

Nā'ir al Farkadāin and **Anwār al Farkadāin**, the Bright One, and the Lights, of the Two Calves, were titles in the Desert for this star, from an early figure here, in the Fold, of these timid creatures keeping close to their mother. β was often designated by pre-Islamitic poets as the faithful and, from its ever visible position, the constant companion of the night traveler. Indeed the Badāwiyy claimed that they had a perpetual treaty with **Al Farkad** to this effect, and their poets made the **Two Pherkads**, β and γ , symbols of constancy. Chilmead cited **Alferkathan**.

α , β , γ^1 , γ^2 , δ , and ϵ constituted the group **Circitores, Saltatores, Ludentes, or Ludiones**, the Circlers, Leapers, or Dancers around the early pole, well known from classical times to late astronomy.

In China β was another **Ti**, the Emperor.

Its spectrum is Solar, and the star is receding from us at the rate of $8\frac{3}{4}$ miles a second.

$$\gamma^1, 3.3, \text{ and } \gamma^2, 5.8.$$

These were known by the Arabs as one star, **Alifā' al Farkadain**, the Dim One of the Two Calves, but by us as **Pherkad Major** and **Pherkad Minor**, 57 minutes of arc apart.

With β and others they were the **Dancers**, and with β alone the **Guards**, or **Wardens, of the Pole**, that old Thomas Hood said were

of the Spanish word *guardare*, which is to behold, because they are diligently to be looked unto, in regard of the singular use which they have in navigation ;

and Recorde,

many do call the **Shafte**, and others do name the **Guardas** after the Spanish tonge.

While Eden, in the *Arte of Navigation* which he "Englished out of the Spanyshe," in 1561, from Martin Cortes' communication to King Charles V, mentioned "two starres called the **Guardians**, or the **Mouth of the Horne**"; and still earlier, in his translation of Peter Martyr, "the **Guardens of the north pole**." Shakespeare, in *Othello*, wrote :

The wind-shak'd surge, with high and monstrous mane
Seems to cast water on the burning Bear,
And quench the guards of th' ever fixed pole.

Riccioli's title for them is **Vigiles**, to which he added

Italicē le **guardiole**, overso **guardiane**.

These Guards, like the stars in Charles' Wain, were a timepiece to the

common people, and even thought worthy of special treatises by navigators as to their use in indicating the hours of the night.

In China γ^1 was **Ta Tze**, the Crown Prince.

δ , 4.3, greenish.

Yildun is generally given to this, probably from the Turkish **Yilduz** that is better applied to α ; but it has degenerated to **Vildiur**, and the *Century Dictionary* has **Gildun**, perhaps by a typographical error.

Bayer's *Χορευτής πρώτη* for δ , and *Χορευτής δευτέρα* for the adjoining ϵ , the First and the Second Dancer, were also general designations in which α , β , and the two stars γ were included.

ζ , 4.3, flushed white,

marking the junction of the handle with the bowl of the Little Dipper, is **Ahîfâ al Farkadain** of some lists, η being **Anwâr al Farkadain**; but these titles certainly, and much better, belong to β and γ .

In China it was **Kow Chin**.

δ , a 5th-magnitude, has been mentioned as **How Kung**, the Empress.

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Virgin august! come in thy regal state
With soft majestic grace and brow serene;
Though the fierce Lion's reign is overpast
The summer's heat is all thine own as yet,
And all untouched thy robe of living green
By the rude fingers of the northern blast.

R. J. Philbrick's *Virgo*.

Virgo,

the Anglo-Saxon **Mæden**, the Anglo-Norman **Pulcele**, the French **Vierge**, the Italian **Virgine**, Bayer's **Junckfraw**, and the present German **Jungfrau**,—in fact a universal title,—generally has been figured with the palm branch in her right hand and the *spica*, or ear of wheat, in her left. Thus she was known in the Attic dialect as *Kόρη*, the Maiden, representing **Persephone**, the Roman **Proserpina**, daughter of Demeter, the Roman Ceres; while in the Ionic dialect Nonnus, of our 5th century, called her *στεινή*.