

Taittirīya-Brāhmaṇa

Edited by Subramania Sarma

Chennai 2005

Preface

The following text is the first stage on a workable electronic text of the Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa. I also felt that such a work could also lay the foundation for all future research work on the Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa, as a critical edition is the most basic of building blocks for any good research. Though this is by no means a critical edition, I hope to bring it to perfection. There are a few more texts of the Taittirīya Śākhā which will become available as and when they are ready.

This is the first time that the Sanskrit text of the Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa with accents is available via the Internet. This throws open many new vistas for researchers and Indologists for study. I am aware of the fact that this and other related works are delayed beyond any reasonable means. This delay is due to factors over which I have no control.

The extant printed versions of the texts suffered some major drawbacks. Firstly, they were based on MSS lying around in various Indological institutions mostly in Devanāgarī. Works in languages such as Grantha were ignored, even though everyone accepts that the Taittirīya Śākhā is one best preserved. The Grantha texts have also played a crucial role in this.

Another drawback is the non-representation of all accents in texts as it was felt that these should be learnt only from the Guru. This brings us to the next problem area. Most editions have ignored the wisdom preserved in the oral traditions.

The current work has attempted to rectify these defects and produce a clean text.

Though detailed lists were prepared for editing the texts, it could not be strictly adhered to due to limitations imposed by Unicode. These have however been documented. Another area where the current text is deficient is in the area of variants, which have been totally ignored. The additional passages appearing in the Andhra (Telugu) texts have also been ignored. Wherever sufficient material was not available, those areas to have been documented but not yet pointed out in the text.

I will attempt to produce these and the Pratīkas as separate documents.

The entire work was made possible only by the kind guidance and financial assistance of Mr. Ulrich Stiehl, to whom the entire Indological community should be indebted. He has brought a lifetime of experience from the print industry to bear on this project and assisted in developing the fonts as per requirements. My thanks also to Mr. Gopalakrishnan Santhanam who helped in the proofreading of the texts.

My thanks are also due to Mr. Vijayaraghavan Bashyam, Shri R. Sundar, Mr. Ravi Mayavaram, and Mr. Lakshmi Narasimhan for their financial support for the project.

Despite any problems that may exist in these electronic texts they are potentially so valuable. I hope that this work forms a basis on which better works can be done. The purpose of this work will have been achieved if Indologists and scholars start using this as a benchmark text.

The following works were used in the producing this text:

- Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa text, with the commentary of Bhatta Bhaskara Mishra - Mahadeva Sastry, A and Srinivasacharya, L - Vols. 1-4, Mysore Govt. Library Series, 1908-1913, MLBD reprint
- Taittirīya Brāhmaṇam - Godbole, V.S. et al. 1934 - Anandasrama Sanskrit Series 37 (3 Vols).
- Taittirīya Brāhmaṇam - 3 Vols. - Nag Prakashan, Delhi
- Taittirīya Brāhmaṇam - G.K. Seetharaman - Your Family Friend Delhi.
- Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa (Edition in Grantha) - Heritage India Educational Trust, Chennai 2004 (Reprint).

Despite close scrutiny and vigilance, a few errors could have crept in owing to my lack of concentration. Users are requested to make note of and forward these to srothriyan@sarma.com.

I also thank the people at Omkarananda Ashram who have generously put their Itranslator software in the public domain thereby making this project feasible.

I conclude by thanking the various institutions and individuals who have lent, procured or presented to me various versions of the texts and also by once again thanking Mr. Ulrich Stiehl for having made this project possible.

Subramania Sarma

Copyright Notice:

© Copyright by Subramania Sarma, Chennai 2005. All rights reserved.

No part of this work may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, internet, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the author of this work.