

Solar Eclipse April 2024

By Alan Annand

The “Great North American Eclipse” at 2:21 pm EDT on Monday, 8 April 2024, will be notable as the only total solar eclipse in the 21st century where totality will be visible in Mexico, the United States, and Canada. It will also be the last total solar eclipse visible in the continental United States until August 23, 2044.

The path of totality will sweep from northern Mexico into Texas and from there through the eastern half of the USA up into New England before entering Eastern Canada. The horoscope of the event, shown here from the vantage point of Washington, DC, can be taken as a snapshot of generic consequence for the USA, as well as Canada, since both of their capitals are in the same time zone. In such close proximity to the path of totality, the sun will be 90% eclipsed as viewed in Washington, and 95% in Ottawa. The eclipse will occur earlier in the day in Mexico City, such that a local ascendant of late Gemini would put the Sun/Moon pair in the 10th house.

Su 25:12	MeR 00:36		
Mo 25:12	Ju 24:51		
Ra 21:27			
Ve 10:15			
Sa 20:15	Solar Eclipse 8 April 2024		As 22:15
Ma 18:51			
			Ke 21:27

Ke 6	5	As	3	2
		4	1	MeR Ju
	7	10		
8	9			Mo Su
			11	Ve Ra
				Ma Sa

From the Washington chart, let's consider some of the prominent yogas formed. As *lagnesh*, the Moon participates in a *Dharma-Karma Adhipati* yoga with 4th lord Venus, a *Dhana* yoga with 2nd lord Sun, and another *Dhana* yoga with 11th lord Venus. Although Venus is exalted, two of its yogas are of mixed condition because *lagnesh* Moon is eclipsed. The Moon also forms *Shakata* yoga, being 12th away from Jupiter.

The sum of all this represents two potential scenarios. The first is that, with the eclipse in the 9th house, a constitutional, judicial and/or legislative crisis is pending in America.

This horoscope mirrors current events to some extent, yet also suggests no solution is immediately forthcoming. If anything, things may get worse.

The unique circumstance of a Presidential nominee facing 91 criminal charges on the run-up to the 2024 elections is unprecedented, and has already seen the Supreme Court rule against any state's ability to block a candidate from their ballots. Still on the Supreme Court's agenda is the issue of Presidential immunity, the latter of which goes to the heart of the Constitution.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court itself has also come under increasing scrutiny, with calls for recusal of at least one justice suspected of conflict of interest. As more and more District Court appeals bubble to the top of the judicial food chain, that scrutiny will only intensify.

Meanwhile, the paralysis of Congress has become a national embarrassment. Extremist factions within the House of Representatives routinely hold the process hostage to their demands, whereby legislation is subject to horse-trading for advantage within increasingly-unwieldy omnibus bills. Even when the two parties can agree on some deal, eg, to resolve the illegal immigration crisis, a Presidential nominee kills it to deny the current administration any credit.

The second scenario involves those weak *DKA* and *Dhana* yogas, along with the *Shakata* yoga, whose common denominator suggests financial matters. Ironically, although the economy is humming, unemployment is low, and the stock market is hitting new highs, almost everyone seems to be suffering economically. Faced with such inconsistencies, one can only infer that spending, personal and national, is out of control. Much of the middle class is only a paycheck or two away from financial crisis, and America's national debt now stands at approximately \$33 Trillion.

From the perspective of the luminaries, Saturn *swa-rashi* in the 8th house forms *Papa-Voshi* and *Papa-Anapha* yogas, both of which imply expense and loss. Saturn's association with Mars suggests the nature of the expense. Mars is a *karaka* for war, and thus far America's military aid to Ukraine's war against Russia tops \$46 Billion, with another \$28B in financial aid.

In this eclipse horoscope, 5th lord Mars joins with 7th lord Saturn to form another *Dharma-Karma Adhipati* yoga in the 8th house. As an indicator of the stock market, this is at best a mixed blessing, benefiting large financial institutions more than the middle class. According to many seasoned financial analysts, the market looks distinctly frothy, and is overdue for a correction. If and when it comes, expect it to cast a large shadow on this year's campaign trail.

This same Mars/Saturn pattern raises the specter of civil disorder and potential violence. A powerful Saturn in the 8th influences the 5th/10th lord Mars by association, and the 5th/10th houses by aspect. Students on campus, and government officials, especially in courtrooms and legislatures, could be at risk. The underlying mood in America is one of frustration and anger, and at least one key issue is the unwelcome scenario of two aging and allegedly cognitively-challenged Presidential candidates facing off in another deeply-divisive election.

Finally, there's the *Viparita* yoga formed by Mercury and Jupiter in the 10th house. As per *Uttara Kalamrita* 4:22, one option for *Viparita* formation is when two *trik* lords (at least one of them strong) are in *sambandha* without influence from a non-*trik* lord. Here, 6th lord Jupiter associates with 12th lord Mercury, which enjoys strength via retrogression. The only influence on them is an aspect from 8th lord Saturn.

Jupiter and Mercury are also *apoklima* lords, suggesting themes of displacement, struggle, legislation, and immigration, the latter being a major factor in the current President's abysmal approval rating. Illegal immigration is a make-it-or-break-it issue of this year's election cycle. But with 10th lord Mars in the 8th house with a powerful Saturn, the current administration is at an impasse.

And yet *Viparita* yoga implies a cloud's silver lining. If Mercury and Jupiter are the agents of such, this might come from a new cycle of political leadership. All it takes is a heart attack, or a criminal conviction, for either Presidential candidate, and their respective parties will need to pivot to a new leader. However unlikely at this stage in the game, such is the nature of *Viparita* to facilitate a 180-degree turn of events.

The 9th and 10th houses are closely entwined in this eclipse horoscope. Jupiter disposes the luminaries, Rahu, and Venus by sign, while Mercury disposes the Sun, Moon, and Rahu by nakshatra. Aside from the 9th house themes of immigration, justice, and legislation previously noted, we can also add foreign relations, international shipping, ideological propaganda, and media censorship, many of which are polarizing issues.

Here, 4th lord Venus represents the people, while its exaltation and affliction in the 9th implies moral judgment under duress. Meanwhile, its dispositor, *dharma-karaka* and 9th lord Jupiter, is integral to the *Viparita* with Mercury, complicated but not denied by Saturn. As this year's election looms, perhaps never before in America's history have moral considerations weighed so heavily on the soul of the country.

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