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Sureśvara's Comment Regarding Udgitha Upāsanā Referring to BUBV 1. 3.

SHOUN HINO

Udītha Upāsanā 'worship of the Udgītha' among a number of Upāsanās is referred to as a means to liberation, and this in BU 1.3 forms a link between the sacrificial performance of the Aśvamedha sacrifice, i. e. Agnyupāsanā or Ādityopāsanā (in BU 1.1 and 2) and the philosophical inquiry into the nature of the Ātman called Ātmopāsanā in the words ātmety evopāsīta (in BU 1.4). The former presupposes duality and the latter pursues non-duality. Udgītha Upāsanā is in its appearance ritualistic, viz. Udgātṛs worshipping Prāṇa, but in reality it is philosophical, viz. Udgātṛ's wishing to become unlimited, i. e. one with Prāṇa (the first manifest form of the Brahman). Thus it is to overcome duality accepted in any ritualistic contexts and to pave way to meditation (Upāsanā) in the philosophical context as in Ātmopāsanā.