

The Observatory: Sun in Libra 2024



**By Dr. Lynn Bootes, M.D.,
ACVA Dean of Students & Registrar**

The skies continue to provide surprise and inspiration in this dramatic month. We are at the peak of the Solar Maximum, the 11-year cycle of frequency and strength of solar storms. The *Aurora Borealis* (Northern Lights) have extended to Washington DC in the USA and even farther south. Look for more dramatic displays to come but be prepared for disruption of digital devices. The 60-year repeating “Devil Comet” may show up soon, but already there is another visiting comet which has not been seen for tens of thousands of years.

Jupiter has reached its station and turns retrograde in Taurus as of October 10, and therefore it is very bright to the north and right of the constellation Orion (which encompasses *Rohini*, *Mrgashira*, and *Ardra* nakshatras). It sits opposite Venus in Scorpio early this month, and opposite Mercury in Scorpio later in the month. There is the potential for some auspicious dates for matters related to these planets.

Mars is very bright and sits to the south and left of Orion. Be prepared for the non-astrologers in your lives to ask you about this power group for many months to come. Mars will leave the contentious occupation of Gemini and enter its sign of debilitation in Cancer on October 20. Please refer to the recent article about Mars by Alan Anand in the September issue of the Comet for details.

Quite a few planets enter different nakshatras between October 23-31: Sun, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Neptune. While Jupiter and Saturn remain in fixed signs resisting change, the nakshatras tell a different story.

This year *Diwali*, the Festival of Lights of India, will fall on Thursday, October 31, the same time that Halloween and All Souls Day are celebrated in the West.

ACVA, based in the USA, will end Daylight Time on Sunday, November 3, at 02:00.

Saturn stations direct at 18deg30 Aquarius on November 12. Thus, it will appear to barely move at all the entire month, and remain very bright overhead after sunset. It will exert a 1:10 aspect to Mercury in Scorpio all month, but the aspect will be exact on November 12. Saturn makes a

1:10 aspect to Venus in Scorpio between October 17 and November 6 and is at exact aspect at 18deg 47 Aquarius/Scorpio on October 28.

October 17, Sun enters Libra – debilitation

October 17, Full Moon at 7:26 am at 00deg06 Aries

October 20, Mars enters Cancer – debilitation

October 23, Mercury enters *Vishakha* nakshatra

October 24, Rahu at 12deg34 Pisces makes a 1:5 trine aspect to Venus at 12deg24 Scorpio

October 24, Sun enters *Swati* nakshatra

October 26, Venus enters *Jyeshtha* nakshatra

October 26, Jupiter enters *Krittika* nakshatra

October 28, Saturn at 18deg47 Aquarius makes exact 1:10 aspect to Venus at 18deg47 Scorpio

October 28, Mars enters *Pushya* nakshatra

October 29, Mercury enters Scorpio

October 30, Mercury at 01deg44 Scorpio makes 1:7 aspect to Uranus at 01deg44 Taurus

October 31, Neptune enters *Purva Bhadrapada* nakshatra

November 2024

November 1, New Moon at 8:47 am at 15deg00 Libra

November 2, Mercury enters *Anuradha* nakshatra

November 3, Daylight Savings Time ends in USA and Canada

November 3, Mars at 05deg33 Cancer makes 1:7 aspect to Pluto at 05deg33 Capricorn

November 6, Venus enters Sagittarius and *Mula* nakshatra

November 6, Sun enters *Vishakha* nakshatra

November 7, Rahu at 11deg56 Pisces makes 1:9 aspect to Mercury at 11deg56 Scorpio

November 11, Mercury enters *Jyeshtha* nakshatra

November 12, Saturn at 18deg30 Aquarius makes 1:10 aspect to Mercury at 18deg56 Scorpio

November 14, Full Moon at 7:26 am at 29deg31 Aries

November 15, Saturn stationary direct at 18deg29 Aquarius

November 16, Sun enters Scorpio

~ ~ ~