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Jupiter and Pluto Conjunction in Capricorn

by Linda Brady

On November 8th until December 20th the planets Jupiter and Pluto will be conjuncting in the sign of Capricorn. Jupiter is the largest planet in our solar system. Jupiter is also the Father of the Gods in Greek mythology and its glyph is the first letter of the Greek spelling for the god Zeus. Because of these, Jupiter is called the planet of expansiveness. It is also called the Great Benefactor because it can be associated with good fortune and blessings. It is the ruler of the sign of Sagittarius and therefore the ninth house. It is the ruler of religion, philosophy, and law, which is man's symbolic urge to create a larger order or to connect with something greater than himself and one's drive towards expansion and growth. It is seen as ruling the period of growth referred to as adolescence. Jupiter's basic principle is towards learning benevolence and grace.

Jupiter in Capricorn feels optimistic when connected to nature, especially the mighty oak symbol of its deep roots and broad branches. Being in touch with nature and its rhythm creates more of a vision of abundance and a sense of spiritual grace and a sense of hope. It represents the inner trust and confidence in being a practical leader. It is very responsible, structured, and practical which creates a desire for self-esteem and self- respect. Opportunities will be developed when embracing ethics and honesty. It is the Spiritual Teacher and the Good Father who is wise. In conjunction with Pluto there is the potential for great expansion and transformation.

The planet Pluto is creating the transitional changes necessary to help us develop the attitudes and beliefs necessary for us to be fully planted in the Age of Aquarius. Pluto moved into Capricorn on January 25, 2008, and will leave in November of 2024. During this time, we will continue to be challenged to become the spiritual Aquarian adults that our souls want us to be. The more self-contained and self-empowered we are, the more successful we will be. We also need strength, courage, and commitment. Capricorn honors self-reliance and Pluto wants us to use all of our resources. Success occurs when we fully engage in life with those attributes. Old age Capricorn represents time-honored conservative traditions that no longer serve us.

There was a time when:

* hierarchical systems provided security and stability.
* corporate bottom lines were more important than the needs of individuals.
* many authority figures were an outside force that shaped our daily lives.
* personal responsibility meant taking care of others and not ourselves.
* God was perceived as an external force – the ultimate authority that only tended to weaken and disable our personal power.
* organized religions were our only connection to God.
* security was measured by health insurance, retirement plans and financial bottom lines.
* we unquestioningly accepted the beliefs of our families and lived our lives in their shadows.

The planet Pluto represents the force of will necessary to destroy these outmoded beliefs. Capricorn is a cardinal earth sign that takes action from a deep sense of personal responsibility and maturity. Together, Pluto in Capricorn will help us purge these deeply entrenched beliefs. As cosmic, irresponsible children we were weighed down based on ideas and truths imposed on us before we had the intellectual power to disagree. These foundations may be shaky and will probably not withstand the earthquake rumblings of Pluto in Capricorn.

This time will give us the opportunity to review and make changes that will aid us in becoming the cosmic adults the Aquarian Age requires. We have the power and potential to create these changes within our own lives now! One person can make a difference. We are the microcosm of the macrocosm. As we change, so can our world and community. Each restrictive, archaic imposed belief we allow to die brings freedom to us, our families, our community and ultimately our world. This is the Aquarian way!

There will be a time when:

* equality and community-based government and corporations provide stability and security.
* honoring individuals’ needs will help manifest strong financial bottom lines.
* our inner authority and strong character will be the force that shapes our lives.
* we are the “man” and “woman” to our inner family and good parents to our younger selves.
* we honor and respect ourselves as much as we do others.
* we claim our gift from God – our soul – to strengthen and empower us to greatness.
* we and our souls are the foundations of our spiritual lives and that our religious community is sourced by that knowledge.
* security is measured by our will to succeed and to pursue our spiritual missions.

I believe that spiritual adulthood is also predicated on understanding the incredible diversity of our inner lives. Lastly, Capricorn symbolizes the surefooted goat that climbs mountains, reaches the top and then climbs another mountain. It represents the steady climb to success that is Capricorn’s mandate. Its surefootedness is the integrity and character upon which Capricorn’s reputation is built.

Liz Greene wrote in Astrology for Lovers: "in the Eastern teaching of Bodhisattva, having reached the portal of the divine, the enlightened soul turns back and sees the rest of humanity suffering and wandering in darkness. He chooses voluntarily to return and travel back into the dense, dark world of the mundane world, in order to help those who are imprisoned. Only when they are free does he feel free to leave his self-imposed prison.” This portrays the real destiny of Capricorn—whatever mountaintop he seeks, material or spiritual—he cannot remain at the top. He must descend again into the world while his skills are still needed. This is the true leadership of Capricorn. Pluto provides Capricorn the intensity of emotion and through it the relentless striving to accomplish its goals for itself and for others. During this time of Pluto in Capricorn we need to eliminate anything that would stand in our way of climbing our metaphoric mountain. We will need to garner and honor our personal resources that will create our success in the climb to the top. Pluto is the harbinger of this transition, the agent of profound change into the Aquarian Age.”