RV 5.76

ṛṣi: atribhauma; devatā: aśvinīkumārau; chanda: triṣṭup

Analysis of RV 5.07.01

आ भात्य अग्निर् उषसाम् अनीकम् उद् विप्राणां देवया वाचो अस्थुः । अर्वाञ्चा नूनं रथ्येह यातम् पीपिवांसम् अश्विना घर्मम् अच्छ ॥ १

ā bhāti agnír uṣásām ánīkam úd víprāṇāṃ devayā vāco asthuḥ arvāñcā nūnáṃ rathiyehá yātam pīpivāṃsam aśvinā gharmám ácha 5.76.1

Strength shines out as the might of the dawns, upward rise the Words of the illumined mind, words that travel towards the godheads. Downward now come to us hither, O Drivers of the Chariot, O Riders on the Life, to the swelling clarity. (1)

Interpretation:

"The Flame of the Divine Will is shining [illumining all] (ā bhāti agnír), the Force of the Dawns (uṣásām ánīkam)! The words of the seers have risen in search of the Divine (úd víprāṇāṃ devayā vāco asthuh)!

O Ashvins, descend to us today, O Charioteers (arvāñcā nūnáṃ rathiyehá yātam aśvinā), directly to our heated and growing/swelling clarity here (pīpivā́msam gharmám ácha)!"

Vocabulary:

devāya, mfn. going to the gods, longing for them RV. gharma, m. (2. ghṛ) heat, warmth (of the sun or of fire), sunshine RV. AV. &c.; internal heat R. ii , 75 , 45 (v.l.); a cauldron, boiler, esp. the vessel in which the milk-offering to the Ashvins is boiled RV. AV. vii VS. viii , 61 AitBr. i ŚBr.; a cavity in the earth shaped like a cauldron (from which Atri was rescued by the Ashvins ; 'heat' Gmn.) RV.; hot milk or any other hot beverage offered as an oblation (esp. to the Ashvins) RV. AV.

Griffith's translation:

1. AGNI, the bright face of the Dawns, is shining; the singers' pious voices have ascended.

Borne on your chariot, Asvins, turn you hither and come unto our full and rich libation.

ná saṃskrţám prá mimīto gámiṣṭhā ánti nūnám aśvínópastutehá dívābhipitve ávasā́gamiṣṭhā práty ávartiṃ dāśúṣe śámbhaviṣṭhā 5.76.2

When it is perfected ye diminish it not, O swift voyagers, O Riders on the Life, now here affirmed within us; swift are ye in your coming with increase for the Caller drinking in the soul's daytime and when he rests from the journey ye create the utter peace for the giver. (2)

Interpretation:

"These two, who are most frequent visitors of man, do not diminish the perfected (ná saṃskṛtám prá mimīto gámiṣṭhā), when they are affirmed here within [us], the Ashvins (ánti nūnám aśvínópastutehá).

It is with their increase that they mostly come to the giver, who drinks from light, and when he comes to rest, they give him peace (dívābhipitve ávasāgamiṣṭhā práty ávartiṃ dāśúṣe śámbhavisthā)."

We can also translate it as:

"They do not touch the one who has perfected himself, most swift they are in their movement but now they got affirmed within [us] here!

They come with their growing light most swiftly to the Giver when he consumes of that delight, but when he draws back (from enjoyment/ =faces adversary) they become most auspicious supporting him with peace."

Vocabulary:

abhipitva, n. (cf. apa-pitva), approaching, visiting, putting up (for the night at an inn) RV.; (with or without the gen. pl. ahnām) close or departure of the day, evening RV.

see apa- 2. pat.

apapitva, n. (probably for -pittva fr. 2. pat; cf. abhi-pitva, ā-pitva, pra-pitva; but cf. also api-tva s.v. api), *turning away, separation* RV. iii , 53 , 24.

prapitva, n. (perhaps for pra-pit-tva fr. pat [682,3]; cf. apa-pitva) *start, flight, haste* RV.;

the advanced day i.e. evening ib.

pitu, m. once n. (pī, pyai) *juice, drink, nourishment, food* RV. AV. TS. VS. AitBr. (cf. Naigh. ii , 7.)

avarti, f. (rti fr. r), bad fortune, poverty, distress RV. AV. (cf. ā-rti) [103,2]

Griffith's translation:

2 Most frequent guests, they scorn not what is ready: even now the lauded Asvins are beside us. With promptest aid they come at morn and evening, the worshipper's most blessed guards from trouble.

utā yātam samgavé prātár áhno madhyámdina úditā sūriyasya dívā náktam ávasā sámtamena nédānīm pītír asvínā tatāna 5.76.3

Yea, come when the rays of the Truth gather together in its evenings and in the dawn of its day; in its midday come and when the sun of Truth is rising, by day and by night with your blissful increasing. Not now first, O Rider on the Life, is lengthened out the drinking of the honey. (3)

Interpretation:

"Come to us, when the Rays are gathered/ concentrated in the breaking of the Day (utấ yātaṃ saṃgavé prātár áhno), and in the middle when the Sun has risen (madhyáṃdina úditā sū́riyasya)! With your constant and blissful increase by light and by night

[come to us] (dívā náktam ávasā śáṃtamena)! For it is not today that you have started to spread your first enjoyments here (nédānīm pītír aśvínā tatāna)."

We can also translate it as:

"In our gathering of Knowledge come to us before the breaking of the Dawn and when the Sun is rising!

By your increase of light and peace at night [support us]; for it is not today that your enjoyment got established."

Vocabulary:

samgava, m. the time when grazing cows are collected for milking or when they are together with their calves (the second of the five divisions of the day, three Muhūrtas after Prātastana q.v.) RV. AV. Br.

Griffith's translation:

3 Yea, come at milking-time, at early morning, at noon of day and when the Sun is setting, By day, by night, with favour most auspicious. Not only now the draught hath drawn the Asvins.

idám hí vām pradívi sthānam óka imé grhā aśvinedám duronám ā no divó brhatáh párvatād ā adbhyó yātam íṣam ṻrjam váhantā 5.76.4

This is your station in the front of heaven and your dwelling place; these are your houses, O Riders on the Life, and this your gated mansion. Come to us from the mountain of the vastest Heaven and from the waters of that Ocean bearing to us the impulsion, carrying to us the energy. (4)

Interpretation:

"This is your place in the front of heaven (projecting heaven) (idáṃ hí vām pradívi sthānam), your home where you dwell, your inner spaces with this entrance, O Ashvins (óka imé gr̥hā aśvinedám duronám)!

From that high mountain of the Vast Heaven (ā no divó brhatáḥ párvatād), come to us, bringing with you from Waters of that Ocean the power and the nourishment to us (ā adbhyó yātam íṣam ū́rjaṃ váhantā)."

This verse can be also interpreted as:

"This is your place eternal, and all these (beings/creatures here) are houses for your dwelling, O Ashvins, This (Universe) is your one Gated Mansion!

Come thus to us from the High Mountain of your Great Heaven, bringing the concentrated power of support of your celestial Waters here!"

Vocabulary:

pradiv, f. (fr. div, 'heaven'; nom. -dyaus) the third or highest heaven (in which the Pitris are said to dwell) AV.; the fifth of seven heavens ŚāṅkhBr.; mfn. (fr. div, 'day') existing from olden times, ancient RV.; (-divas) ind. from of old, long since, always, ever (anuprad-, as of old, as formerly) ib. AV.; (-divi) ind. at all times, always, ever RV.

Griffith's translation:

4 For this place, Asvins, was of old your dwelling, these were your houses, this your habitation. Come to us from high heaven and from the mountain. Come from the waters bringing food and vigour.

sám aśvínor ávasā nūtanena mayobhúvā supráṇītī gamema ā no rayím vahatam ótá vīrān ā víśvāni amrtā saúbhagāni 5.76.5

May we attain by their perfect leading, by this new manifestation of the Ashwins that creates the Beatitude. Bring to us felicity, bring to us hero-strengths, all immortal enjoyings. (5)

Interpretation:

"May we come totally together by the perfect guidance and increase of Ashvins, with which they thus today create for us Bliss, (sám aśvínor ávasā nūtanena mayobhúvā supráṇītī gamema).

Bring to us Wealth, and the Strength of a Hero, and all the delights, O Immortals (ā no rayím vahatam ótá vīrān ā víśvāni amrtā saúbhagāni)!"

Or we can put it also differently:

"May we become totally united/fulfilled with (the help of) the perfect guidance and the new support of Ashvins, which makes us grow, creating bliss. O Ye Immortals, bring us your riches and the hero-strengths and the delights of/for our perfect being."

Vocabulary:

supraṇīti, f. safe guidance RV.; mfn. guiding safely RV. AV. Kauś.; following good guidance RV.

Griffith's translation:

5 May we obtain the Asvins' newest favour, and gain their healthbestowing happy guidance. Bring riches hither unto us, and heroes, and all felicity and joy, Immortals!