

DID SOME VEDIC PEOPLE EMIGRATE WESTWARDS FROM INDIA

By

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DID SOME VEDIC PEOPLE EMIGRATE FROM INDIA TO WESTERN ASIA IN THE SECOND MILLENIUM BCE?

- Inscribed clay tablets discovered at Bogazkoy in Turkey record a treaty between a Mitanni king named Matiwaza and a Hittite king, Suppilulima. It is dated to 1380 BCE. In it the two kings invoke, as witnesses, the Vedic gods Indra, Mitra, Nasatya and Varuna.
- Commenting on this treaty, the renowned Indologist T. Burrow observes: “Aryans appear in Mitanni as the ruling dynasty, which means that **they must have entered the country as conquerors.**”

- ‘Conquerors from where?’ may not one ask? **At that point of time (1380 BCE) there was no other country in the world *except* India where these gods were worshipped. Thus, the Aryans must have gone from India.**
- This emigration from India is duly confirmed by what is recorded in the *Baudhayana Srautasutra*

[१८। ४४, ४५।]

बौधायनश्रौतसूत्रम् ।

३६७

अहरहरागच्छेयुस्तदाग्रना स्था^१ न त्वा नग्नं पश्येयमिति^१
 सर्वमेवैतद्भगवति सुकरमिति होवाच^१ कथा त्वपि^१ जाया
 पतिं नग्नं न पश्यतीत्यन्तर्वासं वसीथा^१ इति होवाचानग्नो
 भवेति^१ तथा सहोवासान्तर्वासं वसानः^१ सा ह स्म जाता-
 ५ आतानेव पुत्रानपविध्यति^१ ताः ह राजोवाच पुत्रकामा ह
 वै भगवति वयं मनुष्याः स्मो जाताः आतानु लमपविध्यसीति^१
 सा होवाच पर्यवेतराचयो भवन्ति वीणायुषो ऽन्ये^१ भूयः
 प्रियं करवावहा इति^१ सायुं^४ चामावसुं च जनयां चकार^१
 सा होवाचेमौ विष्टेमौ^४ सर्वमायुरेव्यत इति^१ प्राङ्मायुः
 १० प्रवम्राज^१ तस्यैते कुरुपञ्चालाः^६ काश्रिविदिहा इत्येतदाद्यवं
 प्रम्राजं^१ प्रत्यङ्मावसुस्तस्यैते गान्धारय^७ स्यर्गवो ऽराहा
 इत्येतदामावसवम्^५ ॥ ४४ ॥

अथो हास्या एषा पूर्वचित्तिरप्यरा स्वसा बभूव^१ सा
 हेचां चक्रे व्योम् वै मे स्वसा मनुष्येष्ववात्सीद्वन्तेनामच्छाया-

१ त्वपि L, त्वपि the other MSS.

१ वसीथा L Be (sec. m.) वासीत्याभ्य the other MSS.

१ भवन्ति MSS. exc. L, which has वेन च वानयो भवन्तीति ।

४ प्रायुं Be (sec. m.).

५ निष्टेवे० Be L; the other MSS. om. these words.

६ पांचाला L B.

- “*Pranayuh pravavraja. Tasyaite Kuru-Panchalah Kasi-Videha ityetaḍ Ayavam pravrajam Pratyam Amavasus * Tasyaite Gandharayas Parsvo Aratta ityetaḍ Amavasavam.*”
- The verb used in the first part is pravavraja. Thus, as per rules of grammar, **the unstated verb in the second part * should also be pravavraja**. The correct translation of the second part would, therefore, be: “**Amavasu migrated westwards**. His (people) are the Gandhari, Parsu and Aratta.”
- Thus, what the text really states is that while Ayu migrated eastwards, Amavasu migrated westwards. This **east-west separation** took place between Kuru and Gandhara regions.

- The *Baudhayana Srautasutra* does in fact narrate the story of a section of the Vedic Aryans, namely the descendants of Amavasu, having migrated westwards, via Kandahar (Gandhara of the text) in Afghanistan to Persia (Parsu) and Ararat (Aratta) in Armenia. From there they went to Turkey, where the Bogazkoy tablets of the 14th century BCE, as already stated, refer to the Vedic gods Indra, Mitra, Varuna and Nasatyas.
- There is enough archaeological, epigraphic and literary evidence from Iran, Iraq and Turkey which duly establishes this westward emigration of the Vedic people in the 2nd millennium BCE.

MIGRATION OF PEOPLE AS MENTIONED IN THE *BAUDHĀYANA ŚRAUTASŪTRA*



THANK YOU VERY MUCH
for your patient hearing

