

Persia and **Vanand** of Sogdiana, all meaning the "Seizer," "Smiter," or "Stinger"; but the Persian and Sogdian words generally are used for our **Regulus**. In Khorasmia these stars were **Khachman**, the Curved.  $\theta$  has a 14th-magnitude greenish companion that may be in revolution around it. 6".77 away in 1897, at a position angle of  $316^{\circ}.9$ . See writes of this:

a magnificent system of surpassing interest; one of the most difficult of known double stars.

$\lambda$ , 1.7.

**Shaula** probably is from **Al Shaulah**, the Sting, where it lies; but, according to Al Birūnī, from **Mushālah**, Raised, referring to the position of the sting ready to strike. These words have been confused with the names for the adjoining  $\nu$ , and in the course of time corrupted to **Shauka**, **Alascha**, **Mosclek**, and **Shomlek**; Chilmead writing of these last:

It is also called **Schomlek**, which Scaliger thinks is read by transposition of the letters for Mosclek, which signifieth the bending of the taile.

Naturally it was an unlucky star with astrologers.

$\lambda$  and  $\nu$  were the 17th *mansil*, **Al Shaulah**, and the *nakshatra* **Vicritāu**, the Two Releasers, perhaps from the Vedic opinion that they brought relief from lingering disease.

Some Hindu authorities, taking in all the stars from  $\epsilon$  to  $\nu$ , called the whole **Mūlā**, the Root, with the divine Nirrity, Calamity, as regent of the asterism, which was represented as a **Lion's Tail**; this title appearing also for stars of Sagittarius. In Coptic Egypt  $\lambda$  and  $\nu$  were **Minamref**, the Sting; and, on the Euphrates, **Sarur**.

An imaginary line extended from  $\nu$  through Shaula serves to point out the near-by clusters 6 M. and N. G. C. 6475, 7 M., visible together in the field of an opera-glass. These probably were the ancient termination of the sting to which Smyth alluded in his comments on  $\lambda$  and  $\nu$ , although he is not quite clear about the matter; they certainly were the *νεφελοειδής* of Ptolemy, among his *ἀμόρφωτοι* of *Σκορπίος*; and *Girus ille nebulosus* in the *Latin Almagest* of 1551. Ulug Beg's translator had *Stella nebulosa quae sequitur aculeum Scorpionis*,—**Tāli' al Shaulah**, That which follows the Sting.

In the legends of the Polynesian Islanders, notably those of the Hervey group, the stars in the Scorpion, from the two lettered  $\mu$  to  $\lambda$  and  $\nu$ , were the **Fish-hook of Mani**, with which that god drew up from the depths the great island Tongareva; and the names and legend that Ellis, in his *Polynesian Researches*, applied to Castor and Pollux in Gemini, the Reverend

Mr. W. W. Gill asserts, in his *Myths and Songs of the South Pacific*, belong here, and are the favorites among the story-tellers of the Hervey Islands. They make the star  $\mu^1$  a little girl, **Piri-ore-ua**, the Inseparable, with her smaller brother,  $\mu^2$ , fleeing from home to the sky when ill treated by their parents, the stars  $\lambda$  and  $\nu$ , who followed them and are still in pursuit.

This  $\mu^1$  has recently been discovered to be a spectroscopic binary, with a period of about 35 hours. It is a 3.3-magnitude, and of Secchi's 1st class.

$\mu^2$  is of 3.7 magnitude.

$\gamma$ , Quadruple, 4, 5, 7.2, and 8.3,

is **Jabbah** in the *Century Cyclopedia*, perhaps from its being one of the *mansil Iklil al Jabbah*.

It lies  $2^\circ$  east of  $\beta$ , and is another **Double Double** like  $\epsilon$  Lyrae, although less readily resolved, the larger pair being only  $0''.89$  apart, and the smaller about  $1''.9$ . Espin-Webb says: "Probably a quadruple system." Burnham finds it surrounded by a remarkable winglike nebula some  $2^\circ$  in diameter.

$\xi$ , Triple, 5, 5.2, and 7.5, bright white, pale yellow, and gray.

Bayer wrote that the "Barbarians" called this **Graffias**, a title that Burritt assigned in 1835 to  $\xi$  of Libra; but he transferred this in his *Atlas* of 1856 to  $\beta$  Scorpii,  $8\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  to the north, leaving this star nameless. On the Heis map  $\xi$  is near the tip of the northern claw, so close to the northern scale that Flamsteed made it the 51 Librae of his catalogue.

The components are  $1''.4$  and  $7''.3$  apart, and may form a triple system with a possible period of about 105 years.

$\zeta$ , Double, 3 and 9, creamy white, and  $\tau$ , 2.9,

were **Al Niyât**, the *Praecordia*, or Outworks of the Heart, on either side of, and, as it were, protecting, Antares, the Heart of the Scorpion. Knobel, in his translation of Al Achsasi's work, explains the word as "the vein which suspends the heart"!

$\upsilon$ , 2.8.

**Lesath**, or **Lesuth**, is from **Al Las'ah**, the Sting, which, with  $\lambda$ , it marks; yet Smyth, who treats of these two stars at considerable length, says that the word is