

## Greetings from the ACVA President

Hello dear friends, faculty, and alumni.

All of us here at ACVA send best wishes to you and your families, living in this historic period.

Welcome to this edition of “The ACVA Comet”. We hope you like the name!

Haven’t these been interesting and perilous times? The effect of this Saturn transit conjunct Jupiter (along with Ketu, and Pluto!) has really lived up to its reputation for signaling massive shifts in world affairs.

Thank Heavens for the blessing of knowing potentially, in advance, what radical effects the combinations of these powerful grahas could produce. Along with the irrationality, violence and rage, there seems to be also an expression of the evolution of human consciousness. (That’s one way of looking at it.) Jyotisha, the sacred science of light, can help us make sense of the chaos.

Looking at the people currently making news as actors in multiple crises – whether it’s the plague of Covid-19, the disastrous financial melt-down or the current civil unrest in much of the world – we see instances of real, despicable failures. And we also see heroes behaving heroically in every quarter. There seems to be such a huge dichotomy in the reactions to the same effects. Planet Earth is currently getting a much-needed break from the debris created by human activity. This is thanks to Venus, Mars, Saturn and Jupiter having been in their own individual dignities, recently, in early 2020. Nature is/was thriving – culture not so much. Insurrection, demonstrating, expressing righteous indignation - are these steps towards the global transformation contributed by the epoch-making planetary conjunction of these four grahas in Sagittarius/Capricorn? The symbols seem to fit perfectly.

Since all events lead to evolution – it is to be hoped that we as individuals can find some way to focus on contributing to a larger solution, during the next couple years. Somehow. Even though these are legitimately tough times! Saturn currently being retrograde seems to indicate that the resisting, disenfranchised citizen in the street may now gain some ground.

Dear friends of ACVA, please take good care of ourselves, and of each other – for the duration. This may be the “new abnormal” until 2023. What happens after that depends on what we are thinking about now, and into the fluid future.

Meanwhile, back to the present at [www.acvaonline.org](http://www.acvaonline.org), our current learners in both levels of study (Jyotisha Ratna, and Jyotisha Prabhakara) are making progress with their worthy tutors as their guides. Recent class submissions from students have been particularly sensitive and insightful lately. Our students are now becoming the next generation of well-educated, well-compensated practicing jyotishis! The possibility of making a good living as a certified consulting jyotishi is becoming more accessible, as a career choice. Speaking for myself, it has been one of the most fabulous blessings of my very full life to have been properly educated in Jyotisha, through ACVA –to have earned the coveted certificates of proficiency, and therefore to enjoy a lucrative, thriving practice of Jyotish. You could probably do this, too! Continue your studies with ACVA and find out what you are capable of. The world needs help now more than ever from helpful professional jyotishis!



Along those lines, ACVA will be offering another complimentary webinar on the “Practice of Contemporary Jyotish” in the near future. You may call in to me with questions about the practical details of practicing Jyotish with clients, or of developing a successful professional practice - I’m here to help.

As ever, I wish to sincerely thank all the people associated with ACVA, who have contributed their time and talent, love and treasure to maintaining this beautiful college! To our faculty, IT team, admin support team, our directors, donors, and volunteers – xox! One fine day, we will all be able to hug again. Since the next full Moon eclipse of July 4, 2020 will be the Guru Purnima Moon in Sagittarius –it seems appropriate that we introduce you to our own esteemed teachers, gurus and guides who are in turn serving the Jyotir Vidya, through ACVA. That will be in the next edition of the newly christened “ACVA Comet”.

Until then, please stay healthy, humane and hopeful. With every best wish,

Jyoti Devi Charlotte Benson