

Pleiades

Pleiades



Gambar komposisi warna Pleiades dari Digitized Sky Survey

Credit: NASA/ESA/AURA/Caltech

Data pengamatan (epos J2000)

Kelas	Gugus terbuka
Konstelasi	Taurus
Asensio rekta	3° 47′ 24″ ^d^[1]
Deklinasi	+24° 7′ 0″ ^d^[1]
Jarak	444 tahun cahaya (136.2+/-1.2 pc)^{[2][3][4][5]}
Magnitudo semu	1.6^[6]
Ukuran semu	110' (arcmin.)^[6]

Ciri-ciri fisik

Nama lain M45,^[1] Seven Sisters,^[1] Melotte 22^[1]

Lihat pula: Gugus bintang, Daftar gugus bintang

L • B • S (https://id.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Templat:Infobox_gugus_bintang&action=edit)



Dalam astronomi, **Pleiades** atau **Gugus Kartika** (Objek Messier 45) adalah sebuah gugus bintang terbuka di rasi bintang Taurus, merupakan gugus bintang paling jelas dilihat dengan mata telanjang, dan salah satu yang terdekat dengan Bumi. Dalam tradisi perbintangan Jawa ia dikenal sebagai *Lintang Wuluh*.

Gugus tersebut didominasi oleh bintang-bintang biru panas yang terbentuk kurang dari 100 juta tahun yang lalu. Debu yang membentuk nebula pemantul di sekitar bintang-bintang terang awalnya dikira sebagai sisa-sisa pembentuknya (dari sini nama alternatif **Nebula Maia** diturunkan dari bintang Maia), namun sekarang diketahui bahwa nebula tersebut hanyalah awan debu medium antarbintang yang kebetulan sedang dilintasi oleh gugus. Astronom memperkirakan gugus akan bertahan hingga sekitar 250 juta tahun lagi, setelah itu gugus akan tercerai-berai karena interaksi gravitasi dengan objek-objek tetangganya.

Dalam astrologi Hindu (Jyotisha), gugus Kartika (Dewanagari: कृत्तिका; IAST: *Kṛttikā*) adalah salah-satu dari Nákṣatra yaitu penanda penanggalan dalam Kalender Hindu. Dalam mitologi Hindu, dikisahkan bahwa Dewa Kartikeya dibesarkan oleh enam saudari yang dikenal dengan sebutan Kartika, oleh karena itu nama Kartikeya diberikan, yang berarti "dia yang dari Kartika". Menurut Mahabharata, Kartikeya adalah anak dari Dewa Agni dan Dewi Swaha, setelah Swaha mewujudkan dirinya menjadi enam dari tujuh istri dari para

Saptaresi (rasi biduk besar) dan melakukan hubungan badan dengan Agni. Para Saptaresi yang mendengarkan kejadian ini menjadi meragukan kesucian istri-istri mereka, lalu menceraikan mereka. Enam janda bersaudari ini pun kemudian dikenal sebagai Kartika.

Referensi

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Kṛttikā

The star cluster *Kṛttikā*Sanskrit: कृत्तिका, pronounced [kɾɪttɪkaː], popularly transliterated **Krittika**), sometimes known as **Kārtikā**, corresponds to the open star cluster called **Pleiades** in western astronomy; it is one of the clusters which makes up the constellation **Taurus**. In **Indian astronomy** and *Jyotiṣa* (Hindu astrology) the name literally translates to "the cutters".^{[1][2]} It is also the name of its goddess-personification, who is a daughter of **Daksha**^[3] and **Panchajani**, and thus a half-sister to **Khyati**. Spouse of Kṛttikā is **Chandra** ("moon"). The **six Krittikas** who raised the Hindu God **Kartikeya** are Śiva, Sambhūti, Prīti, Sannati, Anasūya and KṢamā.^[4]

In Hindu astrology, *Kṛttikā* is the third of the 27 *nakṣatras*. It is ruled by Sun. Under the traditional Hindu principle of naming individuals according to their Ascendant/Lagna *nakṣatra*, the following Sanskrit syllables correspond with this *nakṣatra*, and would belong at the beginning of the first name of an individual born under it: A (अ), I (ई), U (उ) and E (ए).

See also

- List of Nakshatras
- Pleione

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Pleiades in folklore and literature

High visibility of the star cluster Pleiades in the night sky and its position along the ecliptic (which approximates to the solar system's common planetary plane) has given it importance in many cultures, ancient and modern. Its heliacal rising, which moves through the seasons over millennia (see precession) was nonetheless a date of folklore or ritual for various ancestral groups, so too its yearly heliacal setting.^[2]

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Pleiades seen with the naked-eye (upper-left corner).^[4]

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North Africa

Berber people

Tuareg Berbers of the northern Sahara call the Pleiades *Cat ihed* (pronounced: shat ihed) (or *-ahǎǧ*). This Berber name means: "daughters of the night". To many other Berbers it is Tagemmunt ("the group").^[3]

A Tuareg Berber proverb says:

Cat ahǎǧ as uǧǎnǎt, ttukayeɣ ttegmeyeɣ, anwar daɣ ttsasseɣ. As d-gmaǧent, ttukayeɣ ttegmeyeɣ tabruq ttelseɣ.

When the Pleiades fall, I wake looking for my goatskin bag to drink. When (the Pleiades) rise, I wake looking for cloth/clothes to wear.

Meaning: When the Pleiades "fall" with the sun on the west, it still roughly (at J2000) means the hot, dry summer is coming. When they rise from the east with the sun, the cold somewhat rainy season is coming. Nomads and others need to brace for these.^{[4][3]}

Middle East

Bible

Old Testament, the Pleiades appear (untranslated as כִּימָה, "Khima") thrice.^[5] Mention follows (or precedes) of nearby Orion, a bright, anthropomorphic constellation: Amos 5:8 (<https://bible.oremus.org/?passage=Amos+5:8-5:8&version=nrsv>); Job 9:9 (<https://bible.oremus.org/?passage=Job+9:9-9:9&version=nrsv>); and Job 38:31 (<https://bible.oremus.org/?passage=Job+38:31-38:31&version=nrsv>). The first two are references about their creation. The third (taken in the context of following verses) stresses their ongoing nature in the night sky; the Lord is speaking directly to Job and challenges him, asking if he can bind the chains of the Pleiades — the implication being that Job cannot, but the Lord can.

Talmud

The Talmud (Berakhot 58b (https://he.wikisource.org/wiki/%D7%91%D7%99%D7%90%D7%95%D7%A8:%D7%91%D7%91%D7%9C%D7%99_%D7%91%D7%A8%D7%9B%D7%95%D7%AA_%D7%93%D7%A3_%D7%A0%D7%97))) suggests understanding כִּימָה as כַּמְאָה *ke' me-ah* (kimah), "about one hundred" stars in the Pleiades star cluster. Like most astronomical figures in rabbinic writing, the Jewish sages pointed to this as having come from Mount Sinai.

Rabbi Shlomo Yitzchaki ("Rashi", 1040-1105) suggested even more stars within the cluster when he commented on the Talmud with a question, "What is meant by Kimah?" It is then understood that the Talmud was suggesting hundreds of stars in the Pleiades cluster, and that only the first hundred are mentioned due to them being the most important.^[6]

Other Jewish sources

According to Jewish folklore, when two fallen angels named Azazel and Shemhazai made it to the earth, they fell strongly in love with the women of humankind. Shemhazai found a maiden named Istehar who swore she would give herself to him if he told her the sacred name which granted him the power to fly to Heaven. But he revealed it to her, she flew up to Heaven, never to fulfill her promise, thus she was placed in the constellation Pleiades,^[7] although she is also associated with the planet Venus.^[8] It should be noted, though, that tales such as this are highly metaphoric.

Arabia and the Levant

In Arabic the Pleiades are known as *al-Thurayya* الثريا, the first main consonant becoming a morpheme into outlying linguistic zones north and east, and is mentioned in Islamic literature. Muhammad made mention of the Pleiades. The Prophet is noted to have counted twelve stars in the constellation as reported in Ibn Ishaq (this was in the time before telescopes when most could only see six).

The name was borrowed into Persian and Turkish as a female given name, and is in use throughout the Middle East (for example Princess Soraya of Iran and Thoraya Obaid). It eponymises the Thuraya satellite phone system of the United Arab Emirates.

A Hadith recalled by Imam Bukhari, states:

|

A companion of The Holy Prophet (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) relates: One day we were sitting with The Holy Prophet (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) when this chapter^{[a][9]} was revealed. I enquired from Muhammad (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Who are the people to whom the words "and among others of them who have not yet joined them"^[b] refer? Salman (may Allah be pleased with him), a Persian was sitting among us. The Holy Prophet (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) put his hand on Salman (may Allah be pleased with him) and said. If faith were to go up to the Pleiades, a man from among these would surely find it. (Bukhari).^[11]

- a. Chapter 62^[9] - Surah Al-Jumma^[10] - from the Qur'an
- b. The verse quoted here is verse 3 from the aforementioned chapter

Turkey

In Turkish the Pleiades are known as *Ülker*. According to the Middle Turkic lexicographer Kaşgarlı Mahmud, writing in the 11th century, *ülker çerig* refers to a military ambush (*çerig* meaning 'troops in battle formation'): "The army is broken up into detachments posted in various places," and when one detachment falls back the others follow after it, and by this device "(the enemy) is often routed." Thus *ülker çerig* literally means 'an army made up of a group of detachments', which forms an apt simile for a star cluster.^[12] Ülker is also a unisex given name, a surname and the name of a food company best known for its chocolates.

Iran

In Farsi the Pleiades is primarily known as *Parvin* pronounced Parveen. It too is a common given name of Iranians, Afghanis and some Pakistanis (for example Parvin E'tesami).

Europe

Pleiades has gained, in a few tongues, several creative derivations of its French quite well-known, non-stellar meaning: "multitude". It inspired a group of Alexandrian poets, the Alexandrian Pleiad, then French literary movement La Pléiade.

Greek mythology

In Greek mythology, the stars of Pleiades represented the Seven Sisters.

Norse mythology

To the Vikings, the Pleiades were Freyja's hens,^[13] and their name in many old European languages such as Hungarian compares them to a hen with chicks. In contemporary Danish the cluster is known as Syvstjernen, the Seven Star.

Western astrology

The astrological Pleiades were described in *Three Books of Occult Philosophy* by Heinrich Cornelius Agrippa (Köln, 1533, but published manuscript as early as 1510).

In Western astrology they represent coping with sorrow^[14] and were considered a single one of the medieval fixed stars. As such, they are associated with quartz and fennel.

In esoteric astrology the seven solar systems revolve around Pleiades.^[15]

Celtic mythology

To the Bronze Age people of Europe, such as the Celts (and probably considerably earlier), the Pleiades were associated with mourning and with funerals, since at that time in history, on the cross-quarter day between the autumn equinox and the winter solstice (see Samhain, also Halloween or All Souls Day), which was a festival devoted to the remembrance of the dead, the cluster rose in the eastern sky as the sun's light faded in the evening. It was from this acronychal rising that the Pleiades became associated with tears and mourning. As a result of precession over the centuries, the Pleiades no longer marked the festival, but the association has nevertheless persisted, and may account for the significance of the Pleiades astrologically.

Baltic mythology

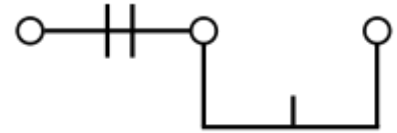
In Baltic languages the name for this constellation is **Sietynas** in Lithuanian and **Sietinš** in Latvian which is derived from *sietas* meaning "a sieve". In Lithuanian folk songs this constellation is often personified as a benevolent brother who helps orphan girls to marry or walks soldiers along the fields. But in Lithuanian folk tales as well as Latvian folk songs this constellation is usually depicted as an inanimate object, a sieve which gets stolen by the devil from the thunder god or is used to conjure light rain by thunder's wife and children.^[16]

Ukrainian folklore

In Ukrainian traditional folklore the Pleiades are known as Стожари (Stozhary), Волосожари (Volosozhary), or Баби-Звізди (Baby-Zvizdy).

'Stozhary' can be etymologically traced to "стожарня" (stozharnya) meaning a 'granary', 'storehouse for hay and crops', or can also be reduced to the root "сто-жар", (sto-zhar) meaning 'hundredfold glowing' or "a hundred embers".^[17]

'Volosozhary' (the ones whose hair is glowing), or 'Baby-Zvizdy' (female-stars) refer to the female tribal deities. According to the legend, seven maids lived long ago. They used to dance the traditional round dances and sing the glorious songs to honor the gods. After their death the gods turned them into water nymphs, and, having taken them to the Heavens, settled them upon the seven stars, where they dance their round dances (symbolic for moving the time) to this day. (see article in Ukrainian Wikipedia)



Kabbalistic "Pleiades" symbol from *Libri tres de occulta philosophia* (1531) by Heinrich Cornelius Agrippa.



A bronze disk, 1600 BC, from Nebra, Germany, is one of the oldest known representations of the cosmos. The Pleiades are top right. See Nebra sky disk

In Ukraine this asterism was considered a female talisman until recent times.

Hungarian folklore

The old name of the starcluster in Hungarian is "Fiastyúk", meaning 'a hen with chicks'. There is also a version of the story popularized by the song "A Nap és Szép háza" (House of Sun and Wind) of Hungarian folk metal band Dalriada speaking of a poor woman with seven sons who cursed her sons to turn into ravens after the sons wasted their only food. She failed to find them, but received a prophecy that an eighth brother could find the sons. Her eighth son thus went to look for his brothers, died and the brothers as ravens came to feast on his carcass, resulting in them dying as well and the eight of them getting a place in the sky as the Pleiades cluster.

Indigenous peoples of the Americas

(Alphabetical by people)

It was common among the indigenous peoples of the Americas to measure keenness of vision by the number of stars the viewer could see in the Pleiades, a practice which was also used in historical Europe, especially in Greece.

Andean cultures

In the ancient Andes, the Pleiades were associated with abundance, because they return to the Southern Hemisphere sky each year at harvest-time. In Quechua they are called *Qullqa* (storehouse).

Aztec

The ancient Aztecs of Mexico and Central America based their calendar upon the Pleiades. Their year began when priests first remarked the asterism heliacal rising in the east, immediately before the sun's dawn light obliterated the view of the stars. Aztecs called the Pleiades *Tiānquiztli* (Nahuatl pronunciation: [tiaːŋ'kistʰi]; Classical Nahuatl for "marketplace").^[18]

Blackfoot

Paul Goble, Native American storyteller, tells a Blackfoot legend that he says is told by other tribes as well. In the story, the Pleiades are orphans ("Lost Boys") that were not cared for by the people, so they became stars. Sun Man is angered by the mistreatment of the children and punishes the people with a draught, causing the buffalo to disappear, until the dogs, the only friends of the orphans, intercede on behalf of the people. Because the buffalo are not available while the Lost Boys are in the skies, the cosmical setting of the Pleiades was an assembly signal for Blackfoot hunter to travel to their hunting grounds to conduct the large-scale hunts, culminating in slaughters at buffalo jumps, that characterized their culture.

Cherokee

A Cherokee myth (similar to that of the Onondaga people) indicates that seven boys who would not do their ceremonial chores and wanted only to play, ran around and around the ceremonial ball court in a circle, and rose up into the sky. Only six of the boys made it to the sky; the seventh was caught by his mother and fell to the ground with such force that he sank into the ground. A pine tree grew over his resting place.^[19]

Cheyenne

A Cheyenne myth "The Girl Who Married a Dog", states that the group of seven stars known as the Pleiades originated from seven puppies which a Cheyenne chief's daughter gave birth to after mysteriously being visited by a dog in human form to whom she vowed "Wherever you go, I go".^[20]

Hopi

The Hopi determined the passage of time for nighttime rituals in the winter by observing the Pleiades (*Tsöösöqam*)^[21] and Orion through a kiva entrance hatch as they passed overhead. The Pleiades were depicted in a mural on one kiva wall.^[22]

Kiowa

The Kiowa of North America legend of the Seven Star Girls links the origin of the Pleiades to Devils Tower. The seven little girls were chased by bears, and climbed a low rock. They begged the rock to save them, and it grew higher and higher until they were pushed up into the sky. The seven girls became the Pleiades and the grooves on Devils Tower are the marks of the bear's claws.^{[23][24]}

Lakota

The Lakota Tribe of North America had a legend that linked the origin of the Pleiades to Devils Tower. According to the Seris (of northwestern Mexico), these stars are seven women who are giving birth. The constellation is known as *Cmaamc*, which is apparently an archaic plural of the noun *cmaam* "woman".^[25]

Mono

The Monache people tell of six wives who loved onions more than their husbands and now live happily in "sky country".^[26]

Monte Alto Culture

The early Monte Alto Culture, and others in Guatemala such as Ujuxte and Takalik Abaj, made their early observatories using the Pleiades and *Eta Draconis* as reference; they were called *the seven sisters*, and thought to be their original land.^[27]

Nez Perce

A Nez Perce myth about this constellation mirrors the ancient Greek myths about the Lost Pleiades. In the Nez Perce version the Pleiades is also a group of sisters, however the story itself is somewhat different. One sister falls in love with a man and, following his death, is so absorbed by her own grief that she tells her sisters about him. They mock her and tell her how silly it is of her to feel sad for the human after his death, and she in return keeps her growing sadness to herself, eventually becoming so ashamed and miserable about her own feelings that she pulls the sky over her face like a veil, blocking herself from view. This myth explains why there are only six of the seven stars visible to the naked eye.^[28]

Navajo

The Pleiades (*dilyéhé*) play a major role in Navajo folklore and ritual. In the Navajo creation story, Upward-reachingway, *dilyéhé* was the first constellation placed in the sky by Black God. When Black God entered the hogan of creation, the Pleiades were on his ankle; he stamped his foot and they moved to his knee, then to his ankle, then to his shoulder, and finally to his left temple. The seven stars of *dilyéhé* are depicted on ceremonial masks of Black God, in sand paintings and on ceremonial gourd rattles.^[29]

Onondaga

The Onondaga people's version of the story has lazy children who prefer to dance over their daily chores ignoring the warnings of the Bright Shining Old Man.^[26]

Pawnee

The Skidi Pawnee consider the Pleiades to be seven brothers. They observed the seven brothers, as well as Corona Borealis, the Chiefs, through the smoke hole of Pawnee lodges to determine the time of night.^[30]

Shasta

The Shasta people tell a story of the children of racoon killed by coyote avenging their father's death and then rising into the sky to form the Pleiades. The smallest star in the cluster is said to be coyote's youngest who aided the young racoons.^[26]

Asia

Ban Raji mythology

To the Ban Raji people, who live semi-nomadically across western Nepal and Uttarakhand, the Pleiades are the "Seven sisters-in-law, and brother-in-law" (*Hatai halyou daa salla*). They hold or held that when they can first make them out annually over the mountains straddling the upper Kali they feel happy to see their ancient kin.^[31] This is about eight hours after noon by local, traditional time standards.

China

In Chinese constellations they are 昴 *mao*, the Hairy Head of the white tiger of the West.

India

In Indian astrology the Pleiades were known as the nakshatra *Kṛttikā* which in Sanskrit is translated as "the cutters".^[32] The Pleiades are called the *star of fire*, and their ruling deity is the fire god Agni. It is one of the most prominent of the nakshatra, and is associated with anger and stubbornness. Karthigai (கார்த்திகை) in Tamil refers to the six wives of the six rishi (sages), the seventh being Arundhati the wife of Vasistha which relates to the star Alcor in Ursa Major. The six stars in Pleiades correspond to six wives, while the faithful wife Arundhati stuck with Sage Vasistha in Ursa Major.^[33] The six wives fell in love with Agni, hence the name Pleiades (star of fire).

Indonesia

In the island of Java, the asterism is known in Javanese as *Lintang Kartika* or *Gugus Kartika* ("Kartika cluster"), a direct influence from the ancient Hindu Javanese. Influenced by Hinduism, the stars represent the seven princesses, which is represented in the court dance of Bedhaya Ketawang of the royal palaces of Surakarta. The dance is performed once per year, on the second day of the Javanese month of Ruwah (during May) and is performed by the nine females, relatives or wives of the Susuhunan (prince) of Surakarta before a private audience in the inner circle of the Sultanate family.^[34] Another name for Pleiades in Java is *Wuluh*.^[35]

In northern Java, its rising marks the arrival of the *mangsa kapitu* ("seventh season"), which marks the beginning of rice planting season.^[35]

Pleiades was once of most asterisms that used by Bugis sailors for navigation, called *worong-poronggé bintoéng pitu*, meaning "cluster of seven stars" ^[36]

Japan

In Japan, the Pleiades are known as 昴 *Subaru* which means "coming together" or cluster in Japanese, and have given their name to the car manufacturer whose logo incorporates six stars to represent the five companies that merged into one.^[37] Subaru Telescope, located in Mauna Kea Observatory on Hawaii, is also named after the Pleiades.^[38]



Former Subaru logo on a Subaru 360

Philippines

In the Philippines the Pleiades are known as "Moroporo", meaning either "the boiling lights" or a flock of birds. Its appearance signified a new agricultural season, and thus starts the preparation for the new planting season.^[39]

Thailand

In Thailand the Pleiades are known as RTGS: Dao Luk Kai (ดาวลูกไก่) or the "Chick Stars", from a Thai folk tale. The story tells that a poor elderly couple who lived in a forest had raised a family of chickens: a mother hen and her six (or alternately seven) chicks. One day a monk arrived at the couple's home during his Dhutanga journey. Worried that they had no suitable food to offer him, the elderly couple contemplated cooking the mother hen. The hen overheard the conversation, and rushed back to the coop to say farewell to her children. She told them to take care of themselves, and that her death would repay the kindness of the elderly couple, who had taken care of all of them for so long. As the mother hen's feathers were being burned over a fire, the chicks threw themselves into the fire in order to die along with their mother. The deity, impressed by and in remembrance of their love, immortalized the seven chickens as the stars of the Pleiades. In tellings of the story in which there were only six chicks, the mother is included, but often includes only the seven chicks.^{[40][41]}

Oceania

Australia

Depending on the language group or clan, there are several stories regarding the origins of the Pleiades among Aboriginal Australian peoples. Some groups believed the Pleiades was a woman who had been nearly raped by Kidili, the man in the moon.

A legend of the Wurundjeri people of south-eastern Australia has it that they are the fire of seven Karatgurk sisters. These women were the first to know fire-making and each carried live coals on the end of their digging sticks. They refused to share these coals with anybody and were ultimately tricked into giving up their secret by Crow, who brought fire to mankind. After this, they were swept into the night sky. Their glowing fire sticks became the bright stars of the Pleiades cluster.^{[42][43]}

Another version, often painted by Gabriella Possum Nungurayyi as this is her dreaming (or creation story), daughter of the late Clifford Possum Tjapaltjarri of the Central desert art culture of Papunya, depicts the story of seven Napaltjarri sisters being chased by a man named Jilbi Tjakamarra. He tried to practice love magic on one of the sisters but the sister did not want to be with him, and ran away from him together with her sisters. They sat down at Uluru to search for honey ants but when they saw Jilbi they went to Kurlunyalimpa and, with the spirits of Uluru, transformed into stars. Jilbi transforms himself into what is commonly known as the Morning Star at a rate faster than annually chasing the seven sisters across the sky, only transiting through or nearby every 13 Venutian years (almost 8 Earth years).

Hawaii

There is an analogous holiday in Hawai'i known as Makahiki.^[44]

New Zealand

Occurring June 20 – June 22, the winter solstice (*Te Maruaroa o Takurua*) is seen by the New Zealand Māori as the middle of the winter season. It follows directly after the first sighting of Matariki (The Pleiades) and *Puanga/Puaka* (Rigel)^[45] in the dawn sky, an event which marked the beginning of the New Year and was said to be when the Sun turned from his northern journey with his winter-bride *Takurua* (Sirius) and began his journey back to his summer-bride *Hine Raumati*.

Non-Saharan Africa

In Swahili (of East Africa) they are called "kilimia" (Proto-Bantu "ki-dimida" in Bantu areas E, F, G, J, L and S) which comes from the verb *-lima* meaning "dig" or "cultivate" as their visibility was taken as a sign to prepare digging as the onset of the rain was near.

In related Sesotho (of far Southern Africa's Basotho (people of Sotho)) the Pleiades are called "Seleme se setshehadi" ("the female planter"). Its disappearance in April (the 10th month) and the appearance of the star Achernar signals the beginning of the cold season. Like many neighbours, the Basotho associate its visibility with agriculture and plenty.

Modern beliefs

Jehovah's Witnesses

The 19th century astronomer Johann Heinrich von Mädler proposed the Central Sun Hypothesis, according to which all stars revolve around the star Alcyone, in the Pleiades. Based on this hypothesis, the Jehovah's Witnesses religion taught until the 1950s that Alcyone was likely to be the site of the throne of God^[46].

Theosophy

In Theosophy, it is believed the *Seven Stars of the Pleiades* focus the spiritual energy of the Seven Rays from the *Galactic Logos* to the *Seven Stars of the Great Bear*, then to Sirius, then to the Sun, then to the god of Earth (Sanat Kumara) and finally through the seven Masters of the Seven Rays to us.^[47]

UFOs

In Ufology some believers describe Nordic alien extraterrestrials (called Pleiadeans) as originating from this system.

New Age

In New Age lore, some believe that Sun and the Earth will pass through a Photon belt from the Pleiades, causing a cataclysm and/or initiating a spiritual transition (referred to variously as a "shift in consciousness," the "Great Shift," the "Shift of the Ages").

Barbara Marciniak, author of *Bringers of the Dawn*, is one of the authors who contributes to the New Age mythos of Pleiadian ET beings who are linked to human ancestry.

See also

- White Tiger of The West
- The Seven Sisters

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