

The Observatory: July-Aug, 2025



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THE OBSERVATORY

Sun in Cancer Edition –July 16 to August 31, 2025

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the Sun in Cancer month. We now reach the time of maximum heat or cold for most of us as we experience summer or winter depending on our hemisphere. There are many signs in the sky that affairs on earth and among living beings will pause for a bit. Enjoy July 26-28, when the Sun is in Cancer and Moon in Leo, a Parivartana Yoga with potential for positive events. I am not arguing that all is well in the world, but what we see play out this month is based on changes set in motion in previous months.

Retrograde Saturn grabs center stage just as the Sun enters Cancer. Saturn is the planet that slows things down, and it stopped at 7deg43 Pisces on July 13, and will move back to one degree Pisces on November 28 before it resumes direct motion. Those of us who have experienced stalled-out storms bringing deluges or, conversely, a lack of rain in other regions, can appreciate the power of stationary Saturn. Those for whom the sign Pisces is prominent in the birth chart would be well advised to give their feet care and attention. On August 13, Mars will be at exact opposition from 7deg08 Virgo. While these two in combination are associated with obstacles and conflict, it's important to remember that they come into various combinations several times a year.

Mercury begins one of its thrice-yearly retrograde periods on July 18 when it stations at 21deg22 Cancer/*Ashlesha*. Yes indeed, those annoying delays, glitches and miscommunications are more likely to manifest now. Mercury will reach exact conjunction with the Sun on August 1 and will be combust – invisible due to the light of the Sun – from about July 23 to August 9, depending on which tradition you follow. During August 21-30, Mercury will share the sign Cancer with Venus, creating the possibility for some auspicious *muhurtas*.

Jupiter sails through the middle degrees of Gemini, having emerged from the Sun's rays and can now be seen in the early morning before dawn, depending on conditions. It enters one of its

favorite nakshatras, *Punarvasu*, on August 13. There are many dates on which it may be auspicious to begin or return to dharmic studies, such as *Jyotisha*.

Venus is still visible before sunrise as it finishes its time in its own sign of Taurus. On July 27 it moves into Gemini and on into Cancer on August 21. Look for Venus to pass very close to Jupiter on August 12 at 19deg52 Gemini, where they will pass within just over a degree of each other in the sky – but because they are one degree apart in latitude, they avoid all out “planetary war.” But generally, these two benefics do better with a little more separation – think of a fractious family brought together for a wedding. Do enjoy the great beauty of these two together before sunrise.

After an exact conjunction with fiery Ketu on July 20, Mars moves on out of Leo into Virgo on July 29 and spends the entire month of August in Virgo. The exact opposition to Saturn takes place on August 9 at 09deg08 Leo/Aquarius, but the two will interact all month. The Kala Sarpa Yoga which has intermittently been in effect for months is now done for this season, as Mars moves past Ketu and there are always one or more planets on each side of this fateful pair. My theory is that events are a bit less extreme once Kala Sarpa is over.

The Almanac –June/July 2025

Dates and times are for Eastern Daylight Time (-4:00h). Some ingresses will take place the following day for those in Eastern Hemisphere, Asia, and Australia

July 13, Saturn stations retrograde at 07deg43 Pisces/*Uttara Bhadrapada*

July 15-20, Kala Sarpa Yoga in effect (Moon conjoins Rahu)

July 16, Sun enters Cancer

July 18, Mercury stations retrograde at 21deg21 Cancer

July 20, Kala Sarpa Yoga ends (Mars conjoins Ketu at 25deg33 Leo)

July 20, Venus enters *Mrgashira*

July 23, Sun enters *Pushya*

July 23, Mars enters *Uttara Phalguni*

July 24, New Moon at 07deg48 Cancer/*Pushya*

July 26, Venus enters Gemini

July 26-28 Sun in Cancer/Moon in Leo - Parivartana Yoga

July 29, Mercury moves retrograde back into *Pushya*

July 29, Mars enters Virgo

July 31, Sun exact conjunction Mercury by degree at 14deg50 Cancer

August 1, Venus enters *Ardra*

August 3, Sun enters *Ashlesha*

August 9, Full Moon at 27deg16 Capricorn/*Shravana*

August 9, Mars exact opposition to Saturn at 07deg08 Virgo/Pisces

August 11, Mercury stations and begins direct motion at 10deg02 Cancer/*Pushya*

August 12, Venus exactly conjunct Jupiter at 19deg52 Gemini/*Ardra*

August 13, Venus and Jupiter enter *Punarvasu*

August 14, Mars enters *Hasta*

August 17, Sun enters Leo/*Magha*

August 22, Mercury enters *Ashlesha*

August 23, Venus enters *Pushya*

August 23, New Moon at 06deg07 Leo/*Magha*

August 30, Sun enters *Purva Phalguni*

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