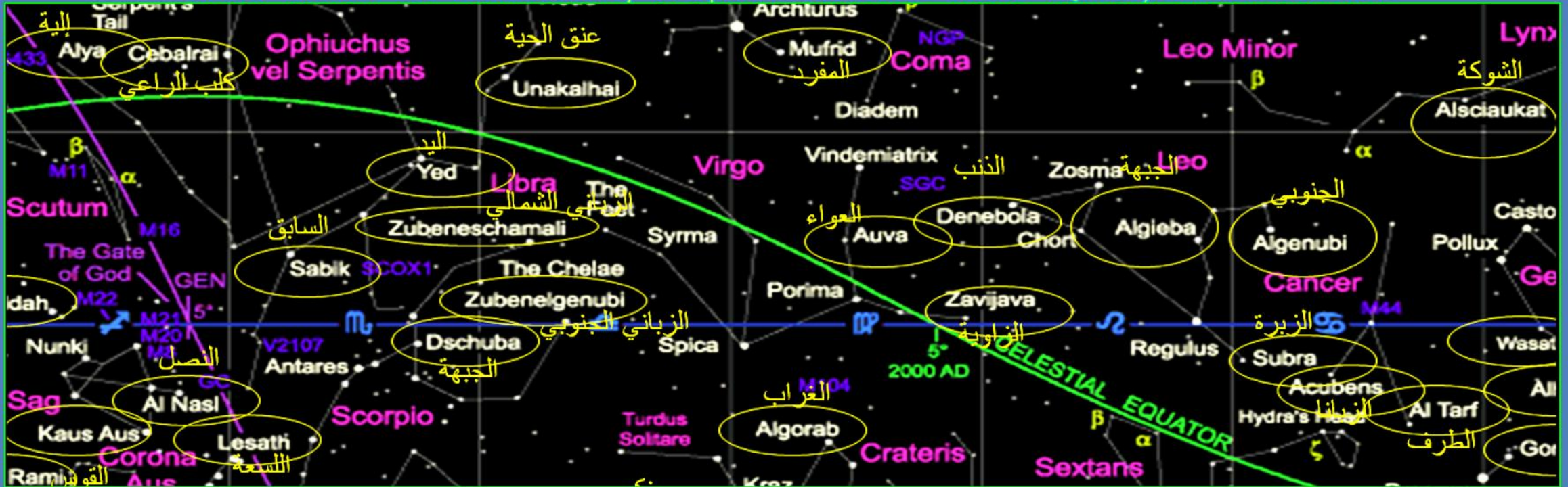


بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Stars Tales in the Arabian Sky

-How Stars Got Their Arabic Names In the Sky

Hani Dalee

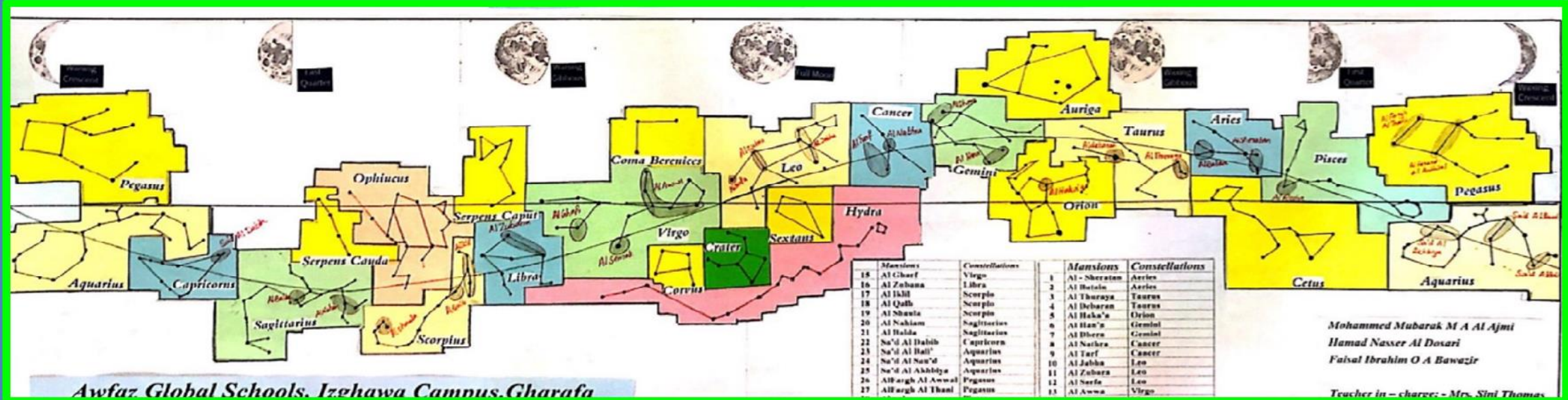


Looking at any sky chart, one can find many stars with Arabic names.

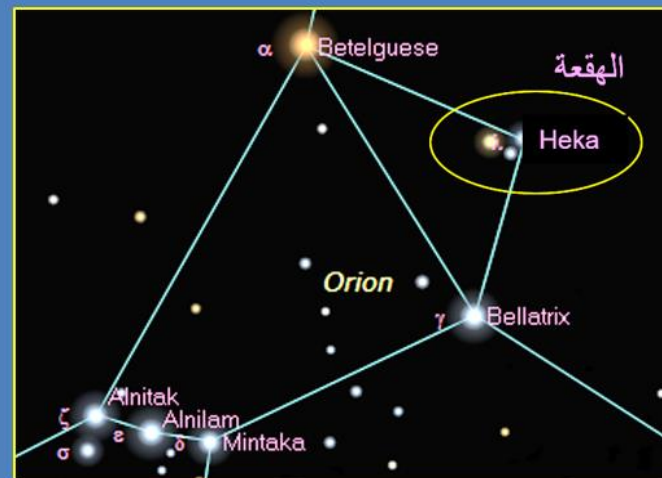
Two third of the stars in the modern sky chart have Arabic names.

Arabic- stars names were derived from four sources throughout 1000 years. These sources are:

1- Lunar Mansions



The Lunar Mansions are stars one or more where the moon is seen to reside every night. They are 28 mansions. **Heka, Hena, Aldebaran, Shaula**



2- Stars with Double Names

They are two stars close to each other, they are given the same name with a little difference such as saying northern & southern, or brighter & fainter, etc.

Examples: Farkadan (Two Brightest), Diban (Two Wolves), Nasran (Two Eagles), Kaffan (Two Palms = Mebsuta & Mekbuda).



3- Arabic Constellations

Arabs wrote their own star legends, some talking about the **Vega** the eagle who tries to hunt the baby camel at the same time with the two wolves (**Aldiban**). Another talks about The Gazelles' Leaps (**AlKaphza**; **Alaula**, **Tania**, **Talitha**) who fled away from the lion.



4- Stars of Translation & Transliteration

Arabs adopted Ptolemy's work. They drew the same figures and described their individual stars in a list. After translation from Arabic, new names such as Deneb, Alpheratz, Thuban, Kaus, Rasalgethi, Sadr, Deneb.. appeared in the chart.

