

the Kurus, midnight in Ketumálá.” The next following verse is intended to be a quotation from Áryabhaṭa and really makes part of one of Áryabhaṭa’s works, so that the foregoing necessarily must be a quotation, and not Varáha-mihira’s own words, but how far he has changed the form, and, as observed before, whether it be from Láṭa or Sinha, is uncertain. Albírúní who, as we know, ascribes to Láṭa the Súrya-siddhánta, informs us that Láṭa held the view expressed in the verse adduced (Reinaud, p. 341); but that proves nothing, for the same view is held by all astronomers; and in the words only could there be any difference.

It may be observed *en passant*, that, in the opinion of Varáha-mihira, the meridian of Yavana-pura is considered to have a longitude west from the meridian of Lanká, of 60 degrees; for ten *muhúrtas* in the night are said to correspond to sunrise, *i. e.* six o’clock in the morning, at Lanká,* and, as the night is reckoned from six o’clock in the evening, ten *muhúrtas* later gives two o’clock after midnight. Rome was supposed to be 90 degrees west from the meridian of Lanká, so that the longitude of Yavana-pura is $\frac{2}{3}$ of that of Rome, and this, however erroneously the absolute longitude is given, suits approximately the situation of Alexandria, which accordingly may be understood by Yavana-pura.†

Sinha-ácárya may, or may not, be the same as Durga-sinha, mentioned by Colebrooke (Alg. XLIV). I have never lighted upon any other passage where the name occurs.

Far more renowned than Láṭa and Sinha is Áryabhaṭa,

* Albírúní is at much pains to prove that Lanká is not Ceylon. That shows that he had a correct idea about the latitude of Ceylon, but if he had known that even Ptolemy commits the same error in supposing the equator to cut Ceylon, he would not have wondered at the Hindu astronomers committing, or perhaps repeating, the wrong estimation.

† So far as the longitude is concerned, Constantinople would answer as well as Alexandria, but I am not aware that any astronomer drew his first meridian over Constantinople, and without that it would not be taken as the point of departure.