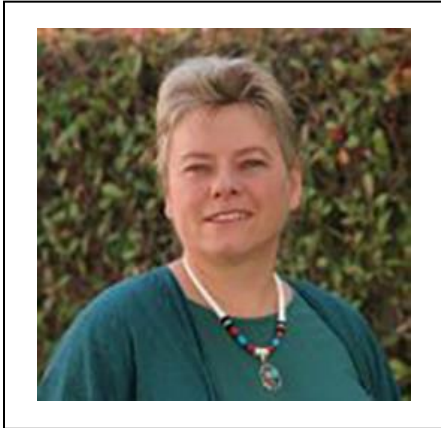


Jupiter in Taurus, with a side of Rahu/Mars



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Now that Jupiter has settled into Taurus for the next year, it will be joined by the Sun from May 15 to June 14. I have been reflecting upon the changes in the people and living beings around me and reflecting back on the same Jupiter Sankranti from years past – those multiples of 12. Like many Jyotishis, I have in mind a “cast of characters,” people I interact with day by day and year by year. There is a definite change of tune – several who were frantically busy or restlessly discontent have suddenly found more contentment in what they have, and less yearning for what they have not. One person in particular suddenly acquired a car with a little “bling” on it – a used white Cadillac sedan in pristine condition. Such is the nature of Taurus – to bring us down to Earth, to engage the senses, to accept the condition of Artha – work in the world. But the Buddhists among us remind us that in the traditions of many cultures of Asia, the Taurus Full Moon is also the “birthday” of Gautama Buddha, who found enlightenment partly by just sitting and being in the moment. May your year with Jupiter in Taurus bring gifts to you, dear reader! Make the most of the **Full Moon May 23 at 8 deg 15 Scorpio**, and **New Moon June 5, at 2 deg 44 Taurus**.

I will be using extra caution in the last two weeks of May as **Mars reaches exact conjunction with Rahu on May 19 at 20 degrees Pisces**. Will there be flareups in the political and armed hot-spots around the globe? Perhaps yes. What can I personally do? Perhaps some extra meditation and remedial measures and seva (service). Most definitely, applying the waters of calmness and kindness to agitated ones around me.

We can look forward to **plenty of auspicious combinations** for muhurta, especially as Mercury and Venus pass through Taurus and combine with the greater benefic Taurus. At ACVA, we love to present these times as auspicious ones for beginning intensive Jyotish study. I am available as Registrar to help you begin your journey at the feet of the Jyotish masters.