# RV 5.74

ṛṣi: paura ātreya; devatā: aśvinīkumāra; chanda: anuṣṭup;

कूष्ठो देवाव् अश्विनाद्या दिवो मनावसू । तच् छूंवथो वृषण्वसू अत्रिर् वाम् आ विवासति ॥ ५-०७४-०१ कुह त्या कुह नु श्रुता दिवि देवा नासत्या । कस्मिन्न् आ यतथो जने को वां नदीनां सर्चा ॥ ५-०७४-०२ कं याथः कं हं गच्छथः कम् अच्छा युञ्जाथे रथम् । कस्य ब्रह्माणि रण्यथो वयं वाम् उरुमसीष्टये ॥ ५-०७४-०३ पौरं चिद् ध्य् उद्प्रुतम् पौरं पौराय जिन्वंथः । यद् ई गृभीततातये सिंहम् इव द्रुहस् पदे ॥ ५-०७४-०४ प्र च्यवानाज् जुजुरुषो विव्रम् अत्कं न मुज्जथः । युवा यदी कृथः पुनर् आ कामम् ऋण्वे वध्वः ॥ ५-०७४-०५ अस्ति हि वाम् इह स्तोता स्मिस वां संदृशि श्रिये । न् श्रुतम् म आ गतम् अवोभिर् वाजिनीवस् ॥ ५-०७४-०६ को वाम् अद्य पुरूणाम् आ वहे मर्त्यानाम् । को विप्रों विप्रवाहसा को यज्ञैर् वांजिनीवसू ॥ ५-०७४-०७ आ वां रथो रथानां येष्ठों यात्व् अश्विना । पुरू चिंद् अस्मयुस् तिर आंङ्गूषो मर्त्येष्व् आ ॥ ५-०७४-०८ शम् ऊ षु वाम् मधूयुवास्माकम् अस्तु चर्कृतिः । अर्वाचीना विचेतसा विभिः इयेनेव दीयतम् ॥ ५-०७४-०९ अश्विना यद् ध कर्हिं चिच् छुश्रूयातम् इमं हवम् । वस्वीर् ऊ षु वाम् भुजः पृञ्चन्ति सु वाम् पृचः ॥ ५-०७४-१०

# **Analysis of RV 5.74**

kűstho devāv aśvinā adyā divó manāvasū tác chravatho vrsanvasū átrir vām ā vivāsati 5.74.1

Where are ye today, O Riders on the Steed of Life, O divine Twins rich in mental power, in the divine world of mind and of That ye have the inspiration, O abundant rainers of substance; the Enjoyer of things labours to establish you in all his dwelling. (1)

## Interpretation:

"Where are the Godheads Ashvins today,  $k\bar{u}$  sthah devau aśvinādya? Shining with the mental power of Heaven, divo manāvasū?

You must hear, O Twins, *tat śravathaḥ*, shining with the indwelling power of the Lord, *vṛṣaṇvasū*, that the Enjoyer of things desires you [here] *atrir vām ā vivāsati!"* 

Again we have the image of Atri, the Eater of things, Agni growing here in manifestation and desiring the Ashvins. As it was mentioned in the previous hymn:

yuvór átriś ciketati nárā sumnéna cétasā gharmám yád vām arepásam násatyāsnā bhuranyáti 5.73.6

"Atri, the Eater of all Things (=Agni), becomes thus conscious by [the action of] your Perfect Conscious Thought, (yuvór átriś ciketati nárā sumnéna cétasā), when He bears the Heat of your unhurting Clarity in his mouth, O Godheads of the sacrificial journey, (gharmáṃ yád vām arepásaṃ násatyāsná bhuraṇyáti)!" This unhurting heat, gharmam arepasam, is the essential quality of the consciousness-power of a higher regions of overmental or even supramental plane. Having this energy full of luminous clarity in his mouth, Agni, is aware of the Supreme Consciousness working within him.

#### **Vocabulary:**

kū, 2 ind. (= kva) where? RV. v , 74 , 1. Śru, śravat/śravathaḥ Subj. vṛṣaṇvasu, mfn. *possessing or bringing great wealth* RV. vivāsati, Desir. From van, vanate, *to love, to desire, to crave for.* 

#### Griffith's translation:

1. WHERE in the heavens are ye to-day, Gods, Asvins, rich in constancy? Hear this, ye excellent as Steers: Atri inviteth you to come.

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kúha tyấ kúha nú śrutấ diví devấ nấsatiyā kásminn ấ yatatho jáne kó vāṃ nadīnãṃ sácā 5.74.2

Where are they? Where now is your word audible in heaven, O gods who lead our pilgrimage? In what creature born are ye labouring? Who is your companion by the rivers of being? (2)

## Interpretation:

"Where are these two, *kuha tyā?* Where are the two Gods heard (or known, inspired?) to be in Heaven, *kuha nu śrutā divi devā*, the leaders of our journey, *nāsatyā!* 

In what manifested being [here] they aspire, *kasmin ā yatatho jane?* Who is with you [moving] along the currents of existence, *ko vāṃ nadīnāṃ sacā?"* 

#### Vocabulary:

kuha, 2 ind. (fr. 1. ku), where? RV. sacā, ind. near, at hand, along, together, together with, in the presence of, before, in, at, by (with loc. either preceding or following) RV. VS. TBr.

#### Griffith's translation:

2 Where are they now? Where are the Twain, the famed Nasatyas, Gods in heaven? Who is the man ye strive to reach? Who of your suppliants is with you?

kám yāthaḥ kám ha gachathaḥ kám áchā yuñjathe rátham kásya bráhmāṇi raṇyatho vayáṃ vām uśmasīṣṭáye 5.74.3

To whom come ye or to whom do ye go, towards whose dwelling do ye yoke your car? In whose soul-thoughts are ye taking your delight? We for the sacrifice desire you. (3)

#### *Interpretation:*

"Who would approach you, *kaṃ yāthaḥ?* To whom would you go, *kaṃ ha gacchathaḥ?* For whom would you yoke your chariot, *kam acchā yuñjāthe ratham?* 

Whose soul-invocations would you like, *kasya brahmāṇi raṇyathaḥ?* We all desire you for the Sacrifice, *vayam vām uśmasi iṣṭaye!"* 

Here the word <code>iṣṭi</code>, 'sacrifice', gets its full meaning. The phrase: 'We want you for the Sacrifice', can be rendered as 'we want you for the transformation/evolution/ growth towards the Divine'.

We desire your delight on the ascending path not for any other reason but for the growth towards greater delight, so your delightful support won't be wasted on the egoistic self-satisfaction and gratification. It seems it is the very meaning of the path, to use the support of the divine twins generating delight at every step for our ascent towards greater realizations.

#### Vocabulary:

ran, [or ran (cf. ram) cl. 1. 4. P. ranati, ranyati], to rejoice, be pleased, take pleasure in (loc., rarely acc.) RV.; to gladden, delight, gratify ib.; to be at ease, be pleased or satisfied with, delight in (loc.) ib. TS. AV.

vaś, cl. 2. P. (Dhātup. xxiv , 71) vaṣṭi, (1. pl. uśmasi, or śmasi RV.; 3. pl. uśanti ib.; p. uśat, uśāna and uśamāna ib., to will , command (p. uśamāna, 'having at command') RV. AV.; to desire, wish, long for, be fond of, like (also with inf.) RV. &c. &c.; (p. uśat and uśāna, 'willing , glad , eager , zealous , obedient';

#### **Griffith's translation:**

3 Whom do ye visit, whom approach? to whom direct your harnessed car? With whose devotions are ye pleased? We long for you to further us.

paurám cid dhí udaprútam paúra pauráya jínvathah yád īm grbhītátātaye simhám iva druhás padé 5.74.4

O twin power of the multiplicity, ye have joy for man born in the multiplicity in the pouring out of the waters of its multitude, when for man seized fast and bound in his self-extension ye come to him as to a lion snared in this world of harms. (4)

## Interpretation:

"O Power of Multiplicity, you animate [all] to [enjoy] multiplicity, (paúra paurấya jínvathaḥ)! For Multiplicity is indeed an outflow of the Heavenly Waters (pauráṃ cid dhí udaprútam)!

As if for the expansion of the caught, *yad īm gṛbhītatātaye*, as a lion into the traitorous space, *simham iva druhaspade*, [you do introduce the delight to support the growth of multiplicity]."

*Gṛbhīta-tāti*, lit. 'the manifestation of the caught'; it is for the manifestation of the caught soul, who is the omni-present and omni-potent Supreme, the lion, *siṃha*, who found himself for a moment in the place full of traitors, where he cannot rely on anyone, it is for his growth that they animate with joy the movement in multiplicity, being the twin power of that very movement. Compare *gṛbhīta-tāti* with *deva-tāti*, 'divine manifestion', *sarva-tāti* 'the manifestation of all', etc.

#### Vocabulary:

paura, 1 m. ( $p\bar{p}$ ) 'filler, increaser', N. of Soma (Sāy. = udara-pūraka); of Indra (Sāy. = pūrayitṛ); of the Aśvins &c. RV. gṛbhīta-tāti, f. *the being seized* RV. v , 74 , 4.

#### Griffith's translation:

4 Ye, Strengtheners, for Paura stir the filler swimming in the flood, Advancing to be captured like a lion to the ambuscade.

prá cyávānāj jujurúșo vavrím átkam ná muñcathah yúvā yádī krtháh púnarā kāmam rnve vadhúvah 5.74.5

From the mover in things when he has grown old ye loose his faded covering like a worn raiment; young he grows again when you form him afresh and he meets the desire of the Bride. (5)

# Interpretation:

"From the one who is on the journey, *cyavānāt*, when he has worn out his body, *jujuruṣaḥ*, you remove its cover, like the garment or the armor, *vavrim atkam na muñcathah*.

Young again is he, when made by you, *yuvā yadī kṛthaḥ punaḥ,* and again he can attend to the Desire of the Bride, *ā kāmam ṛṇve vadhvaḥ.*"

The one journeying is the soul of man. When its surface, its cover, veil, *vavri*, is worn out by time, they remove the old cover and give him a new one; and he again can attend to the Desire of the Bride.

ā kāmam vadhvaḥ, 'to the desire of the Bride' (Sri Aurobindo puts 'the Bride' in capital), is clearly a symbol of the realization in Nature: manifestation of the Divine. The soul cannot attend to the desire of Nature to manifest the Divine without the body, without reaching to the surface, without becoming one. So the surface is renewed by Ashvins for this purpose.

Only the everlasting No has neared And stared into thy eyes and killed thy heart: <sup>1</sup> But where is the Lover's everlasting Yes, And immortality in the secret heart, The voice that chants to the creator Fire, The symbolled OM, the great assenting Word, The bridge between the rapture and the calm, **The passion and the beauty of the Bride**,

<sup>1</sup> 'Killed thy heart' means killed the possibility of the Divine manifestation in the world. Heart represents that possibility of introducing the Transcendental into the lower hemisphere of Mind, Life and Body. The next lines speak about it as 'the Lover's everlasting Yes, and immortality in the secret heart.'

# The chamber where the glorious enemies kiss,

The smile that saves, the golden peak of things? This too is Truth at the mystic fount of Life.<sup>2</sup>

The passion and the beauty of the Bride is the symbol of divinized Nature, who is a Spouse of the Lord, his eternal companion and lover, ever-married to Him Alone. And the glorious enemies are these two: Purusha and Prakriti.

# O Wisdom-Splendour, Mother of the universe,

# Creatrix, the Eternal's artist Bride,

Linger not long with thy transmuting hand Pressed vainly on one golden bar of Time, As if Time dare not open its heart to God.<sup>3</sup>

# For thou art the World-Mother and the Bride.4

The World-Mother and the Bride are two major characteristics of the Divine Mother. As the World-Mother She is always with the Supreme, and as His Bride, She is born here to marry Him, to unite with Him in a new fashion, discovering Him anew, manifesting Him in all His infinite qualities in the world.

#### Vocabulary:

cyavāna, mfn. (pr. p. cyu) , 'moving', active RV. vi , 62 , 7 rṇ, cl. 8. P. A. rṇoti or arṇoti, rṇute, ānarṇa, ānrṇe, &c. , to go , move Dhātup. xxx , 5 atka, armour , mail , garment RV.

jur/jr̄, 4. 6. P. (jūryati; jūr A. -te Dhātup. xxvi, 47; p. jūryat and jurat; pf. p. jujurvas) to become old or decrepit, decay, perish RV.; to cause to grow old or perish, i, 182, 3 vavri, m. a lurking-place RV.; a cover, vesture ib.; the body ib.

vadhū, f. (fr. vadh = vah; cf. ūḍhā) *a bride or newly-married woman, young wife spouse any wife or woman* RV. &c. &c.; *any younger female relation* MBh. R. &c.; *the female of any animal,* (esp.) *a cow or mare* RV. v , 47 , 6

#### Griffith's translation:

5 Ye from cyavana worn with age removed his skin as 'twere a robe. So, when ye made him young again, he stirred the longing of a dame.

अस्ति हि वाम् इह स्तोता स्मिसं वां संदृश्गिं श्रिये । - - - - - - - - - - - -नू श्रुतम् म आ गतम् अवोभिर् वाजिनीवसू ॥ ५-०७४-०६

ásti hí vām ihá stotā smási vām samdŕsi śriyé nữ śrutám ma ā gatam ávobhir vājinīvasū 5.74.6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Volume: 33-34 [CWSA] (Savitri -- A Legend and a Symbol), Page: 310

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> volume: 33-34 [CWSA] (Savitri -- A Legend and a Symbol), Page: 345

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Volume: 33-34 [CWSA] (Savitri -- A Legend and a Symbol), Page: 691

Verily, there is one here who would affirm you and in the vision of you we abide for the glory. Now hear, now come to us with your fosterings, O gods who are rich in the force of the plenitude. (6)

# Interpretation:

"Here he is yours, *asti hi vām*, who indeed affirms you here, *iha stotā*, and we are [also] yours, *smasi vām*, in the concrete vision of you, *saṃdṛśi*, striving for glory, *śriye!* 

Now hear me,  $n\bar{u}$  śrutam me, and come [to us],  $\bar{a}$  gatam, with your increasing powers of the growth, avobhiḥ, O Twain Divine fulfilled with power of indwelling knowledge,  $v\bar{a}jin\bar{v}as\bar{u}!''$ 

# Vocabulary:

vājinīvasu, bestowing strength or power TAr.

# **Griffith's translation:**

6 Here is the man who lauds you both: to see your glory are we here. Now bear me, come with saving help, ye who are rich in store of wealth.

kó vām adyá purūṇấm ấ vavne mártiyānãm kó vípro vipravāhasā kó yajñaír vājinīvasū 5.74.7

Who today takes delight of you among mortals that have realised their multiplicity? What illumined soul, O you who bear up the illumined in his voyage? Who wins you by his sacrifices, O gods rich in the force of the plenitude? (7)

# Interpretation:

"Who among mortals in all their endless varieties could come to you today? Who is that illumined soul, O carriers of the illumined souls on their journey to the Truth?

Who is he [who could enjoy your presence] by sacrifices, O Twain Divine fulfilled with power of indwelling knowledge, *vājinīvasū!"* 

The verse can be also translated as: 'Who of mortals could have come to you today to enjoy your presence in multitude varieties of manifestation?' Who is that soul illumined? Who by the Sacrificial journeys [could realise you to enjoy your presence in multiple varieties of manifestation]? O Twain Divine fulfilled with power of indwelling knowledge, who carries soul illumined to the goal!'

#### Vocabulary:

van, 1. P. (Dhātup. xiii, 19; 20; xix, 42; vanati, Ved. also –te; pf. vāvāna, vavne; etc. RV.), to like, love, wish, desire RV. AV. ŚBr.; to gain, acquire, procure (for one's self or others) RV. AV. ŚBr. to conquer, win, become master of, possess RV. AV.; to prepare, make ready for, aim at, attack RV. vipravāhas, mfn. receiving the homage and offerings of the wise RV.

## Griffith's translation:

7 Who among many mortal men this day hath won you to himself? What bard, accepters of the bard? Who, rich in wealth! with sacrifice?

á vām rátho ráthānām yáyiṣṭho yātu aśvinā purū cid asmayús tirá āṅgūṣó mártiyeṣu á 5.74.8

Most mobile for our paths of all divine chariots is the chariot of your movement, O Riders on the Life, let it come to us, seeking us, breaking through that world of the multitude and becoming a movement of power in mortals. (8)

# Interpretation:

"The swiftest chariot of yours, O Ashvins, should come to us,  $\bar{a}$   $v\bar{a}m$  ratho  $rath\bar{a}n\bar{a}m$  yeṣṭho  $y\bar{a}tu$ , crossing over the multitudes of things, seeking us,  $pur\bar{u}$  cid asmayus tiraḥ, becoming a movement of power in the mortals,  $\bar{a}ng\bar{u}ṣo$  martyeṣu  $\bar{a}!$ "

Sri Aurobindo translate āṅgūṣaḥ as 'a movement of power', based on his research in etymology of agni, aṅgiras, etc.

"The word [aṅgiras] is akin to the name Agni; for it is derived from a root aṅg which is only a nasalised form of ag, the root of Agni. These roots seem to convey intrinsically the sense of preeminent or forceful state, feeling, movement, action, light, and it is this last sense of a brilliant or burning light that gives us agni, fire, aṅgati, fire, aṅgāra, a burning coal and aṅgiras, which must have meant flaming, glowing. ... It is fairly evident that the Angiras Rishis are here the radiant lustres of the divine Agni which are born in heaven, therefore of the divine Flame and not of any physical fire; they become equipped with the nine rays of the Light and the ten, become most aṅgiras, that is to say most full of the blazing radiance of Agni, the divine flame, and are therefore able to release the imprisoned Light and Force and create the supramental knowledge." 6

#### Vocabulary:

yeṣṭha, mfn. (superl. fr. yā) *going best, very swift or rapid* RV. asmayu, mfn. *endeavouring to attain us , desiring us , liking us* RV. tira, mfn. (?) *carrying across, furthering , helping* TS. (Sch.) tiras, ind. (g. svar-ādi ; tṛ) *through* (acc.) RV. AV. xiii , 1 , 36; *across , beyond , over* (acc.) RV. AV.; *so as to pass by , apart from , without , against* (acc.) RV.; *apart or secretly from* (abl.) AV., ŚBr.; *obliquely , transversely* MārkP. xvii , 3; *apart , secretly* TS. ii , 5 , 10 , 6, AitBr., ŚBr. (Lat. trans)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> For state we have agra, first, top and Greek agan, excessively; for feeling, Greek agape, love, and possibly Sanskrit aṅganā, a woman; for movement and action several words in Sanskrit and in Greek and Latin.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Volume: 15 [CWSA] (The Secret of the Veda), Page: 162

Sāyana takes it as tiras-karoti, to set aside, remove, cover, conceal ŚBr. &c.; to excel Ragh. iii, &c.

āṅgūṣa, m. praising aloud, a hymn RV.

# Griffith's translation:

8 O Asvins, may your car approach, most excellent of cars for speed. Through many regions may our praise pass onward among mortal men.

śám ū sú vām madhūyuvā asmākam astu carkrtíh arvācīnā vicetasā víbhih syenéva dīyatam 5.74.9

O seekers of honey, let our constant action be wholly full of bliss; downward yet keeping the wide and complete cosciousness, come flashing (or, cleave) swift as eagles drawn by your winged powers. (9)

#### Interpretation:

"May our constant action here bear your delight and peace, śam ū ṣu vām astu carkṛtiḥ, O Twain Divine seeking the Honey here, madhūyuvā!

Approaching us from above, *arvācīnā*, with the vast and all pervading consciousness, *vicetasā*, like eagle flashing with the rays of light, *vibhiḥ śyeneva*, come [to us] *dīyatam!"* 

Sāyaṇa comments on *vibhiḥ* as *gantṛbhir abhīśubhir dīyatam gacchatam,* 'come with the moving rays of light'.

Sri Aurobindo translates *vibhiḥ* as 'by your winged powers', and *dīyatam* as 'come flashing (or cleave)', which is again based on his etymological research.

#### Vocabulary:

carkṛṭi, f. (2. kṛ) *praising* , *mention* , *glory* RV. v , 74 , 9; Sāyaṇa: punaḥ-punaḥ-karaṇam arvācīna, mfn. *turned towards* , *favouring* RV.; *turned towards* (in a hostile manner) RV. (with abl.) *being on this side or below* ŚBr.; *belonging to a proximate time* , *posterior* , *recent*.

vi, m. *a bird* (also applied to horses , arrows , and the Maruts) RV. VS., (also occurring in later language).

abhīśu, m. (fr. aś with abhi Nir. iii , 9) , chiefly Ved.; rein , bridle RV. &c.; ray of light Naigh. (through incorrect interpretation of daśābhīśu q.v.) arm , finger Naigh.

# **Griffith's translation:**

9 May our laudation of you Twain, lovers of meath! be sweet to you. Fly hitherward, ye wise of heart, like falcons with your winged steeds.

अश्विना यद् ध कर्हि चिच् छुश्रूयातम् इमं हवम् ।

# वस्वीर् ऊ षु वाम् भुजः पृञ्चन्ति सु वाम् पृचः ॥ ५-०७४-१०

áśvinā yád dha kárhi cic chuśrūyātam imám hávam vásvīr ū sú vãm bhújah prňcánti sú vãm prcah 5.74.10

O Riders on the Life, whensoever ye are ready to hear this call of man, utterly full of a rich substance are your enjoyings, your satisfactions fill our cup to the brim. (10)

# Interpretation:

"O Ashvins, whenever you come to attend to this call [or us], *yaddha karhi cicchuśrūyātam imaṃ havam*, your enjoyments become richly substantiated, *vasvīr ū ṣu vām bhujaḥ*, and your fulfilling nourishments nourish perfectly our being, *pṛńcanti su vām pṛcaḥ*."

#### Vocabulary:

pṛc, 7. P. (Dhātup. xxix , 25) pṛṇakti, A. pṛṅkte; Dhātup. xxiv , 20; 1. P. pṛñcati AV.; 3. P. RV.) , to mix, mingle , put together with, unite , join RV. &c. &c.; to fill (A. one's self?), sate , satiate RV. MBh.; to give lavishly , grant bountifully , bestow anything (acc. or gen.) richly upon (dat.) RV.; to increase , augment ib. (Prob. connected with pṛ, to fill ; cf. also pṛj.) śuśrūyātam, = śrnutam (Sāy).

prc, f. food , nourishment , refreshment RV. v , 74 , 10 (cf. ghrta- , madhu-).

## Griffith's translation:

10 O Asvins, when at any time ye listen to this call of mine, For you is dainty food prepared: they mix refreshing food for you.