



Annual Report 2025

Susanne M Hoffmann, Clive Ruggles, Jörg Matthias Determann

1. Composition

WG Members: Danielle Adams (USA), Paul Baki (Kenya), Juan Antonio Belmonte Avilés (Spain), Sze-leung Cheung (Thailand/Hong Kong China), Daniel Cunnama (South Africa), Steven Gullberg (USA), Duane Hamacher (Australia), Susanne M Hoffmann (Germany), Alejandro López (Argentina), Eric Mamajek (USA), Javier Mejuto (Honduras), Thierry Montmerle (France), Ian Ridpath (UK), Clive Ruggles (UK), B.S. Shylaja (India), Xiaochun Sun (China), Robert van Gent (Netherlands), Hitoshi Yamaoka (Japan)

WG Associates: Khalid Al-Ajaji (Saudi Arabia), Youla Azkarrula (Indonesia), Jörg Matthias Determann (Qatar), Sadegh Faghanpour (Iran), Roland Laffitte (France), Yunli Shi (China), Doris Vickers (Austria), Boshun Yang (China)

WGSN Chair: Susanne M Hoffmann (Germany)

WGSN Assistant of the Chair: Youla Azkarrula (Indonesia)

WGSN Social Media Agent: M. Sadegh Faghanpour (Iran)

WGSN General Councillors: Eric Mamajek (USA), Jörg Matthias Determann (Qatar)

WGSN Arabic Name-Group Lead: Danielle Adams (USA)

WGSN Councillor for Etymologies: Doris Vickers (Austria)

WGSN IAU Websites:

- <https://iau.org/WG280/WG280/Home.aspx>
- <https://exopla.net> (IAU Catalog of Star Names, CSN and other general info)
- <https://ase.exopla.net> (All Skies Encyclopaedia [ASE])

WGSN Email:

- starnames@exopla.net is forwarded to the Chair
- starnames_chair@exopla.net
- starnames_secretary@exopla.net Currently, there is no secretary in WGSN.

WGSN Social Media:

- Bluesky: [@iau-wgsn.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/iau-wgsn.bsky.social)
- X: [@iau_wgsn](https://twitter.com/iau_wgsn)
- Instagram: [@iau.star.names](https://www.instagram.com/iau.star.names)

Note of Changes during 2025:

1. Following a call on the network of African astronomers after the IAU-GA in Cape Town, in February 2025, we welcomed **Paul Baki** (Prof. of Physics & Consultant Space Scientist) from Kenya as a new member.



2. We also welcomed the new associates **Sadegh Faghanpour** (Office for Astronomy in Education, OAE Iran) and **Youla Azkarrula** (Indonesia). Azkarrula had been helping find information on Malayan/ Indonesian star names since the previous year and, under the supervision of the WGSN chair, is now developing software tools.
3. By the end of the year, we published our guidelines.¹

2. Meetings

<i>Meeting name</i>	<i>Date & Time in UTC</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Objectives/ topics covered</i>	<i>Number of attendees</i>	<i>Details on attendees such as number of researchers, number of students, gender or geographic distribution</i>	<i>Website of the meeting</i>
<i>January Call</i>	<i>14th, 19:00 & 16th 5:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>discussion of annual report 2024</i>	<i>~10</i>		<i>exopla.net</i>
<i>February Call</i>	<i>11th 19:00 & 13th 05:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>star name discussion</i>	<i>~10</i>		<i>exopla.net</i>
<i>March Call</i>	<i>11th 19:00 & 13th 05:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>star name discussion</i>	<i>~10</i>		<i>exopla.net</i>
<i>April Call</i>	<i>15th 18:00 & 17th 04:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>star name discussion</i>	<i>~10</i>		<i>exopla.net</i>
<i>Arabic Name Group</i>	<i>06th 16:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>Arabic and Babylonian Star Names in Andromeda</i>	<i>6 (Danielle Adams, Khalid Al-Ajaji, Roland Laffitte, Sadegh Faghanpour, Susanne M Hoffmann)</i>		<i>-</i>
<i>May Call</i>	<i>13th 18:00 & 15th 04:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>star name discussion</i>	<i>~10 plus journalist</i>		<i>exopla.net</i>

¹ <https://exopla.net/star-names/wgsn-guidelines/>



Division C Working Group on Star Names

<i>June Call</i>	<i>10th 18:00 & 12th 04:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>star name discussion</i>	<i>~10</i>		<i>exopla.net</i>
ICHST	<i>29 June – 05 July</i>	<i>Dunedin</i>	<i>present</i>	<i>4 of WGSN at conference</i>	<i>https://www.ichst2025.org/</i>	
IAUS 399	<i>07-11 July</i>	<i>Melbourne</i>	<i>present</i>	<i>5 of WGSN at conference</i>	<i>https://www.iau.org/IAU/iau/Science/Scientific-Meetings/IAUS2025/IAUS399.aspx</i>	
<i>July Call</i>	<i>15th 18:00 & 17th 04:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>star name discussion</i>	<i>~10</i>		<i>exopla.net</i>
<i>Arabic Name Group</i>	<i>12th Aug 18:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>star name discussion</i>	<i>5 (Danielle Adams, Khalid Al-Ajaji, Roland Laffitte, Sadegh Faghanpour)</i>		
<i>August Call</i>	<i>19th 18:00 & 21st 04:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>star name discussion</i>	<i>~10</i>		<i>exopla.net</i>
SEAC	<i>25-30 Aug.</i>	<i>Hamburg</i>	<i>present</i>	<i>2² of WGSN</i>		
<i>September Call</i>	<i>16th 18:00 & 18th 04:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>star name discussion</i>	<i>~10</i>		<i>exopla.net</i>
AHME-2	<i>06-10th Oct</i>	<i>Yerevan</i>	<i>present</i>	<i>2 of WGSN at conf.</i>	<i>https://www.bao.am/meetings/meetings/AHME2/</i>	
<i>October Call</i>	<i>14th 18:00 & 16th 04:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>star name discussion</i>	<i>~10</i>		<i>exopla.net</i>
<i>Guidelines Discussion</i>	<i>11th Nov 6:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>text work</i>	<i>Eric Mamajek, Sze-leung Cheung, Susanne M Hoffmann</i>		
<i>November Call</i>	<i>11th 19:00 & 13th 05:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>star name discussion</i>	<i>~10</i>		<i>exopla.net</i>
<i>December Call</i>	<i>16th 19:00 & 18th 05:00</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>star name discussion & Guidelines</i>	<i>~10</i>		<i>exopla.net</i>



Notes

- In July, Adams and Hoffmann presented papers at the the [International Society for Archaeoastronomy and Astronomy in Culture \(ISAAC\)](#)'s "Oxford XIII" conference—also IAUS 399—in Melbourne (IAUS 399), Australia, that described recent WGSN activities and strategies.
- In June/July, Hoffmann as WGSN Chair, also participated in the presentation of the Stellarium team and by Gullberg and López for IAU Commission C5 "Cultural Astronomy" at the same conference (IAUS 399), as well as at the ICHST conference in Dunedin, New Zealand.
- In August, Hoffmann presented the All Skies Encyclopaedia at the annual meeting of the [European Society for Astronomy in Culture \(SEAC\)](#) in Hamburg.
- In October, Faghanpour presented our outreach work (info cards) with a poster presentation at the occasion of the second "[International Conference: Astronomical Heritage of the Middle East](#)" (AHME in Yerevan, Armenia). Poster:

Reviving Indigenous Star Names of the Middle East: Cultural Heritage in Modern Astronomy
Mohammad Sadegh Faghanpour
IAU OAE National Astronomy Education Coordinator team for Iran

INTRODUCTION
The night sky of the Middle East carries a deep cultural heritage preserved in indigenous star names, many of which have gradually faded from modern use. Out of more than 512 star names officially adopted by the IAU Working Group on Star Names (WGSN) by September 2025, 230 trace their roots to the Middle East.

RESULTS
SECTION 01
General Statistics
• By September 2025, the IAU Working Group on Star Names (WGSN) had officially adopted **512 star names**.
• Among these, **230 names (45%)** originate from Middle Eastern traditions. Distribution by linguistic/cultural origin:
• Arabic: 209 • Hebrew: 2
• Persian: 7 • Turkish: 2
• Sumerian: 6 • Akkadian: 1
• Coptic: 1

SECTION 02
All stars adopted by IAU WGSN
45% of all stars have a Middle Eastern origin

SECTION 03
Objectives
• Reintroduce 230 indigenous star names from the Middle East into modern astronomy.
• Highlight cultural diversity and heritage embedded in Arabic, Sumerian, Persian, Turkish, Hebrew and Coptic names.
• Develop visual educational tools (infographics) combining star data with cultural background.
• Engage students and the public in astronomy through culturally meaningful narratives.
• Foster curiosity, cultural pride, and a connection between science and heritage.

SECTION 04
Chart A - Almost half of the stars Adopted by IAU WGSN from the Middle East.

Cultural Origin	Number of Stars
Arabic	209
Persian	7
Sumerian	6
Coptic	3
Turkish	2
Hebrew	2
Akkadian	1

SECTION 05
Objectives
• Reintroduce 230 indigenous star names from the Middle East into modern astronomy.
• Highlight cultural diversity and heritage embedded in Arabic, Sumerian, Persian, Turkish, Hebrew and Coptic names.
• Develop visual educational tools (infographics) combining star data with cultural background.
• Engage students and the public in astronomy through culturally meaningful narratives.
• Foster curiosity, cultural pride, and a connection between science and heritage.

DISCUSSION
The results highlight the significant role of Muslim scholars, particularly Persian astronomers, in the Islamic Golden Age. By translating Ptolemaic star catalogs and preserving indigenous Arabic star names, they created a bridge between ancient Greek traditions and Renaissance astronomy. This transmission ensured the survival of many Middle Eastern star names in modern usage. Beyond their scientific function, these names carry mythological, historical, and cultural layers. Their revival today encourages learners to engage not only with astronomy but also with the deep cultural heritage of the Middle East. Teachers and students reported that tracing the origins of the names increased curiosity and led to a deeper appreciation of the region's history, language, and identity. Nevertheless, challenges remain.

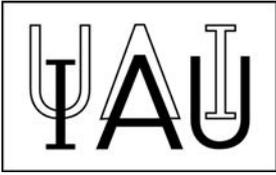
CONCLUSION
Some star names are ambiguous or exist in multiple variants, and aligning their etymology with precise astrophysical data proved difficult—especially since much of the etymological work in WGSN remains preliminary. Looking ahead, the project could evolve toward building a comprehensive catalog of indigenous star names, translated into multiple regional languages, to ensure accessibility for diverse audiences. Alongside this, future initiatives might include developing an open-access database, collaborating with cultural organizations such as UNESCO, and creating additional educational resources for schools and public outreach. Such efforts would transform the night sky into a living classroom where science and culture meet.

REFERENCES
• Exoplanet.net
• All Skies Encyclopaedia
• Kunitzsch and Smart, A Dictionary of Modern Star Names
• Richard Hinckley Allen, Star Names: Their Lore and Meaning

Contact & Acknowledgement
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IAU OAE National Astronomy Education Coordinator Team - Iran

3. Other activities

- On 19th January, WGSN delivered a 22 pages-document of mistakes to NOIRLab regarding their beautiful [new website "88 Constellations"](https://noirlab.edu/public/education/constellations/) (<https://noirlab.edu/public/education/constellations/>). A small team in WGSN (Hoffmann, Mamajek, Ridpath, van Gent) had revisited their website and

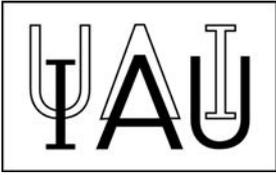


found so many mistakes that, given their huge visibility, we felt the necessity to ask them for corrections. Our suggestions were adopted almost immediately.

- In May, we received an inquiry from an **investigative journalist**. He interviewed the Chair and individual members, sat in on one of our monthly meetings and was provided with informative material. Unfortunately, the intended article has not yet been published (as far as we know), due to the journalist's unforeseen other tasks.
- On 4 October, Hoffmann delivered a 10-minute presentation entitled "Name a Star—how the IAU WGSN works", with subsequent public Q&A, at the "**100 Hours of Astronomy**" livestream from Akashi Planetarium (Japan), organised by the **IAU-Office of Astronomical Outreach (OAO)**.
- In the middle of the year, Faghanpour took over the (until-then rather silent) **social media accounts**. WGSN is now active on Bluesky, Instagram, and X (formerly Twitter).
- Together with the chair, Faghanpour started creating "**info cards**" for our star names, two per star, one displaying information on the etymology of the name and astrophysics of the star, and the other showing the stick figure of the IAU-constellation with the position of the named star indicated, together with information on the cultural background or position.
 - We completed these cards for all new star names released in 2025 and delivered some additional ones for the OAO website on request. Successively, we intend to do this for all approximately 500 names.
 - Additionally, by the end of 2025 we had created two constellation cards (for Triangulum and Cassiopeia), the naming of their bright stars having been completed.
- In our **monthly meetings** we examine star name proposals. We expect all participants to have read the information provided in the ASE (or otherwise circulated). They then:
 - question the author, seeking any improvement;
 - voice any objections against the name (e.g., it being offensive or misleading in another language or in danger of confusion with other IAU-names);
 - put forward any counterproposals from other cultures; and
 - (if necessary) organise meetings in subgroups to finalise the name given to a particular star.
 - The group checks if the proposal complies to the guidelines and, if there is more than one proposal, judges them based on an "**axis of merits**" (drafted by Mamajek and slightly reworked by Hoffmann based on consensus in the group discussions).
- During 2025 we undertook some research focused upon Indian Vedic, Balinese and Icelandic sources of literature and images, using these small sets of names to test the procedure outlined above.

Scientific Achievements

- In May, Hoffmann completed work on our "**Naked Eye star Catalog**" (**NEC**) of 9300 stars and published it on our website (as preliminary). It is an extraction of objects brighter than $V=6.5$ mag (not only stars) from the **SIMBAD** (Set of Identifications, Measurements, and Bibliography for Astronomical Data) database of the Centre de données astronomiques de Strasbourg (CDS), that aims to address the issues with the HIP and HR-catalogs (where they give deviating information or



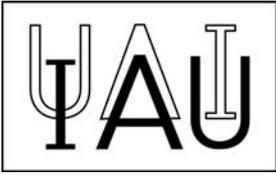
do not take observational experience into account: e.g., for double stars, globular star clusters, etc.). While working with the NEC, Azkarrula, Faghanpour, and Hoffmann still found mistakes and added or deleted some objects manually. Accordingly, work will continue on this before the final version is provided to CDS VizieR.

- In September, the CDS notified us that they will create a **new acronym** (item in their database) “**NAME-IAU**” for our names. They ask us to send them updates no more frequently than twice per year.
- Triggered by the monthly discussions of suggested names, we developed a best-practice **workflow** (see <https://exopla.net/star-names/best-practise-for-star-names/>) and some software to support **suggestions of traditional names** of asterisms (constellations and stars). The **stages of preparation** are as follows:
 - An entry page is inserted in the ASE following the schema: Concordance/ History/ Etymology (subdivided into the sections Origin and Transfer+Transformation), Mythology/ Religion, IAU WGSN Discussion, with references.
 - If the entry concerns
 - a star name, then please provide the HIP numbers of the stars to which it was applied in the past.
 - a constellation name (constellations cover an area, and, thus, more than one star), please draw a stick figure in the “Sky Culture Maker” (SCM)², take a screenshot and include it into the ASE entry.
 - The SCM will automatically compute the constellation area and extract all stars from our Naked Eye (star) Catalog (NEC) inside the boundaries. Please include this star list in the ASE: it is sorted by brightness and IAU-star names are mentioned in it, so that the brightest/ faintest nameless star can easily be determined.
 - In the ASE, it has to be explained why a specific star is selected for naming (in case of constellations). If there is more than one star-naming suggestion, they are prioritised.
 - The star-naming proposal is then scheduled for discussion by the group.
- The existing **sublists in the ASE** have been enriched:
 - “**Planetarium Babylonicum**” has been completed as a first draft, but is continuously being reworked in an ongoing research project by a team of researchers of Assyriology (outside WGSN but with the participation of its Chair).
 - **Planetarium Arabicum** has been reworked and added to by the **Arabic Name-Group**, but turns out to be a challenge in terms of structure: Hoffmann is still working on that.
 - **Planetarium Sinicum** is continuously enriched by **Yang**.
 - Entry pages were drafted by Hoffmann for all **IAU-constellation** names and the adopted **IAU-star names**; these will successively be reworked and added to.

We added some new subdictionaries:

- “**Planetarium Indicum**” added by Hoffmann and **Shylaja**, with some entries drafted.

² <https://youlaafifah.github.io/SCM/>



- “**Planetarium Persicum**”, added by **Faghanpour** and Hoffmann, contains twelve famous names. Some of them have already been adopted.
- “**Bali Sky Culture**”, added by **Azkarrula** as a description of 35 “palelintangan” (calendar constellations) is completed.
- “**Inka Sky Cultures**”, added by **Steven R. Gullberg**.
- The historical European “**Christian(ised) Sky**” has been drafted by **Doris Vickers**.

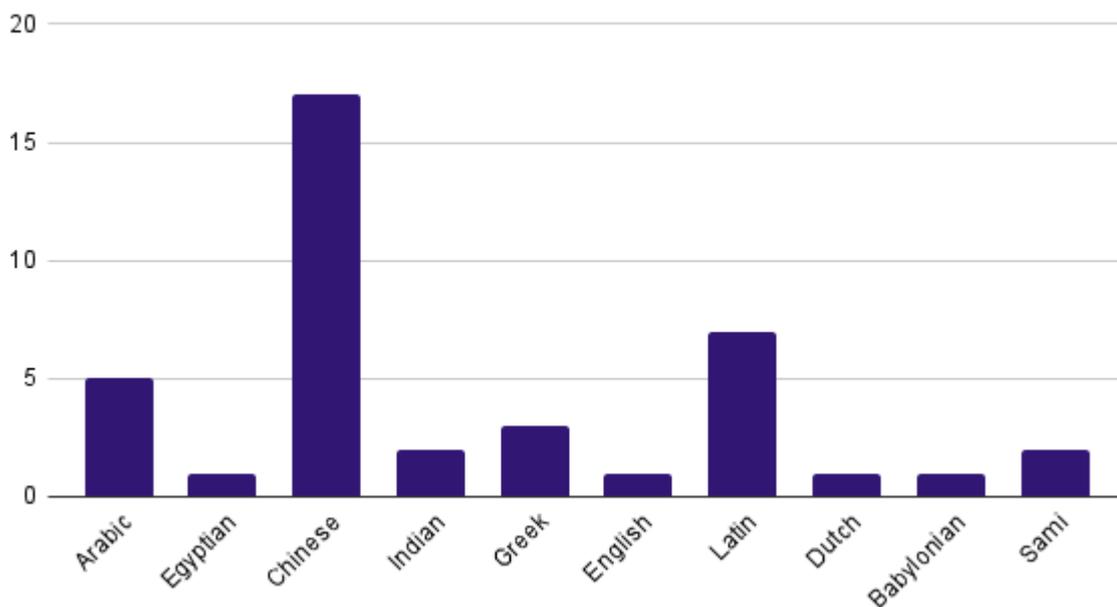
Outcome of Name Discussions

We **rejected** the proposed star name “**Cerberus**” that was meant to resemble an obsolete Early Modern European constellation because there is an asteroid with that name. The name **Birdhaun** was suggested as an old Arabic name, but then **withdrawn** as it was understood as **a mistake**.

We solved the problem of the name for **Sigma CMa**. WGSN had decided in 2017 to give it an Australian Aboriginal name that was found in the 19th-century literature, but later it was discovered that the modern spelling should be different. Normally, we cannot change a name once given and stored in the SIMBAD database. The problem was resolved as a result of SIMBAD introducing their new acronym: this granted us the opportunity to make the change, and the star is now called **Nganurganity**. However, this case was unique: in the future, WGSN will not be able to change any spelling.

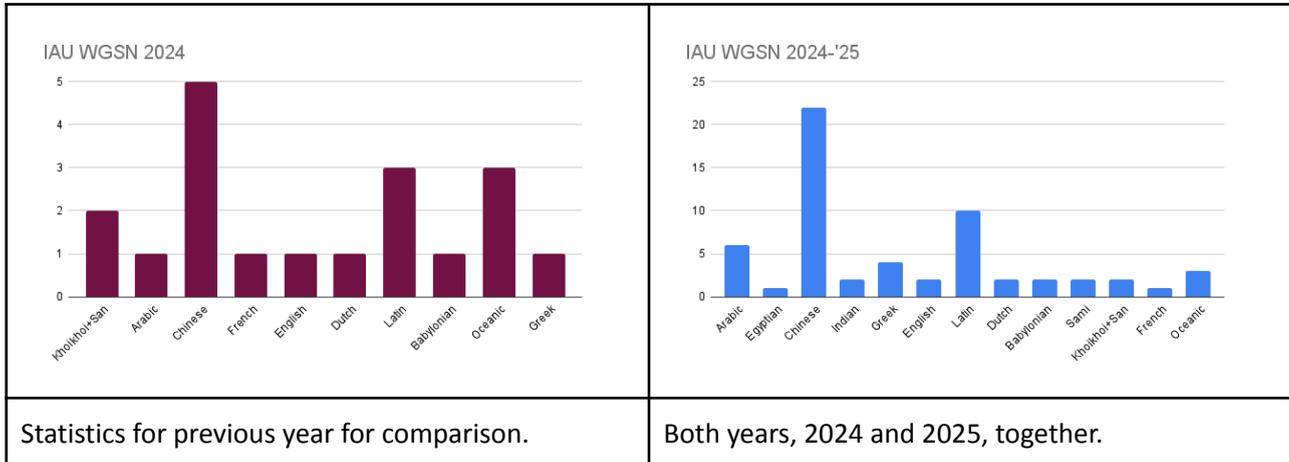
We **adopted 40 new names**. The following list displays (a) the text that we give on our etymology-website, (b) the two info cards per star that we posted on social media and in our All Skies Encyclopaedia (ASE).

IAU WGSN 2025





Division C Working Group on Star Names



Chinese names make up roughly one third (37 %) of the new names of both years. While, generally speaking, we try to avoid the dominance of one culture per batch of released names, the Chinese culture is most underrepresented with regard to its extant cultural heritage and historical significance. Ancient China's written tradition is as old as the Egypto-Babylonian, a millennium older than the Graeco-Latin scribal history, and the ancient star catalog from China has even ~30% more stars than Ptolemy's contemporary Almagest (both ~2000 years old). China's rich documentation of history makes it outstanding in comparison to most other Indigenous cultures with living traditions, implying that this larger contribution is justified: **all 88 official constellation names are Latin** and **among the IAU-star names** in early 2024, **43 % are of Arabic** origin, whilst **Greek (6.1 %)** and **Chinese (3.7 %)** are underrepresented (numbers from WGSN-research paper: Hoffmann *et al.*, JAHH, 1, 2025; see §5.1 below).

In the list of new star names we include the info cards posted in social media and our ASE.

We apologise in case of ugly line breaks or page breaks.

The New Star Names



Quadrans: Quadrans Muralis is an obsolete Latin constellation name invented in 1795 by the French astronomer Jérôme Lalande. WGSN decided to commemorate this constellation as it is the root of the name of the Quadrantid meteor shower that peaks in the first days of January.

Quadrans, 44 Boo A

Etymology: Quadrans is the name of the star 44 Boo (ι Boo, GJ 575); it is Latin language. WGSN named a star close to the radiant of the Quadrantides meteor shower whose name commemorates the 18th century constellation Quadrans Muralis.

Astrophysics: A sun-like yellow star in a triple system with a cool dust disk of roughly 23 K. The smaller component orbits the larger one in 210 years but has itself an rapidly orbiting companion that causes eclipses every few hours.

Constellation	Boötes
Hipparcos Name (HIP)	HIP 73695
Apparent mag (V)	4.83
Spectral type	G2V
Mass	1.04 M _☉
Radius	1.55 R _☉
Temperature	5,877 K
Distance	41 Ly

Sun

Quadrans, 44 Boo A

Location in the Sky: The Quadrantids are a strong annual meteor shower peaking on January 3–4. Their radiant lies in northern BOÖTES, in the old constellation Quadrans Muralis, close to 44 Boötis (Quadrans). They have a **short, sharp peak**, producing up to 80–120 meteors per hour in dark skies. Quadrantid meteors are **fast and bright**, and their parent body is the asteroid 2003 EH1, likely a remnant of an extinct comet.

Kulou (库楼) means arsenal and storied building. It is a super-constellation in the area of modern Cen/Lup created in ancient China, dating back to the 2nd century BCE.

Kulou (库楼), ι Cen

Etymology: “Kulou” (库楼) means arsenal and storied building. It is a super-constellation in the area of modern Cen/Lup created in ancient China, dating back to the 2nd century BCE.

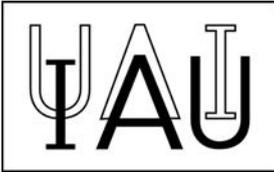
Astrophysics: A snow-white star surrounded by a circumstellar disk that glows brightly in the infrared. The disk of dust and debris orbits at a distance of roughly Jupiter’s orbit.

Constellation	Centaurus
Hipparcos Name (HIP)	HIP 65109
Apparent mag (V)	2.73
Spectral type	K1.5hA3mA3Vs
Mass	2.36 M _☉
Radius	2.11 R _☉
Temperature	9,160 K
Distance	58 Ly

Sun

Kulou (库楼), ι Cen

Location in the Sky: Iota Centauri lies in the southern constellation Centaurus. With an apparent magnitude of 2.73, it is easily visible to the naked eye. The star is located roughly 58.8 light-years from Earth and sits in the southern sky, best observed from southern latitudes. It forms part of the traditional Chinese asterism Pillars (柱) and was historically included in the ancient super-constellation Kulou (The Arsenal).



Shimu. The Eye of the (Celestial) Pig, is the oldest preserved name for this star in China. Later, this region was named Kui, the Legs, and Zeta And was (in historical times before Qing Dynasty) used as the determinative star of this constellation and lunar mansion.

Shimu (豕目), ζ And

Etymology: Shimu (豕目, shǐ mù) means "Eye of the Pig", and is the oldest currently known name for the star ζ And. The constellation Tiān Shí (天豕, The Celestial Pig) can be traced back to Neolithic China 5500 years ago.

Astrophysics: The reddish K-type binary system whose primary component is resolved with Doppler imaging. Its starspots suggest that the star's magnetic field is generated different from the solar dynamo.

Constellation	Andromeda	Shimu
Hipparcos Name	HIP 3693	
Apparent mag(V)	4.06	
Spectral type	K1III+KV	
Mass	4.8 M _☉	
Radius	85.3 R _☉	
Temperature	4,900 K	
Distance	181 Ly	

Shimu (豕目), ζ And

Location in the Sky: Zeta Andromedae (Shimu, ζ And) lies in the northern constellation Andromeda. With a brightness varying between magnitude 3.9–4.1, it is easily visible to the naked eye. The system sits about 181 light-years from Earth and marks the southern part of Andromeda's characteristic star pattern, best observed during northern autumn when the constellation is high in the evening sky.

Heng is an old Chinese name of a constellation within the super-constellation of Kulou, The Arsenal. The translation is not certain; probably a measuring device.

Heng (衡), υ Cen

Etymology: Heng 衡 is a Chinese name of a constellation within the super-constellation of Kulou, The Arsenal. The translation is not certain; probably a measuring device.

Astrophysics: A bluish-white, pulsating subgiant star with an ellipsoidal shape due to tidal interaction with a its solar mass companion.

Constellation	Centaurus	Heng
Hipparcos Name	HIP 67464	
Apparent mag(V)	3.38	
Spectral type	B2V	
Mass	11.8 M _☉	
Radius	8.2 R _☉	
Temperature	22,400 K	
Distance	474 Ly	

Heng (衡), υ Cen

Location in the Sky: Nu Centauri (Heng, υ Cen) lies in the southern constellation Centaurus. With an apparent magnitude of 3.4, it is easily visible to the naked eye from the Southern Hemisphere. The system is located about 437 light-years from Earth and appears within the bright stellar region of Centaurus, best seen in southern autumn and winter.



Kui (奎). The Legs, is an ancient Chinese constellation with 16 stars, belonging to the 28 Lunar Mansions in China, with a very long history. Its determinative star was Zeta And for many centuries but it was changed to Eta And during the Qing Dynasty.

Kui (奎), η And

Etymology: Kui 奎, The Legs, is an ancient Chinese constellation with 16 stars, belonging to the 28 Lunar Mansions in China, with a very long history. Its determinative star used to be ζ And for many centuries but it was changed to η And in Qing Dynasty.

Astrophysics: A yellow spectroscopic binary with two components of twice the mass of the Sun each. It was already resolved in the 1990s interferometrically.

Constellation	Andromeda
Hipparcos Name	HIP 4463
Apparent mag (V)	4.42
Spectral type	G8-III
Mass	2.6 M_{\odot}
Radius	10.7 R_{\odot}
Temperature	4,900 K
Distance	242 Ly

Kui

Sun

Kui (奎), η And

Location in the Sky: Eta Andromedae (Kui, η And) lies in a northern constellation. With an apparent magnitude of 4.4, it is visible to the naked eye under good conditions. The system is located about 242 light-years away and sits near the western part of Andromeda, best observed in October/ November evenings.

ANDROMEDA

Eta Andromedae
Kui

Udkadua. The Sumerian term UD.KA.DU₈.A is a compound, literally meaning “the storm demon with the gaping mouth”. This Babylonian constellation is at least 3000 years old; the star named after it is its heel. It was highly important for time-measurement for at least a millennium (if not longer).

Udkadua, λ And

Etymology: “Udkadua” (UD.KA.DU₈.A) is a Sumerian phrase meaning “The Storm Demon with the Gaping Mouth”. It refers to a Babylonian timekeeping asterism, used over 3000 years ago to measure the hours in the night.

Astrophysics: An old yellow-orange subgiant in Andromeda, now evolving off the main sequence. It's a binary system at about 84 light years distance that is drifting further away from the Sun with a speed 1000x as bicycles (almost 25,000 km/h).

Constellation	Andromeda
Hipparcos Name	HIP 116584
Apparent mag (V)	3.82
Spectral type	G8IVk
Mass	1.47 M_{\odot}
Radius	7.78 R_{\odot}
Temperature	4,633 K
Distance	84 Ly

Udkadua

Sun

Udkadua, λ And

Location in the Sky: Udkadua is a naked-eye star in the northern constellation Andromeda, visible at magnitude 3.8. It marks a spot in the sky where Andromeda's hand almost touches her mother Cassiopeia. Though not emphasized in Greco-Roman tradition, Udkadua now stands out in modern sky maps as part of the star chain that outlines her body.

ANDROMEDA

λ And
Udkadua



Rasalnaqa. The group of stars that Ptolemy called “The Hand of Andromeda” is also called “The Head of the She-Camel” (رأس الناقة) in an Indigenous Arabian tradition. Al-Sufi (11th c. CE) combines these two traditions, and so does the IAU by naming one of the stars after “the hand” and the other one “the camel's head”.

Rasalnaqa (رأس الناقة), ι And



Etymology: “Rasalnaqa” means “The Head of the She-Camel”, based on Indigenous Arab traditions. According to al-Sufi, this star was one part of a hybrid asterism combining the Greek “Hand of Andromeda” with local interpretations of a camel in the sky.

Astrophysics: A hot blue main-sequence star in Andromeda. Only 116 million year old, it is still in an early phase of stellar evolution (a teenager) but its light left the surface before the telescope was invented on Earth.

Constellation	Andromeda
Hipparcos Name	HIP 116631
Apparent mag (V)	4.29
Spectral type	B8V
Mass	3.1 M_{\odot}
Radius	4.6 R_{\odot}
Temperature	12,620 K
Distance	502 Ly

Sun




Rasalnaqa (رأس الناقة), ι And



Location in the Sky: Rasalnaqa (ι Andromedae) is a blue-white star in the northern constellation **Andromeda**, visible to the naked eye at magnitude 4.29. It lies near the middle of Andromeda’s figure and is located approximately **502 light-years** from Earth, marking a subtle point in the constellation’s classical outline




Kaffalmusalsala. Arabic description of a Greek star name. The Arabic term (كفّ المُسلسلة) means “Hand of the Chained Woman”, originating from the Almagest “Hand of Andromeda”, originally designating a group of three stars.

Kaffalmusalsala (كفّ المُسلسلة), κ And



Etymology: “Kaffalmusalsala” translates as “Hand of the Chained Woman”, the Arabic name for the Hand of Andromeda, adapted from Ptolemy’s Almagest. The original Greek description referred to a trio of stars symbolizing her outstretched arm.

Astrophysics: a young blue-white subgiant with roughly twice the size of the Sun and almost three times its mass. It has a companion which could be a large planet, or a small star (brown dwarf).

Constellation	Andromeda
Hipparcos Name	HIP 116805
Apparent mag (V)	4.14
Spectral type	B9IVn
Mass	2.7 M_{\odot}
Radius	2.3 R_{\odot}
Temperature	10,342 K
Distance	169 Ly

Sun




Kaffalmusalsala (كفّ المُسلسلة), κ And



Location in the Sky: Kaffalmusalsala (κ Andromedae) in the northern constellation **Andromeda**, visible to the naked eye at magnitude 4.1. It lies along the lower chain of the Chained Woman’s figure and is located about **169 light-years** from Earth. Though not prominent in classical mythology, it now marks a significant position—home to a directly imaged exoplanet and possibly part of the **Beta Pictoris moving group**.




Alfarasalkamil (الفرس الكامل) means “The Complete Horse”, as opposed to the Greek constellation of a half-horse that is now called Pegasus. The Arabian tradition may root in or connect to the Babylonian one which had a horse in that area, but we don’t know where exactly.

Alfarasalkamil (الفرس الكامل), α And

Etymology: Arabic for “The Complete Horse” — from an old Arabian tradition that contrasted with the Greek half-horse figure of Pegasus, possibly linked to a Babylonian horse constellation in the same region.

Astrophysics: A hot blue subgiant in Andromeda with a temperature of 14,540 K, mass 6.5 × that of the Sun, and radius 11.5 × solar. Located about 692 light-years from Earth, it is evolving off the main sequence toward later stages of stellar development.

Constellation	Andromeda
Hipparcos Name	HIP 113726
Apparent mag (V)	3.62
Spectral type	B6IV
Mass	6.5 M \odot
Radius	11.5 R \odot
Temperature	14,540 K
Distance	692 Ly

Alfarasalkamil



Alfarasalkamil (الفرس الكامل), α And

Location in the Sky: Alfarasalkamil is a star in the northern constellation **Andromeda**, located along the figure’s outstretched **right arm**. Visible to the naked eye at magnitude 3.62, it marks part of a faint asterism extending northward. This is sufficiently bright that the star can be viewed with the naked eye on a dark night.



Honores. The Latin term means “honour”. This is a constellation introduced by Bode (1801). In a paper given in 1790 he stated that this was a joint decision by many European astronomers as a memorial to an extraordinarily generous patron of scientific research and benevolent, peaceful ruler. WGSN considers this message worth conveying even without the dedication to a specific person; we named a star in the feather “Honores” as there is a German proverb “Die Feder ist mächtiger als das Schwert” (the feather is mightier than the sword).

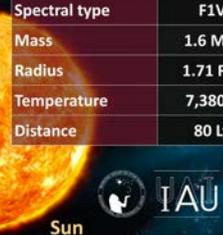
Honores, γ And

Etymology: Latin for “honours” — from a now-defunct constellation introduced by Bode (1801) to celebrate a patron of science and knowledge.

Astrophysics: a yellow-white main-sequence star in Andromeda. It’s a bit warmer and bigger than the Sun but if it has planets, their inhabitants could look similar to us. The light that reaches us today left the surface in the lifetime of our grandparents.

Constellation	Andromeda
Hipparcos Name	HIP 114570
Apparent mag (V)	4.52
Spectral type	F1V
Mass	1.6 M \odot
Radius	1.71 R \odot
Temperature	7,380 K
Distance	80 Ly

Honores



Honores, γ And

Location in the Sky: Honores is a star in the northern constellation **Andromeda**, located along the figure’s outstretched **right arm**. Visible to the naked eye at magnitude 4.52, it marks part of a faint asterism extending northward. In classical Greco-Roman astronomy, this area was not distinctly emphasized.





Paradys. In Dutch around 1600, two ways of spelling the Apus-bird existed. WGSN decided to take the first part of the earliest written witness, Paradys-vogel (Plancius 1598), to name the main star of the constellation.

Paradys, α Apodis

Etymology: "Paradys" comes from Paradys-vogel, Dutch for Bird of Paradise, recorded by Plancius in 1598. It reflects 17th-century Dutch maritime sky charts.

Astrophysics: A cool orange giant star, with a surface temperature of 4,090 K, about 4.5 times the Sun's mass, and a radius nearly 60 times larger. It lies approximately 411 light-years from Earth and has begun its late-stage stellar evolution.

Constellation	Apus
Hipparcos Name	HIP 72370
Apparent mag (V)	3.79
Spectral type	K3IIICN0.5
Mass	4.46 M_{\odot}
Radius	59.51 R_{\odot}
Temperature	4,090 K
Distance	411 Ly

IAU Sun

Paradys, α Apodis

Location in the Sky: Paradys is the brightest star in the small southern constellation Apus, representing the bird-of-paradise. With a declination of -79° , it is circumpolar and visible year-round from much of the southern hemisphere. Located at the tail of the bird figure, Paradys (α Apodis) was first charted by Plancius in 1598 and included in Bayer's *Uranometria* (1603) as *Alpha Apodis*. Though not part of any classical Greco-Roman mythology, it became a key star in early modern southern sky mapping.

APUS

Alpha Apodis
Paradys

IAU

Tusizuo. The star 95 Her is "the left one in Tusi", Tú Sì (屠肆, "Butcher's Shop") being a Chinese asterism consisting of two stars, established by the Wuxian (巫咸) school during the Han dynasty. As "Tusi" could be confused with other celestial bodies named Tusi after two Persian astronomers [asteroid (10269) Tusi and asteroid (7058) Al-Tusi], WGSN chose to add a determinative here.

Tusizuo (屠肆左), 109 Her

Etymology: Etymology: "Left Star of the Butcher's Shop" – From a Han dynasty asterism (Tú Sì). The name was specified to avoid confusion with Persian-named asteroids.

Astrophysics: Tusizuo is a Red giant star in Hercules with a surface temperature of 4,570 K, 1.05 times the Sun's mass, and 52 times its luminosity. It lies about 121 light-years away and is in an advanced stage of stellar evolution.

Constellation	Hercules
Flamsteed name	109 Her
Apparent mag (V)	3.84
Spectral type	K2IIIab
Mass	1.05 M_{\odot}
Radius	11.55 R_{\odot}
Temperature	4,569 K
Distance	121 Ly

IAU Sun

Tusizuo (屠肆左), 109 Her

Location in the Sky: Tusizuo is located in the constellation Hercules, between the hand and head of Hercules, at right ascension 18h 23m 41.89s and declination $+21^{\circ} 46' 11.11''$ and is visible to the naked eye.

109 Her
Tusizuo

HERCULES

IAU



Ramus. The Branch (of golden apples), Latin, is an addition to the early modern asterism Cerberus in Hercules. The name occurs in Bayer (1603) as a term but in depiction only later.

Ramus, 102 Her

Etymology: Latin for "branch" — referring to the historical asterism Ramus Pomifer ("fruit-bearing branch") in Hercules, as described by Bayer (1603).

Astrophysics: A young, blue-white star in Hercules with a temperature of 22,400 K, nearly 10 times the Sun's mass, and 3,600 times its luminosity. It lies about 920 light-years away and is still in an early evolutionary stage.

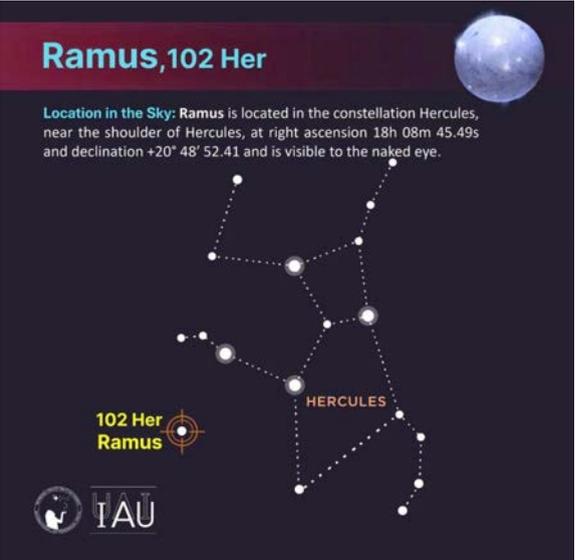
Constellation	Hercules
Flamsteed name	102 Her
Apparent mag (V)	4.37
Spectral type	B2 IV
Mass	9.7 M _☉
Radius	5.78 R _☉
Temperature	22,420 K
Distance	920 Ly

Ramus




Ramus, 102 Her

Location in the Sky: Ramus is located in the constellation Hercules, near the shoulder of Hercules, at right ascension 18h 08m 45.49s and declination +20° 48' 52.41" and is visible to the naked eye.



HERCULES

**102 Her
Ramus**



Deltoton (Δελτωτόν; the letter Delta: Δ) is an ancient Greek variant for the constellation name Triangulum: probably the original one, as "Delta" is the first letter in the ancient Greek term for "dios", the highest god who possesses and rules the stars. In early uranographies, this triangle was considered a sign of the divinity of the starry sky, a divine inscription "written in the stars".

Deltoton (Δελτωτόν), Delta Trianguli

Etymology: Ancient Greek for the letter Delta (Δ) – Likely the original name of Triangulum, representing divine order in the heavens.

Astrophysics: A solar-type main-sequence star in Triangulum with a surface temperature of 6,215 K, slightly less massive than the Sun, and located just 35 light-years from Earth. It is part of a close binary system with a 10-day orbital period.

Constellation	Triangulum
Bayer name	δ Tri
Apparent mag (V)	4.86
Spectral type	G0V
Mass	0.88 M _☉
Radius	0.98 R _☉
Temperature	6,215 K
Distance	35 Ly

Deltoton




Deltoton (Δελτωτόν), Delta Trianguli

Location in the Sky: Deltoton is located in the constellation Triangulum, near the center of the triangle, at right ascension 02h 17m 03.23s and declination +34° 13' 27.23" and is faintly visible to the naked eye.



TRIANGULUM

**Delta Trianguli
Deltoton**





Bodu. Bó Dù (帛度, “Textile Ruler”) is a Chinese asterism consisting of two stars, established by the Wuxian (巫咸) tradition during the Han dynasty. WGSN chose to adopt the name according to the Yi Shitong catalog because earlier identifications are highly uncertain.

Bodu (帛度), 95 Her

Etymology: Textile Ruler – A Chinese asterism from the Wuxian tradition during the Han dynasty, consisting of two stars.

Astrophysics: A hot, white subgiant star in Hercules, with a surface temperature of 8,000 K, 2.8 times the Sun's mass, and 167 times its luminosity. This star is evolving into a giant and lies about 432 light-years from Earth.

Constellation	Hercules
Flamsteed name	95 Her
Apparent mag (V)	4.83
Spectral type	A2IV
Mass	2.8 M _☉
Radius	6.8 R _☉
Temperature	8,000 K
Distance	432 Ly

Bodu

Bodu (帛度), 95 Her

Location in the Sky: Bodu is located in the constellation Hercules, between the hand and head of Hercules, at right ascension 18h 01m 30.41s and declination +21° 35' 44.81" and is visible to the naked eye.

**95 Her
Bodu**

HERCULES

Triminus. The star I Tri (or 6 Tri) is the brightest one in the early modern variant of a lesser triangle next to the recognisable classical asterism within the constellation Triangulum. The name is composed of the IAU-abbreviation “Tri” and Hevelius’s name “Minus” for the lesser triangle. The name applies to the visible dot in the sky, so that “Iota Tri A” is “Triminus A”. The other component is not visible to the naked eye.

Triminus, I Tri, 6 Tri

Etymology: “Triminus” is derived from Hevelius’s *Triangulum Minus* (“the Lesser Triangle”). The name was used for the asterism composed by the stars I (Iota) / 6 Trianguli, 10 Trianguli, and 12 Trianguli, among which 6 Tri is the brightest.

Astrophysics: Two yellow G-type stars in Triangulum, in a close binary system with the variability of RS CVn-type. These ellipsoidal stars may have strong starspots.

Constellation	Triangulum
Hipparcos Name	HIP 10280
Apparent mag (V)	5.32
Spectral type	G0 III
Mass	2.5 M _☉
Radius	4.0 R _☉
Temperature	4,932 K
Distance	289 Ly

Triminus

Triminus, I Tri, 6 Tri

Location in the Sky: With a declination of about +30°, it is visible from most of the Northern Hemisphere and appears highest in the sky during autumn. The system shines at magnitude 5.32 and lies roughly 289 light-years from Earth, standing out as a moderately bright target in an otherwise faint region of the sky.

**Iota Trianguli
Triminus**

TRIANGULUM

● 2 ● 3 ● 4 ● 5 ● 6



Hydor. The Greek term “Hydor” (ὕδωρ), Water, originally referred to a huge constellation, depicted around Cetus on ancient globes and described south of Aquarius in Aratus’s poem of the 4th century BCE. Its location also fits the Indigenous Arabian constellation of “Safina”, Ship. Note that the name “Hydor” was misapplied to a star in Aquarius in recent times. WGSN corrects this mistake.

Hydor (ὕδωρ), 2 Cet

Etymology: “Hydor” comes from the Ancient Greek ὕδωρ (“Water”). In classical Greek astronomy, it referred to a faint asterism south of Aquarius and around Cetus. It is described in Aratus’ poem “Phainomena” and depicted on ancient globes.

Astrophysics: A blue-white subgiant star in Cetus (B9 IVn) that is third brightest star in a newly (2019) discovered star stream. The Pac-Eri-Stream has 4731 members.

Constellation	Cetus
Hipparcos Name	HIP 301
Apparent mag (V)	4.48
Spectral type	B9 IVn
Mass	2.68 M _☉
Radius	2.75 R _☉
Temperature	11,419 K
Distance	272 Ly

Hydor




Hydor (ὕδωρ), 2 Cet

Location in the Sky: The IAU-name “Hydor” resembles the original application of this name as constellation in a vast area of faint stars in antiquity. It fits nicely the Indigenous Arabian constellation of “Safina”, Ship. Note that the name was misapplied to a star in Aqr in the recent time. WGSN corrects this mistake.



2 Ceti Hydor



Dajiangjunbei (天大将军), “Celestial Grand General”, is an important constellation in ancient China. As the determinative star was already named, WGSN named the northernmost star “The Northern one of The Great General” (Dajiangjunbei).

Dajiangjunbei (天大将军), φ Per

Etymology: “Dajiangjunbei” comes from the Chinese 天大将军 (Tiān Dà Jiāng Jūn, “Heaven’s Great General”). In traditional Chinese astronomy, it is the second star of the Dajiangjun asterism.

Astrophysics: A hot blue runaway star that left the Alpha-Persei-Cluster short after the age of the dinosaurs on Earth. It is a binary system of an O-type and a B-type star with a circumstellar disk.

Constellation	Perseus
Hipparcos Name	HIP 8068
Apparent mag (V)	4.06
Spectral type	B2Vep
Mass	9.6 M _☉
Radius	5.5 R _☉
Temperature	29,300 K
Distance	720 Ly

Dajiangjunbei




Dajiangjunbei (天大将军), φ Per

Location in the Sky: Dajiangjunbei is a bright B-type star in the northern constellation Perseus. It lies about +50° declination, making it easily visible from most of the Northern Hemisphere. The star is relatively isolated from Perseus’s main stars but falls within the constellation’s formal boundaries. Although the Chinese constellation of the Celestial Grand General differs from the Greek “Perseus”, the star name seems to align with his stick figure.



Phi Persei Dajiangjunbei





Junnanmen (军南门, “Southern Military Gate”) is a Chinese constellation. It is the name of a Chinese single-star asterism that WGSN preserves in its earliest version (before the Tang Dynasty), identified with ϕ And. The two components are named Junnanmen A and Junnanmen B (they have the same numbers in HR and HIP, and a “gate” constellation in China should normally consist of two stars which, surprisingly, is not the case here).

Junnanmen (军南门), ϕ And

Etymology: “Junnanmen” comes from the Chinese 军南门 (Jūnnánmén, “Southern Military Gate”). In traditional Chinese astronomy, ϕ Andromedae represents this single-star asterism marking the southern gate of a celestial military camp.

Astrophysics: A hot blue main-sequence binary in Andromeda. The two components have a huge distance as they orbit within 554 years. The primary star which got the name rotates rapidly.

Constellation	Andromeda	Junnanmen
Hipparcos Name	HIP 5434	
Apparent mag (V)	4.54	
Spectral type	B7 Ve	
Mass	7.6 M_{\odot}	
Radius	5.5 R_{\odot}	
Temperature	13,490 K	
Distance	720 Ly	

Sun

Junnanmen (军南门), ϕ And

Location in the Sky: The area of the Babylonian goddess of love and war, and the Greek princess Andromeda was subdivided into many different constellations in ancient China - there, it formed various military accessories, including the Southern Gate of a Military Camp marked by the star in Andromeda's right knee.

Phi Andromedae
Junnanmen

ANDROMEDA

Shatabhisha (शतभिष), literally “hundred physicians”, is the name of the 24th nakshatra of Vedic astronomy. Its earliest attestation is in a Vedic religious text (Atharvaveda) from the first millennium BCE, and an astronomy text (Vedanga Jyotisha) that dates to around 300 BCE. As the yogatara (main star) of this nakshatra, λ Aqr stands “pars pro toto” for the entire constellation.

Shatabhisha (शततारका), λ Aqr

Etymology: “Shatabhisha” as a Sanskrit name meaning “hundred physicians” is at least 3000 years old. Roughly 1000 years ago, it was misinterpreted “a hundred stars” in temple depictions, although early texts describe only four.

Astrophysics: A cool red giant star in Aquarius with a surface temperature of about 3,700 K. During recent lunar occultations, a faint companion was discovered with speckle interferometry; it is likely a main-sequence star.

Constellation	Aquarius	Shatabhisha
Hipparcos Name	HIP 112961	
Apparent mag (V)	3.79	
Spectral type	M2.5IIIFe-0.5	
Mass	2.96 M_{\odot}	
Radius	100 R_{\odot}	
Temperature	3,702 K	
Distance	391 Ly	

Sun

Shatabhisha (शततारका), λ Aqr

Location in the Sky: λ Aquarii lies in the middle of a huge stream of water of the ancient Greek Water-Pourer, and at the ecliptic. In modern pop culture, several names were given to it. Among them, WGSN decided to make the Vedic name official, and still preserve the Greek name “Hydor” at a different position.

Lambda Aquarii
Shatabhisha

AQUARIUS

Blaze Star as a nickname for the recurrent nova T CrB has occurred in magazines since 1866. At that time, the physics of novae and supernovae was still unknown, and the eruption of T CrB in 1866 was actually the first instance of a naked-eye transient with spectroscopic evidence for hydrogen in the emission nebula. Recurrent novae are a rare type of stellar system; only ten are known in our galaxy. T CrB is the prototype of T CrB-type recurrent novae which are contact binaries composed of a white dwarf orbiting a red giant.

Blaze Star, T CrB

Etymology: The nickname "Blaze Star" has been used in public media communications since 1869 for an invisible star that becomes visible every ~80 years. It then appears like a slowly dying flame to naked-eye observers.

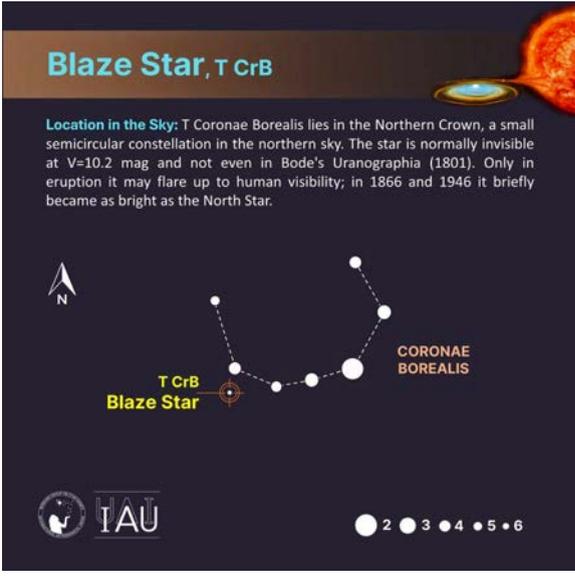
Astrophysics: T CrB is a symbiotic binary of a red giant and a white dwarf. Material from the giant accumulates on the dwarf's surface until compressed hydrogen triggers a thermonuclear runaway, causing eruptions without destroying the star.

Constellation	Corona Borealis
Hipparcos Name	HIP 78322
Apparent mag (V)	2.0–10.8
Spectral type	M3III+p
Mass	0.93 M _☉
Radius	63 R _☉
Temperature	3,561 K
Distance	2,990 Ly



Blaze Star, T CrB

Location in the Sky: T Coronae Borealis lies in the Northern Crown, a small semicircular constellation in the northern sky. The star is normally invisible at V=10.2 mag and not even in Bode's Uranographia (1801). Only in eruption it may flare up to human visibility; in 1866 and 1946 it briefly became as bright as the North Star.



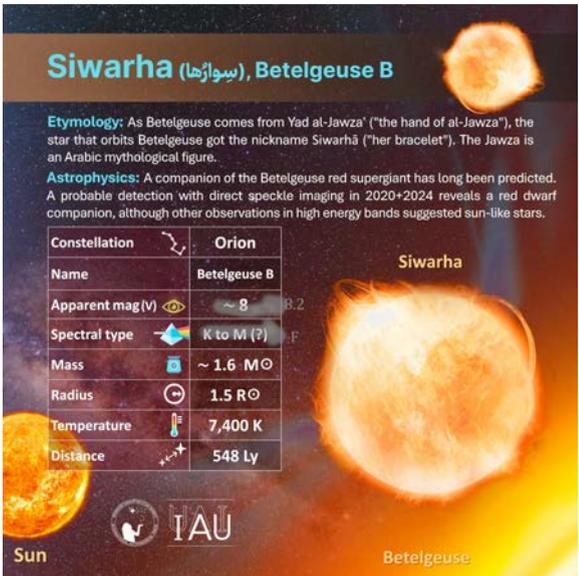
Siwarha. The name Betelgeuse means "Hand of al-Jawzā," with "al-jawzā" being the name of an old Arabian female figure whose stars were largely consistent with the Greek Orion. Given that Alpha Ori A orbits the hand of al-Jawzā, the discovery team suggested that the companion star be named سوارها (Siwarha), or "Her Bracelet."

Siwarha (سوارها), Betelgeuse B

Etymology: As Betelgeuse comes from Yad al-Jawza' ("the hand of al-Jawza"), the star that orbits Betelgeuse got the nickname Siwarha ("her bracelet"). The Jawza is an Arabic mythological figure.

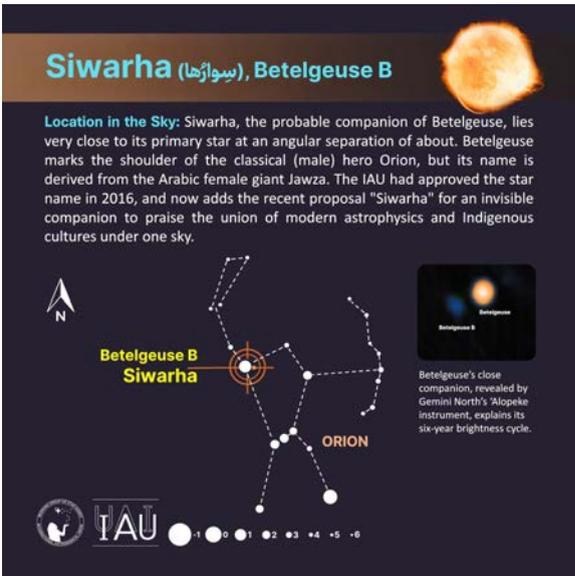
Astrophysics: A companion of the Betelgeuse red supergiant has long been predicted. A probable detection with direct speckle imaging in 2020+2024 reveals a red dwarf companion, although other observations in high energy bands suggested sun-like stars.

Constellation	Orion
Name	Betelgeuse B
Apparent mag (V)	~8
Spectral type	K to M (7)
Mass	~1.6 M _☉
Radius	1.5 R _☉
Temperature	7,400 K
Distance	548 Ly



Siwarha (سوارها), Betelgeuse B

Location in the Sky: Siwarha, the probable companion of Betelgeuse, lies very close to its primary star at an angular separation of about. Betelgeuse marks the shoulder of the classical (male) hero Orion, but its name is derived from the Arabic female giant Jawza. The IAU had approved the star name in 2016, and now adds the recent proposal "Siwarha" for an invisible companion to praise the union of modern astrophysics and Indigenous cultures under one sky.





Apamvatsa (अपवत्स), “calf of the waters” (or “the smaller one”), is an Indian star name attested throughout the last millennium. The only indication of the position is Apamvatsa is 5° to the north of Citrā (चित्रा) (Spica) in Virgo, attested in several historical documents.

Apamvatsa (अपवत्स), 74 Vir

Etymology: Apāmvatsa (अपवत्स), “calf of the waters”, is an Indian star name attested throughout the last millennium. The only indication of its position is that it is 5° to the north of Citra (चित्रा, Spica) in Virgo, attested in several historical documents.

Astrophysics: An old red giant star (almost 3 billion years), exhaling its outer atmosphere in pulsation. It will never go supernova but only slowly fade and leave an Earth-sized diamond-star (white dwarf) behind.

Constellation	Virgo
Hipparcos Name	HIP 66006
Apparent mag (V)	4.69
Spectral type	M2.5 III
Mass	1.40 M _☉
Radius	78 R _☉
Temperature	3,500 K
Distance	400 Ly

Apamvatsa



Apamvatsa (अपवत्स), 74 Vir

Location in the Sky: Apamvatsa (74 Virginis) Like a little candle in a row of the Dipāvali-festival decoration, Apamvatsa lies in the middle between ζ and α Virginis (Spica, Vedic: Chitra). Near the ecliptic, it can occasionally be occulted by the Moon. The position is noted in the Suryasiddhanta and matches its traditional description in Indian astronomy.



**74 Virginis
Apamvatsa**

Shengong (神宮, Divine Palace) is a subsidiary asterism attached to the lodge Wěi (尾), Tail [of the Azure Dragon], located to the left of its determinative star and consisting of only one star (single-star asterism).

Shengong (神宮), HIP 83100

Etymology: Shengong (神宮, Divine Palace) is a subsidiary asterism attached to the lodge Wěi (尾), Tail [of the Azure Dragon], located to the left of its determinative star and consisting of only one star (single star-asterism).

Astrophysics: Shengong is an A3-type giant of silvery color (white), who grants its visibility to silver glow of the surrounding Milky Way. The star itself is and will always be close to visibility limit. Although larger than our Sun, yet too small for a future supernova.

Constellation	Scorpius
Hipparcos Name	HIP 83100
Apparent mag (V)	6.05
Spectral type	A3III
Mass	3.5 M _☉
Radius	3.8 R _☉
Temperature	9,000 K
Distance	268 Ly

Shengong



Shengong (神宮), HIP 83100

Location in the Sky: Shengong (HIP 83100) lies in the constellation Scorpius, within the ancient Chinese lunar lodge Wěi (Tail), near rich star fields and embedded in bright clouds of the Milky Way. Surrounded by this diffuse glow, ancient astronomers have likely taken its position coordinates as marker for a “blurred patch”. Shengong marks the subtle but culturally significant point in the celestial “Tail” of the Azure Dragon - a spring symbol.



**HIP 83100
Shengong**



Alaybasan (الأبيسان), the Two Joints (of bones), is an Indigenous Arabian asterism. Name variants are Al-Anġsān (الأنيسان) and Al-Baysan. The later spelling variant al-Anġsān that originated from a mistake changed the meaning, as it translates as “The Two Friends”. WGSN adopts a spelling variant without the hyphen: “Alaybasan” is therefore the name for β Tri.

Alaybasan (الأبيسان), β Tri

Etymology: Al-Aybasān الأبيسان is an Indigenous Arabian name meaning “the Two Joints (of bones).” Variant forms include al-Baysān and the erroneous al-Anġsān (“the Two Friends”). The WGSN standardizes the spelling “Alaybasan” for β Trianguli.

Astrophysics: It’s a spectroscopic binary with two close A-type stars orbiting every 31.39 days, as close as Mercury is to the Sun, two bright white stars that would emit over twice the Sun’s heat.

Constellation	Triangulum	Alaybasan
Hipparcos Name	HIP 10064	
Apparent mag(V)	3.00	
Spectral type	A5III	
Mass	3.25 M_{\odot}	
Radius	3.44 R_{\odot}	
Temperature	7,683 K	
Distance	124 Ly	

Sun

Alaybasan (الأبيسان), β Tri

Location in the Sky: Triangulum, formed part of several ancient constellations such as an Indigenous Arabian upside down Ram. With an apparent magnitude of about 3.0, the star is easily visible to the naked eye and was considered the joint of bones (knee) of the animal.

Roland Laffitte

Apdu. Apd(w), γ pd, The Bird, is an ancient Egyptian constellation from the second millennium BCE; the language is moribund. There are at least 21 spelling variants throughout the millennia in hieroglyphs, and it is probably not any specific bird; it might be a goose or falcon or something else. Four star names within the constellation are attested in Ramesside Star Clocks and identified with the area between α , β Per and all of Triangulum. WGSN adopts the name of the constellation for any unspecific spot within its area to preserve an old Egyptian cultural name.

Apdu, γ Tri

Etymology: Apd (3pd), meaning “the Bird,” is an ancient Egyptian constellation name, likely referring to a goose or falcon. Ramesside Star Clocks from the 2nd millennium BCE place it between α and β Persei and α Trianguli. WGSN adopts the name of the constellation as star name for γ Tri.

Astrophysics: A white star which rotates rapidly and therefore looks like a rugby ball rather than a normal ball. It is surrounded by a dusty debris disk that glows in infrared, as it is heated up by γ Tri.

Constellation	Triangulum	Apdu
Hipparcos Name	HIP 10670	
Apparent mag(V)	4.00	
Spectral type	A1Vnn	
Mass	2.5 M_{\odot}	
Radius	2.25 R_{\odot}	
Temperature	9,440 K	
Distance	117 Ly	

Sun

Apdu, γ Tri

Location in the Sky: Today, Gamma Trianguli forms an optical triple with δ Tri and γ Tri. However, in ancient times, δ Tri (Deltatoti) appeared far away, as both stars have a high proper motion. Shining at 4.01 mag, γ Tri has been connected to the other stars of the triangle in many cultures: e.g. the Chinese Celestial General, the Babylonian Hired Man, the Arabian Ram, or the Egyptian Bird (Apdu), after which it is now named.

Roland Laffitte



Bagu (Eight Kinds of Crops, 八穀) is a Chinese constellation consisting of eight stars located within the constellations Lynx, Auriga, and Camelopardalis. It refers to land management officials in charge of rice, millet, barley, wheat, soybean, bean, chestnut, and hemp. It belongs to the asterisms introduced by Gan De and originated during the Han dynasty (roughly 2000 years ago).

Bagu (八谷), δ Aur

Etymology: Bá Gǔ (Eight Kinds of Crops, 八穀) is a Chinese constellation of eight stars spanning Lynx, Auriga, and Camelopardalis. Introduced by Gan De during the Han dynasty, it dates back roughly 2,000 years.

Astrophysics: An old orange giant star in the so-called red clump of the HRD; it used to be as big as our Sun but has now 21 solar radii, and is already in the phase of helium burning in its core, slowly exhaling its outer atmosphere.

Constellation	Auriga	Bagu
Hipparcos Name	HIP 28358	
Apparent mag (V)	3.72	
Spectral type	K0IIIb	
Mass	1.10 M_{\odot}	
Radius	21.39 R_{\odot}	
Temperature	4,786 K	
Distance	140 Ly	

IAU Sun

Bagu (八谷), δ Aur

Location in the Sky: The Chinese constellation "Eight kind of crops" refers to land management officials who were in charge of rice, millet, barley, wheat, soybean, bean, chestnut, hemp. It consists of stars in Camelopardalis and northern Auriga with δ Aur the brightest one. The star also lends its name to the Delta Aurigids meteor shower.

IAU

Tiansi (Heavenly Quadriga, 天駟) is an old Chinese asterism, attested for at least 2000 years. It comprises four of the five stars forming the constellation Wangliang (王良) and represents the four horses pulling the chariot. It may thus be regarded as a constituent sub-constellation/asterism of Wangliang (王良). In the literature in English, the name "Ce" (old spelling: Tsih) can be found; WGSN corrects this misapplication of an old star name.

Tiansi (天駟), γ Cas

Etymology: Tiān Sì (天駟), "the Heavenly Quadriga," is a 2,000-year-old Chinese asterism of four stars in the constellation of General Wangliang. It symbolizes four heavenly horses. WGSN correct the older mislabel "Ce/Tsih."

Astrophysics: A high mass X-ray binary with three faint companions. There had been speculations about a white dwarf or neutron star as source of the X-ray radiation, but recent evidence suggest rather the eruptive B-star itself as source - perhaps through interaction with the surrounding debris disk.

Constellation	Cassiopeia	Tiansi
Hipparcos Name	HIP 4427	
Apparent mag (V)	2.36	
Spectral type	B0.5IVpe	
Mass	18.75 M_{\odot}	
Radius	10.94 R_{\odot}	
Temperature	26,500 K	
Distance	549 Ly	

IAU Sun

Tiansi (天駟), γ Cas

Location in the Sky: Gamma Cassiopeiae (Tiansi, γ Cas) sits at the center of the famous "W" asterism in the northern constellation Cassiopeia that is called The Bat in Thailand. At magnitude 2.4, it is the 90th brightest star in the night sky with certainly many cultural names and at the edge of the northern Milky Way.

IAU



Cexing derives from Cè (Whip, 策), an ancient Chinese star name representing the horsewhip, located beside the asterism Wangliang (王良) and closely associated with both Wangliang (王良) and Tiansi (天駟). It belongs to the Gān school. “Xing” means star. The ancients sometimes also call it Cexing (whip star) or Tiance (celestial whip). In modern and postmodern literature in English, the name is occasionally used for γ Cas but this is a late shift, only attested from the 18th century onwards when the Chinese uranography was reworked under Jesuit influence. WGSN corrects this back to the Indigenous version.

Cexing (策), κ Cas

Etymology: Cè (策), “The Whip,” is an ancient Chinese single star-asterism in the constellation of the charioteer Wangliang. “Xing” means “star”. WGSN preserves the ancient name variant “Cexing” for kappa Cas, despite later Jesuit reassignment of the name “Cè” to gamma Cas.

Astrophysics: A blue supergiant. Fast like the whip, this runaway star rushes through space, causing a bow shock in the interstellar medium 4 light-years ahead of it.

Constellation	Cassiopeia
Hipparcos Name	HIP 2599
Apparent mag (V)	4.16
Spectral type	BC0.7Ia
Mass	38.33 M _☉
Radius	43.18 R _☉
Temperature	24,600 K
Distance	4126 Ly

Cexing



Cexing (策), κ Cas

Location in the Sky: This star at the edge of the northern Milky Way, close to a dark cloud. It is of immens luminosity and only appears faint (~4 mag) because of its huge distance from Earth: its light left its surface short after the Egyptian pyramids were built and the first hieroglyphs were written. Ptolemy’s star catalogue has it not even listed, but ancient Chinese star catalogues were more complete.



Kappa Cassiopeiae
Cexing

CASSIOPEIAE

Shangcheng. Shàng Chéng (The Great Imperial Minister, 上丞) and Shào Chéng (The Second Imperial Minister, 少丞) are the two stars located to the left and right of the northern gate of the Zǐ Gōng (Purple Palace) / Zǐwēi Yuán (Purple Enclosure).

Shangcheng (上丞), HIP 14862

Etymology: Shàng Chéng (The Great Imperial Minister, 上丞) is one of two stars flanking the northern gate of the Chinese super-constellation of the Purple Forbidden Palace in the circumpolar area.

Astrophysics: A rapidly rotating, snow-white main-sequence star. Due to its fast rotation its polar radius is 15% smaller than the equatorial one.

Constellation	Cassiopeia
Hipparcos Name	HIP 14862
Apparent mag (V)	4.83
Spectral type	A2Vnn
Mass	2.36 M _☉
Radius	2.11 R _☉
Temperature	8,875 K
Distance	161 Ly

Shangcheng



Shangcheng (上丞), HIP 14862

Location in the Sky: This star is in an area of only faint stars close to the equatorial pole of the sky where most cultures had not defined any constellations. In China, the few constellations in the vicinity were grouped into one big super-constellation, the Purple Forbidden Palace, representing the Emperor’s most private entourage in the sky.



HIP 14862
Shangcheng

CASSIOPEIAE



Shangwei. Shàng Wèi (The Great Imperial Guard, 上衛) is the name of the fifth star on the right wall and the sixth star on the left wall of the Zǐ Gōng (Purple Palace, 紫宮) / Zǐwēi Yuán (Purple Forbidden Enclosure, 紫微垣), counting northward from the southern gate. Its corresponding star has changed many times throughout history.

Constellation	Camelopardalis	Shangwei
Hipparcos Name	HIP 29997	
Apparent mag(V)	4.75	
Spectral type	A0Vn	
Mass	2.90 M _☉	
Radius	2.39 R _☉	
Temperature	10,000 K	
Distance	175 Ly	

Etymology: Shàng Wèi (The Great Imperial Guard, 上衛) is the name of the fifth star on the right wall of the Chinese super-constellation of The Purple Forbidden Palace.

Astrophysics: A bright, snow-white A0V star in Camelopardalis, about 175 light-years away, with high proper motion and roughly 3× the Sun's mass.

Location in the Sky: The Chinese super-constellation of the Purple Forbidden Palace covers roughly the entire circumpolar area, while classical Greek cultures did not fill this area completely. The IAU-constellation "Camelopardalis" is based on a newly created constellation of the 17th century.

Kamelos is Greek for camel, a pun on the name of the constellation "Camelopardalis" whose Latin term is a Greek loan-word, literally meaning "checkered camel" (i.e., giraffe). On this basis, Jacob Bartsch in 1624 proposed "Camelus Rebeccae" as an alternative name for the constellation Camelopardalis, a reference to the story of Abraham's daughter-in-law, Rebecca.

Constellation	Camelopardalis	Kamelos
Hipparcos Name	HIP 31940	
Apparent mag(V)	5.72	
Spectral type	K5III	
Mass	1.20 M _☉	
Radius	52.2 R _☉	
Temperature	4,207 K	
Distance	579 Ly	

Etymology: "Kamelos" is Greek for camel, a pun with the name of the constellation "Camelopardalis" whose Latin term is a Greek loanword, literally meaning "checkered camel" = giraffe.

Astrophysics: Only twice the mass of the Sun, this star has roughly 50 times its radius: it is an old star, already in its red giant phase, burning helium in its core.

Location in the Sky: Playing with the Greek and Latin word for "giraffe", Camelopardalis, in 1624 the alternative name "Camelus Rebeccae" was proposed: a reference to the story of Abraham's daughter-in-law, Rebecca. The reddish star marks the heart of the giraffe and like the heart of a healthy animal, it is not easily visible.



Shaowei. Shào Wèi (The Second Imperial Guard, 少衛) is the sixth star on the right wall of the Zǐ Gōng (Purple Palace, 紫宮) or Zǐwēi Yuán (Purple Forbidden Enclosure), counting northward from the southern gate. Although its identification has varied across historical sources, all recorded versions consistently place it within the modern constellation Camelopardalis.

Shaowei (少衛), γ Cam

Etymology: Shào Wèi (The Second Imperial Guard, 少衛) is the sixth star on the right wall of the Chinese super-constellation of the Purple Forbidden Palace in the circumpolar area.

Astrophysics: The star is of oblate shape due to its rapid rotation. It is a white subgiant of the main-sequence, accompanied by two other stars, forming a triple system.

Constellation	Camelopardalis	Shaowei
Hipparcos Name	HIP 17959	
Apparent mag(V)	4.60	
Spectral type	A2IVn	
Mass	2.75 M _☉	
Radius	3.06 R _☉	
Temperature	8,892 K	
Distance	335 Ly	

Sun IAU

Shaowei (少衛), γ Cam

Location in the Sky: This snowball-like object can be seen in cold winter nights from the northern hemisphere. As it appears rather unspectacular for the naked eye, it has not been used by many cultures to form constellations. The IAU-constellation "Camelopardalis" is based on a European invention of the 17th century to fill that gap.

CAMELOPARDALIS

Gamma Camelopardalis
Shaowei

IAU

Gang. Gàng ("Shaft") forms part of the ancient Chinese asterism of Huá Gài (Canopy of the Emperor, 華蓋). Allen (1899) mentions the term as a star name in Camelopardalis but WGSN places it in a more correct position.

Gang, 50 Cas

Etymology: Gàng ("Shaft") forms part of the ancient Chinese asterism of Huá Gài (Canopy of the Emperor, 華蓋). Allen (1899) mentions the term as a star name in Cam; WGSN corrects the position.

Astrophysics: an A-type star in the middle of its life at a distance that the light left its surface in the Victorian age. Historically, the star was erroneously classified as a nebula.

Constellation	Cassiopeia	Gang
Hipparcos Name	HIP 9598	
Apparent mag(V)	3.93	
Spectral type	A2V	
Mass	2.36 M _☉	
Radius	2.11 R _☉	
Temperature	9,376 K	
Distance	162 Ly	

Sun IAU

Gang, 50 Cas

Location in the Sky: In that area, the star is the brightest, but there are no bright stars; it lays between the classical constellations Cassiopeia and Cepheus.

50 Cassiopeiae
Gang

CASSIOPEIAE

IAU



Huagai. Huá Gài (Canopy of the Emperor, 華蓋) is a Chinese asterism consisting of sixteen stars, divided into two parts: seven stars forming the Huá Gài (“Canopy”) proper and nine forming the Gàng (“Shaft”). The asterism originated within the Gan school during the Han dynasty, around the first century BCE.

Huagai, ι Cas

Etymology: Huá Gài (Canopy of the Emperor, 華蓋) is a Chinese asterism attested, at least, since the first century BCE.

Astrophysics: a multiple system; the primary is a close binary of a white and a yellow star with strong magnetic field, orbiting a common centre in 49 years. This pair is orbited by an F-type star and another binary of two reddish stars.

Constellation	Cassiopeia
Hipparcos Name	HIP 11569
Apparent mag(V)	4.61
Spectral type	K1A2h(e)A1VSi(Eu)
Mass	1.98 M_{\odot}
Radius	2.3 R_{\odot}
Temperature	8,360 K
Distance	141 Ly

Huagai, ι Cas

Location in the Sky: In China, the circumpolar area was considered the Purple Forbidden Palace of the Emperor, a super-constellation containing many smaller constellations surrounded by the two chains of stars that form the east wall and west wall of this palace. Where the walls meet, opposite the entry, is the Canopy of the Emperor.

Custos. “Custos Messium”, the Harvest Keeper, was a constellation invented in Early Modern times by the French astronomer Joseph Jérôme de Lalande (1732–1807) who might have intended a pun upon the name of his compatriot Charles Messier. Some European astronomers copied and translated it, though. The constellation became obsolete in the depoliticisation of the IAU-sky and WGSN only recognizes the Keeper, Custos.

Custos, BE Cam

Etymology: Custos Messium, the Harvest Keeper, was a constellation invented in Early Modern Time, which became obsolete in the IAU-sky. WGSN only keeps the Keeper, Custos.

Astrophysics: A bright red giant on the asymptotic giant branch which pulsates irregularly. Its light left the surface in the Middle Ages, long before this area in the sky was named.

Constellation	Camelopardalis
Hipparcos Name	HIP 17884
Apparent mag(V)	4.48
Spectral type	M2II
Mass	2.93 M_{\odot}
Radius	176 R_{\odot}
Temperature	3,660 K
Distance	963 Ly

Custos, BE Cam

Location in the Sky: Visually, human view is distracted from this area and drawn towards the brighter stars in Perseus south of it. Hence, this area has not been named in many Indigenous cultures. Modern astronomers only filled that gap when telescopes were systematically used for sky surveys and star catalogues aimed at more and more completeness.



Rangifer, the Reindeer, is an extinct constellation first introduced by Pierre-Charles Le Monnier in 1743 in his book *La Théorie des Comètes*. He aimed it to resemble an Indigenous constellation of the Sami people in Northern Scandinavia, to which he had travelled on a geodetic expedition.

Rangifer, 49 Cas



Etymology: Rangifer, the Reindeer, is an extinct constellation first introduced by Le Monnier in 1743 in memory of an Indigenous constellation of the Sami people.

Astrophysics: a binary star whose primary component is an aging giant star of sun-like colour. After ~302 million years, it just ran out of hydrogen in its core and started helium burning.

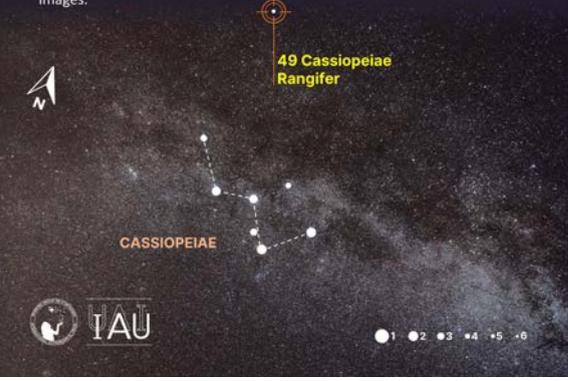
Constellation	Cassiopeia	Rangifer
Hipparcos Name	HIP 9763	
Apparent mag (V)	4.96	
Spectral type	G8III	
Mass	1.10 M _☉	
Radius	19 R _☉	
Temperature	4,886 K	
Distance	426 Ly	




Rangifer, 49 Cas



Location in the Sky: The circumpolar area was not completely filled with constellations in ancient Greek times. Thus, it was an easy target for Early Modern astronomers to place new inventions in the gaps between classical images.



CASSIOPEIAE

49 Cassiopeiae
Rangifer



Tarandus is an alternative name for the Early Modern European constellation “Rangifer”, the Reindeer, from the Greek τάρανδος (reindeer), as latinised by Carl Linnaeus 1758 (“Cervus Tarandus”) for the species. Jamieson 1822 used “Rangifer tarandus” for the reindeer in the sky.

Tarandus, 2 UMi



Etymology: Tarandus is an alternative name for the Early Modern European constellation “Rangifer”, the Reindeer. It is Latinised from Greek τάρανδος (reindeer).

Astrophysics: an aging star of orangish hue, a bright giant with high proper motion. Its light left the surface roughly at the beginning of era of industrialisation.

Constellation	Cepheus	Tarandus
Hipparcos Name	HIP 5372	
Apparent mag (V)	4.22	
Spectral type	K2III	
Mass	2.27 M _☉	
Radius	24 R _☉	
Temperature	4,512 K	
Distance	312 Ly	




Tarandus, 2 UMi



Location in the Sky: The star with the designation “2 UMi” is very close to our Pole Star; only 4.2 mag bright but in an area without bright stars well visible. It is so close to the pole that the introduction of boundaries parallel to RA/DEC-lines in the 1920s made it come to lay in the area of Cepheus.



URSA MINORS

2 Ursae Minoris
Tarandus

CEPHEUS





Sarvis, the reindeer or moose (bull), is an Indigenous constellation, used by the Sami people of northern Scandinavia.

Sarvis, δ Per

Etymology: Sarvis, the reindeer (bull) or moose, is an Indigenous constellation, used by the Sami people of northern Scandinavia.

Astrophysics: a blue-white hot binary star whose primary component has evolved away from the main sequence after exhausting its hydrogen core. It rotates rapidly and with a peculiar velocity is called a runaway star.

Constellation	Perseus
Hipparcos Name	HIP 17358
Apparent mag (V)	3.01
Spectral type	B5III
Mass	7 M_{\odot}
Radius	5.39 R_{\odot}
Temperature	14,890 K
Distance	527 Ly

Sarvis

Sun

Sarvis, δ Per

Location in the Sky: The central trapezium in Perseus forms the chest and front legs of the Sami constellation of The Reindeer. The huge celestial animal also includes stars in Auriga and Cassiopeia. WGSN picked two stars in the middle of the image to keep the heritage of the Sami constellation.

PERSEUS

Aldu, the Reindeer Cow, in the Sami language. The Sami constellation of the reindeer is usually named using the male term “Sarvis”, but mythology reports it keeping its antlers during winter, which only females do.

Aldu, ϵ Per

Etymology: Aldu, the Reindeer Cow, in Sami language. The Sami constellation of the reindeer is usually called with the male term “Sarvis”, but mythology reports it keeps its antlers during winter, which only females do.

Astrophysics: a bluish-white star to the naked eye which is actually a spectroscopic binary. Its rapid variations of brightness due to pulsation make it a variable star on telescopic scales.

Constellation	Perseus
Hipparcos Name	HIP 18532
Apparent mag (V)	2.89
Spectral type	B0.5III
Mass	15 M_{\odot}
Radius	6 R_{\odot}
Temperature	26,500 K
Distance	537 Ly

Aldu

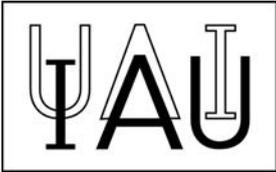
Sun

Aldu, ϵ Per

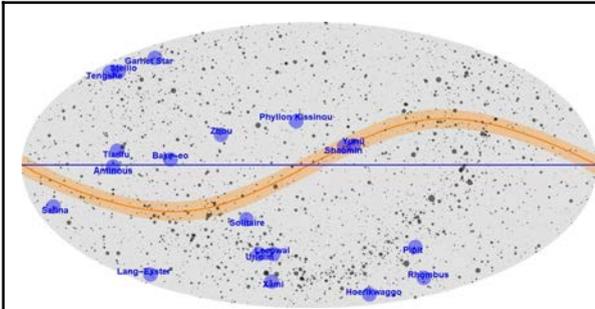
Location in the Sky: The central trapezium in Perseus forms the chest and front legs of the Sami constellation of The Reindeer, usually called “Sarvis”, a reindeer bull. Actually Sami uranography displays an entire herd of reindeer, so it was proposed to name two stars the reindeer bull and cow respectively. WGSN picked two stars in the middle of the Sami constellation area.

PERSEUS

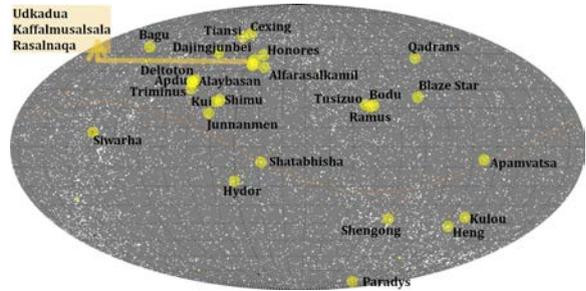
Some of the info cards shown above were only released on social media in early 2026, but they were adopted in 2025.



Additional Social Media Posts



Map of New Names 2024



Map of New Names 2025



Prepared for OAO on request

In September, the IAU-Office for Astronomy Outreach (OAO) asked us to provide some of our images for their new website. So, we produced a set of cards for five more stars.



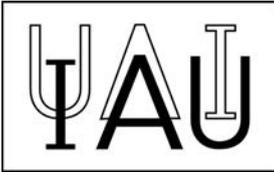
Division C Working Group on Star Names

Geminga (modern: PSR)	Gudja (Australian)	Paikauhale (Hawaiian)	Revati (Indian Vedic)	Xami (South African)

Info Cards for all Stars

During 2025 we started creating info cards for all the stars named by WGSN.

Adhil	Ain	Amateru (exoplanet)	Ainalrami	Aladfar



Division C Working Group on Star Names

Acamar	Achernar	Achird	AcruX	Acubens

Adhafera	Adhara	Aladfar	Aldebaran	Year review

4. Summary of state of the field within the remit of your Working Group and its evolution over the reporting period

1. We adopted 40 new star names and published their cultural information (see [IAU-Catalog of Star Names on our website](#)).
2. we published the [GUIDELINES](#) for IAU-star names
3. we published two info cards for the 40 new and 20 older IAU-star names in social media



Division C Working Group on Star Names

List of newly adopted star names in the IAU-CSN

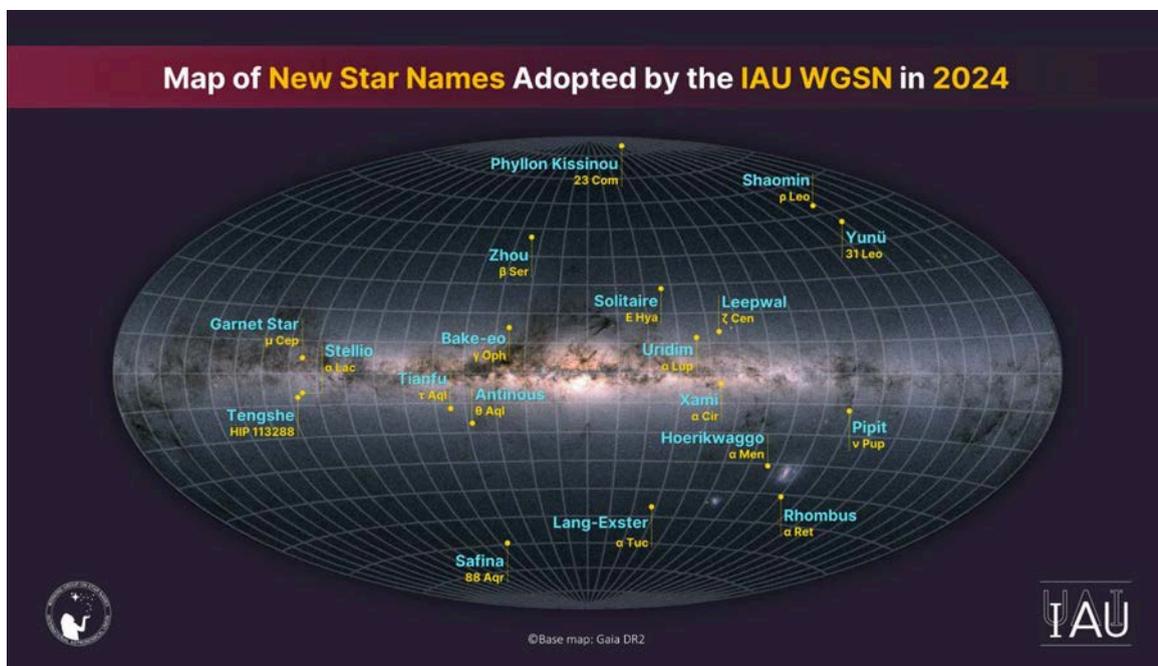
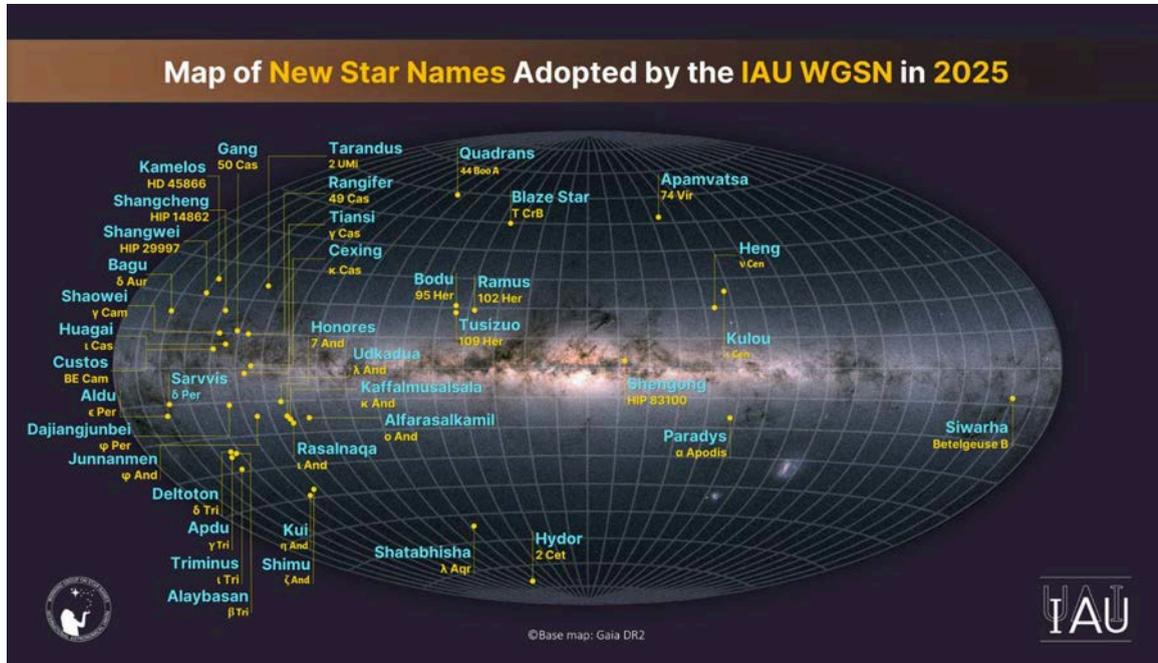
The links to the pages in the ASE are spelled: <https://ase.exopla.net/index.php/##NAME##>

	<i>Name (ASE link)</i>	<i>HR</i>	<i>HIP</i>	<i>Bayer or other</i>	<i>Constellation ID</i>	<i>Date adopted</i>
1	Alaybasan (ASE)	HR 622	10064	β Tri	Tri	07/11/2025
2	Áldu (ASE)	HR 1220	18532	ε Per	Per	25/12/2025
3	Alfarasalkamil (ASE)	HR 8762	113726	ο And	And	08/05/2025
4	Apamvatsa (ASE)	HR 5095	66006	74 Vir	Vir	16/10/2025
5	Apdu (ASE)	HR 664	10670	γ Tri	Tri	13/11/2025
6	Bagu (ASE)	HR 2077	28358	δ Aur	Aur	13/11/2025
7	Blaze Star (ASE)	HR 5958	78322	T CrB	CrB	22/09/2025
8	Bodu (ASE)	HR 6730	88267A	95 Her	Her	17/06/2025
9	Cexing (ASE)	HR 130	2599	κ Cas	Cas	13/11/2025
10	Custos (ASE)	HR 1155	17884	BE Cam	Cam	25/12/2025
11	Dajiangjunbei (ASE)	HR 496	8068	φ Per	Per	25/08/2025
12	Deltoton (ASE)	HR 660	10644	δ Tri	Tri	17/06/2025
13	Gang (ASE)	HR 580	9598	50 Cas	Cas	25/12/2025
14	Heng (ASE)	HR 5190	67464	v Cen	Cen	16/03/2025
15	Honores (ASE)	HR 8830	114570	7 And	And	14/05/2025
16	Huagai (ASE)	HR 707	11569	ιot Cas	Cas	25/12/2025
17	Hydor (ASE)	HR 9098	301	2 Cet	Cet	25/08/2025
18	Junnanmen (ASE)	HR 335	5434	φ And	And	25/08/2025
19	Kaffalmusalsala (ASE)	HR 8976	116805	κ And	And	08/05/2025
20	Kamelos (ASE)	HR 2363	31940		Cam	25/12/2025
21	Kui (ASE)	HR 271	4463	η And	And	06/04/2025
22	Kulou (ASE)	HR 5028	65109	ι Cen	Cen	17/02/2025
23	Paradys (ASE)	HR 5470	72370	α Aps	Aps	18/05/2025
24	Quadrans (ASE)	GJ 575	73695 A	44 Boo A	Boo	17/02/2025
25	Ramus (ASE)	HR 6787	88886	102 Her	Her	17/06/2025
26	Rangifer (ASE)	HR 592	9763	49 Cas	Cas	25/12/2025
27	Rasalnaqa (ASE)	HR 8965	116631	ι And	And	08/05/2025
28	Sarvis (ASE)	HR 1122	17358	δ Per	Per	25/12/2025
29	Shangcheng (ASE)	HR 932	14862		Cam	25/12/2025



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30	Shangwei (ASE)	HR 2209	29997		Cam	25/12/2025
31	Shaowei (ASE)	HR 1148	17959	gam Cam	Cam	25/12/2025
32	Shatabhisha (ASE)	HR 8698	112961	λ Aqr	Aqr	22/09/2025
33	Shengong (ASE)	HR 6298	83100		Sco	16/10/2025
34	Shimu (ASE)	HR 215	3693	ζ And	And	16/03/2025
35	Siwarha (ASE)	-		α Ori B	Ori	22/09/2025
36	Tarandus (ASE)	HR 285	5372	2 UMi	Cep	25/12/2025
37	Tiansi (ASE)	HR 264	4427	γ Cas	Cas	13/11/2025
38	Triminus (ASE)	HR 642	10280	6 Tri	Tri	25/08/2025
39	Tusizuo (ASE)	HR 6895	90139	109 Her	Her	17/06/2025
40	Udkadua (ASE)	HR 8961	116584	λ And	And	08/05/2025



5. Other achievements or highlights

5.1 Publications

1. Our **first research paper** “A Review of Recent Activities” appeared in the *Journal of Astronomical History and Heritage (JAHH)*, 28(1), 280-286 (2025), outlining the statistical distribution of



languages in the IAU Catalog of Star Names (CSN) when the etymological study of the early adoptions was completed.

2. Starting in August, we have regularly posted **info cards** on the newly released star names on our **social media** accounts.
3. The CDS **updated the SIMBAD** database with our names in November 2025.
4. In December 2025, the [Guidelines were published on our website](#)³.
5. A **second research paper** that contains some by-products of our monthly discussions of star names was submitted to **JAHH** for the December issue 2025. The paper is due to be published in early 2026. It contains some results on comparative history, transfer and transformation of names that indicate cultural exchange in Eurasia.

5.2 Outlook

In 2026, we will continue our monthly meetings to discuss star names case by case. Given our new strategy for pre-checking and selecting names and stars, we hope to be able to adopt larger batches of names. We will also continue producing info cards for the IAU star names.

5.2.1 Guidelines

The guidelines will be continuously reviewed as we work with them and subject to change without notice. An update in 2026 is likely, as are currently discussing if the CARE⁴ principles are sufficiently addressed.

5.2.2 Details

The open questions of 2024 concerning a name for α Lyn and the **main star of the constellation Dorado** (α Dor) have not yet been solved. We have, however, made some progress concerning star names in Lynx and Camelopardalis, having made contact with some Gwich'in representatives who have agreed to work with us.

Our star name “Zhou” for β Ser has not yet been included in SIMBAD, as they are afraid of confusion with the frequent author name (of papers in linked references). This is a technical issue that needs to be solved in collaboration.

6. Challenges encountered and recommendations to the IAU

Challenges

- **Research data management** is our biggest challenge. The content of our All Skies Encyclopaedia (ASE) and other web services (star catalogues, name catalogues, supporting information, additional reading material) is maintained by the members of the WGSN, but the platform is technically maintained by only one (unpaid) individual (the WGSN Chair) and the hosting of our website and

³ <https://exopla.net/star-names/wgsn-guidelines/>

⁴ Carroll, S.R., Garba, I., Figueroa-Rodríguez, O.L., Holbrook, J., Lovett, R., Materechera, S., Parsons, M., Raseroka, K., Rodríguez-Lonebear, D., Rowe, R., Sara, R., Walker, J.D., Anderson, J. and Hudson, M. (2020). ‘The CARE Principles for indigenous Data Governance’, *Data Science Journal*, 19(1), p. 43.



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services so far has been covered solely by a tiny German foundation for science education. This may not be possible or viable in the longer term and creates significant risks going forward.

- The IAU does not provide any **financial support** for the activities of WGSN.

Vision for the future

- Future-proofing our activities requires both technical and financial support.
- In order to ensure the stability and security of our activities we need to remove our dependency on a single platform, instead using more than one server at separate institutions, with sufficient (hopefully modest) but secure funding to **maintain** these.
- We believe that considerable improvements in efficiency could be achieved by linking together currently unconnected IAU projects that maintain separate databases. This would involve comparing data models and seeking common support and software tools (such as Stellarium) with a longer-term view to further integration.

Action to date

- The Chair has commenced negotiations with three universities, aiming at a new set-up with load balancing between at least three servers on three different continents, to be instigated during 2026.
- The Chair has approached the WGSBN, a complementary nomenclature group, with a view to developing **an integrated technical system** (the ASE) which would provide all astrophysical and cultural information on all IAU-names of celestial bodies.
- The Chair has initiated discussions within a Steering Group organised by C.C4 working to ensure the long-term sustainability of the IAU-UNESCO Portal to the Heritage of Astronomy (astronomicalheritage.net), a key repository of information on tangible cultural heritage relating to astronomy, of ways in which the ASE and PtHA might be linked.

Recommendations to the IAU

- The IAU, through its Commissions C3, C4 and C5, should take responsibility for hosting the ASE together with the PtHA and seeking ways in which they can be better integrated and reliably sustained into the future. This is likely to require some measure of financial support.
- The IAU should support researchers in applications for third-party funding for cultural research, which is particularly needed for the activities of WGSN.