

Israel at a Fateful Moment

By Sarah Halevi



About the author:

Sarah Halevi is an American-born Israeli who has lived in Jerusalem for 40 years, raising three children while involved in meditation circles and Kabbalah study, as well as earning a PhD in Neurobiochemistry at the Hebrew University, and a certificate in Landscape Architecture at ORT college. She has worked as a biologist, gardener, and landscape engineer. Most recently, Sarah served as the community director of Daat Elyon, a center for Jewish meditation. With her husband, Yossi Klein Halevi, she has been involved in interfaith work with Christians and Muslims in Israel. Her long-term interest in Western astrology has evolved

into a passion for Jyotish which she pursued at ACVA, earning the Jyotisha Ratna (2022) and Prabhakara (2023) certificates. Sarah continues to study, focusing on Ayurveda, Sanskrit, and Mundane astrology, and is now working as a consulting astrologer..

Faculty Introduction

by Dr. Lynn Bootes, Dean of Students & Registrar of the American College of Vedic Astrology.

While the ACVA curriculum is designed to meet the needs of truly beginning students, some of our students arrive with a solid foundation in Vedic Studies or Western Astrology. Sarah Halevi, a recent Jyotish Prabhakara graduate, is one of the latter. Having a thorough background in Western Astrology, she flew through many of the earlier courses. As one of my very first students as an ACVA instructor, she was a delight to teach. This month's article, A Fateful Moment for Israel, grew out of her very personal interest in the events of her home nation, Israel, as well as her personal growth in Jyotish and Vedic Studies. Mundane and political astrology is NOT part of these beginning and intermediate programs of ACVA, but her passion for the subject led to informal tutoring in the fundamentals of that exacting practice alongside her other lessons. Amidst the current tragedy of war in many parts of the world, the mundane astrologer must choose words with care, acknowledging her own perspective with the certain knowledge that other individuals and nations have theirs. Over thousands of years, astrologers have maintained communication and respect for one another in times whose troubles far exceeded our own. Om Shanti Shantih.

For any creation we can draw a chart mapping the location of planets in signs and houses at the moment of birth. Charts are drawn for babies, for corporations, for questions, and for countries. For babies, the tradition of Vedic astrology holds different opinions about when birth occurs: when the head crowns, the entire body emerges, the first breath? When does the soul link with physical form? For a modern nation, that would be the moment when the will of the people determines to carry out their destiny in a given territory, either by self-declaration or recognition from an international body.ⁱ Just as for humans, from inception the nation has a relationship with Divine forces working through planets via signs and houses. The country's chart can tell us of potentials and challenges, karmic inheritance, and dharmic purpose, as well as a glimpse of the future in planetary periods activated by transits.

The chart of a country impacts many more lives than a personal chart. Once upon a time, only a King or Queen could afford an astrologer, and all astrology concerned the fate of nations. In the modern period, astrology has chiefly been a tool for self-knowledge. As our consciousness evolves to see ourselves as part of a greater whole, the tools honed for the individual can be applied to the collective as well. Analyzing nations as we do people is a step toward a more expansive consciousness.

At this moment, there are two major wars disturbing the peace of our planet, the Ukraine war, involving Russia and Ukraine, and the Gaza war, involving Israel and Palestine. We all want to know whether these conflicts are on the way to alleviation or exacerbation. As an Israeli, and recent recipient of the ACVA Prabhakara certificate, I am drawn to use the tools of Vedic astrology to look at the maps of the state of Israel and her prime minister, to understand this difficult moment and what might be coming.

A Lagna for the State of Israel

To draw up a chart for the modern State of Israel we need a birth time. From 1918 until 1948, the British ruled the land of Palestine under mandate from the League of Nations. After years of negotiations, agreement was reached that the British would withdraw at midnight on May 15, 1948, leaving separate states of Israel and Palestine. The Zionist leaders under David Ben Gurion did not wait to be given their state, however, convening in Tel Aviv on the afternoon of May 14. At exactly 4:00 pm Ben Gurion hit the table with his gavel, and the participants sang Hatikvah, the anthem of the Zionist movement. This is the time of founding that Ben Gurion noted in his diary that night.ⁱⁱ In the subsequent reading of the Declaration of Independence, at 4:10 pm Ben Gurion read the founding phrase: "We declare the establishment of a Jewish state in the land of Israel, to be known as the State of Israel."ⁱⁱⁱ The reading and signing of the scroll by the assembled leaders concluded at 4:32 pm.^{iv}



Figure 1: David Ben-Gurion reading the Declaration of Independence at the Tel Aviv Museum, May 14, 1948. (Heritage Conservation Project, Tel Aviv.)

Thus, within an interval of 32 minutes we have three possible birth times for Israel: 4:00, 4:10, and 4:32 pm. The 4:00 pm birthtime gives a Virgo Lagna, at 29:54 degrees, on the cusp (Chart 1). Chart ruler Mercury is with 12th bhava lord Sun in Taurus, the Moon and 6th bhava lord Saturn are in Cancer, and 8th bhava lord Mars is in 12th bhava Leo. Malefics as Dussthana lords and a Virgo Lagna imply a physical fragility which Israel's proven survival to this moment belies. Jupiter in its own sign Sagittarius in the 4th bhava, a Hamsa Mahapurusha yoga, puts the guru/rabbi in the bhava of the homeland, making sense for a state for which the Jewish religion is central, and the Raja yoga formed by 9th bhava lord Venus in 10th bhava Gemini could explain Israel's outsize stature on the world stage. Despite these points, I do not see Israel as defined by Virgo.

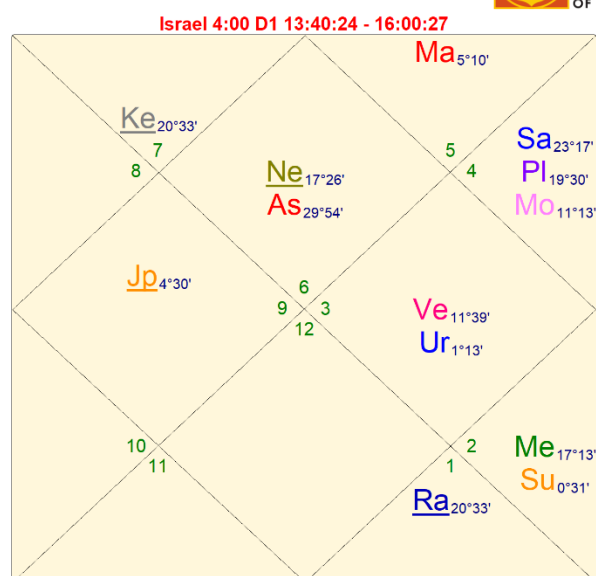
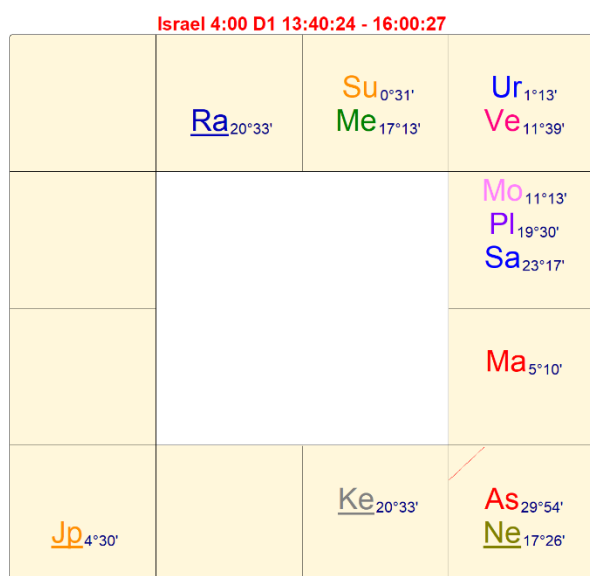


Chart 1: Birth chart for the State of Israel. May 14, 1948, 4:00 pm, Standard Time (+2:00h), Tel Aviv, Israel, 32°N04' 34°E46', Virgo Lagna. At this time Ben Gurion opened the meeting in which independence was declared.'

By 4:10 pm, the Lagna has shifted to 2:10 degrees Libra, which also holds Ketu, putting Rahu in the 7th bhava Aries. Along with Saturn, Rahu and Ketu are signifiers of karma in any chart. Karma is unquestionably an essential factor in contemplating and understanding the Jewish story. The Bible is replete with the misdeeds of the Israelites and their punishments. Rabbinic Judaism teaches that an evil decree is averted by “Good Works, Charity, and Prayer,” remedies which dilute negative karmic residue. Winter rains are abundant when we behave ourselves, and enemies attack when we do not. Because the notion of karma is so essential to the understanding of Jewish history and Israel’s current dilemmas, having Rahu-Ketu, the axis of karma, on Israel’s 1st and 7th bhavas makes astrological sense, and confirms the Libra Lagna. In addition, negotiation, establishment of alliances, and the quest for peace has defined Israel’s existence under Venus as Lagna lord more essentially than the fighting of wars. Moreover, 2nd bhava lord Venus in 9th bhava Gemini oversaw the reestablishment of Hebrew as a spoken language and vehicle for modern poetry and song, Israel’s outstanding cultural expressions.

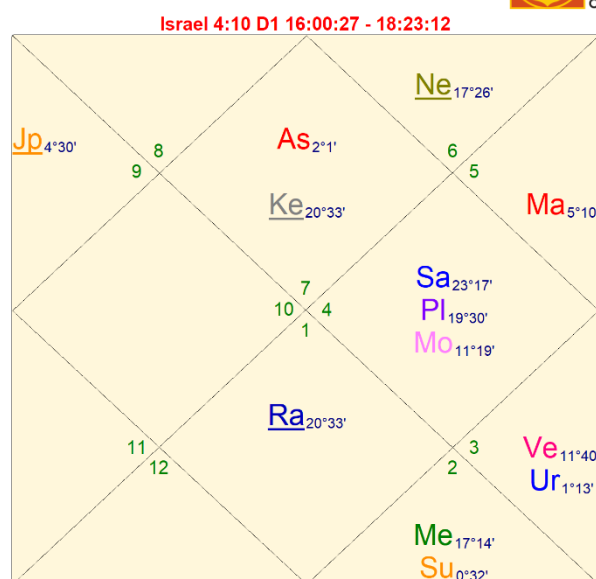
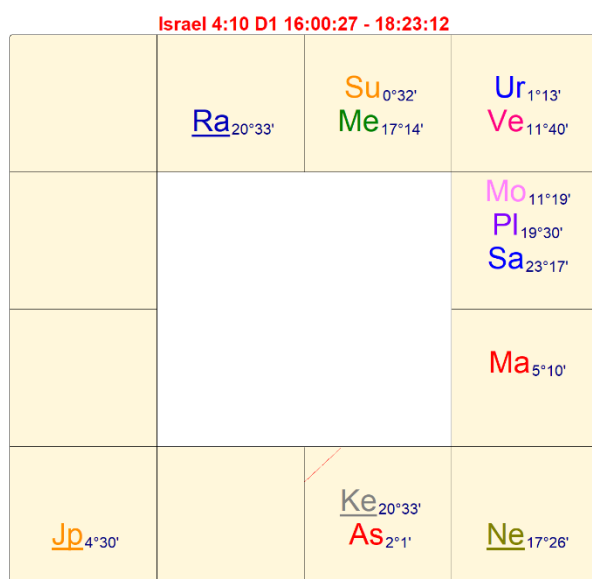


Chart 2: Birth chart for the State of Israel, May 14, 1948, 4:10 pm, Standard Time (+2:00 h), Tel Aviv, Israel, 32°N04', 34°E46', Libra Lagna. At this time Ben Gurion declared the birth of the State of Israel.

We now have two working birth times: 4:10 and 4:32 pm. In terms of house assignment and planetary placement, they do not differ. One difference between them is the Nakshatra of the Lagna. At 4:10 pm, the Lagna was in Chitra, while at 4:32 pm it has moved to Swati. Chitra is a Mars ruled nakshatra whose deity is Tvastar, the celestial architect. Swati is ruled by Rahu and embodies Vayu, the lord of the wind. As modern Israel has been in a constant state of building since her inception, in the many forms of kibbutz and Bauhaus and hills carved with roads and tunnels, I favor dynamic Chitra rather than the airy Swati for the Israel Lagna. On the other hand, Israel has often shown the flexible strength of Swati, with an ability to adapt to the unexpected challenges posed by Rahu.

One method used to discriminate between alternative birth times is the use of the Vimshottari Dashas in correlation with events. Vimshottari is a nakshatra based Dasha system whose starting point is the nakshatra location of the Moon at birth. For both 4:10 and 4:32 pm the Moon is in Pushya, ruled by Saturn, so for both times the first Mahadasha period will be Saturn. Who else but the Lord of Karma should preside over nascent Israel's first Mahadasha? As the length of the first Mahadasha period is proportional to the distance the Moon has traveled within the nakshatra, the 00:13 degrees the Moon travels in the 12-minute interval between 4:10 and 4:32 pm causes a divergence in the Dasha sequence, especially as the years go by.

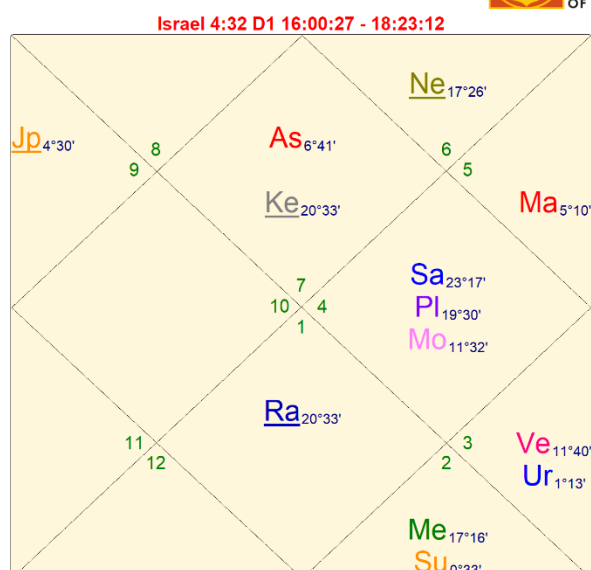
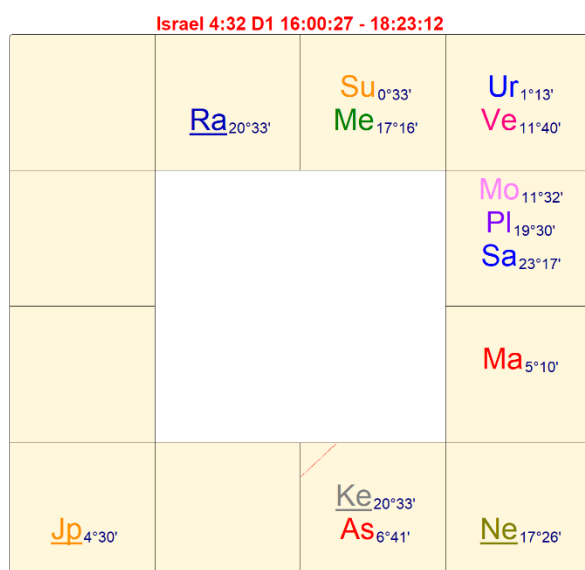


Chart 3: Birth chart for the State of Israel, May 14, 1948, 4:32 pm, Standard Time (+2:00 h), Tel Aviv, Israel, 32°N04', 34°E46', Libra Lagna. At this time the reading and signing of the Declaration of Independence was concluded.

	4:00 pm Meeting Starts	4:10 pm Israel's Founding Announced	4:32 pm Meeting Concludes
Ascendent Degree	29:54 Virgo	2:10 Libra	6:41 Libra
Lagna Nakshatra	Chitra	Chitra	Swati
Birth Dasha May 14, 1948	Saturn-Moon	Saturn-Moon	Saturn-Moon
Sadat Visit Nov. 19, 1977	Ketu-Jupiter	Ketu- Saturn	Ketu-Saturn
Rabin Assassination Nov. 4, 1995	Venus-Saturn	Venus-Saturn	Venus- Mercury
Elections Nov. 1, 2022	Mars-Moon	Mars-Moon	Rahu-Rahu
Gaza War Oct. 7, 2023	Rahu-Rahu	Rahu-Rahu	Rahu-Rahu

Table 1: Three alternative birth times for the State of Israel, with differences in Lagna, nakshatra, and Mahadasha-Antardasha for key events in Israel's history in bold.

Differences between the three alternative birth times are summarized in Table 1. All times give Saturn-Moon as the Dashas at the founding of the State. The first divergence is in the Antardasha for President of Egypt Anwar Sadat's historic visit to Jerusalem in 1977. The 4:00 pm time gives Ketu-Jupiter, and the 4:10 and 4:32 pm times give Ketu-Saturn. Ketu is an appropriate Mahadasha for a diplomatic event which had the potential to flip Israel's relations with her major Arab rival to that point, Egypt. When President Anwar Sadat came to Jerusalem, Israelis had the feeling that they were living in a dream and responded with surprised joy and wonder at this visit from their

enemy, in the spirit of peace. This feeling of a blessed gift would seem to suit Jupiter as the Antardasha lord, found for the 4:00 time. However, Israel paid a heavy price for that visit, giving up the Sinai Peninsula and shrinking her borders, a Saturnian contraction with strategic implications. Relinquishment of Israel's Sinai settlements also triggered the rise of the far right, later expressed in the extremism of the settlement movement, one of the key players in the current government. In addition, the tide of hope unleashed by Sadat's visit was in great part unfulfilled, as the peace became a cold one, with scant cultural exchange or mutual travel. This technical peace between Israel and Egypt continues to be a Saturnian arrangement, practical but cold, and supports the 4:10 and 4:32 pm birth times for Israel.

For the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, the Antardasha once again diverges, with 4:10 pm giving Venus-Saturn, and 16:32 pm giving Venus-Mercury. For the Libra Lagna, Saturn is the 4th and 5th bhava lord, a functional benefic and yoga-forming planet, found in 10th bhava Cancer with the Moon in Israel's birth chart, a source of strength for the chart. In the chart for the assassination, Saturn is in own Aquarius, Israel's 5th bhava, locus of the inherited merit of the forefathers, the soul family which looks after Israel, and not the place one would expect an assassination. However, from Aquarius transiting Saturn is aspecting Scorpio, where transiting Venus is found 2 degrees from Pluto, in the vicinity of sign ruler Mars. This aspect of the Antardasha lord Saturn upon Mahadasha lord Venus in the vicinity of violent Pluto and karaka of firearms Mars could presage an assassination. We also note that Mars as ruler of both the 2nd and 7th bhavas in Israel's chart is a double Maraka, a death-dealing planet.

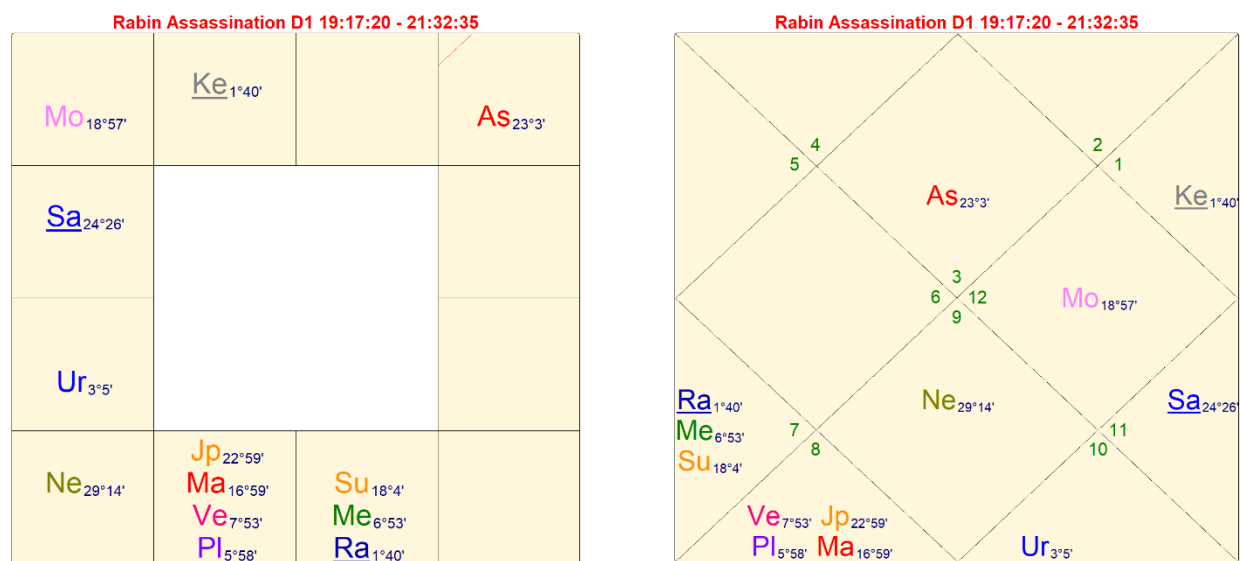


Chart 4: Event chart for the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Nov. 4, 1985, 9:30 pm, Standard Time (+2:00 h), Tel Aviv, Israel, 32°N04', 34°E46'.

The later time, 4:32 pm, gives a Venus-Mercury Dasha for the assassination. Mercury is the 9th and 12th bhava lord, conjoined with 11th bhava lord Sun in 8th bhava Taurus of Israel's birth chart.

Mercury is 12th bhava lord of losses, and the 8th bhava is the bhava of life and death. In Israel's birth chart the Sun, representing the prime minister, is allied with his princely advisor, Mercury, playing a role as both repository of wisdom (9th) and losses which can bring one to the next world (12th). In the birth chart they are both in Taurus, disposed by chart ruler Venus. In the chart of the assassination, Antardasha lord Mercury is with Rahu and the Sun in Libra, Israel's Lagna. Rahu can symbolize disruption and the urge of the dispossessed to wrest power. Israel's far-right felt disenfranchised by the Rabin government which initiated the Oslo peace process and considered Rabin to be a traitor to be eliminated by any means. Rabin's assassin was the far-right extremist Yigal Amir. The Sun, of course, is the karaka of the king, the prime minister. In the chart of the assassination, Mercury, the 12th lord of the natal chart, is in close proximity to Rahu, which at the time was almost exactly on Israel's Virgo Lagna, at 6:41 degrees Libra, a point which will recur when we look at the recent events of October 7. Venus, as Mahadasha lord for both times, plays a potentially deadly role in the vicinity of Pluto lord of death and Maraka planet Mars.

Have we succeeded in distinguishing between the 4:10 and 4:32 pm times using the difference in Antardasha for the Rabin assassination? I believe not. For the 4:10 time, Venus-Saturn potentiates the Saturn aspect on Venus, Pluto, and Mars as Antardasha lord Saturn aspects Mahadasha lord Venus. For the 4:32 pm time, Venus-Mercury, Mahadasha lord Venus activates Pluto and Mars, and Antardasha lord Mercury activates Rahu in the proximity of the Sun. Both correlate with the event.

Examination of the tumultuous events of the last year in Israel—the reelection of Benjamin Netanyahu as Prime Minister, the debate over judicial reform leading to massive street protests, the Hamas attack of Oct. 7 which precipitated the ongoing Gaza war—may help us to the goal of determination of an accurate birth time for Israel.

Tumultuous Prelude to the Disaster

On November 1, 2022, elections in Israel allowed Benjamin Netanyahu to create a government for his 3rd term as Prime Minister, despite his multiple indictments for corruption. First elected in 1996, Netanyahu has served a total of 15 years in three separate governments, outstripping Ben Gurion to become Israel's longest serving prime minister. Although he has outstayed his welcome, Netanyahu has many accomplishments to his credit, including shoring up Israel's security at critical moments, and guiding the Israeli economy to extraordinary performance as Start-Up Nation. Netanyahu is a wily politician who projects the feeling that he will keep people safe. That exactly the opposite has happened has not yet registered with large swaths of voters.

In these recent elections, Netanyahu's Likud party won with the slimmest of margins, able to form a coalition only by supplementing the usual right-wing parties with ultra-Orthodox religious parties, and the unprecedented inclusion of far-right parties who were once considered beyond

the pale. This coalition went on to initiate judicial reforms which would have seriously weakened Israel's Supreme Court, the sole protection for Israel's democracy in the absence of a constitution. While the reform was spearheaded by right-wing ideologues seeking to further the settlement enterprise without interference from the courts, Netanyahu's own goal was to weaken the courts to keep himself out of jail. In fear that Israel's democratic nature would be irrevocably damaged by the judicial reform, hundreds of thousands of Israelis took to the streets in weekly protests. Dramatically, many pilots and soldiers from elite combat units stopped showing up for training. Although warned by the defense and intelligence communities that Iran's proxies planned an attack against a weakened Israel, Netanyahu and his allies continued to pursue the judicial reform with vigor, to be halted only by the Hamas attack of Oct. 7.



Figure2: Tel Aviv, Israel, February, 2023: Israelis protest against Netanyahu's Judicial Coup (Avivi Aharon, Shutterstock).

Significantly, Israel entered her Rahu Mahadasha in the fall of 2022, coincident with the elections returning Netanyahu to power, after one year of a unique power sharing government under the centrist Yair Lapid and the right-wing Naftali Bennet, which had remarkably included the Islamicist party of Mahmoud Abbas. Under Rahu, Israel veered back to the false security of a purely right-wing government.

The timing of the entry to Rahu differs between the two alternative birth times we have considered. The 4:10 pm time has the entry to Rahu on Dec. 27, 2022, two days before the swearing in of the Netanyahu government on Dec. 29, 2022. The 4:32 pm time has Israel going into Rahu earlier, on Sep. 5, 2022, already putting Rahu in charge during the campaign period leading up to the elections on Nov. 1, 2022. As this election campaign opened up a chasm exposing Israel's darker elements, including the fomenting of society's divisions, I believe that Rahu was operating in full force from the opening of the campaign, supporting the 4:32 pm birth time.

A Chart for Netanyahu

Not surprisingly, there is fog obscuring the birthtime of Benjamin Netanyahu. Astro-Databank (Astrodienst) gives a birth time of Oct. 21, 1949, 10:30 am, Tel Aviv, with a Rodden rating of C (caution, source in doubt). According to source Lois Rodden, the 10:30 am time was rectified to 10:30 am by Isaac Starkman. Israeli astrologer Micha Velner claimed that Netanyahu was born in Jerusalem at 9:30 am on the same day (as sourced by Lois Rodden in Astrodatabank, who noted the same time was released by the Israeli Consulate in Los Angeles.) These two times give similar charts, both with a Scorpio Lagna (Chart 5), as the geographical distance between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv compensates for the one-hour difference in birth time. An alternative source who claims Netanyahu himself as reference has him born two days earlier at 11:45 am in Tel Aviv.^{vi} This birth time gives a Sagittarius Lagna which does not fit this man of shadows. The puzzle of Netanyahu's birth time, day and city could perhaps be resolved by a thorough analysis of Netanyahu's life events with his Dashas but will not be undertaken here. For now, I will use the 10:30 am birth time, with caution.

The Scorpio Lagna given by the 10:30 am time suits this relentless, remorseless, and brilliant politician. Venus is in the Lagna, giving the political asset of charm, and Lagna lord Mars is in 10th bhava Leo, forming a Ruchaka Mahapurusha yoga in kingly Magha nakshatra, with Dig Bala strength. Mercury Moolatrikona in 11th bhava Virgo is the asset of a clever communicator who has cultivated powerful allies. The Sun as 10th bhava lord is prime ministerial, although debilitated in 12th bhava Libra and aspected by Saturn. This challenged Sun indicates a fragile ego behind the bluster. Note untrustworthy Ketu and deceptive Neptune both at 22 degrees Virgo, in proximity to the strong Mercury. Mercury with Ketu and Neptune suggests that the powerful tool of Netanyahu's rhetoric is not always motivated by truth. The Moon, representing the mind and feelings, is here as well, at 26:11 degrees Virgo, implying that Netanyahu may be taken in by his own deceptions. These Virgo planets are in Papakartari yoga, flanked by Mars and Saturn in Leo and the Sun in Libra, malefic influences inclining them in an inauspicious direction.

Benjamin Netanyahu D1 8:55:10 - 11:15:51

Ra _{22°45'}			Ur _{11°49'}
			Pl _{24°50'}
Jp _{0°51'}			Ma _{3°33'} Sa _{22°14'}
	As _{19°59'} Ve _{19°14'}	Su _{4°24'}	Mo _{26°11'} Ke _{22°45'} Ne _{22°13'} Me _{16°29'}

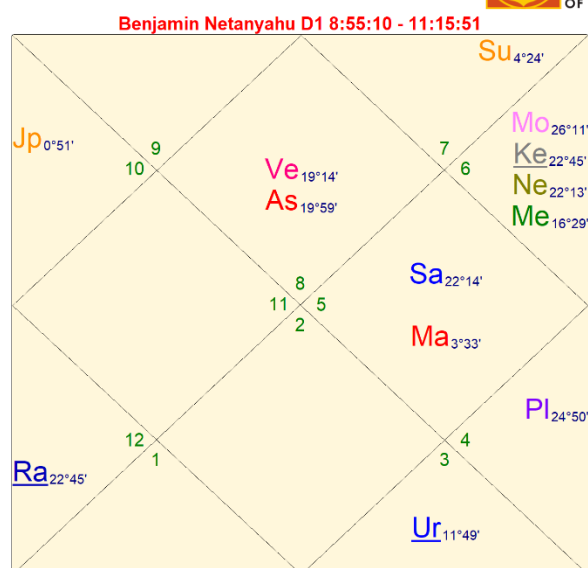


Chart 5: Birth Chart of Benjamin Netanyahu, Oct. 21, 1949, 10:30 am, Daylight Time (+3:00 h), Tel Aviv, Israel, 32°N04', 34°E46'.



Figure 3: Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (Drop of Light, Shutterstock).

Comparing the chart of Israel to that of Netanyahu, several convergences stand out. First, they both have Mars in Leo, at 5:10 degrees for Israel, and at 3:33 degrees for Netanyahu. Netanyahu's Mars on Israel's Mars shows how tightly his fate and that of Israel are linked together, in Magha, the Nakshatra of kingship. Netanyahu's supporters have been known to chant "Bibi King of Israel." In addition, Israel's Lagna at 6:41 degrees Libra is in close proximity to Netanyahu's Sun at 4:24 degrees Libra. As we will see, both of these points played a role in the events of October 7.

The Disaster of Oct. 7

The Hamas invasion of Southern Israel began at 6:29 am on Saturday Oct. 7, 2023, the Shabbat day of rest. In this chart Mars is at 2:25 degrees, almost exactly on Israel's Libra ascendent point and Netanyahu's debilitated Sun. Mars is Israel's 2nd bhava and 7th bhava lord (from the Lagna), both Marakas, and the karaka of enemies. Transiting Ketu is immediately adjacent to Mars at 1:14 degrees Libra. Mars with Ketu is a marker of terror. Mars and Ketu within one degree in the Lagna is a chilling echo of the same configuration found in the Sagittarius Lagna of the USA on Sept. 11, 2001, when the Twin Towers were felled in an act of terror. Furthermore, transiting Mars is aspecting transiting Pluto in Capricorn, also within one degree, exacerbating the violence. Israel's Lagna lord Venus in transit in Leo is at 4:12 degrees, one degree from Israel's Mars at 5:10 Leo, and close to Netanyahu's Mars at 3:33 degrees Leo, both aspected by transiting Saturn at 6:59 degrees Aquarius. In addition, Jupiter at 19:40 Aries is on Israel's Rahu at 20:33 degrees and aspecting her Ketu, enhancing the explosiveness.

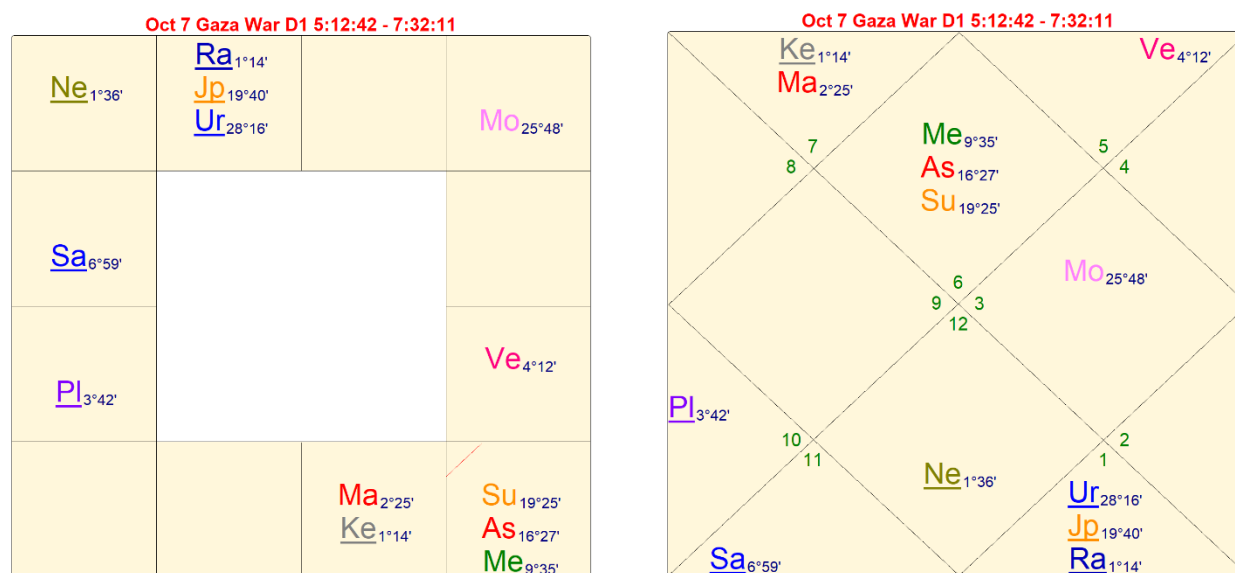


Chart 6: Event chart for the Hamas attack on Southern Israel, Oct. 7, 2023, at 6:29 am, Daylight Time (+3:00 h), Sederot, Israel, 31°N31', 34°E35'.

As was true for the USA on 9/11, Oct. 7 is a turning point which has changed Israel forever. The event chart shows the involvement of Israel's Libra Lagna and Lagna lord Venus, suggesting an

existential threat to the body of the state: Mars-Ketu transiting in Israel's Lagna on the leader's Sun triggering the attack; Israel's Lagna lord Venus transiting natal Mars, aspected by transiting Saturn; Rahu-Ketu transiting Israel's Rahu-Ketu on the 1st bhava - 7th bhava axis; Jupiter transiting Israel's Rahu and aspecting Israel's Ketu in the Lagna. While Jupiter and Venus are the 6th and 8th bhava lords, bringing suffering and death, they are also benefics, bringing protection and comfort. On Oct. 30, 2023, Rahu moved on to Pisces, and Ketu to Virgo, leaving Israel's natal nodes behind. The nodes' current placement in the 6th and 12th bhavas of Israel may presage more suffering and death, enemies and losses. Rahu-Ketu now coincide with Netanyahu's Rahu-Ketu, shifting the karmic pressure to the leader.

A Hopeful New Year's Correction

On January 1, 2024, Israel's Supreme Court voted to suspend the first stage of the judicial reform promoted by the Netanyahu government. The day before, Dec. 31, 2023, Jupiter stationed to go direct in Aries, while Mercury would station direct on Jan. 2, 2024. In the window of Jan. 1, with Jupiter direct and Mercury retrograde, the Supreme Court justices voted to correct an error of the past—Jupiter straight-forwardly promoting justice by correcting a previous error, an action typical of Mercury retrograde. This was a moment of hope.

The Malefics Come for Netanyahu

As we have seen, the Mars-Ketu conjunction which triggered the Gaza war impacted Netanyahu's debilitated Sun as well. It is thought that Oct. 7 may be the beginning of the end of Netanyahu, though the full reckoning may need to wait until the war's end, whenever that will be. Some in Israel are beginning to agitate for Netanyahu's removal in the near future. One of the concerns is that even with the hoped-for ceasefire and return of the hostages, this conflict is likely to become regional, with the wider involvement of Iran and its proxies. Israel has yet to disable the threat that Hezbollah, Iran's proxy in Lebanon, poses to her Northern border. I share the thoughts of many Israelis that the government which brought us to this crisis is unable to safely conduct us in war, or to govern us in peace. When we look to the transits of the next few months, we see help coming in the form of malefics—Rahu, Ketu, Mars, and Saturn—who will exert potentially devastating impact upon Netanyahu's natal planets.

First, on the Vernal Equinox, March 20, 2024, 5:06 am in Jerusalem, Rahu will conjoin Netanyahu's natal Rahu at 22 degrees Pisces, and Ketu his Ketu in Virgo (Chart 7). Amazingly, at the moment of this return, Mercury will be there as well, at 23 degrees Pisces, one degree from Rahu. Netanyahu's greatest asset, smooth-talking Mercury, will be in Rahu's mouth, and debilitated in Pisces, Netanyahu's weakest sign, with only 21 bindus in Ashtakavarga. Also impacted will be the transiting Sun, karaka of leadership, at 5 degrees Pisces, and natal Mercury at 16 degrees Virgo,

near the Ketu-Ketu return at 22 degrees. Netanyahu is in his Mercury Mahadasha, emphasizing the role of Mercury and the Mercury-Mercury opposition seen here.

On the same day, Mars at 3:34 degrees Aquarius will exactly oppose Netanyahu's Mars at 3:33 degrees Leo. Mars is Netanyahu's Lagna lord. Mars in Aquarius joins Saturn, who aspects Netanyahu's natal Saturn in Leo, exerting a karmic imperative upon the 10th bhava of leadership. Saturn is now Netanyahu's Antardasha lord. Saturn has been calling Netanyahu to account for a year now, both in the courts, where the indictments have piled up, and in private life, with mysterious hospitalizations.

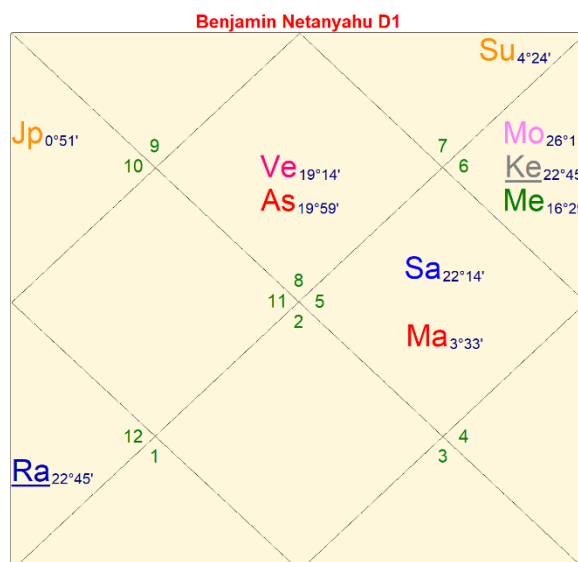
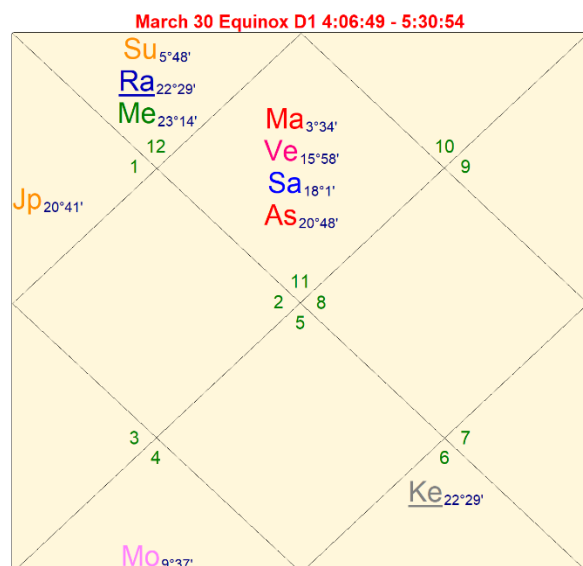
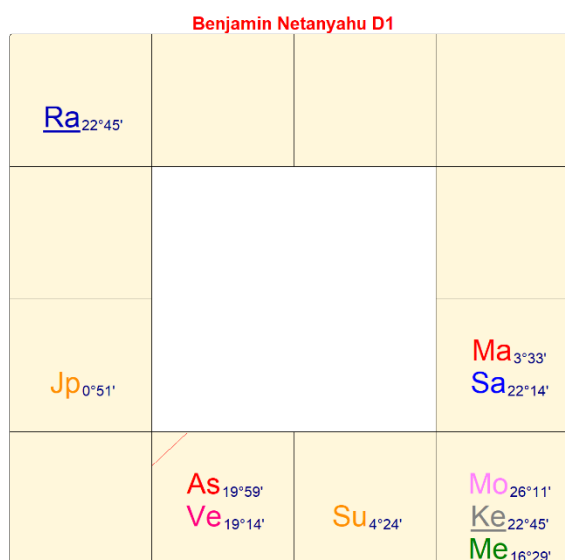
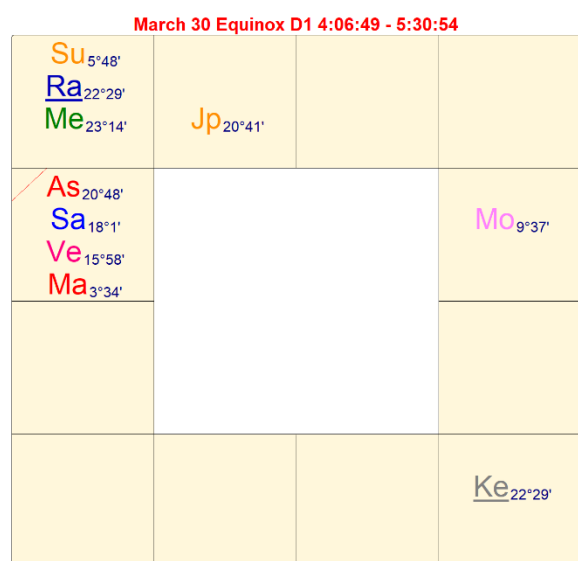


Chart 7: On the left, the Vernal Equinox chart, March 20, 5:06 am, Standard Time (+2:00 h) Jerusalem, Israel, 31°N46', 35°E12'.

On right, for comparison, Netanyahu's birth chart, Oct. 21, 1949, 10:30 am, Daylight Time (+3:00 h), Tel Aviv, Israel, 32°N04', 34°E46'.

A few days later, on March 25, 2024, comes the lunar eclipse at 10:56 degrees Virgo,^{vii} directly impacting Netanyahu's Mercury, Moon, and Ketu, all in Virgo. Netanyahu is in Mercury-Saturn-Moon Dasha. The eclipse involves both his Mahadasha lord Mercury (with Rahu in Pisces) and his Pratyantara lord Moon (with Ketu and the Moon in transit in Virgo). We have already seen the impact of Antardasha lord Saturn aspecting natal Saturn and potentiating the Mars-Mars aspect. The personal impact of this eclipse on the chart of Netanyahu is striking and will bear fruit.

By the time of the solar eclipse of April 8, 2024, Mercury will have moved on to Aries. Without the involvement of Mercury, the solar eclipse is slightly less personal for Netanyahu, but does constitute a second punch on his Virgo planets. Immediately following the eclipse, on April 10, Mars will conjoin Saturn at 20 degrees Aquarius, casting a close aspect on Netanyahu's Saturn at 22:14 degrees Leo, and a less precise aspect on his Mars at 3:33 degrees Leo, in the rashi of kingship and Netanyahu's 10th bhava of profession. Finally, on May 18, two culprits will join forces as Mars conjoins Rahu at 19:20 degrees Pisces, three degrees from Netanyahu's natal Rahu, impacting the Virgo planets in Netanyahu's 11th bhava once again, this time with the firepower of Mars.

The malefic attack on Netanyahu will be three pronged: Saturn challenging his Saturn; Mars serially hitting his Mars, his Saturn, and his Rahu; Rahu catching his Mercury in the throes of an eclipse. Netanyahu goes into Mercury-Saturn-Mars on May 21 (with the caveat that the 10:30 am birth time may not be correct and the Dashas not accurate). At the moment, despite glaring internal divisions and the war for which he bears partial responsibility, Netanyahu seems to be unassailable, held in power by his Rahu-inspired coalition. The upcoming transits and dashas tell another story, however, of malefic challenge to Netanyahu's Dasha planets which may finally separate the karmas of Israel and her longest-running prime minister.

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ⁱ In the Jyotish tradition, the significant event for a nation was the coronation of the monarch, as the concept of a creation of a nation in the modern sense did not exist.

ⁱⁱ Campion, Nicholas, *The Book of World Horoscopes*, 3rd edition, The Wessex Astrologer, Bournemouth, 2004.

ⁱⁱⁱ The 4:10 pm time is from Micha Felner, from Facebook, and personally from Dalia Landau, both veteran Israeli astrologers. The text is from the Encyclopedia Judaica.

^{iv} Campion, Nicholas, p. 168.

^v All charts were created using Sri Jyoti Star Software, version 10, using the Lahiri Ayanamsa, 365.25-year length, mean node, and with longitudes and latitudes from the software database. I have included the outer planets, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto, although not generally used in the Jyotish tradition, as they contributed to my understanding of the charts.

^{vi} The full entry on Netanyahu's birthtime from Astro-Databank: "Selma Schepel quotes Micha Velner [who goes as Felner in English], a Tel Aviv astrologer for 9.30 AM, Jerusalem, 'personal information' 5/96. Same date given by the Israeli Consulate, Los Angeles, CA. Jane Statlander gave same date, 10:45 AM, Tel Aviv, in MH 10/96. In the same issue, Isaac Starkman gave same date, also for Tel Aviv, 'rectified from 10:30 AM local time.' Noel Tyl quotes Tel Aviv astrologer Dalia Stupp who declared in a group of some 60 people that she had gotten the data from Netanyahu himself and read his chart for him, 19 October 1949, 11:45 AM EEDT. Starkman rectified to 10.15.08 AM (Asc 9Sag58'). 'Tel Aviv is for sure the birthplace.'"

^{vii} The Lunar Eclipse of March 25, 2024, will be exact in Jerusalem at 9:02 am. This is a penumbral eclipse whose maximum will not be visible in Jerusalem, as the Moon will be below the horizon at that time.