

RGVEDIC SOCIETY

BRILL'S INDOLOGICAL LIBRARY

EDITED BY

JOHANNES BRONKHORST

ADVISORY BOARD

RICHARD GOMBRICH (OXFORD) • OSKAR VON HINÜBER (FREIBURG)
KATSUMI MIMAKI (KYOTO) • ARVIND SHARMA (MONTREAL)

VOLUME 2



ṚGVEDIC SOCIETY

BY

ENRIC AGUILAR I MATAS



E.J. BRILL

LEIDEN • NEW YORK • KØBENHAVN • KÖLN

1991

The paper in this book meets the guidelines for permanence and durability of the Committee on Production Guidelines for Book Longevity of the Council on Library Resources.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Matas, Enrique Aguilar.

Ṛgvedic society / by Enrique Aguilar Matas.

p. cm.—(Brill's Indological library; v. 2)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 90-04-09352-4 (cloth)

1. Vedas. Ṛgveda—Criticism, interpretation, etc. 2. Sociology, Hindu—History. 3. India—Social conditions—To 1200. I. Title. II. Series.

BL1112.57.M38 1990

294.5'9212—dc20

90-21690

CIP

ISSN 0925-2916

ISBN 90 04 09352 4

© Copyright 1991 by E. J. Brill, Leiden, The Netherlands

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or translated in any form, by print, photoprint, microfilm, microfiche or any other means without written permission from the publisher

Authorization to photocopy items for internal or personal use is granted by E. J. Brill provided that the appropriate fees are paid directly to Copyright Clearance Center, 27 Congress Street, SALEM MA 01970, USA. Fees are subject to change.

PRINTED IN THE NETHERLANDS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgments	vii
Introduction	1
Chapter One: ARIS AND SŪRIS	15
Chapter Two: VARUṆA, INDRA, AGNI AND SOMA	43
1. The Eclipse of Varuṇa	43
2. The Triumph of Indra	53
3. The Change of Party of Agni and Soma	63
Chapter Three: A CONTROVERSIAL NOTION OF CREATION AND OF DIVINITY	77
1. Creation as Self-Sacrifice of the Creator	77
2. The <i>Deva</i> -Notion of Divinity	87
3.1 The Case of Pūrusa	93
3.2 The Case of Yama	105
3.3 The Case of Soma	117
3.4 The Case of the <i>Devas</i>	131
Conclusion	150
References	161
Indices	164