

Al Rischa, although lettered first, is somewhat fainter than  $\gamma$  and  $\eta$ .

It culminates on the 7th of December.

The component stars are 3" apart, at a position angle of  $324^\circ$ .

$\beta$ , a  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -magnitude, is given by Al Achsasi as **Fum al Samakah**, the Fish's Mouth, descriptive of its position near that feature in the westernmost of the two. With  $\gamma$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $\iota$ , and  $\omega$  it was the Chinese **Peih Leih**, Lightning.

$\delta$ , 4.1,

has in Bayer's *Uranometria* many of the titles already noted under  $\alpha$ , but they would seem to be words merely indicative of the star's position on the Cord, although some have used them as proper names.  $\delta$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\epsilon$ ,  $\zeta$ ,  $\mu$ ,  $\nu$ , and  $\xi$  made up the Chinese figure **Wae Ping**, a Rolled Screen.

$\zeta$ , a double 5th- and 6.3-magnitude, apparently unnamed, was prominent in Hindu astronomy as marking the initial point of the celestial sphere about the year 572, when it coincided within 10' of longitude with the vernal equinox. It formed part of the Khorasmian lunar station **Zidadh**, the Sogdian<sup>1</sup> **Riwand**, and of the 26th *nakshatra*, **Revati**, Rich, being the junction star between Revati and Aqvinī. With  $\epsilon$  it was the Persian lunar station **Kaht** and the Coptic **Kuton**, Cord.

$\eta$ , Double, 4 and 11.

Epping asserts that this marked the 1st ecliptic constellation of the Babylonians, **Kullat Nūnu**, the Cord of the Fish, which, if correct, would show the origin of the Greek title, and the probable great antiquity of the present figure. Another signification may be the Dwelling of the Fish.

In China, with  $\alpha$ ,  $\rho$ , and  $\chi$ , it was **Yew Kang**, the Right-hand Watch.

The components of  $\eta$  are 1" apart, at a position angle of  $12^\circ.9$ .

$\kappa$  and  $\lambda$ , 4th-magnitude stars just above the ventral fin of the western Fish, were the Chinese **Yun Yu**, the Cloud and Rain.

$\sigma$ , 4.6, appeared in the 1515 *Almagest* as **Torcularis septentrionalis**, a translation of  $\lambda\eta\nu\acute{o}\varsigma$ , erroneously written for  $\lambda\acute{\iota}\nu\omicron\varsigma$ , this star being on the Thread northeast from  $\alpha$ . But the Latin word should read **Torcular**.

Fl. 65, a 6th-magnitude double, has been regarded by Maxwell Hall as the Central Sun of the Universe.

<sup>1</sup> The Arabs considered Sogdiana one of the four fairest lands on earth; its capital, Samarkhand, was the home of the great Tamerlane and of Ulug Beg, his grandson.