Contents

List of Illustrations	xii
Acknowledgements	xv
Preface	ххі
A Note to the Second Edition	xxvii
Dear Readers	xxix
Notes	xxxi
TECHNICAL NOTES xxxi	
SANSKRIT TRANSLITERATION xxxiv	
ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS xxxvi	
I. The Rgveda and Its Interpretation	1
1.1 THE RGVEDA AND THE VEDIC LITERATURE 1	
1.2 THE VEDĀŅGAS, THE SIX LIMBS OF THE VEDA 3	
1.3 THE DATE OF THE RGVEDA 4 1.4 PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH TRADITIONAL INTERPRETATIONS	
OF THE RGVEDA 6	
1.5 A NEW INTERPRETATION OF THE RGVEDA 10	
1.6 THE TEXT OF THE RGVEDA 12	
II. The Heavenly Structures Revealed in the Rgveda	15
	10
2.1 THE SHINING ONES, THE DEVAS AND THE RSIS 15	

v

vi

2.2 THE THREEFOLD HEAVENLY SPHERE, THE ALTAR OF COSMIC YAJÑA 18

- 2.2.1 The Upper Heaven, the Innerfield, and the Lower Heaven $\ 18$
- 2.2.2 The Cosmic Yajña, the Origin of the World and Life 20
- 2.2.3 Make Me Immortal in That Luminous Threefold Heaven 22

2.3 THE HEIGHT OF THE HEAVENLY VAULT 23

- 2.3.1 The Height of the Heavenly Vault Revealed in the Sūryasiddhānta 24
- 2.3.2 The Height of the Heavenly Vault by the Siddhantaśiromaņi 26

2.4 THE TWOFOLD HEAVENLY VAULT AND ITS SUBSTRUCTURES 28

- 2.4.1 The Great Heavens of Two, the Upper and the Lower Heavens $\ \ 28$
- 2.4.2 The Twofold Heavenly Vault Observed by Chandra and Hubble 29
- 2.4.3 The Soma Pond in the Vault of the Heaven 31
- 2.4.4 Vimāna, the Chariot of the Devas 33
- 2.4.5 The Upper Heaven Revolves Westward, the Lower Heaven Eastward 34
- 2.4.6 The Heaven, the Red Bull 36
- 2.4.7 The Structures of the Heaven, the Complete Picture $\ 37$

2.5 THE SOMA POND, THE WOMB OF COSMIC CREATION 39

- 2.5.1 The Soma Pond Observed by Chandra 39
- 2.5.2 The Soma Pond, the Golden Womb 42
- 2.5.3 Samudra, the Ocean of Celestial Waters 44
- 2.5.4 Rodasī, the Pair of Mātā and Duhitā, the Pair of the Stone and the Soma Pond 45
- 2.5.5 The Radiant Udder of Prsni 46
- 2.5.6 The Moon with Beauteous Wings Glides in the Heaven 47
- 2.5.7 Sūrya, the Best of Lights 48
- 2.5.8 Sūrya, the Single Eye, the All-Seeing Eye 51
- 2.5.9 Sūrya, the Eye of Mitra and Varuna 53
- 2.5.10 Sūrya Takes Hold of the Wondrous Weapon 54
- 2.5.11 Sūrya, the Refulgent Chariot 55
- 2.5.12 Uṣā, the Dawn 55
- 2.5.13 The Celestial Boat Equipped with Oars 58
- 2.5.14 The Heads of Sorceresses 59
- 2.5.15 An Owl, an Owlet, and the Sorcerer 59
- 2.5.16 The Mighty Thunderbolt of Indra 60
- 2.5.17 Rudra 60
- 2.5.18 The Maruts Arrive in Lightning Laden Chariots with Spears 63
- 2.5.19 The Maruts Make Streaming Currents and Flashing Thunderbolts 65
- 2.5.20 The Maruts Move Swiftly Like Vātas and Are Effulgent Like Tongues of Fires 66
- 2.5.21 The Maruts Are Spirited Like Serpents 66
- 2.5.22 The Maruts, the Eternal Flames 67
- 2.5.23 Tristup, a Libation for the Maruts 68

- 2.5.24 Vāyu and Vāta 68
- 2.5.25 Indra Slays the Serpent of the Heaven 71
- 2.5.26 Indra Delights in Soma Drinking 72
- 2.5.27 Indra, the Maker of Light and Form 74
- 2.5.28 Samvatsarakālacakram, the Soma Pond and the Wheel of Cosmic Ionisation 75
- 2.5.29 The Thousand-Pillared Abode of Kings Varuna and Mitra 77
- 2.6 THE SACRIFICIAL POSTS 77
 - 2.6.1 The Sacrificial Post, the Luminous Pillar of the Heaven 77
 - 2.6.2 A Hundred or a Thousand Sacrificial Posts 80
 - 2.6.3 The Remaining Stump of the Destroyed Sacrificial Post 83

2.7 THE STONE, THE CELESTIAL MACHINE OF IONISATION AND COSMIC PLASMA DISCHARGE AND RELEASE 84

- 2.7.1 The Stone and the Keystone 84
- 2.7.2 The Two Stones of Trita 86
- 2.7.3 The Two Stones at the Base of the Soma Pond 87
- 2.7.4 The Stones Are Impelled by Savitā 89
- 2.7.5 The Stones Sing and Make Rumbling Sounds 90
- 2.7.6 The Two Arms and Ten Fingers of the Stone 95
- 2.7.7 Tvașțā's Ten Maidens 96
- 2.7.8 The Stone Wheel 97
- 2.7.9 The Two Stones, Mortar and Pestle 97
- 2.7.10 Like a Real Comb 101
- 2.7.11 Ksetrapati, the Lord of the Field 104
- 2.7.12 The Adhvaryus Make Sweet Soma Mead 107

2.8 PRTHIVĪ, THE MILKY WAY 108

- 2.8.1 The Milky Way Has Four Major Spiral Arms 108
- 2.8.2 Different Regions of the Milky Way 110
- 2.8.3 Five Regions 111
- 2.8.4 Six Divine Expanses 111
- 2.8.5 Seven Domains 112
- 2.8.6 Eight Regions 113
- 2.8.7 A Hymn to Prthivī 114
- 2.9 ASVATTHA, THE INVERTED TREE, THE VEDIC TREE OF LIFE 115

III. The Divine Architects

- 3.1 TVAȘȚĂ, MAGNETISM IN GENERAL AND THE MAGNETIC FIELD IN PARTICULAR 119
 - 3.1.1 Tvaṣṭā, the First Born 119

- 3.1.2 The Shaper of All Forms 120
- 3.1.3 The Possessor of the World 121
- 3.1.4 Tvașțā Holds the Goblets That Serve the Drink of the Devas 121
- 3.1.5 Tvaṣṭā, the Divine Architect, the All-Seeing One with Two Winged Arms 122

3.2 THE RBHUS, THE MAGNETIC FORCES 126

- 3.2.1 The Rbhus Revive Their Old Parents and Impel the Yajña 127
- 3.2.2 The Rbhus Guard the Cow and Make the Four Celestial Bowls 128
- 3.2.3 The Skilful Architects Repose at Agni's Rite of Soma Reception 130
- 3.2.4 The Rbhus Make Two Bay Steeds for Indra 132

IV. Celestial Ionisation and Other Plasma Phenomena

4.1 CELESTIAL IONISATION 135

- 4.1.1 Praise of the Ploughing Wheel 135
- 4.1.2 The Gamester's Reproach of the Ploughing Wheel That Shatters the lonic Bond $\ 138$
- 4.1.3 Cosmic Plasma Discharge 140

4.2 CELESTIAL WATERS, THE COSMIC PLASMAS 144

- 4.2.1 The Adhvaryus Press Out the Celestial Waters 144
- 4.2.2 Celestial Waters Rise Up and Are Released Day after Day 146
- 4.2.3 Sūrya Spins the Celestial Waters with His Beams of Light 147
- 4.2.4 Varuna, Mitra, Aryamā: Cosmic Plasma Discharge Modes 149
- 4.2.5 Varuna, the Supreme Monarch 150
- 4.2.6 Within Varuna the Three Heavens Are Placed 151
- 4.2.7 Mitra and Varuna Sustain the Cosmic Sacrifice Through the Cosmic Sacrifice 152
- 4.2.8 Mitra Beholds the Tillers of the Field with an Unwinking Eye 153

4.3 ADITI, THE DOUBLE HEADED 154

- 4.3.1 Aditi, the Mother of Kings Mitra and Varuna 155
- 4.3.2 Aditi, the Milch Cow 156
- 4.3.3 Aditi Unbinds the Sin of the Ionic Bond 156
- 4.3.4 Aditi, Daughter of Dakşa 157
- 4.3.5 Aditi and Diti 159
- 4.3.6 The Ādityas, the Sons of Aditi 160

4.4 SAVITĀ 161

- 4.4.1 Savitā, Tvastā, Viśvarūpa 161
- 4.4.2 By Savitā's Propulsion Celestial Waters Flow 162
- 4.4.3 Savitā Impels Our Hymns 163
- 4.4.4 Three Times a Day Savitā Brings Celestial Waters 163

 4.5 VRTRA, THE SERPENT OF THE HEAVEN, THE PLASMA SHEATH 164 4.5.1 Dāsa and Ārya, the Two Opposite Charges of the Double Layer 164 4.5.2 Let Not My Thread Be Severed Before Time 165
 4.6 VARUNA'S NOOSE, THE SIN OF THE IONIC BOND 166 4.6.1 The Bonds Not Wrought of Ropes 166 4.6.2 Remove the Noose from Us O Varuna 167
 4.7 VĀK, THE SPEECH OF COSMIC PLASMAS 168 4.7.1 Vāk, the Queen of the Devas 168 4.7.2 A Hymn of Vāk 169
 4.8 THE WATCHERS 173 4.8.1 Varuņa's Watchers 173 4.8.2 Agni's Watchers 174 4.8.3 Soma's Watchers 175
 4.9 MĀYĀ 176 4.9.1 Māyā, the Magic Force of Varuņa 176 4.9.2 Māyā Drives the Flying Horse 177
 4.10 ĀTMĀ 178 4.10.1 Ātmā, the Soul of Cosmic Yajña 178 4.10.2 Have I Indeed Drunk Soma? 179
4.11 MANA, THE COSMIC MIND 182
V. In the Beginning
5.1 A HYMN OF THE CREATION 187 5.2 WEAVING THE NEBULOUS FABRIC WITH SAMA HYMNS 191
VI. The Events of Cosmic Plasma Release
 6.1 AŚVINĀ, THE TWIN JETS 198 6.1.1 Aśvinā Transport the Plasma Sheaths Filled with Soma Mead 199 6.1.2 The Spectacle of Cosmic Eruption, the Dappled Cows Are Released 201 6.1.3 The Mighty Aśvinā Perform Wondrous Deeds 205 6.1.4 The Coursers of Aśvinā Rush Over the Blazing Summit of the Heaven 205 6.1.5 Aśvinā Bring the Two Streams of Light 207 6.1.6 The Two Circumambulatory Paths of Aśvinā 207

6.2 THE CELESTIAL RIVERS 208

- 6.2.1 Sindhu Flows Upwards Roaring Like a Charging Bull 209
- 6.2.2 Sindhu Leads the Two Wings of Army Like a Warrior King 210
- 6.2.3 Seek My Hymn O Gangā, Yamunā, Sarasvatī, Śutudrī, and Paruṣṇī 211
- 6.2.4 Sindhu, Most Rapid of the Rapids, Traverses the Heavenly Spheres 212
- 6.2.5 Exalted by Soma Mead Sindhu Grows Bright 214
- 6.2.6 Mighty Gangā Falls Upon Mt. Meru 214

VII. Agni and Soma

7.1 AGNI, PROTON 217

- 7.1.1 Agni, an Embryonic Particle of Celestial Waters and All Beings 217
- 7.1.2 Agni Comes Out of the Stone as Celestial Waters 218
- 7.1.3 The Three Forms of Agni 219
- 7.1.4 Ekata, Dvita, Trita: Protium, Deuterium, Tritium 219
 - 7.1.4.1 Ekata 219
 - 7.1.4.2 Dvita Brings Slayed Offerings 220
 - 7.1.4.3 Trita Blasts and Whets Like a Blower in the Smelting Furnace 222
- 7.1.5 Agni's Path: Black, White, Yellow, Red, Purple, and Glorious 226
- 7.1.6 Frogs Capture One Another Based on Their Speech Patterns 226
- 7.1.7 The Bird That Is but One, Singers with Hymns Shape It into Many Forms 231

7.2 SOMA, ELECTRON 232

- 7.2.1 Soma, an Embryonic Particle of Celestial Waters 232
- 7.2.2 The Thunderbolt of Indra 233
- 7.2.3 Soma Spins a Triple Filament 233
- 7.2.4 Soma, the Brahmā of the Devas 234
- 7.2.5 The Bestower of Light Skilled in a Thousand Arts 236
- 7.2.6 Soma, the Lord of the Mind 237
- 7.2.7 Soma, the Lord of Speech 237
- 7.2.8 Flow Indu, the Frog is Eager for Water 238

VIII. The Cosmology of the Rgveda: Summary 241

8.1 WHAT THE RGVEDA REVEALS 241

- 8.1.1 The Universe, the Infinite Ocean of Celestial Hydrogen 242
- 8.1.2 A Single Source and a Single Cause 242
- 8.1.3 The Creation and Life are the Magneto-Plasma Phenomena 242
- 8.1.4 The Twofold Heavenly Vault and Its Substructures are the Magneto-Plasma Structures 243
- 8.1.5 The Stone, the Celestial Ioniser, the Cold Fire 244

8.1.6 Magnetic Field and Magnetic Forces 244	
8.1.7 Māyā 245	
8.1.8 Cosmic Yajñas, the Sacred Cosmic Sacrifices 245	
8.1.9 The Rains of Cosmic Plasmas and the Watchers 246	
8.1.10 The Soma Pond and Plasma Blooms 247	
8.1.11 The God Particles 248	
8.1.12 By the Hymns of the Singers, Agni is Made into Many Forms 249	
8.1.13 The Milky Way Has Four Major Arms and Is Sustained by	
Cosmic Yajñas 249	
8.2 COSMIC PLASMA DISCHARGE AND RELEASE MECHANISMS 250	
8.3 HYMNS OF BLESSING 251	
8.3.1 The Devas Embody Their Wish and Adorn Their Creations 251	
8.3.2 Powerful Be the Cosmic Yajña 252	
Epilogue	255
	00
Appendix: Stanzas Translated	
• •	259
1 STANZAS LISTED BY SECTIONS IN THIS BOOK 261	
2 STANZAS LISTED BY THE RGVEDA MANDALAS 269	
Bibliography	273
Index	281
	201
ABOUT THE AUTHOR 295	