



The Observatory

September 2022 Equinox Edition

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Dear Readers,

*The rapid transitions after the equinox from **September to mid-October** bring us lots of action in the Virgo/Pisces axis, and the welcome attention of benefic grahas Mercury, Venus, and Jupiter in these signs. There will be many days and times when these grahas will make helpful combinations or yogas for auspicious events, reunions, opportunities for study and other activities in promotion of arts, dharma, and communication. This month is also a great time to begin serious study of Jyotish at ACVA! For those who quickly get into overload when so many dual signs and vata-promoting planets are holding our attention, you can apply some of the suggestions in Julianna Swanson's article. Note that the shower grahas continue to move in retrograde motion and keep their places with no sign changes. All the attention is on the Sun, Mercury, and Venus as they move through the zodiac signs almost in lockstep. Mars has moved to Taurus, providing a contrasting slower pace of action.*

*Get ready for change in **mid-October**, as Mars changes signs to the more contentious Gemini – be prepared for arguments! Sun, Venus, and Mercury move to Libra and there is a partial Solar Eclipse on October 25. This is the date of Lakshmi Puja, the New Moon in Libra, which is the height of the festival season of Diwali in India and South Asia, and among Hindus worldwide. One tradition in Jyotish has been to use the moment of the Lakshmi New Moon as a Prasna for the "Market New Year." This is a remarkably powerful tool and can be applied around the world. For instance, Lakshmi Puja takes place at sunrise for New York, the financial capital of the United States, which leads me to believe that the US economy will fare relatively well. However, Saturn as of October 23, will reach station at 24 degrees Capricorn and thus will make a special 1-way aspect on the Lagna of this chart from the 4th house of the people. The ordinary citizen may not think things are going so well! Wherever you are, take time to celebrate the triumph of light over darkness.*

Also be prepared for more extreme weather in "Eclipse Season." Even though few will be able to see even a sliver of this Eclipse, Rahu and Ketu

will be active as shadow planets in all sorts of activities connected with Aries and Libra in peoples' individual lives – for better or worse. Unlike in the July lineup of Mars, Uranus, and Rahu in Aries, now the focus is on all those planets lining up with Ketu in Libra. In the world at large, all sorts of matters regarding war, diplomacy, and adjustments in prices will be on the table world-wide. In our own lives, we can be prepared for change but resist making impulsive personal and money decisions in the heat of the moment.

The Full Moon/Lunar Eclipse on Tuesday, November 8, falls on the date of major mid-term elections in the United States. This is another time for potential extremes of weather which may affect turnout at the polls and may also impact voters' perceptions and decisions. Meanwhile Saturn will be making exact 1-way aspects to Sun, Mercury, and Venus on November 9-11. Will there be delays in determining election results? Mars turns retrograde on October 30 and goes back into Scorpio on November 13. While Mars in Taurus brings fixed attitudes, it is less volatile than in Gemini. But be prepared for however Mars in Taurus affects you personally as it is going to stay there to the end of 2022 and a bit beyond.

***A big transition into Scorpio begins November 11-16** as Venus moves into Scorpio, followed in short order by Mercury and the Sun. These grahas also enjoy a trine aspect from benefic Jupiter in Pisces in the same week. At this time Mars in Taurus and Venus in Scorpio will also be making a powerful Parivartana Yoga, which may be a valuable time to harness the rajasic energies of these two planets for a good purpose. These grahas will be a blessing for emotional and mental stability and a welcome relief from the drama of the first part of the season. Jupiter will end its retrograde motion on November 23 – we get just a few more months of this blessed influence.*

***December** brings the movement of Mercury, Venus, and Sun into Sagittarius in a less dramatic fashion as we look forward to the Solstice and another turning of the seasons. Jupiter as sign lord of Sagittarius will continue its strong and benefic influence in December.*

Late September Transits, Ingresses, and Moon Cycles

*22 8:54 pm EDT – Fall Equinox (Northern Hemisphere) Sun 5d47 Virgo
Mercury, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto all retrograde
25 - Venus enters Virgo
25 – New Moon 8d09 Virgo*

October Transits, Ingresses, and Moon Cycles

2 – Mercury stationary direct Virgo
8 – Pluto stationary direct 1d56 Capricorn
9 – Full Moon 21d51 Pisces/Virgo
12 – Mercury Virgo opposite Jupiter Pisces 7d30
16 – Mars enters Gemini
17 – Sun enters Libra
18 – Venus enters Libra
18 – Mars makes 1:8 special aspect to Pluto at 1d56 Capricorn
23 – Saturn stationary direct at 24d25 Capricorn
25 – New Moon 7d22 Libra, and partial Solar Eclipse. Maximum visibility in northern Russia, Urals, Central Asia
26 – Mercury enters Libra
30 – Mars stationary retrograde 1d26 Gemini

November Transits, Ingresses, and Moon Cycles

8 – Full Moon 21d49 Aries /Lunar Eclipse (partial) 21d17 Aries/Libra
Visible in totality in East Asia, Arctic, western North America, Australia, and Pacific. Partial visibility in Eastern US and most of Asia. Maximum 5:59 am in Eastern Time Zone.
9-11 – Saturn is in a special 1:10 aspect to Mercury, Venus, and Sun
11 – Venus enters Scorpio
13 – Mercury enters Scorpio
13 – Mars retrograde back into Taurus
15, 16 – Jupiter makes trine to Mercury and Venus in Scorpio
16 – Sun enters Scorpio
21 – Jupiter makes trine to Sun in Scorpio
23 – Jupiter stationary direct at 4d37 Pisces

December Transits, Ingresses, and Moon Cycles

3 – Mercury enters Sagittarius
4 – Neptune direct at 28d24 Aquarius
5 – Venus enters Sagittarius
8 – Sun and Mars in opposition at 22d Scorpio/Taurus
8 – New Moon 21d47 Taurus
16 – Sun enters Sagittarius
21 – Winter Solstice (Northern Hemisphere) 10:59 am EST
23 – Full Moon 7d12 Gemini/Sagittarius