

Aspects of the Agnicayana Ritual of the Vādhūla Śrautasūtra

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The Agnicayana chapter, the eighth prapāṭhaka, of the Vādhūla Śrautasūtra generally shows parallel sequence of ritual procedures with that of the Baudhāyana Śrautasūtra, the other old sūtra of the Yajurveda. Among the ritual details of this sūtra, however, are found some distinctive features which are not found in other Yajurveda-sūtras. Based upon newly found Malayalam MSS, K1 and K4, I shall discuss some interesting aspects of the Agnicayana rite, taking up some introductory rituals of this rite.