed, the five tribes, were located.¹¹ This view is accepted by Zimmer¹² and others.¹³

On the other hand, Lassen¹⁴ and Max Müller¹⁵ maintain the identity of the Vedic Sarasvatī with the later Sarasvatī.¹⁶ The latter is of opinion that in Vedic times the Sarasvatī was as large a stream as the Sutlej, and that it actually reached the

³ Rv. iii. 23, 4 (where the Dṛṣadvatī appears); x. 64, 9; 75, 5 (where the Sindhu also is mentioned).

⁴ Probably the modern Chautang, which flows to the east of Thanesar. Cf. Oldham, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 25, 58; *Imperial Gasetteer of India*, 26, Plate 32.

⁵ Kātyāyana Śrauta Sūtra, xii. 3, 20; xxiv. 6, 22; Lāṭyāyana Śrauta Sūtra, x. 15, 1; 18, 13; 19, 4; Āśvalāyana Śrauta Sūtra, xii. 6, 2, 3; Śāṅkhāyana Śrauta Sūtra, xiii. 29.

⁶ i. 89, 3; 164, 19; ii. 41, 16 *et seq.*; 30, 8; 32, 8; iii. 54, 13; v. 42, 12; 43, 11; 46, 2; vi. 49, 7; 50, 12; 52, 6; vii. 9, 5; 36, 6; 39, 5; 40, 3; viii. 21, 17; 54, 4; x. 17, 7; 30, 12; 131, 5; 184, 2.

⁷ Av. iv. 4, 6; v. 23, 1; vi. 3, 2; 89, 3; vii. 68, 1; xiv. 2, 15, 20; xvi. 4, 4; xix. 32, 9; Taittirīya Saṁhitā, i. 8, 13, 3; Vājasaneyi Saṁhitā, xix. 93; xxxiv. 11; Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, i. 6, 2, 4; xi. 4, 3, 3; xii. 7, 1, 12; 2, 5; Bṛhadāraṇyaka Upaniṣad, vi. 3, 8. These passages should all be classed in n. 2.

⁸ Rv. ii. 41, 16.

⁹ Rv. vi. 61, 2, 8; vii. 96, 2.

¹⁰ Rv. viii. 21, 18.

¹¹ Rv. vi. 61, 12.

¹² *Altindisches Leben*, 5-10.

¹³ E.g., Grillich, *Hymns of the Rigveda*, i. 60; 2, 90, etc.; Ludwig, Translation of the Rigveda, 3, 201, 202.

¹⁴ *Indische Alterthumskunde*, 1², 118.

¹⁵ *Sacred Books of the East*, 32, 60.

¹⁶ In the enumeration of rivers (evidently from east to west) in Rv. x. 75, 5, Gaṅgā, Yamunā, Sarasvatī, Śutudrī, the Sarasvatī comes between the Jumna and the Sutlej, the position of the modern Sarsūti (Sarasvatī), which, flowing to the west of Thanesar, is joined in Patiala territory by a more westerly stream, the Ghaggar, and, passing Sirsa, is lost in the desert at Bhatnair; but a dry river bed (Hakra or Ghaggar) can be traced from that point to the Indus. See *Imperial Gasetteer of India*, 26, Plate 32. Cf. also Oldham, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 25, 49-76.