

Moderns have no name for it, but in the *Sūrya Siddhānta* it was **Apami-Atsa**, the Child of the Waters.

With another adjacent, but now unidentified, star, it was known in China as **Ping Taou**, the Plain and Even Way.

ι, 4.2.

**Syrma** is from *Σύρμα*, used by Ptolemy to designate this star on the Train of the Virgin's robe.

With κ and φ it was mentioned in the first Arabian translation of the *Syntaxis* as being in the *h'imār*, or "skirt," of the garment; but the translator of the Latin edition of 1515, missing the point at the first letter, read the word as *h'imār*, "an ass," so that this central one of these three stars strangely appears in that work as *in asino*. They formed the 13th *manzil*, **Al Ghafr**, the Covering, as Smyth explains,

because the beauty of the earth is hidden when they rise on the 18th Tishrin, or 1st of November; others say on account of the shining of the stars being lessened as if covered;

but **Kazwini**,

because, when they rise, the earth robes herself in her splendour and finery,—her summer robes.

The Arabic word, however, is analogous to *Σύρμα*, and so may have been taken from Ptolemy; although Al Birūnī quoted from Al Zajjāj **Al Ghafar**, the Tuft in the Lion's tail, which it may have marked in the figure of the ancient Asad. Another signification of the word Ghafr is the "Young Ibex." Al Birūnī also said that the Arabs considered this the most fortunate of their lunar stations, as lying between the evils of the Lion's teeth and claws on one side and the tail and venom of the Scorpion on the other, and quoted from a Rajaz poet:

The best night forever  
Lies between Al Zubānah and Al Asad;

adding that the horoscope of the Prophet lay here, and that the date of the birth of Moses coincided with it.

As a lunar station these stars were the Sogdian **Sarwa** and the Khoras-mian **Shushak**, the Leader; the Persian **Huṣru**, the Good Goer; and the Coptic **Khambalia**, Crooked-clawed, λ being substituted for φ; and it is said that they were the Akkadian **Lu Lim**, the He Goat, Gazelle, or Stag, the original perhaps also meaning "King," and employed for δ.