

<b>Goghna</b> or one who was fed on cattle.
The priests who officiated at sacrifices were regarded generously and given dakshinas or gifts.

Term	Meaning
Sabha	Assembly of Brahmans and elders
Samiti	Assembly of Commoners
Vidhata	For war booty distribution
Gana	Highest Advisory body
Unit	Head
Kula/ Family	Kulapa
Grama (Village)	Gramani
Vis (Clan)	Vispati
Jana (People)	Gopa/Gopati
Rashtra (the Country)	Rajan

## Officials in Later Vedic Period

Purohita	Chief Priest, also sometimes referred to as Rashtragopa
Senani	Supreme Commander of army
Vrajapati	Officer-in-Charge of pasture land
Jivagribha	Police Officer
Spasas/ Dutas	Spies who also sometimes worked as messengers
Madhyamasi	Mediator on disputes
Bhagadugha	Revenue collector
Sangrahitri	Treasurer
Mahishi	Chief Queen
Suta	Charioteer and court minstrel

## Vedic Literature:

• **Sruti** means revealed ones- All four vedas/ samhitas

• **Smriti-** commentaries on 4 vedas-Brahmanas, Aranyakas, Upanishads, 6 vedangas and 4 upavedas.

Rig Veda	• First text in world literature.
	• Theme is prayer addressed to gods.
	• Gayatri mantra part of it.
	• 1017 hymns into 10 mandalas.
	Reciter called hotri
Sama Veda	• First text to deal with Indian music.
	• Main theme is Chchedus.
	Reciter called Udgatar.
	• It deals with rhythm and sound of each hymn.
Yajur Veda	Deals with rituals and ceremonies
	Reciter called Adhvaryu
Atharva Veda	By non-Aryans
	• Themes witchcraft, sorcery.
	• Deals with Ayurveda, Ganithashastra. Rekhaganita
	• Brahmin never recites this.
	• Most secular of all the vedas.

## Brahmanas:

- Related to conduct of various ceremonies.
  It is a prose version of the Vedas.
- 108 in number, Satapatha Brahmana most famous dealing with rituals connected with Agricultural production and talks of Money lenders called Kusidins.
- Gopada Brahmana- most voluminous.
- **Aithreya Brahmana** about Viswamitra and non-aryan tribes.

## Aranyakas:

- Forest texts written mainly for hermits and students living in jungle.
- Concluding portions of Brahmanas.
- Consider as the link between Brahmana and Upanishad.