

Hipparchos, about the time when these stars were named. Bayer's **Sartai** is from this dual word.

These were the 1st *manzil* in Al Birūnī's list, the earlier 27th, but some added *a* to the combination, calling it **Al Ashrāt** in the plural; Hyde saying that λ also was included. **Al Nāṭih** was another name for this lunar station, as the chief components are near the horns of Aries.

β and γ constituted the 27th *nakshatra* **Aqvinī**, the Ashwins, or Horsemen, the earlier dual **Aqvināu** and **Aqvayujāu**, the Two Horsemen, corresponding to the Gemini of Rome, but figured as a Horse's Head. *a* sometimes was added to this lunar station, but β always was the junction star with the adjoining Bharani. About 400 years before our era this superseded *Krittikā* as leader of the *nakshatras*. They were the Persian **Padevar**, the Protecting Pair; the Sogdian **Bashiah**, the Protector; and the equivalent Coptic **Pikutorion**; while in Babylonia, according to Epping, they marked the second ecliptic constellation **Mahrū-sha-rishu-ku**, the Front of the Head of Ku.

a, β , and γ were the corresponding *sieu* **Leu**, or **Lew**, the Train of a garment, β being the determinant.

Υ , Double, 4.5 and 5, bright white and gray,

has been called the **First Star in Aries**, as at one time nearest to the equinoctial point.

Its present title, **Mesarthim**, or **Mesartim**, has been connected with the Hebrew *Mēshārtim*, Ministers, but the connection is not apparent; and Ideler considered the word an erroneous deduction by Bayer from the name of the lunar station of which this and β were members. In Smyth's index it is **Mesartun**; and Caesius had **Scartai** from Sharaṭain. *a*, β , and γ may have been the Jewish **Shalisha**,—more correctly **Shāliah**,—some musical instrument of triangular shape, a title also of Triangulum. And they formed one of the several **Athāfiyy**, Trivets or Tripods; this Arabic word indicating the rude arrangement of three stones on which the nomad placed his kettle, or pot, in his open-air kitchen; others being in our Draco, Orion, Musca, and Lyra.

Gamma's duplicity was discovered by Doctor Robert Hooke while following the comet of 1664, when he said of it, "a like instance to which I have not else met in all the heaven";¹ but it was an easy discovery, for the components are 8".8 apart, readily resolved by a low-power.

The position angle has been about 0° for fifty years.

¹ Huygens is said to have seen three stars in β^1 Orionis in 1656, and Riccioli two in ζ Ursae Majoris in 1650.