

CHATUR SANKRANTI 2023 CHART - ADJUSTING TO CHANGE



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The chart of the Spring Equinox (for the Northern Hemisphere) is a significant time in traditions ancient and modern. This is the day when the days and nights are of equal length, and the rising Sun moves north of the Equator as seen from Earth. Think of how many significant holidays are built around this equinox: Passover and Easter, the Persian Nowruz, the Jewish Purim in the month prior to the equinox, and Holi also in the lunar month prior to the Equinox. Astrologers and people in general relied upon the tracking of equinoxes to reconcile the lunar and solar calendars and adjust to the change of seasons, particularly in regard to agriculture.

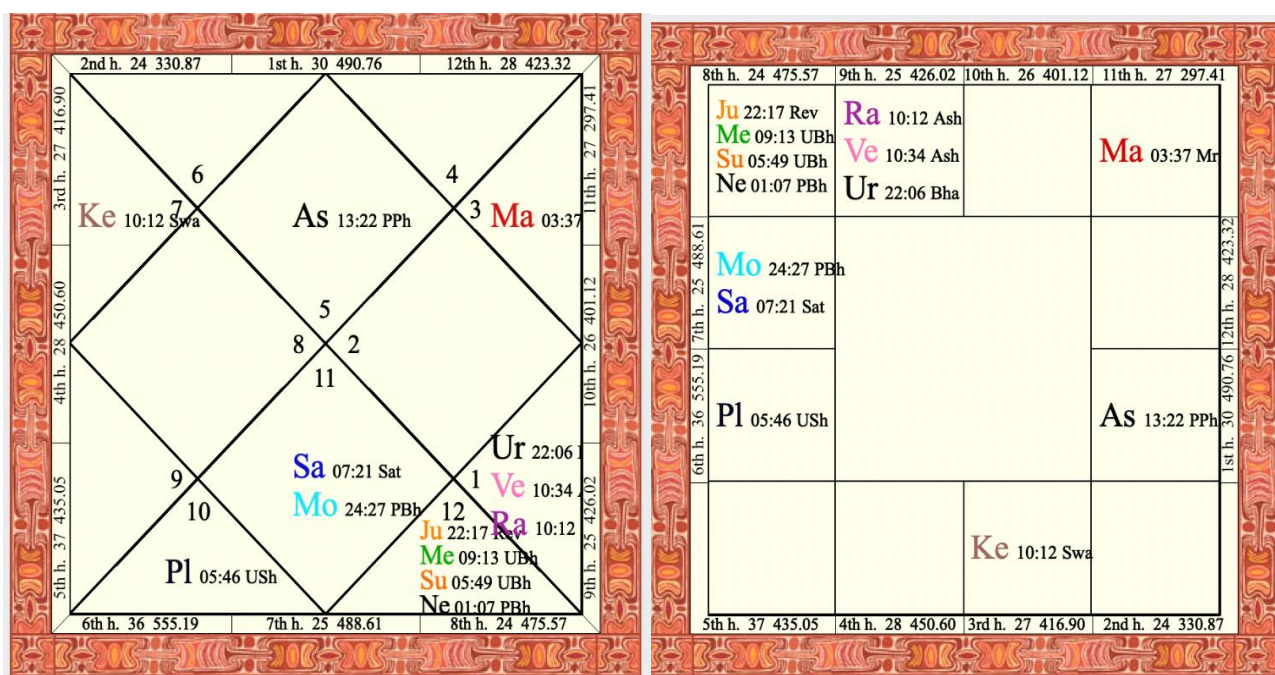
It has been customary to take the chart of the moment of the Equinox – Chatur Sankranti - as a method of prognostication for the season and the year ahead. This can apply to the geographical area in general, that is the part of the world in which a certain Rashi is rising in the Lagna of this chart. Of course, the Lagna will differ depending on where you are – and for a very large nation, there may be two or more Lagnas rising in different parts of the country. Such charts can be very useful when looking at expectations for general conditions of weather, the economy, or general health conditions.

Second, the Chatur Sankranti chart can be used in individual chart interpretation. How will this particular season affect the person's doshas as far as physical, emotional, and mental health? If a particular dosha is dominating, the Ayurvedic practitioner and the

Jyotish will be ready for an influx of clients who are having trouble with that particular planetary combination or dosha.

And third, the Seasonal chart gives a look into the general condition of political and economic affairs. Here, one is looking at the political Capitol of a country, accepting that a number of neighboring countries will be under the same influences. At times the astrologer may have an accurate birth chart for a country, or at least for the inauguration or coronation of the current government, which can then be compared to the Chatur Sankranti chart. A detailed analysis of the many world powers is beyond the scope of this article, but I will give some general remarks on the major themes.

USA Washington DC March 20 at 5:24 pm EDT – 13:22 Leo Lagna



The combination of Chatur Sankranti with Jupiter, Mercury and Neptune in Pisces would seem to indicate much more emphasis on watery conditions than usual, along with the spiritual refinement of Jupiter and Neptune. Mercury, on the other hand, is debilitated in Pisces, and is combust – hidden by the Sun’s rays, so we expect grand intuition and vision but weakness in logical analysis. The emphasis on water may

relate to watery weather and climate conditions, and to cool and wet conditions in the doshas of the body – what is called Kapha.

All the visible planets except Mars are crowded in three signs – Aquarius, Pisces, and Aries – creating a narrowing of focus which can be challenging. The Jyotish Masters definitely preferred the grahas to be spread out in many zodiac signs.

The next most notable feature of this chart is that the Moon is in its last tithi or day, headed into a New Moon, and thus invisible and weak. The Moon is also in Aquarius, an enemy's sign, and with Saturn. This is a dry, cold sign, so one might expect difficult dry conditions in weather and in the body – Vata. In mental state there will be a predisposition to depression, anxiety, stiffness, and chronic illness related to Saturn. In the parts of the world not affected by excess water, there may be other places experiencing equally extreme dry heat and wind, or very cold, dry conditions. While Jyotish and Ayurveda are not in a position to treat the most severe mental illness conditions, an encouraging word, some commonsense health practices, and validation of difficult feelings and times can be helpful to many.

The third group of planets is in Aries, where there is Venus with Rahu and the outer planet Uranus. Later in the seasons many other planets will be passing into Aries, particularly Jupiter. The gift for Ayurveda, Jyotishas, and for healing work in general is that the Nakshatra for both Rahu and Venus is Ashwini, the Twin Healers, who can bring healing light and inspiration in the form of the flame of awareness and vitality. For people and parts of the world activated by these Aries planets, beginning anew will seem essential. The challenge will be how to do so without stampeding over everything in the path like a herd of galloping horses!

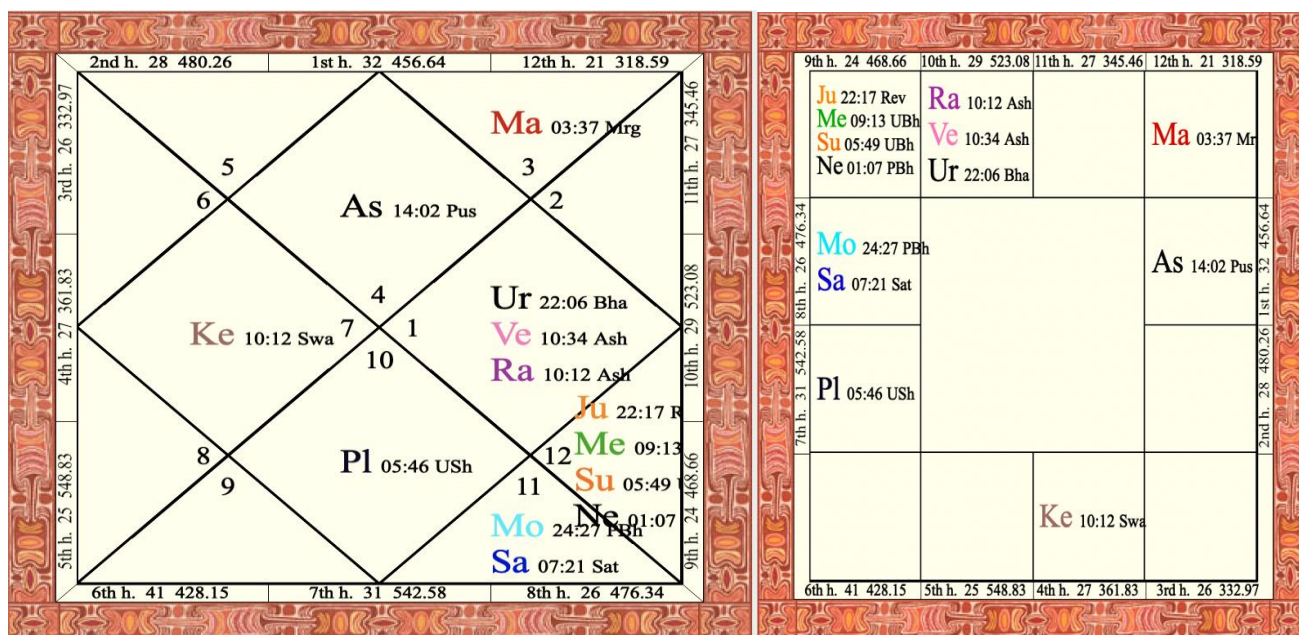
The restraining influence here will come from the Saturn in Aquarius which is at maximal strength, and which makes a one-way aspect to the Aries planets. A moment's reflection will reveal many situations in personal lives and in the world in which those who think themselves in control are going over the top with ridiculously overstated bids to control others out of fear. A challenge for this coming year will be for all people of good will to face their own fears honestly rather than project them on others, but at the same time to resist and respond to excessive control with resolve.

For those living east of the Mississippi, Leo will be in the Lagna and the Sun, the Lagna Lord, is in the 8th house. As far as the health of the nation, this seems to show some issues, especially in regard to 8th house matters of debt. There is currently a political standoff in Congress on whether or not to raise the National Debt ceiling, and there have been extra expenditures in connection with the COVID crisis as well as military expenditures. The positive in this is that Sun, Mercury, and Jupiter all aspect back to the 2nd house of income, and there is an aspect from Mars in the 11th house to the second. This is not an unsolvable problem, especially with the sort of vision and intuition possible with Pisces.

In the Washington DC Chart, Saturn and Moon sit together in the 7th house in Aquarius, reflecting the dismal situation in foreign affairs with the War in Ukraine and the dug-in political positions of the Republicans in Congress. Of course, there is something to be said for imposing some rigor and order on free-wheeling Pisces. And the Venus and Rahu in Aries in the 9th house certainly reflects the current foreign policy supporting Ukraine against Russia, while adjusting to many shifts of alliances around the globe.

As far as weather and prevailing doshas, the Ascendant Leo is a fire sign, and there is a likelihood of a hot spring season especially after April 15. I am encouraged in the USA chart by the Vargottama Leo Lagna and the presence of the Sun in the Lagna of the Navamsha D9 chart. Also in this chart, Moon is exalted in the 10th house and Mars is in its own sign in the 4th house. Despite the obstacles, the USA will come out all right.

USA west of Mississippi –Sedona, AZ - March 20 at 2:24 pm PDT – 14d02 Cancer Lagna



For the Western half of the USA west of the Mississippi, Cancer is the rising sign and the house positions shift. The Pisces planets are in the 9th house and more prominent, and Jupiter makes a nice aspect to the Lagna. There may be a LOT of water this season plus the effects of sea level rise. The Moon and Saturn being stuffed away in the 8th house could be a problem for those who tend to repress emotion or get depressed. Those who take risks in careers may benefit with the many planets in the 10th house of Aries. Those needing Ayurvedic treatment may have either excess water/Kapha, or aggravation of Vata on chronic health conditions.

Finally, a quick look at the Chatur Sankranti chart for other regions of the world. In London, the Lagna is 10:15 Libra, with Ketu exactly on the Lagna. This spring England will crown King Charles, but otherwise is facing the economic reality of the Ukraine War as well as the consequences of Brexit. But Ketu is like the cat who lands on his feet, and we might see a phoenix-like renaissance after this new beginning.

For Kyyev and for Moscow, there is little difference between the charts, just a single degree in the Lagna. Both have Scorpio in the Lagna, with the Lagna lord Mars in the 8th house. Both seem to be dug in, and I am not predicting a sudden resolution.

For India, the Lagna is Sagittarius, with the Lagna lord Jupiter being in the 4th bhava with ME and SU. Mars is in Gemini in the 7th house, and Mars rules the 5th house which has Rahu and Venus. This chart activates strong dharma and many possibilities. I think India will do all right, though as usual it is surrounded by enemies and is careful not to irritate them unduly.

For East Asia: China, Singapore, Japan, Korea et al, have Aquarius Lagna with the Moon and Saturn in the Lagna. All are stiffening up their commitment to their various rigid ideas of how to run a country, but particularly China. China appears to have serious issues with the people and with excessive state control, but no change is happening soon.

For Australia: In the Southern Hemisphere, the beginning of fall will have Pisces on the Lagna with all those planets. Sea level rise, storms, and extreme weather will affect this nation, but they have the advantage of the Pisces insight and sense of connection and responsibility. The grouping of planets in Aries should bring vigor to the economy, though dry conditions and fires might be possible in late fall.



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