

Letter from the President: January 2025



**By Professor Charlotte Benson,
ACVA President**

Dear Friends of ACVA –

Happy new year! Although it is obviously not happy at all in Los Angeles, among many other places in distress from natural, and unnatural disasters – thanks in large part to the condition of inflammatory Mars. What a lesson to be learned from the contacts *Mangala* is making right now: throwing its eighth house aspect onto Saturn and being directly opposite Pluto, receiving an aspect from Rahu, all while being retrograde in its state of debilitation. I for one am continuing to send prayers of support to those in harm's way across the globe now. At least one of our students has had to suspend her studies because of evacuations in LA. Those of us who are in a secure place, may we recognize our good fortune, and help those in need however we can, through prayers and donations. There, but for the grace of God, go the rest of us.

On a happier note, all seems to be going well enough in the virtual world of the college. Our newest international faculty members are doing brilliant work tutoring our newest international students!

Aligning with ACVA's mission of making Vedic astrology education accessible and sustainable, a generous donor has endowed the newly created **D. H. Agnes Fernando Memorial Scholarship** fund for deserving students. Another generous donor has made a significant contribution to enable the same objective. ACVA has also recently instituted the **Shri K.N. Rao Scholarship**. We're profoundly grateful for the generosity of our supporters who make these valuable scholarships possible. You too may donate, if you feel moved to do so, here: <https://acvaonline.org/donate/>. Thank you!

As part of our commitment to raising ACVA's profile, we have scheduled an impressive array of fund-raising webinars in ACVA's "**Jyotish Insights**" series for 2025. Please see the *Coming Attractions* section of this newsletter for details on these and other interesting events.

In the meantime, please take very good care of yourselves, and others. With every best wish for your peace and prosperity,

Professor Charlotte Benson (Jyoti Devi)