

title was first given to the star now lettered θ , the farthest in the Stream known by Arabian astronomers. For α Bayer had **Acharnar** *pro* **Achar-nahar** *vel* **Acharnarim**, and **Enar**; Caesius, **Acarnar**; Riccioli, **Acarnaharim** and **Acharnaar**; Scaliger, **Acharnarin**; Schickard, **Achironnahri**; while **Achenar** and **Archarnar** are still occasionally used.

This star is supposed to be one of Dante's **Tre Facelle**, notwithstanding its invisibility from Italy.

Chinese astronomers knew it as **Shwuy Wei**.

Ptolemy did not mention it, although he could have seen it from the latitude of Alexandria, $31^{\circ} 11'$,—a fact, among others, which argues that his catalogue was not based upon original observations, but drawn from the now lost catalogue of Hipparchos, compiled at Rhodes, more than 5° further north, from which place Achernar was not visible.

It culminates on the 4th of December, due south of Baten Kaitos.

β , 2.9, topaz yellow.

Cursa, 3° to the northwest of Rigel in Orion, is the principal star in this constellation, seen from the latitude of New York City.

The word is from **Al Kursiyy al Jauzah**, the Chair, or Footstool, of the Central One, *i. e.* Orion, formed by β , λ , and ψ Eridani with τ Orionis, and regarded as the support of his left foot; but in the earlier astronomy of the nomads it was one of **Al Udhā al Na'ām**, the Ostrich's Nest, that some extended to α^1 and α^2 .

The *Century Cyclopedia* gives **Dhalim** as an alternative title, undoubtedly from **Al Ṭhalim**, the Ostrich; but, although used for β by several writers, this better belongs to θ .

The Chinese called β **Yuh Tsing**, the Golden Well.

γ^1 , 3, yellow.

Zaurac and **Zaurak** are from the Arabic **Al Nā'ir al Zaurak**, the Bright Star of the Boat; but Ideler applied this early designation to the star that now is α of our Phoenix.

With δ , ϵ , η , and others near, it made up the Chinese **Tien Yuen**, the Heavenly Park.

η , 3.7, pale yellow.

Azha is supposed to have been the **Azhā** of Al Sufi, and the equivalent **Ashiyane** of the Persians, and was known by Kazwini as **Al Udhiyy**, being

chief among the stars of the Ostrich's Nest, which the word signifies. The other components were ζ , ρ , and σ ; but this last, the 17th of Ptolemy, is not now to be identified in the sky, although it may be one of the three stars ρ displaced by proper motion since Ptolemy's time.

Near η , towards τ , are some other stars — ε and π Ceti among them — which in early days were included in the Nest, but later were set apart by Al Sufi as **Al Sadr al Ketos**, the Breast of the Whale.

θ , Double, 3 and 5.25.

Achernar was the early name for this at the then recognized end of the stream, Halley saying of it, *ultima fluminis in veteri catalogo*, referring to Tycho's work, of which his own was a supplement. Various forms of its title are given under α , but **Acamar**, from the *Alfonsine Tables*, is peculiar to θ .

Ulug Beg called it **Al Thalim**, the Ostrich, but Hyde rendered this the Dam, as if blocking the flow of the stream to the south.

Bullialdus, in his edition of Chrysococca's work, had it 'Αὔλαξ, the Furrow, equivalent to the *sulcus* used by Vergil to denote the track of a vessel, appropriate enough to a star situated in the Stream of Ocean; and Riccioli distinctly gave **Sulcus** for it in his *Astronomia Reformata*.

It is the solitary star visible from the latitude of New York City in early winter evenings, low down in the south, on the meridian with Menkar of the Whale; but Baily said that its brilliancy has probably lessened since Ptolemy's time, for the latter designated it by α — *i. e.* of the 1st magnitude.

Between it and Fomalhaut lie many small stars, not mentioned by Ptolemy, that Hyde said were **Al Zibāl**; but Al Sufi had already called them **Al Ri'āl**, the Little Ostriches.

ι , κ , ϕ , and χ , of about the 4th magnitude, were another **Tien Yuen** of the Chinese, different from that marked by γ ; ι and κ are the lowest in the constellation visible from the latitude of New York.

μ and ω , 4th-magnitude stars lying westward of β , were **Kew Yew** in China; Reeves including under this title b and the stars of the Sceptre.

σ^1 , 4.1, clear white.

In early Arabia this was **Al Baiḍ**, the Egg, from its peculiarly white color, as well as from its position near the Ostrich's Nest. Modern lists generally write it **Beid**.

Situla, the Urn, also has been used for it, although there is no apparent applicability here, and the title is universally recognized for κ Aquarii.