

ALL GLORY TO SHRI GURU AND SHRI GAURANGA

THE ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

Mithuna Twiins Astrological Services

“Home of the Bhrigu Project”



-His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

Shrila Prabhupada offers prayers to Shri Shri Radha and Govinda of NY ISKCON, Henry St, Brooklyn NYC, c. 1972: “You American boys and girls are very nice. Many persons suggested that I originally go to London. But Krishna sent me to New York.” (As told to your Editor, New Vrindavana, May 1969)

**Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare
Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare**

11 May 2014 (#41) Shri Rukmini Dwadashi or Vaishakha shukla dwadashi corresponding to the twelfth day of the bright fortnight of Madhusudana, 527 Gaurabda Era.

In this issue: Prophecies of Narada Muni

Also: On the Verge of Global Conflict

The Astrological Newsletter (Please e-share it with your friends)

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Dear Prabhus,

Dandavats to the Vaishnavas—and welcome to the issue. Due to the effects of two devastating eclipses since the last issue, the world we share has suffered some major traumas. A few of the details are described in Abhaya Mudra Dasi's article that follows. Her research links the current astrological events with the Ukraine / Crimea conflict and its future impact on the American dollar.

Fortunately we have not heard of any serious mishaps to any of our spiritual family members in ISKCON even though the past month has been shaken by mega-disasters in all parts of the globe. What is most amazing in such bad times is that we as devotees hold in our hands the golden key to relieve the entire Earth of the bad *karma* that is the root cause of such terrible repercussions. And that key is the Hare Krishna *mahamantra* and public *sankirtana*. It is just a matter of time before the modes of passion and ignorance that enslave the world give way to the pure transcendental goodness that Shрила Prabhupada proclaimed as the rising Moon of the Golden Avatara. The cry to “Save Earth Now” actually means *sankirtana yagna*.

Krishna promises that even in such foreboding times as these, the devotees who have surrendered unto His lotus feet remain protected. Astrology seeks to analyze the strong and weak points of a horoscope. Yet through Krishna consciousness, all these details are automatically taken care of. As the Lord tells His devotee Arjuna

(Bg.9.22), “But those who worship Me with devotion, meditating on My transcendental form—to them I carry what they lack and preserve what they have.”

As devotees our responsibilities are huge. Shrila Prabhupada always reminded us that there is no dearth of anything in this world except Krishna consciousness. And Krishna consciousness remains in very short supply. All glories to the bold preachers of the message of Bhagavata Dharma, for Krishna promises (Bg 9.31), “O son of Kunti, declare it boldly that My devotee never perishes.” For only the golden Moon of *sankirtana* can chase away the eclipse of Kali Yuga.

Always wishing you the very best in Krishna consciousness, I beg to remain,
Yours at the lotus feet of the servants of Shrila Prabhupada,

Patita Pavana das Adhikary, Ed

Shri Narada Muni is the greatest of all devotees, one of the twelve Mahajana and the spiritual master of Shrila Vyasadeva. He is also a mystic tri-kala-jnani who sees with clarity all three aspects of time (past, present and future), as we learn from...

The Prophecies of Shri Narada Muni

His Divine Grace AC Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada



From Shrila Prabhupada’s Krishna, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, ch. 36: When (Keshi, the horse demon) was dead, his mouth became loose and Krishna could extract His hand without difficulty. He did not feel any surprise that the Keshi demon was killed so easily, but the demigods were amazed, and out of their great appreciation they offered Krishna greetings by showering flowers.

Krishna is the Unlimited Supersoul

After this incident, Narada Muni, the greatest of all devotees, came to see Krishna in a solitary place and began to talk with Him. “My dear Lord Krishna,” he said, “You are the unlimited Supersoul, the supreme controller of all mystic powers, the Lord of the whole universe, the all-pervading Personality of Godhead. You are the resting place of the cosmic manifestation, the master of all the devotees and the Lord of everyone. My dear Lord, as the Supersoul of all living entities, You remain concealed within their hearts exactly as fire remains concealed in every piece of fuel. You are the witness of all the activities of the living entities, and You are the supreme controller within their hearts. You are self-sufficient; before the creation, You existed, and by Your energy You have

created the whole material universe. According to Your perfect plan, this material world is created by the interaction of the modes of nature, and by You they are maintained and annihilated. Although You are unaffected by all these activities, You are the supreme controller eternally.

Thus Spake Narada Muni



My dear Lord, You have advented Yourself on the surface of this world just to kill all the so-called kings who are actually demons. These hobgoblins are cheating people in the dress of the princely order. You have advented Yourself to fulfill Your own statement that You come within this material world just to protect the principles of religion and annihilate unwanted miscreants. My dear Lord, I am therefore sure that the day after tomorrow I shall see demons like Chanura, Mustika and the other wrestlers and elephants, as well as Kamsa himself, killed by You. And I shall see this with my own eyes. After this, I hope I shall be able to see the killing of other demons like Shankha, Yavana, Mura and Narakasura. I shall also see how You take away the *pārijāta* flower from the kingdom of heaven, and how You defeat the King of heaven himself.

“My dear Lord,” Narada Muni continued, “I shall then be able to see how You marry princesses, the daughters of chivalrous kings, by paying the price of *kshatriya* strength.” (Whenever a *kshatriya* wants to marry a very beautiful and qualified princess of a great king, he must fight his competitors and emerge victorious. Then he is given the hand of the princess in charity.)

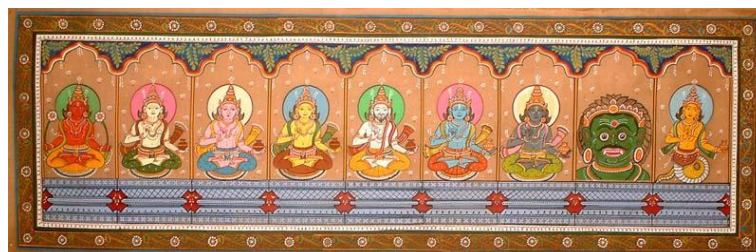
“I shall also see how You save King Nriga from a hellish condition,” said Narada Muni. “This You shall enact in Dwaraka. I shall also be able to see how You get Your wife and the Syamantaka jewel and how You save the son of a *brahmana* from death after he has already been transferred to another planet. After this, I will be able to see You kill the Paundraka demon and burn to ashes the kingdom of Kashi. I will see how You kill the King Chedi and Dantavakra in great fights, on behalf of Maharaja Yudhisthira. Besides all this, it will be possible for me to see many other chivalrous activities while You remain in Dwaraka. And all these activities performed by Your grace will be sung by great poets for all time. And at the battle of Kurukshetra. You will take part as the chariot driver of Your friend Arjuna, and as the invincible death incarnation, eternal time, You will vanquish all belligerents assembled there. I shall see a large number of military forces killed in that battlefield. My Lord, let me offer my respectful obeisances unto Your lotus feet. You are situated completely in the transcendental position in perfect knowledge and bliss. You are complete in Yourself and are beyond all desires. By exhibiting Your

internal potency, You have set up the influence of *maya*. Your unlimited potency cannot even be measured by anyone. My dear Lord, You are the supreme controller. You are under Your own internal potency, and it is simply vain to think that You are dependent on any of Your creations.

“You have taken birth in the Yadu dynasty, or the Vrishni dynasty. Your advent on the surface of the earth in Your original form of eternal blissful knowledge is Your own pastime. You are not dependent on anything but Yourself; therefore I offer my respectful obeisances unto Your lotus feet.”

Shrila Prabhupada explains: Narada Muni wanted to impress upon people in general that Krishna is fully independent. His activities, such as His appearance in the family of Yadu or His friendship with Arjuna, do not necessarily oblige Him to act to enjoy their results. They are all pastimes, and for Him they are all play. But for us they are actual, tangible facts.

After offering his respectful obeisances to Lord Krishna, Narada Muni took permission and left. After He had killed the Keshi demon, Krishna returned to tending the cows with His friends in the forest as though nothing had happened. Thus Krishna is eternally engaged in His transcendental activities in Vrindavana with His friends, the cowherd boys and *gopīs*, but sometimes He exhibits the extraordinary prowess of the Supreme Personality of Godhead by killing different types of demons. ♪



The Nava-grahas: Surya, Chandra, Mangala, Budha, Guru, Shukra, Shani, Rahu and Ketu

On the Verge of Global Conflict

Abhaya Mudra Dasi

Eclipses and the Ukraine Crisis

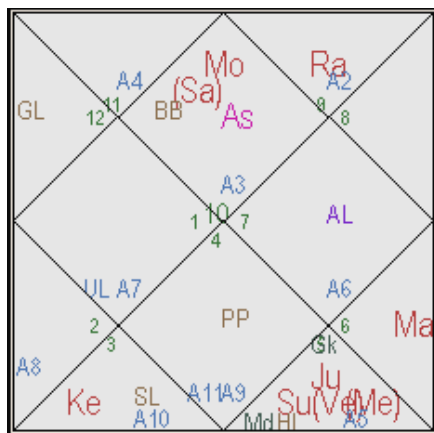
On April 15th an eclipsed Moon crossed from Virgo into Libra. Beginning in Chitra *nakshatra* in Virgo, the lunar black-out finished in Libra's part of the same *nakshatra*. Just prior to the event, Mars had been transiting Libra alongside his bitter enemies Rahu and Saturn. At the end of March we witnessed all three powerful malefics—Mars, Saturn and Rahu—moving *in retrogression* together in Libra. The

dark threesome going backwards in the politically-sensitive sign of the scales (Libra) was a sure indication of tensions to come upon the world stage.

A referendum in the then-Ukrainian Crimean peninsula had been held on Sunday March 16th under the Mars-Rahu-Saturn influence wherein the population voted overwhelmingly in favor of Russian protection for their region. It was the day of the full Moon, and the Uttaraphalguni *nakshatra* in force at the time was favorable for coronation or for the creation of a city-state. This demonstrates that the result of the vote is irrevocable and will continue far into the future.

On March 25th, and while moving in retrogression, Mars re-entered Virgo where he is now making an uncharacteristically long eight-month transit. But his escape from Libra through the back door did not totally disconnect him from the dark influences of the Saturn-Rahu conjunction. Both Mars and Saturn still aspect Mars-ruled Aries, wherein a solar eclipse on April 28th followed the lunar event. Often when the fiery Mars (ruling anger and aggression) and the cold Saturn (governing discontent of the masses) combine, they serve as the provocateurs of conflict. Their bitter enmity, fired by proprietary opposing energies, has taken the form of the ongoing Ukrainian conflict.

Rahu's Curse on the Solar New Year



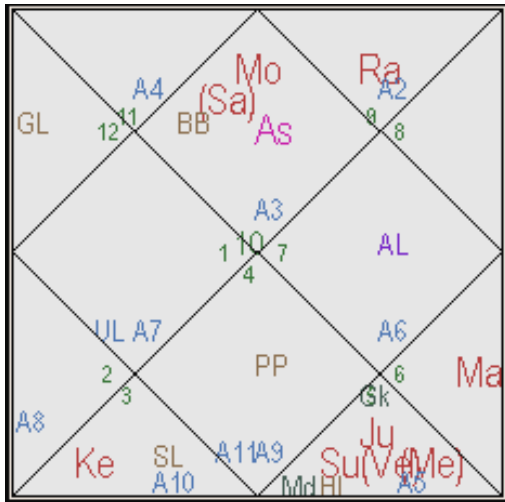
Sun became exalted in Aries, the sign of the solar New Year, on 13th April. This would-be glorious position of solar elevation has been spoiled since the Sun was bombarded not only by the eclipse but also by Saturn's "debilitated aspect" to Aries in the company of Rahu from Libra. This is a situation that clearly shows how the Sun—ruling leadership—became eclipsed through the agency of violent mobs ruled by the combination of Rahu (lawlessness) and Saturn (worker class). As noted, Mars had been virtually escorted out of Libra by Saturn and Rahu

following the red planet in retrograde motion. Thus intimidated, Mars—the ruler of Aries—could not help his friend Sun but was instead pressed into the dictates of Saturn to create violence.

Mars resents going backwards since his nature is forceful and direct. Behind the scenes, exalted Saturn has gained immense power since Libra is the sign of the coming new world trade system now being put into place through the agency of a war in Ukraine that is openly manipulated by outside political interests.

Ukraine declared its independence from the Soviet Union on August 24th 1991. The stars at that time provide some clues as to how this country became the focal point of recent developments. At the time of Ukraine's independence most of the planets

were gathered in Saturn-ruled Capricorn and Sun-ruled Leo. The Leo group has Sun, Venus, Mercury and Jupiter; whereas Saturn and Moon are in Capricorn. Both Saturn and Sun were in their own signs. In the recent developments in Ukraine, both Saturn and Sun were exalted, while the signs where both of these planets are located (Aries and Libra) were the signs that underwent the two eclipses on April 15th and 28th. Most interestingly is that Mars was also in Virgo at the time of Ukraine's independence—just as he is now.



Ukraine falls close to the region of Aries on the world map, a sign that is shared by most countries in central Europe. Thus these other Aries-ruled countries are widely affected by the crisis in Ukraine. The eclipse on 28th April was quite interesting since it was not visible in many places during the daytime *even as it was ongoing*. This is another indication that the workings behind the present crisis in Ukraine are neither completely understood nor visible despite current simplistic media propaganda.

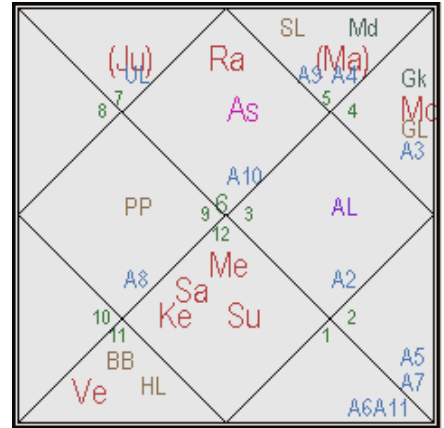
Although sanctions have been imposed against Russia by the West, it is unlikely that the country will suffer drastically simply because Moscow is located in another region controlled by Aquarius. Russia may not increase its involvement in the crisis unless its own interests become heavily involved. (Nonetheless, planetary configurations indicate that there could be some natural disaster or other local tensions that might occur in the north-eastern part of the country.)

Tensions in the region will continue on high alert at least until the Sun enters Taurus on 14th May when he escapes the Aries hot spot. Parts of Ukraine, including Crimea, and some of the east and south regions, also fall under the influence of Aquarius. Rahu will leave Libra and retrograde back into Virgo (with Ketu entering Pisces) on 12th July 2014. That nodal change will put further pressures on Ukraine which is also influenced by Pisces as a sub-ruler. On 20th June, Jupiter enters Cancer, his sign of exaltation, and from there he will cast his protective glance over Pisces. This indicates that Ukraine will obtain the protection of Brihaspati and the tensions will gradually ease for a while. But the biggest planetary movement occurs on 2nd November of this year when Saturn will finally exit Libra and enter Scorpio. With Shani, the planet of the masses and of generations, moving through Scorpio (the negative sign of Mars) the simmering conflict will reveal a different face and will become more global.

Death Knell of the Dollar?

Since the planetary portents point to a tilt in the world economy then—where does the American dollar fit into the coming arrangements of world trade and domination? A new Euro-Asian Union signed by Kazakhstan, Belarus and Russia is already in place and will start functioning from 1st January 2015. This pact stands as proof that new trade entities are forming around the world.

But how does the dollar link to these global changes? For some clues, let us examine the history of the US dollar. The dollar was adopted as the American national currency on April 2nd 1792. Surely that day was precariously close to an eclipse in Pisces as Sun and Ketu were both positioned there. Saturn and debilitated Mercury were also in Pisces when the dollar was formed. The green color of the dollar is due to the influence of Mercury. It seems that Virgo must have been rising when the dollar was accepted as America's national currency. The heavy gathering



of planets in the 7th house shows popularity for the currency despite the debility of its rising sign lord Mercury. Only through the clever tactics of the banks and the legerdemain of the politicians does the shrinking fiat dollar continue to exist. Is there some connection of Russia with the future of the dollar? Both Ukraine and the dollar are heavily influenced by Pisces. For the eighteen months following 12th July 2014 Ketu will be moving in Pisces while Rahu is in Virgo.



Looking ahead, we see that the next lunar eclipse occurs on 8th October in Pisces. It is followed by another solar event in Libra a fortnight later. These coming eclipses (which occur before Saturn leaves Libra) will put to the wall both Ukraine and the dollar although Jupiter will try to protect both Ukraine and the dollar. Jupiter will cast his friendly glance from his exalted position in Cancer (which occurs within weeks of Ketu's entrance into Pisces). However, once Jupiter moves ahead into Leo on July 14th 2015, things may again turn ugly. If our supposition that Virgo was rising when the dollar was created is correct, then we may see this world standard currency suffer some fatal downturn. For some time now, the US dollar has been slowly fading away as the world medium of exchange, a slow demise that has already caused untold havoc around the world. Although the dollar may not completely disappear and will continue to exist in some form, its position as the international currency appears doomed.

With a coming collapse of world economy, devotees should seriously adopt self-sufficient living as per the instructions of the farsighted Founder-Acharya of

ISKCON Shrila Prabhupada. Paper savings may lose their value overnight. As Shrila Prabhupada further warned, “You can’t eat nuts and bolts,” either. Devotees must prepare themselves by organizing agrarian communities far from industrialized areas. Such communities must work towards becoming locally self-sustainable. The cities which are artificially propped up will become living nightmares when faith in government is lost and paper currency tanks. At such times only Krishna conscious farms will insure that the followers of Shrila Prabhupada will live to preach another day. 🌀

Shrila Prabhupada describes how demonic governments—much like the rule of Kamsa or modern colonial powers—control the population through issuing worthless paper money, through artificial inflation and through creating famines and war. The following prophetic words of His Divine Grace are as fitting now as they ever were—now that many realize that they are living ...

Under the Rule of Demons



The Policy of Demons

Kamsa, his only policy was to kill Krishna. “As soon as Krishna comes, kill Him.” He made so many plans. Krishna happened to be his sister’s son. So he imprisoned the sister and brother-in-law so that, “He may beget children, but in front of me ... As soon as each child is born I shall kill.”

So this is the policy of the demons. Therefore *indrari-vyakulam lokam* (SB 1.3.28): the inhabitants of all the different planets become very much perturbed on account of these demonic activities ... In this Kali-yuga especially, the demons are so large in number that people are actually always in harassment. Every year, they are presenting some new taxation bill. And wherefrom the taxation will come? The taxation will come from your pocket and my pocket. They will charge income tax, and the storekeepers will increase the value of commodity. So you have to pay. So

we are complaining, “Oh, everything is going up in price.” But, why? Because the demons are levying taxes. It is not the scarcity of goods. There is sufficient commodity. Sufficient! But they have made an economic plan. Just like in your country, the government said, “You don't produce more.” Why? If one can produce ... Krishna has given food.

You have to simply perform a little work and produce your food. But in order to keep the balance of pricing, they say, “Don't produce.” Why not produce? So many people are (growing food) ... If actually we produce foodstuff in the ordinary way, then we can produce foodstuff so much that ten times of the whole population of the world can be fed. Ten times! There is no question of scarcity or poverty. There is no question. We create (food). These demons, they create (scarcity).

The Bengal Rice Famine of 1942

You have no experience of this, but I have got experience. Or (perhaps also) some of the Indians who are present ... In 1942, the government created an artificial famine. Artificial famine! The government began to purchase (food grains), the politicians. At that time the war was going on. So Mr. Churchill's policy was: “Keep the people in scarcity, and they will voluntarily come forward and become soldiers.” That was the policy: “You have no money.” So another venue is opened: “Yes, you become a soldier. You will get so much money.” People, out of poverty, would go there. That was the policy. So this policy was executed that the government began to purchase rice and, I mean to say, commodities which are daily necessities. And ... any price, any price they can offer. Because—the currency that is in their hand—they can print the so-called paper (fiat currency), one hundred dollars, and pay you. And you become satisfied: “Oh, I have got one hundred dollars!” But it is a piece of paper. The cheating is from the government. Why will not the people also learn how to cheat?

So this is going on. This is called demonic. Demon means living for their own sense satisfaction, they are prepared to do anything wrong. Just like this Kamsa...

(Lecture on *Shrimad Bhagavatam* 1.3.28, delivered in Los Angeles 3 October 1972.

Link / listen to the full lecture here: (http://prabhupadabooks.com/classes/sb/1/3/28/los_angeles/october/03/1972)

As it is oft repeated, “Those who forget the past are destined to repeat it.” Shrila Prabhupada knew how to apply the lessons of both the recent and distant past to the modern times we live in. Like Narada Muni, he was a *tri-kala jnani* who envisioned the future. For this reason, His Divine Grace taught the antidote to demonic civilization in the form of *self-sustaining Krishna conscious farms*. He often quoted this verse: “Where fools are never respected, *grain is well stored* and where the husband and wife do not quarrel—there of her own volition resides Lakshmi the goddess of wealth.” (*Shri Chanakya Niti* 3.21)



Calcutta c. 1942



America 2014

To learn more about the largely forgotten Bengal Rice Famine of 1942, which killed five million, watch Satyajit Ray's must-see film *Distant Thunder (Ashani Sankhet)* in two parts at this link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wvyxyK_IHr8



ISKCON New Talavan Farm, Carriere, Mississippi (<http://www.newtalavana.org/>)

Since the Vedic lunar calendar is an integral part of devotional service, therefore...

Learn the Vedic Lunar Calendar

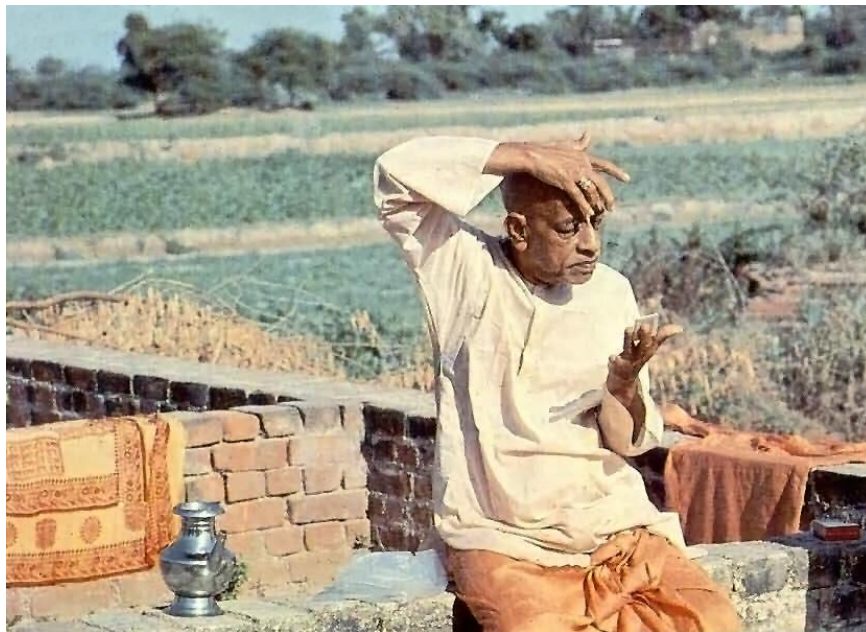
As You Apply Tilaka



Discovering the Vedic lunar calendar and following its *tithis* (lunar days) and festivals gets us closer to heartbeat of the universe we inhabit. The Moon, Chandra, is the basis of Nature's calendar. He is the most important planet according to the Vedic system of astrology because his movements provide nourishment for all living entities. This is confirmed in the *Shrimad Bhagavatam*:

“...The Moon is the source of nectarean coolness that influences the growth of food grains, and therefore (Soma) the demi-god of the Moon is considered the life of all living entities. He is consequently called Jiva, the chief living being within the universe.

“Because the Moon is full of all potentialities, he represents the influence of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. The Moon is the predominating deity of everyone's mind, and therefore the Moon-god is called Manomaya. He is also called Annamaya because ‘he gives potency to all herbs and plants’, and he is called Amatamaya because he is the ‘source of life for all living entities’. The Moon pleases the demigods, pitas, human beings, animals, birds, reptiles, trees, plants and all other living entities. Everyone is satisfied by the presence of the Moon. Therefore the Moon is also called Sarvamaya or ‘all-pervading’.” (- From SB 5.22.9-10, translation by His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada)



Unlike the Western calendar which is an artificial imposition born of ignorance and mental speculation, the Vedic calendar has been following the pulsating lunar cycles since time immemorial. There are two methods, the *puṇimanta* and *amavashyanta* systems. The *puṇimanta* (lit., “full Moon ending”) system closes the month on the full Moon day, while the *amavashyanta* system (lit., “dark Moon ending”) considers *amavashya* as the month’s end. We Gaudiya Vaishnavas follow the *puṇimanta* system. This system appears more reasonable since the months themselves draw their very names from the *nakshatra* that the Moon conjoins (or is near) at the time of *puṇima*. Furthermore, it is wiser to complete the month’s projects when the Moon is full, which blesses the month’s projects with completion.

It was the great *acharya* His Divine Grace Shрила Bhaktivinoda Thakur who adapted the ancient Vedic calendar to create the Gaudiya calendar. This was further developed by Shрила Shri Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur who created the *Nabadwip Panjika* (*panchanga*) for the benefit of all devotees all over the world.

In the following table, the names of the Vedic months are given alongside their Gaudiya counterparts. Just by remembering the Vedic lunar month as you put on

*tilaka, voila, you will soon begin learning the Vedic calendar. For those who are interested in their lunar birth day, just write to us with your time, date and place of your birth and we'll let you know. **Be sure to write out the month.***

The Twelve Lunar Months

Sanskrit Name of Months Nakshatra on Full Moon Gaudiya Designation

1. Chaitra	Chitra	Vishnu
2. Vaishakha	Vishakha	Madhusudana
3. Jyeshtha	Jyeshtha	Trivikarma
4. Ashadha	Uttarashadha	Vamana
5. Shravana	Shravana	Shridhara
6. Bhadrapada	Uttarabhadra	Hrishikesha
7. Ashvina	Ashvini	Padmanabha
8. Kartika	Krittika	Damodara
9. Margashirsha	Mrigashirsha	Keshava
10. Pausha	Pushyami	Narayana
11. Magha	Makha	Madhava
12. Phalgun	Uttaraphalguni	Govinda

An excellent resource for learning the specific *tithis* of the Gaudiya lunar calendar is Shriman Jaya Tirtha Charana das Prabhu's <http://salagram.net/>. Note that his G or K designations found under each *tithi* or lunar day refer to “*gaura*” or “*krishna*.” *Gaura* means the bright half or waxing Moon and *krishna* means the dark or waning portion of the month. Each month is divided into two *pakshas*, which literally means “wings.” Thus the lunar month is compared to a bird—or *pakshi*—whose two wings are the bright and dark halves of the Moon’s endless cycles. ♪

The ancient Vedic concept of the planetary deities who are the controllers of the embodied living entities here in this material world is a lot closer to home than is generally understood. Even current usage of language links our everyday speech to ...

Planets, Fate and Destiny

Patita Pavana das Adhikary

*ayuh karma cha vittam cha vidya nidhanam eva cha
panchaitani hi sriyante garbha-sthasyaiva dehinah*

These five: life span, type of work, wealth, education, and the time of death are certainly inscribed on the forehead while one is still in the womb. (Chanakya 4.1)

It is a fact that our destiny is controlled by the planets, or rather by the great demigods who inhabit the *nava-grahas*. As explained in *Bhagavad-gita As It is*, Krishna is the *sa-adhibhuta-adhidaivam*, or the underlying principle of material manifestation including the demigods. The Lord tells Arjuna:

“Those who know Me as the Supreme Lord, as the governing principle of the material manifestation, who know Me as the one underlying all the demigods and as the one sustaining all sacrifices, can, with steadfast mind, understand and know Me even at the time of death.”

Therefore, planetary deities are the deputed agents of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, and their control over the universe and its inhabitants is going on on by the will of the Supreme Lord. As far as *jyotish shastra* is concerned, the amount of one’s so-called enjoyment in life is seen through Venus or Shukra. Our understanding of religion is judged through Brihaspati or Jupiter in the horoscope. Karmic retributions that vex each



of us are seen through the movements of Saturn or Shanideva, while conflicts are judged by the position of Mars in the *janma chakra*. Surya is the planet of self-realization, while Chandra is the *manasa-karaka* or planet of the mind. And, in the final analysis, unless an astrologer knows that Krishna, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, is in charge of all these demigods, then his advice is virtually worthless because his counsel results only in further entanglement in the modes of material nature including rebirth. Unless an astrologer is Krishna conscious, his guidance will only cause what the *Bhagavata* (3.30.17) describes as *kala-pasha-vasam* or further control by the noose of time.

In the Preface to *Nectar of Devotion*, Shrila Prabhupada explains the proper understanding of destiny:

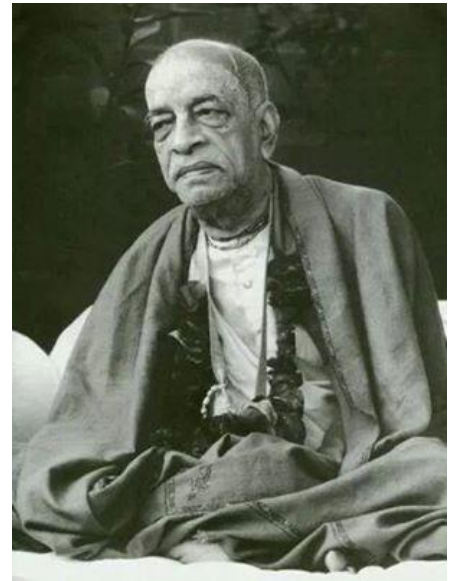
“We prepare our next life by our actual activities in the present life. A living entity is offered a particular type of body as a result of his action in the present body. These activities are taken into account by a superior authority known as *daiva*, or the authority of God. This *daiva* is explained in the *Bhagavad-gita* as the prime cause of everything, and in the *Shrimad Bhagavatam* it is stated that a man takes his next body by *daiva-netrena*, which means by the supervision of the authority of the Supreme. In an ordinary sense, *daiva* is explained as **destiny**. *Daiva* supervision gives us a body selected from 8,400,000 forms. The choice does not depend on our selection, but is awarded to us according to our destiny.”

This concept of **fate** as judged, ruled and overseen by the eyes of the Supreme Lord through His representatives the demi-gods—*daiva-netrena*—is dilated upon by Lord Kapiladeva to his mother Devahuti in *Shrimad Bhagavatam* (3.31.1)

*shri-bhagavan uvacha: karmana daiva-netrena jantur dehopapattaye
striyah pravishtha udaram pumso retah-kanasrayah*

“The Personality of Godhead said: Under the supervision of the Supreme Lord and according to the result of his work, the living entity, the soul, is made to enter into the womb of a woman through the particle of male semen to assume a particular type of body.”

Bhaktivedanta Purport: As stated in the last chapter, after suffering different kinds of hellish conditions, a man comes again to the human form of body. The same topic is continued in this chapter. In order to give a particular type of human form to a person who has already suffered hellish life, the soul is transferred to the semen of a man who is just suitable to become his father. During sexual intercourse, the soul is transferred through the semen of the father into the mother's womb in order to produce a particular type of body. This process is applicable to all embodied living entities, but it is especially mentioned for the man who was transferred to the Andha-tamishra hell. After suffering there, when he who has had many types of hellish bodies, like those of dogs and hogs, is to come again to the human form, he is given the chance to take his birth in the same type of body from which he degraded himself to hell.



Everything is done by the supervision of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Material nature supplies the body, but it does so under the direction of the Supersoul. It is said in *Bhagavad-gita* that a living entity is wandering in this material world on a chariot made by material nature. The Supreme Lord, as Supersoul, is always present with the individual soul. He directs material nature to supply a particular type of body to the individual soul according to the result of his work, and the material nature supplies it. Here one word, *retah-kanashrayah*, is very significant because it indicates that it is not the semen of the man that creates life within the womb of a woman; rather, the living entity, the soul, takes shelter in a particle of semen and is then pushed into the womb of a woman. Then the body develops. There is no possibility of creating a living entity without the presence of the soul simply by sexual intercourse. The materialistic theory that there is no soul and that a child is born simply by material combination of the sperm and ovum is not very feasible. It is unacceptable. *End of Purport.*

The eminently useful online etymology dictionary (<http://etymonline.com>) describes the origin of this word “destiny.”

destiny (n.) mid-14c., from Old French destinée (12c.) “purpose, intent, fate, destiny; that which is destined,” noun use of fem. past participle of destiner, from Latin destinare “make firm, establish” (see destination). The sense is of “that which has been firmly established,” as by fate.

Thus there is a link between “destiny” and “destination,” just as there is a link between “fate and “fatality.” And as far as the word “fate” is concerned, etymonline informs us:

fate (n.) late 14c., from Latin fata, neuter plural of fatum “prophetic declaration, oracle, prediction,” thus “that which is ordained, destiny, fate,” literally “thing spoken (by the gods),” from neuter past participle of fari “to speak,”

The Latin sense evolution is from “sentence of the gods” (Greek theosphaton) to “lot, portion” (Greek moira, personified as a goddess in Homer), also “one of the three goddesses (Clotho, Lachesis, and Atropos) who determined the course of a human life.”

In this way, that which has been fated was decreed by Lord Krishna’s representatives the demi-gods. This is the basic principle of astrology as the science that interprets *daiva-netrena*, the all-seeing eyes of the Supreme Lord who sees and controls activities through his deputed agents, the *devatas*. As proof of the ancient understanding of planetary influence in the lives of mortals, see this:

influence (n.) late 14c., an astrological term, “streaming ethereal power from the stars acting upon character or destiny of men,” from Old French influence “emanation from the stars that acts upon one’s character and destiny” (13c.), also “a flow of water,” from Medieval Latin influentia “a flowing in” (also used in the astrological sense), from Latin influentem (nominative influens), present participle of influere “to flow into,” from in- “into, in, on, upon” (see in- (2)) + fluere “to flow” (see fluent). Meaning “exercise of personal power by human beings” is from mid-15c.; meaning “exertion of unseen influence by persons” is from 1580s (a sense already in Medieval Latin, for instance Aquinas). Under the influence “drunk” first attested 1866.

This concept of the living entity undergoing transmigration according to his karma as an act of destiny was described by Shrila Prabhupada in the first of the Nectar of Devotion lectures in Vrindavana on 20 October 1972:

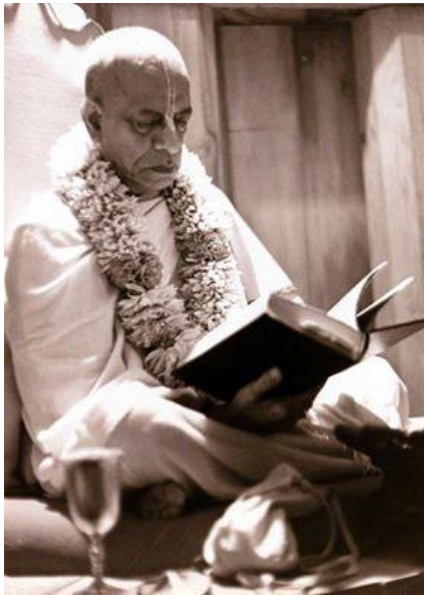
“So material *rasas* ... That is being experienced in different types of body. Just like somebody wants to taste fresh blood, flesh and blood. So he’s given the next life a body like a tiger, like a other carnivorous animal, and he tastes very nicely blood and flesh. Nature gives all the facilities (in *Bhagavad-gita* 3.27).

*prakrteh kriyamanani gunaih karmani sarvasah
ahankara-vimudhatma kartaham iti manyate*

Prakrti, nature is doing everything. I desire something. That means I am contacting, contacting the certain type of the modes of material nature. This is also explained in the *Bhagavad-gita: karanam guna-sangah asya sad-asad-janma-yonisu. Sad-asad-janma-yoni. Yoni* means the source of birth. Mother is called *yoni*, and father is

called *bija*. *Yatha yoni yatha bijam*. According to *bijam* and according to *yoni*, we get body.

So why are you getting different types of bodies? *Karanam guna-sangah asya*. He is contacting a particular type of the modes of material nature. There are three modes of material nature: *sattva-guna*, *rajo-guna*, and *tamo-guna*. So if I am associating with *sattva-guna*, then next life, I'll get a *sattva-guna* body. *Urdhvam gacchanti sattva-stha*. (Bg. 14.18) *Sattva-guna* body means higher standard of life. So similarly, if I am associating with the modes of passion, then I'll get a body, next life, passionate. If I am associating with ignorance, *tamo-guna*, *jaghanya-guna-vritti-stha adho gacchanti tamasah*. *Tamasah*. *Tama-vritti*. The *jaghanya*, the lowest. There are so many varieties of life. So those who are associating with *tamo-guna*, drinking, flesh eating, smoking, illicit sex, gambling ... These are the association of *tamo-guna*. *Yatra papas catur-vidha*. Where there are four kinds of sinful activities. So intoxication is sinful activities. That is *tamo-guna*. Associating with *tamo-guna*. So *jaghanya-guna-vritti-stha adho gacchanti tamasah*. Those who are associating with *tamo-guna*, their *vritti*, their habits, are very abominable. *Jaghanya*. Therefore *adho gacchanti*. They go downwards.



In this way, everyone is enjoying a particular type of *rasa*, material *rasa* ... and nature is offering him a particular type of body. *Deha-yogena dehinam*. We can enjoy a particular type of *rasa* ... Just like the hogs. They are relishing the *rasa* of stool very nicely. You give them nice food, they'll not take. They'll prefer to taste the stool. Why? Because he has been offered a particular type of body. And this particular type of body has been offered to him, *karanam guna-sangah asya* ... He has associated with *jaghanya*, *tamo-guna*, *abominable tamo-guna*.

Therefore he has developed a body of a hog, and tasting the juice of stool. This is the way of transmigration of the soul. Actually, it is the living spirit soul, either hog or dog or a *brahmana* or a *chandala* or a cow. This is simply a covering, or... Just like we cover ourselves in a dream. That is subtle covering. Similarly, this is also covering. In the *Vedas* it is said, *asango hy ayam purusah*. Actually, the living entity, the spirit soul, is neither hog, neither dog, nor *brahmana*, nor this, nor that. It is simply a covering. But this covering is developed by our association with the particular type of modes of nature. ♪

From the BBC news service we find some hard (make that “petrified”) evidence of USA’s great lunar hoax...

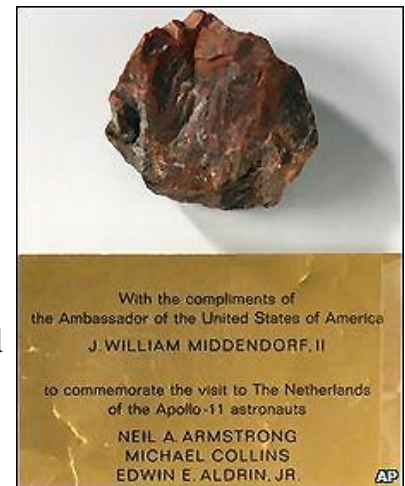
Fake “Moon Rock” Exposed

A treasured piece at the Dutch national museum—a supposed Moon rock from the first manned lunar landing—is nothing more than petrified wood, curators say. It was given to former Prime Minister Willem Drees during a goodwill tour by the three Apollo-11 astronauts shortly after their Moon mission in 1969.

When Mr. Drees died, the rock went on display at the Amsterdam museum. At one point it was insured for around \$500,000 (£308,000), but tests have proved it was not the genuine article. The Rijksmuseum, which is perhaps better known for paintings by artists such as Rembrandt, says it will keep the piece as a curiosity.

“It’s a good story, with some questions that are still unanswered,” Xandra van Gelder, who oversaw the investigation that proved the piece was a fake, was quoted as saying by the Associated Press news agency. “We can laugh about it.”

The “rock” had originally been vetted through a phone call to NASA, she added. The US agency gave Moon rocks to more than 100 countries following lunar missions in the 1970s. US officials said they had no explanation for the Dutch discovery. **Source: BBC News. 28 August 2009**
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/8226075.stm>



Moon Boom



Today’s tourist shop special: US flags that magically wave in zero atmosphere.



Letters to the Editor

(Edited for brevity)



“Astro Cartography”

Dear Prabhu and Mataji..all Glories to Shrila Prabhupada..Thanks a lot for your help ... I am ordering an Astro Cartography reading because I really need to know which is the best place for me about my studies, my family life and especially my spiritual advancement ...

Haribol, LB (Australia)

“Informed Decisions”

Hare Krishna Patita Pavana Prabhu ji, Abhaya Mudra Mata ji, Please accept my humblest obeisances, all glories to Srila Prabhupada!! Thank you, *bhukti* readings for the next two periods sound very interesting. Would really appreciate these readings, I am so interested in Astrology and would find these interesting to read. I really really appreciate both of your readings as they help me to make informed decisions.

Your very grateful servant, RP (UK)

“Wonderful Presentation”

Dear Patita Pavana das. Excellent newsletter! Thank you both for a wonderful presentation. The Muhurta article was very interesting. SL (USA)

“Recommend Your Services”

Hare Krishna Prabhu and Mataji, Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Shrila Prabhupada. I shall send a little additional *dakshina* in appreciation of how expertly the chart was calculated. Thank you very much, and I intend to consult you again when the time is right. I have recommended your services with esteem to a friend and will recommend to others as interested DW (USA)

“The Liberation of the Universe”

Hare Krishna! All glories to Shrila Prabhupada. Please accept my obeisances, Patita Pavana. I wish that I had a speck of your knowledge and *bhakti*. All glories to your service and all glories to Lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu and the liberation of the Universe, and then the liberation of the Maha Tattva. Your servant, PD (USA)

Prabhu, thanks for the kind and amazing thoughts, but those are the very words I have for you!

“At Ease with My Life”

Please Accept My Humble Obeisances. All Glories to Srila Prabhupada! Thank you very much to you and Mother Abhaya Mudra Dasi for your input! I now feel much more at ease with what has happened in my life so far, what is happening and what will happen. It's like I had a little idea that it was all like this and you confirmed everything through this full reading. Sometimes I used to feel something from within tell me that if I do it right I can make it back to home in this life. I thought that was my own mind since its hard for me to distinguish what is my mind, emotions and what the Supersoul is saying. So I just don't take it so seriously sometimes. Now I know that I really need to dive deep into my sadhana and surrender my whole heart to my adorable Gopala! He Himself is in my chart and I feel really fortunate to hear that!

Thank you heaps! Your servant, PL (Australia)

That is Shrila Prabhupada's promise, simply follow the Krishna conscious process by making the best use of this rare, rare human form of life, and go back to Godhead when it is over! -Ed.