

A note from ACVA's president September 2020

Hello dear ACVA friends, alumni, learners and well-wishers.

We hope that you and your families are doing well enough in these very unusual times. It seems to me that these are the best of times, and also the worst of times. This also seems to be the experience of many people during these extraordinary planetary phases. I am writing this in mid-September, at the time that seven out of nine planets are dignified. In spite of the fires in the Western U.S., and civil unrest, and hurricanes and flooding in the Southeast U.S., and political and social unrest throughout the world - there must, somehow, be some good effect rising out of this very rare energy! It may be that the sattvic/creative/constructive placements of many planets now – will manifest mainly on an individual level. We can, each of us, strive for higher ideas and ideals, and better states of consciousness, and support ourselves and our environment in that way. We can hope for the cumulative effect of many separate beneficial intentions. We can pray for each other, too.

There have been so many wonderful Jyotish webinars all over the internet lately! I hope that you have seen Ramdas Bill Sinclair's super Solar Ingress webinars, each month. And I will be offering a regular complimentary webinar on professional Jyotish practice development, too, which you may find useful. I was able to contribute to the annual Jyotish Mela of the Arsha Jyotish ashram recently by interviewing Dr. K.S Charak, and Sri V.P. Goel. It was an honor to speak with such distinguished scholars. I also presented a live demonstration of a contemporary Jyotish consulting session – that was entertaining! These talks will be available on ACVA's YouTube channel soon.

There was a notable comet, Comet Neowise, flying through our field of vision recently. The news and interest about this random celestial object have faded now (how quickly we forget!) but I wonder if the effect of this rare phenomenon may be still to come. Comets are known to have several different possible manifestations according to the ancient shastras. Covid-19 may be co-incident with the comet.

Back to the topic of wonderful seminars, friend of ACVA Dr. Suhas Kshirsagar BAMS, MD (Ayurveda, India) will present a complimentary webinar: "Decoding the Three Pillars of Health with a Vedic Chart" on Sunday October 25, 2020 at Noon Pacific time. We will send you a link to join. Dr. Kshirsagar is a noted expert in this field – and we are privileged to be able to offer this knowledge to the friends of ACVA.

"An Introduction to Vedic Astrology" will be presented during the annual (this year virtual) Sedona Vedic Astrology Conference, on Thursday, November 19, 2020. For the many people who have asked us for an Introductory course – here you are! ACVA's Ramdas Bill Sinclair, Dr. Cathy Coleman, Shoba Mohan and I will explain the fundamentals of the Sacred Science of Jyotish in a four-hour workshop. Please go to www.sedonavedicastrology.com to register. We look forward to seeing you on Zoom. Our new class of learners in Course 101 will especially enjoy this.

The Leadership Team of ACVA have continued to perform their usual heroic work in maintaining our beautiful and vast online college.

Sending you every best wish. Please stay safe and well.

Fondly, Jyoti Devi Charlotte Benson