

JYOTISH TRENDS July 2017

(Times are for Arizona which is now same as Pacific time; one hour later for Mountain Time; and two hours later for Central time; and three hours later for Eastern time zone.)

Lunar high points (affects emotions positively):

Full Moon in Sagittarius: July 7 from 7:01 PM until July 8 at 9:06 PM

Exalted Moon in Taurus: July 18 from 2:47 PM until July 20 at 3:39 PM. Moon is opposite Saturn at this time, which may give a slight vata or anxious energy tendency in emotions.

Moon in own sign of Cancer: July 22 from 3:58 PM until July 24 at 5:30 PM.

Lunar low points (emotions are more sensitive):

Moon is in its debilitation/ subdued position of Scorpio constellation: July 4 from 10:12 AM until July 6 at 10:51 PM. This time is particularly intense because Saturn is conjunct the Moon also at this time.

New Moon in Gemini as well as Cancer constellation: July 22 from 5:57 AM until July 23 at 2:45 AM. During this time Moon is conjunct Mars which gives a pitta or fiery energy tendency to the emotions and thinking. And since Gemini is the constellation of communication, it can give more energy, but at the same time more intensity in communication. Also Mars in Cancer is in its debilitation or subdued position, and conjunct Moon it can bring tendency for intensity in emotions. During such time it is important to find emotional outlets so frustration does not build up.

Additional intense days:

Moon in Leo conjunct Rahu: July 24 from 5:30 PM until July 26 at 9:53 PM. Rahu brings restless tendency to emotions.

Moon in Capricorn aspected by Saturn as well as Mars: July 9 from 10:54 AM until July 11 at 9:32 PM. The Saturn Mars aspect brings a vata pitta influence to the emotions. Vata is associated with this nervous energy, and pitta is associated with heat as in fiery emotions.

I. DAYS OF SHIVA --- for Transcendental experience of Deep Meditation & Prayer:

July 6 from 4:44 PM until July 7 at 7:01 PM

July 21 from 9:19 AM until July 22 at 5:57 AM

II. DAYS OF SKANDA (ARCHANGEL MICHAEL)---for Victory and energy to overcome negativity:

July 14 from 2:25 AM until July 15 at 2:03 AM

July 27 from 6:08 PM until July 28 at 6:30 PM

III. DAYS OF GANESH---for removing obstacles and success in action:

July 12 from 1:33 AM until July 13 at 2:14 AM

July 25 from 7:38 PM until July 26 at 6:30 PM

IV. DAYS OF VISHNU---for harmony, balance, dharma and good relationships:

July 3 from 9:45 AM till July 4 at 11:59 AM

July 18 from 6:55 PM until July 19 at 3:57 PM

V. DAYS OF DURGA (Mother Divine)---for removing difficulties and overcoming fear:

July 16 from 11:34 PM until July 17 at 9:29 PM

July 30 from 9:16 PM until August 1

PLANETARY Sankranti----Points of Transcendence when planets switch constellations

Sun enters the sign of Cancer on July 16 at 3:50 AM and this last till August 16 at 12:15 PM. This shifts the National and individual focus from communication issues to compassion and healing. It also puts emphasis on nurturing. This will especially affect people with Leo and Cancer rising signs (or Sun/Moon in these signs). Please also note that Sun's fiery energy will combine with Mars in same sign to create more pitta tendency (fiery emotion).

Mars enters the sign of Cancer on July 11 at 2:25 AM and this is its position till August 26 at 7:55 PM. This means for the world and individual it favors greater energy for the compassion and healing. However in this position Mars is most inward, so it is important not to let emotions build up in intensity of frustration. For Capricorn, Cancer and Aquarius rising signs (or Sun or Moon in these signs) it could bring tendency for more intensity in relationships. However, the personal energy of Mars for those with Scorpio or Aries rising signs will be tempered with the compassionate gentle nature of the Moon represented by Cancer constellation.

Mercury moves to the sign of Cancer on July 2 at 2:35 PM and stays there till July 20 at 9:50 PM. This emphasizes use of intellect for family oriented and healing purposes--more compassionate and nurturing in approach. The change to Cancer constellation in July particularly affects people with Cancer, Gemini and Virgo ascendants (or Moon/Sun in those signs).

Mercury then enters the sign of Leo on July 20 at 9:50 PM and stays there till September 26 at 12 PM. In this position Mercury being in Leo energizes higher levels of leadership for better communication. This position of Mercury in August particularly affects people with Leo, Gemini and Virgo ascendants (or Moon/Sun in signs).

Venus stays in Taurus constellation till July 26. Venus in Taurus constellation favors family harmony and friendship. This is particularly favorable for Taurus, Libra, and Scorpio rising signs (or Sun/Moon in those signs). Also artistic projects and appreciation of comfort and beauty continue being favored at this time. There is a possibility, however, that relationships may have some vata/intense energy added as Venus will be also aspected by Saturn.

Starting July 26 at 4:35 AM until August 20 at 10:20 PM Venus will be in the Gemini constellation. This shifts the artistic energy of Venus to be applied for communication--as using art form to communicate a message to society. This particularly influences people with Gemini, Libra and Taurus Rising signs (or Moon/Sun in these signs).

Rahu this month continues to stay in the constellation Leo. This brings an opening up of non conventional expansive thinking to world leadership, as well as in general society. It particularly

affects people with Leo rising sign (or Sun/ Moon in this position). In addition individuals with Aquarius risings signs will experience Rahu being in the 7 th house of relationships. This may bring a feeling of wanting more independence/ space and separation in relationships.

Ketu is in the constellation Aquarius and also stays in Aquarius till Fall of 2017. This brings in a spiritual inner quality to scientific research and work to bring technology to humanity. It particularly affects individuals with Aquarius rising (or Sun/Moon in these positions. For people with Leo rising signs (or Sun/Moon in this sign) it may bring a quality of non-attachment to relationships.

After July 5 Rahu and Ketu will be zero degrees and some minutes in their respective signs. Therefore this month and next month is a type of opening up of the subtle dimensions. It may feel very transcendental during this time especially since Saturn, another important grounding planet is also very close to the edge of the Scorpio -Sagittarius constellations. This is a time favorable for deep meditations or spiritual retreats.

OTHER PLANETARY POSITIONS

Jupiter stays in the constellation Virgo till September 11, 2017 at 6:05 PM. During this time of being in Virgo constellation, Jupiter will be focused on intelligent ways of solving problems in society and for the individual. This transit will affect people who are Sagittarius or Pisces rising, or with Moon or Sun in these constellations. It may also bring in extra connection with teachers are knowledge for people who are Pisces rising.

For women who have Pisces rising this could bring in a new bond with one's children or with men in one's life. The problem solving orientation quality of Jupiter in Virgo may also be felt in relationships for people who have Gemini rising signs (or Sun or Moon in Gemini).

The position of Jupiter in Virgo may for the USA bring in some Divine support of knowledge or dharma to national affairs. It also emphasizes issues of law for the country.

Saturn will stay in the Scorpio constellation this month revisiting the position it was in last year. This position gives more focus to research and health trends as Saturn is very deep in influence in this position, and brings in healing energy on national and international level.

For the USA it brings desire to set communication affairs in order, as well as the need to reveal that which was hidden. This process may feel very transformational like a death and rebirth. The position of Saturn in Scorpio may affect more people with Capricorn and Aquarius rising signs (or Sun/ Moon in these signs), as well as Scorpio and Taurus rising signs (or with Sun/Moon in those signs).

Saturn Retrograde in Scorpio this month and next could also indicate revisiting some of the issues of 2016, with possibility of some "bumpiness" in individual, National and International affairs till Saturn goes steadily direct again. In terms of individual activities it can slow down or delay resolving/ crystallizing projects or situations. For those with Saturn rising signs like Capricorn and Aquarius (or Sun/Moon in these signs) it could give more inward tendency.

SPECIAL VEDIC HOLIDAYS (as per Arizona /Pacific time-- times July differ in India as they there is a time zone difference. Please note also Vedic Holidays were based on Lunar days, not Solar days):

LORD SHIVA HOLIDAYS:

Jaya Parvati Vrata begins July 5 and ends July 11. It is dedicated to (Mother Nature) Parvati and Lord Shiva (Supreme Silent Absolute). It is observed mainly by married women for family well being, peace and abundance. A partial fast is done these days with worship, and an all night vigil is kept the fifth night, where fasting is broken next morning.

Shani Pradosh falls on the thirteenth lunar day in both the bright half and dark half of the Lunar cycle. This month Shani Pradosha is celebrated July 5 from 2:21 PM until July 6 at 4:44 PM as well as July 20 from 12:42 PM until July 21 at 9:19 AM.

Fasting and worship of Shiva on Shani Pradosh brings freedom from restrictions, removal of obstacles and troubles, and moksha or Enlightenment. Traditionally in the Vedic Tradition one takes a vow (vrata) to do 11 or 26 such Shani Pradosh worships.

July 16 from 1:06 AM until 11:34 PM as well as July 29 from 7:36 PM until July 30 at 9:16 PM is Kala Ashtami (8th Lunar day each month), which celebrates the appearance of Kala Bhairava, a special aspect of Lord Shiva who appeared and cut off the fifth head of the Creator Brahma, leaving 4 heads facing different directions.

The real symbolism of this is that Creation has four directions but the fifth direction is the Transcendental Pure Consciousness which belongs to Shiva (Almighty God as Supreme Silence). On this day it is traditional for Shiva devotees to stay up all night in vigil and make offerings to Bhairava and Parvati (The Divine Feminine aspect of Almighty God) and also offer libations and oblations to their departed ancestors. Dogs are also offered treats as offerings.

Night of July 21-22 is **monthly Shiva Ratri** (Night of Shiva) during which time one honors Shiva (Almighty God). This is the Night of Shiva when it is customary to stay up all Night adoring the Supreme Being as Shiva, God as the Absolute Supreme Silent Self. It is said that on this Night the Absolute (Shiva) accepts the Creation as His own Nature--giving rise to the full awakening of Enlightenment as the Unity of Absolute and Relative.

The real meaning of staying up all night on Shiva Ratri evening is being awake perpetually in the state of Enlightenment/ God Realization. Also during this time it is traditional to pour milk, honey, sugar ghee and other offerings over a Shiva Lingam while reciting the Yajur Veda hymns known as Rudra Pathe. It is also traditional to read excerpts from Holy Scriptures about Shiva.

Naga Panchami is July 27. It is celebrated on the fifth day of the waxing Moon. During this time the great Nagas (Divine Cobras/or Divine 'Dragon' like Beings) are honored to remove any Naga dosha or problem. Typically we see this in Jyotish from the position of Rahu.

LORD VISHNU HOLIDAYS:

July 3-4 Deva Shayani Ekadashi is a day Holy to Lord Vishnu (Omnipresence of God as Love). (See Vishnu times). It is traditional to fast on this day, and it is said in the Vedic texts that even just reading about Vishnu and hearing about this day will free one from the most heinous sins. Deva Shayani Ekadashi celebrates the time when Lord Narayana/Vishnu and the devas or Laws of Nature is said to sleep for four months.

This is related to the Dakshina Ayana or Southern course of the Sun from Cancer constellation to Capricorn Constellation.

These stories may actually relate to astronomical events in ancient times. The Uttarayana is said to be the bright half of the year, and Dakshinayana is the dark half. This 6 months of dark and six months of light happens at the poles only. It is said that the Divine Beings (gods) landed on the Poles from the heavens and brought civilization to mankind. We have a bit of missing history here-- and there are indications in Vedas that the original people who chanted the Vedas came from the pole, as they described all the stars as revolving in a perfect circle around the polestar, which now only happens at the North Pole.

There is also a story about this Ekadashi which was told by the Creator Brahma to Sage Narada:

During the Satyuga there was a compassionate King named Mandhata. There was a drought in his kingdom for three years. Seeking to end the drought he contacted the Sage Angiras. The sage told the King that someone in his kingdom was not performing yagyas properly and was causing the withholding of rain. King Mandhata was advised to fast on Deva-Shayani Ekadashi together with all the people in his kingdom to end the drought. It worked and heavy rains came again.

July 19 celebrates Kamika Ekadashi. (see Vishnu times above). It is a day Holy to Lord Vishnu (Omnipresence of God as Love). It is traditional to fast on this day, and it is said in the Vedic texts by Sage Narada that this fast is more meritorious than reading all the spiritual literature. It is also said that one who fasts on this day will never experience the anger of the Lord of Dharma-Karma Yama-raj.

Ekadashis in general commemorate the day Lord Vishnu (God as Omnipresent Love) destroyed the demon Mura (Hence Vishnu is known as Murari). It was the female power or Shakti of Lord Vishnu that appeared to destroy the demon. Because the Shakti emerged on the 11th Lunar day She was called Ekadashi. The Shakti in the narration of the story asked Lord Vishnu to grant the boon that whosoever worships Vishnu (and his Shakti) on the 11th Lunar day, be granted freedom from sin.

July 28 is Kalki Jayanti. This is celebrating the birth of the Kalki Avatar of Lord Vishnu (God as Love). Kalki is the last avatar of Vishnu who brings an end to the evils of Kali Yuga and restores dharma to the world. He is depicted as riding on a horse carrying a sharp sword. This is reminiscent of the Book of Revelation in the Bible at the End of Times. According to the astrological predictions in the Shreemad Bhagavatam Book 12, Chp. 2, vs. 24, we began the Kalki Avatar time July 26, 2014.

SPECIAL BIRTHS OR TIMES

Guru Purnimah, the Full Moon Night of Honoring one's Spiritual Teacher (Guru) is July 7 (see Full Moon times above). Honoring the Guru on this night is said to yield extra spiritual blessings. The essence of this celebration is for people to show appreciation and love for the Guru/spiritual teacher who brings the Divine blessings.

On Guru Purnimah devotees of the Saint-Avatar Shirdi Sai Baba (b.1838-1918) have processions and celebrations in India. Shirdi Sai emphasized surrender to the Sad Guru, love, peace, truth and devotion to God. He is highly revered in India (and by devotees around the world) as embodiment of Self-Realization. Shirdi Sai lived simply and austerely in an abandoned temple/ mosque in the village of Shirdi in Maharashtra, India. He united Muslim and Hindu traditions through his teachings and his example which treated all equally regardless of caste or religion.

July 25-26 is **Vinayaka Chaturthi**-- day of Ganesh good for fulfilling desires and removing obstacles (see times of Ganesh above). Fasting on this day brings Blessings of peace, prosperity and knowledge. (See Ganesh times above)

July 29 is **Tulsidas Jayanti**, birth of the great 16 th Century poet Tulsidas who wrote the magnificent epic tale of Hanuman and Lord Ram. His version of the story is called the Tulsidas Ramayana. The famous Hanuman Chalisa, or song of Glory of Lord Hanuman, the monkey Rudra avatar, comes from this work by sage Tulsidas.

Wishing everyone a Happy Year through Growth, Success and Fulfillment! May July 2017 bring you the fulfillment of your cherished desires! And the Year of 2017 bring perfection in your goals!

Please note: Personal Jyotish readings are available by Dr. Herzberger to address specific issues in a person's Vedic Chart, with opportunity to balance planetary energies through yagyas (Vedic ceremonies) that he performs.

Dr. Herzberger also has a team of some of the finest pundits of India (a number of whom are professors emeritus of yagya and Jyotish at Varanasi, India) that have chosen to work with him as per very specific yagya instructions. Upon request he also has done yagyas in synergy with his team.

Monica, Dr. Herzberger's sister, is also available to do intuitive readings. Monica has helped people with her direct clarity of spiritual insight. She is skilled in pinpointing the nature of specific times. You might enjoy reading her Lunar Calendar for the month on her and Dr. Herzberger's website.

Dr. Herzberger's website is www.jyotishcenter.com/. You can also read about yagya and Jyotish on this website. You can also read the Jyotish Trends for each month here.

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