

creature itself was the national emblem of that country, but the Dragon of the Chinese zodiac was among the stars now our Libra. Edkins writes that Draco was **Tai Kung**, the Palace of the Heavenly Emperor, adding, although not very clearly, that this palace

is bounded by the stars of Draco, fifteen in number, which stretch themselves in an oval shape round the pole-star. They include the star **Tai yi**, ξ , σ , σ , s , of Draco, which is distant about ten degrees from the tail of the Bear and twenty-two from the present pole. It was itself the pole in the Epoch of the commencement of Chinese astronomy.

Draco extends over twelve hours of right ascension, and contains 130 naked-eye components according to Argelander; 220, according to Heis: but both of these authorities extend the tail of the figure, far beyond its star λ , to a 4th-magnitude under the jaws of Camelopardalis,—much farther than is frequently seen on the maps.

α , 3.6, pale yellow.

Thuban and **Al Tinnin** are from the Arabic title for the whole of Draco. and **Azhdeha** from the Persian.

It is also **Adib**, **Addib**, **Eddib**, **Adid**, **Adive**, and **El Dsib**, all from **Al Dhi'bah**, the Hyaenas, that also appears for the stars ζ , η , and ι , as well as for others in Boötes and Ursa Major. Al Tizini called it **Al Dhih**, the Male Hyaena.

Among seamen it has been the **Dragon's Tail**, a title explained under γ .

In China it was **Yu Choo**, the Right-hand Pivot; the space towards ι being **Chung Ho Mun**.

Sayce says that the great astrological and astronomical work compiled for the first Sargon, king of Agade, or Akkad, devoted much attention to this star, then marking the pole, as **Tir-An-na**, the Life of Heaven; **Dayan Same**, the Judge of Heaven; and **Dayan Sidi**, the Favorable Judge,—all representing the god **Caga Gilgati**, whose name it also bore. Brown applies these titles to Wega of the Lyre, the far more ancient pole-star,—but this was 14,000 years ago!—and cited for α Draconis **Dayan Esiru**, the Prospering Judge, or the Crown of Heaven, and **Dayan Shisha**, the Judge Directing, as having the highest seat amongst the heavenly host. About 2750 B. C. it was less than 10' from the exact pole, although now more than 26°; and as it lies nearly at the centre of the figure, the whole constellation then visibly swung around it, as on a pivot, like the hands of a clock, but in the reverse direction.

The star could be seen, both by day and night, from the bottom of the

central passage¹ of the Great Pyramid of Cheops (Knum Khufu) at Ghizeh, in 30° of north latitude, as also from the similar points in five other like structures; and the same fact is asserted by Sir John Herschel as to the two pyramids at Abousseir.

Herschel considered that there is distinct evidence of Thuban formerly being brighter than now, as its title from its constellation, and its lettering, would indicate; for with Bayer it was a 2d-magnitude,—in fact the only one of that brilliancy in his list of Draco,—and generally so in star-catalogues previous to two centuries ago. It culminates on the 7th of June.

β , probably Binary, 3 and 14, yellow.

Rastaban and **Rastaben** are from **Al Rās al Thu'bān**, the Dragon's Head,—Schickard's **Raso tabbani**.

In early Arab astronomy it was one of **Al 'Awāld**, the Mother Camels, γ , μ , ν , and ξ completing the figure, which was later known as the **Quinque Dromedarii**. From the Arabic word comes another modern name, **Alwaid**, unless it may be from a different conception of the group as **Al 'Awwād**, the Lute-player. Still other Desert titles were **Al Rākis**, the Dancer, or Trotting Camel, now given to μ ; and it formed part of **Al Ṣalīb al Waki'**, the Falling Cross, β and ξ forming the perpendicular, γ , μ , and ν the transverse; and thus designated as if slanting away from the observer to account for the paucity of stars in the upright.

Asuia, current in the Middle Ages and since, was from **Al Shujā'**, and often has been written **Asvia**, the letter *u* being mistakenly considered the early *v*. The companion, 4'' away, at a position angle of $13^{\circ}.4$, was discovered by Burnham.

β and γ , 4° apart, near the solstitial colure, have been known as the **Dragon's Eyes**, incorrect now, although Proctor thought them so located in the original figuring of a front view of Draco. Modern drawings place them on the top of the head.

In China they were **Tien Kao**.

γ , Double, 2.4 and 13.2, orange.

Eltanin, also written **Ettanin**, **Etannin**, **Etanim**, **Etamin**, etc., is from Ulug Beg's **Al Rās al Tinnīn**, the Dragon's Head, applied to this, as it also

¹ This passage, 4 feet by $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in diameter and 380 feet long, was directed northward to this star, doubtless by design of the builder, from a point deep below the present base, at an inclination of $26^{\circ} 17'$ to the horizon. At the time of its building, perhaps four millenniums before our era, the Southern Cross was entirely visible to the savage Britons.