

in the large **Wheat-field** that occupied so much of that people's sky; its exact boundaries, however, being unknown to us.

α , Double, magnitudes, 2.2 and 11, white and purplish.

Alpheratz, **Alpherat**, and **Sirrah** are from the Arabians' **Al Surrat al Faras**, the Horse's Navel, as this star formerly was associated with Pegasus, whence it was transferred to the Woman's hair; and some one has strangely called it **Umbilicus Andromedae**. But in all late Arabian astronomy taken from Ptolemy it was described as **Al Rās al Mar'ah al Musalsalah**, the Head of the Woman in Chains.

Aratos designated it as $\xi\upsilon\nu\acute{o}\varsigma\ \acute{\alpha}\sigma\tau\acute{\eta}\rho$, *i. e.*, common to both constellations, and it is still retained in Pegasus as the δ of that figure, although not in general use by astronomers.

In England, two centuries ago, it was familiarly known as **Andromeda's Head**.

With β Cassiopeiae and γ Pegasi, as the **Three Guides**, it marks the equinoctial colure, the prime meridian of the heavens; and, with γ Pegasi, the eastern side of the Great Square of Pegasus.

In the Hindu lunar zodiac this star, with α , β , and γ Pegasi,—the Great Square,—constituted the double *nakshatra*,—the 24th and 25th,—**Pūrva** and **Uttara Bhādrapadās**, the Former and the Latter Beautiful, or Auspicious, Feet; also given as **Proshthapadās**, Footstool Feet; while Professor Weber of Berlin says that it was **Pratishthana**, a Stand or Support, which the four bright stars may represent.

With γ Pegasi, the determinant star, it formed the 25th *sieu* **Pi**, or **Peih**, a Wall or Partition, anciently **Lek**, and the *mansil* **Al Fargu**, from Al Farigh al Mu'ah'har, the Hindmost Loiterer; or, perhaps more correctly, the Hind Spout of the Water-jar, for Kazwini called it **Al Farigh al Thāni**, the Second Spout; a Well-mouth and its accompaniments being imagined here by the early Arabs.

The Persian title for this lunar station, **Miyan**; the Sogdian, **Bar Farshat**; the Khorasmian, **Wabir**; and the Coptic, **Artulosia**, all have somewhat similar meanings.

In astrology α portended honor and riches to all born under its influence. It comes to the meridian—culminates—at nine o'clock¹ in the evening of the 10th of November.

¹ All culminations mentioned in this work are for this hour.