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(Working) Title of dissertation: Agency in Vedic Rituals: Exploring New Perspectives

Summary:

The project revolves around the application of concept of agency in the Vedic ritual setting. My study commences with a review of the understanding and interpretation of 'agency' in the traditional hermeneutic school, i.e. *mīmāṃsā*. Building upon the *mīmāṃsā* authors' work on how different agencies function within the Vedic sacrificial arena, I aim to explore whether and how this concept of agency can be expanded to that of non-human and inanimate objects. For the application of these ideas, I look into the *darśapūrnāmāsa* rituals prescribed in the *mādhyandina* recension of Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa.