

11. **Hasta**, 'hand,' is made up of the five conspicuous stars ( $\delta$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\epsilon$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ) in **Corvus**, a number which the word itself suggests. According to Geldner,<sup>80</sup> the 'five bulls' of the *Rigveda* are this constellation.

12. **Citrā**, 'bright,' is the beautiful star,  $\alpha$  **Virginis**. It is mentioned in a legend of Indra in the *Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa*,<sup>81</sup> and in that of the 'two divine dogs' (*divyau śvānu*) in the *Śāta-patha Brāhmaṇa*.<sup>82</sup>

13. **Svātī** or **Niṣṭyā** is later clearly the brilliant star **Arcturus** or  $\alpha$  **Bootis**, its place in the north being assured by the notice in the *Śāntikalpa*,<sup>83</sup> where it is said to be 'ever traversing the northern way' (*nityam uttara-mārgagam*). The *Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa*,<sup>84</sup> however, constructs an asterismal **Prajāpati**, giving him **Citrā** ( $\alpha$  **Virginis**) for head, **Hasta** (**Corvus**) for hand, the **Viśākhe** ( $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  **Libræ**) for thighs, and the **Anurādhās** ( $\beta$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\pi$  **Scorpionis**) for standing place, with **Niṣṭyā** for heart. But **Arcturus**, being  $30^\circ$  out, spoils this figure, while, on the other hand, the Arabic and Chinese systems have respectively, instead of **Arcturus**,  $\iota$ ,  $\kappa$ , and  $\lambda$  **Virginis** and  $\kappa$  **Virginis**, which would well fit into the **Prajāpati** figure. But in spite of the force of this argument of Weber's,<sup>85</sup> **Whitney**<sup>86</sup> is not certain that **Niṣṭyā** here must mean a star in **Virgo**, pointing out that the name **Niṣṭyā**, 'outcast,' suggests the separation of this **Nakṣatra** from the others in question.

14. **Viśākhe** is the couple of stars  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  **Libræ**. This mansion is later called **Rādhā** according to the *Amarakośa*, and it is curious that in the *Atharvaveda*<sup>87</sup> the expression *rādho Viśākhe*, 'the **Viśākhe** are prosperity,' should occur. But probably **Rādhā** is merely an invention due to the name of the next **Nakṣatra**, **Anurādhā**, wrongly conceived as meaning 'that which is after or follows **Rādhā**.'<sup>88</sup>

15. **Anurādhās** or **Anurādhā**, 'propitious,' is  $\beta$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\pi$  (perhaps also  $\rho$ ) **Scorpionis**.

<sup>80</sup> *Vedische Studien*, 3, 177; *Rv.* i. 105,

10. Cf. below, p. 427, n. 156.

<sup>81</sup> *Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa*, i. 1, 2, 4-6.

<sup>82</sup> ii. 1, 2, 13-17. <sup>83</sup> 3.

<sup>84</sup> i. 5, 2. Cf. *Tilak, Orion*, 204.

<sup>85</sup> *Op. cit.*, 2, 307, 308.

<sup>86</sup> *Op. cit.*, 409.

<sup>87</sup> xix. 7.

<sup>88</sup> Lanman in *Whitney's Translation of the Atharvaveda*, 908. Cf. *Thibaut, Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, 63, 156.