



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera!

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

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Royal Watch

THE Royals are an enormous subject, they will eat up my poor little newsletter if I am not careful.

Much to my chagrin, Kate Middleton's birth time has not been established. Someone (I suspect Frank Clifford) told Marc Penfield, who told Donna Cunningham, who published 11:33 pm in *Sky Writer*. I hear that Deborah Houlding (*Skyscript*) doesn't like it, but that a group in Australia is having success with 11:15 pm, which is pretty close.

But we have established enough that we can put pieces in motion. William's Mars is at 9 \pm 12. Transiting Saturn conjuncted that the week of October 10, 2010. *Hand* says it can produce a "cold, cruel anger". Kate's Mars is at 10 \pm 32. Saturn conjuncted that a week later. Remember that Bill's Mars conjunct Kate's Mars is about all the synastry the two have got. So first he goes off and

before he's done, she goes off. By that time he's recovered somewhat & has to mollify her.

Their engagement was announced on November 16. For people in their social class, a formal announcement takes a couple of weeks to arrange. The conclusion is clear: Mutual temper tantrums brought eight years of cohabitation to a close. This is not good.

And now the real fun starts. Saturn is making a station directly atop Kate's Saturn. I had that happen to my Mars back in the mid 1980's, it felt like I was being held underwater until I was drowning, but my Mars is in watery Scorpio, so I would feel that. Kate's is in airy Libra, which I suppose gives a feeling of being strangled? It is unbearable.

Transiting Mars takes an indirect whack at it the end of next week. The transiting Sun takes an indirect whack on June 1. On July 1 – Di's 50th birthday – the solar eclipse exactly squares it. Lord help Kate! I don't see how she will manage that. If she somehow does, Mars conjuncts the eclipse degree on August 18. I am getting an image of a weak & feckless man, and an insecure, manipulative female. What's coming looks like a cheesy re-run of Macbeth. Pray for Kate and William, pray for England.

Solar eclipse squared by stationary Saturn & subsequently conjuncted by Mars means a hard summer for all of us. The financial blogs are thinking it's 2008, all over again. Horror.

ASTRO MED

DROPSY. Of this condition there seems to be few published examples, but I connect it with the sign Aquarius and also with Moon – Neptune afflictions. Daath gives one case (female, born 3 pm, January 21, 1855, 55°40' N, 5' W) and this shows an extraordinary satellitium in Aquarius, nearly all in aspect with Saturn, their dispositor; Moon is conjunct Neptune. Max Heindel also has an example (No. 33, *Message of Stars*, 3rd edition) in which Moon is going to square Venus, and is in Aquarius.

Another example is male, born 8.45/9.00 am, May 17, 1876, 51°18'N, 12'W, died March 20, 1946. This was also a case of Obesity. Here Neptune square ascendant and Moon in Pisces may be noted. Sun opposite Jupiter in fixed signs points to corpulence.

DYSENTERY. I have only one example of this trouble, sex not given but born in London 3 am, July 16, 1892. Here we have Saturn in Virgo and Moon opposite Mars as the probable indications.

DREAMY MANNER is oftenest found in Libra or Pisces horoscopes, or those in which they are tenanted, Mars obscure.

—from *Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology*, by Charles Carter.

ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

Notes

17	11:09	○	26♁, 13	Full Moon/Void
	17:23	☾	♄	
18	11:42	☾	♁ ♃	
19	14:18	☾	♁ ♃	Void
	20:17	☾	♁	
	21:23	♀	♁ ♃	
20	08:47	☾	♁ ♃	
	18:20	♂	♁ ♃	
	21:54	♀	♁ ♃	
21	01:20	♀	♁ ♃	
	04:07	☾	♁	
	09:22	○	♁	
	10:42	♀	♁ ♃	
	18:03	♀	♁ ♃	
	21:05	☾	♁ ♃	Void
22	02:32	☾	♁	
	03:56	☾	♁	
	07:32	○	♁	
23	08:26	♀	♁ ♃	

Extracted & adapted from *AstroAmerica's Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020*. Get yours!



STAR OF THE WEEK

★★★☆☆

ALCYONE *eta Tauri* 0 II 09

Legend: Alcyone represents the Pleiad, daughter of Atlas & Pleione, who became the mother of Hyrieus by Neptune

Notes: A greenish yellow star and brightest of the Pleiades, situated on the shoulder of the Bull. From early times it has been thought to be the central Sun round which the universe revolves, and was Al Wasat, the Central One, of the Arabs, and Temennu, the Foundation Stone, of the Babylonians, but this idea has now been abandoned by astronomers. Alcyone marked the beginning of the 4th ecliptic constellation of the Babylonians, and as Amba, the Mother, formed the junction star between the Hindu nakshatras Krittika and Rohini. It is frequently called the Hen.

Influence: Of the nature of Mars & the Moon. It causes love, eminence, blindness from fevers, small-pox, and accidents to the face.

—from *Fixed Stars*, by Vivian Robson

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Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990



IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

Your Chart Lives On

TO understand the continuance of the soul as it alternates between the physical & spiritual let us take the house of death itself, the Eighth, as our point of departure (a better term than we realize) just as we take the First as our point of arrival. The Eighth is called the house of transition which means changing, not ending. It is the only house that can change anything and it means to pass from one condition or form to another. Mars rules both the First House of arrival on earth by birth & the Eighth of departure from earth by death-transition.

The end-of-the-matter of death is ruled by the Eleventh house since it is four houses after the 8th. We all know that the Eleventh House represents the things we cannot see or touch, such as our hopes & wishes, friendships, foster & other unbonded relationships, memberships & enlistments: anything impalpable (not perceptible to the touch) and particularly the intangible form remaining after the release from the body by death. Granting that the spirit will not remain in the Eleventh House since the circle must be completed, before the spirit is once again a living human being of the First House it must wait a TIME in the Twelfth for a period of karmic retirement to see wherein it failed before.

The Bible measures a TIME as a 360 year cycle & also gives us the "directional" degree for a year. It is logical to suppose that until rebirth has released the soul from its intangible spirit form, giving it a physical body once more & a new chart, the soul retains the previous chart. — **All Over the Earth**, 1963

The Chart of the Week:

Sathya Sai Baba is Dead

(CHART ON PG. 4)

BELIEVED by millions of adherents to herald the arrival of the new age, and by the **Benjamin Creme** crowd as a precursor to the Second Coming, Sai Baba died on Easter Sunday, April 24. He was 84.

I have many friends who are, or were, devotees, who must now feel bereft. Baba's radiance never quite reached me. A glance at his chart tells me why: Sun, Moon, Saturn & Pluto all in water signs, made for an emotionally acerbic man. I am air and fire, I found kinship with the intellectual Rajneesh, or would have, had I figured out his clever sex disguise before he disappeared from the scene.

Like Rajneesh, like Maharishi Mahesh Yogi (the Beatles' guru), **Baba** was one of a number of modern celebrity holy men. His ashram, at Puttaparthi, was large. According to Wiki, he had some 1200 international ashrams and unknown millions of adherents. I was amazed to read his body was buried, not cremated.

I was going to write some remarks on his chart, but when I looked at it, I found it did not speak to me. I was going to set it aside, but this morning I saw Baba in a railway carriage and me there with him, so I think I will describe that.

HE is an old man, old and tired. He sits, languidly. I should explain for American readers who have never seen a proper train, that a railway carriage is typically divided into more than a dozen small compartments that span about 3/4th of the width of the car. Each compartment has a door leading to a narrow passageway, and this particular compartment also has a door opening directly onto the station platform, as if it were a London commuter train.

Baba is still wearing his long, thin ashram robe. It seems he would rather be in a business suit, but is too tired to summon the energy to change, as this sort of thing used to be one of his favorite siddhis. He has a small valise, but the only things in it seem to be toiletries (Baba shaves!) and a pair of shoes.

We do not talk. There is only the feelings that come from him. Overall, he is tired. He has worked his whole life. In his chart we can see Sun-Saturn tightly conjunct. The Sun is ahead of Saturn, as if the Sun wants to run away from his duties, but cannot, as it is at the very end of its sign, Scorpio. That it is Scorpio tells us the majority of his work, like

the bulk of an iceberg, was hidden and will always remain so. The love he wanted, represented by Venus, was forever just beyond his grasp, a mere 22 minutes of a degree away, but in Sagittarius, an alien sign. Baba, like virtually all Indian holy men, did not have normal relations. In Baba's case, this was not by choice, but through inability. His efforts to understand this, in practical terms, came to nothing much: Mercury was debilitated in Sagittarius, retrograde, and on the far side of Venus.

Perhaps in compensation, there are stories he took up with young boys, the children of his adult followers. For this, we see Uranus, retrograde in Pisces, tight on the cusp of the 5th. Uranus represents, 1. What is erratic, 2. Youth, and, retrograde, 3. What would not be approved, nor understood. Pisces tells me that though there would be great love, it would not be personal to any individual. Pisces is ruled by Jupiter in Aquarius, which tells me there would be many boys. Jupiter is under the tutelage of and in square to Saturn, which is the dirty old man himself (Baba). That Jupiter is in opposition to Neptune in the 10th says that his followers would close their eyes and wish it all away.

I mention this because, first, gurus, priests and holy men, in general, often have this problem, and, second, because those who are preyed upon in this fashion (they are never volunteers) are most often seriously hurt. When they seek help they are invariably told they should sacrifice for the sake of the guru, which only compounds the damage. Back a quarter-century ago, **Caroline Myss**, at UCLA, made the connection between the sacrament of Communion and the sex chakra, which, if you expand your concept of "communion" sufficiently, explains, though does not excuse, this problem.

Baba, in fact, had a well-known "Praetorian Guard" of older single females whose job it was to keep young willing females away from him. Which is one of the things I learned from friends who visited the ashram. How this particular "guru quirk" works out astrologically will change from guru to guru. You must learn to read a chart dynamically.

It also helps to remember that holy men, as we have seen with Baba's Sun-Saturn configuration, are not seen as flesh and blood,

continued, page 4

This is a serialization of Vivian Robson's masterpiece, *A Student's Text-Book of Astrology*. It is now in print.

Part 39:

The Nature of Illness

THE exact nature of an illness is shown by the combined influence of the planet & sign. Thus, Saturn is weakening and obstructive and Aquarius rules the blood, so that Saturn in Aquarius tends to anemia or bad circulation. Similarly Jupiter in Aquarius causes blood impurities arising through excess, and so on. These effects take place when the planet afflicts the luminaries in or from these signs, or is afflicted in the 6th.

In judging of health:—

1. Note the rising sign, its afflictions, and the ruler. The sign will give the ailments to which the native is subject considered in connection with the afflicting planet, and also the organs most likely to be affected.

2. Observe the Sun and Moon and note the signs containing them and the afflicting planets and their signs. If they are free from affliction, well placed & aspected, the health will be good. In general afflictions to the Sun indicate lasting and hereditary diseases, and those to the Moon the ailments arising from time to time and more easily cured.

3. Note the sign on the 6th, and to a lesser extent those on the 4th & 8th as these indicate sensitive parts of the body. Planets in these houses and especially in the 6th & 12th will disturb the health if afflicted and affect the parts ruled by the signs containing them.

4. Note any strong afflicted or afflicting positions anywhere, as these will also mark sensitive points. — *A Student's Text-Book of Astrology*, by Vivian Robson.

Health

from Alan Leo's Dictionary of Astrology

HEAD TO HEAD

The life & health are governed by the rising sign. The part of the system, or physical body, which is the most vital or sensitive, will be that ruled by the ascending, or rising sign: long illnesses often result in this part of the body being weakened. The nature of the complaints a person is liable to may be seen by the sign upon the ascendant at birth.

The luminaries have much to do with the state of the health. When in affliction the health is poor & sickness more frequent. When the lights are well-placed & free from affliction the constitution is strong & able to resist disease. The Sun governs the structure & the organic conditions; the Moon the functional arrangements. The health is generally better when the Sun is rising than when it is setting.

The fiery signs rising give vitality, and the watery signs less vitality and a liability to absorb disease. The planets afflicting the Sun, Moon or Ascendant, indicates the nature of the ill-health.

Saturn afflicting the luminaries denotes ill-health from colds, constipation, depression, obstruction, aches & pains, such as rheumatism and osseous complaints.

Mars, from fevers, inflammations, ruptures, and sharp pains from swellings, etc.

Jupiter, bad blood, apoplexy & pleurisy.

Venus, complaints of the generative system, kidneys, etc.

Mercury, nervous & mental troubles.

Uranus, peculiar & uncommon complaints.

It is generally found that signs opposite to the Ascendant, and those holding the malefics, are affected by sympathy & should always be studied, also those of the same nature, such as the cardinal, fixed & common. — *Alan Leo's Dictionary of Astrology*, as edited by Vivian Robson.

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Is This You?

19° Scorpio rising
The Pisces-Cancer cusp of Scorpio



Here the combination of two decanates is expressed in one individual, the degree of the ascendant being nineteen degrees Scorpio. This degree, in the case of all the twelve signs, contains the latent power to express both the rising sign and the two decanate influences, thereby enriching the nature & making it more complex.

In this case the Scorpio pride of spirit contends with the Pisces-Cancer love of psychic phenomena. Note that the body possess the narrow hips of Scorpio, whilst the face & nose are of a Pisces type, wide & short, not long and aquiline. Yet this youth possesses the Scorpio eagle eye and the well-shaped slender hands and feet. The head, however, indicates Pisces ideality rather than Scorpio shrewdness & combativeness.

THE SECOND DECANATE OF SCORPIO

Ruled by Jupiter. The disposition is proud & haughty, although capable of rulership & considerable endurance. When afflicted there is a distinct tendency to become tyrannical & cruel. If supported by favourable planetary influences, fame & world recognition are likely. (see Mussolini)

THE THIRD DECANATE OF SCORPIO

The *Cancer* decanate of Scorpio is ruled by the Moon. If the nativity is a refined one, this gives a strong love of psychic phenomena or mysticism. In other cases the love of sensation causes secret enmity of women who create difficulties in the life. The jealous tendencies are very strong.

— *Man and the Zodiac*, by David Anrias.



★ STUDENT'S CORNER ★ STUDENT'S CORNER ★ STUDENT'S CORNER ★ STUDENT'S CORNER ★ STUDENT'S CORNER ★

but as inhuman stick figures. Such a life can be lonely and unbearable, and I wonder why anyone would want it. Were those guards self-appointed, I wonder? There is only so much management a guru can enforce over his staff, as **Krishnamurti** learned to his dismay.

In Baba's chart (**November 23, 1926, 5:50 am, Puttapparth, India**) we can clearly see why this man became a solitary figure, rather than, say, someone's employee. Sun-Saturn conjunct, he appears severe. Moon-Pluto conjunct, he can be powerfully intense. Mars in Taurus, retrograde in the 6th, he does not play well with others. There is a story, perhaps true, that as a child he was beat up by bullies, who carved letters into his scalp.

It was said he had the ability to materialize objects at whim. The rational crowd wants this to be trickery of one sort or another. Myself, I don't have a big problem with whole-cloth materialization. Materialization is the concretization of projected energy. Sun-Saturn, Moon-Pluto, in trine to each other, can easily generate the necessary forces, which are known under a variety of names, one of them being prana. The only mysterious part is the stabilization of those energies, which is what precipitates a solid form into the material world. In Christian terms, this stabilizing force is known as the Holy Ghost. In chemistry, it's known as a catalyst. You are more familiar with the term vitamin. I wish I knew the exact secret.

So what makes this man a religious guru, as opposed to say, your average prana-stuffed street pandit (aka **David Blaine**)?

It would appear to be Baba's north node, Moon and Pluto, all in Cancer. Technically they're in the 8th, but the sign on the cusp of 8 is Gemini, which means these three want to identify with the 9th, even though they're not in it. It has taken me some years to work out exactly how house cusps work. For a long time I used a simple "whole sign" concept, where all the planets in a sign were residents of the house that had that sign for a cusp, but now I think that planets that fall outside (i.e. before) the cusp are "on the wrong side of the tracks" and are running (i.e., eager) to get into it.

Which makes them ne'er-do-wells. Poor relations, if you wish, or even nouveau riche. Always a bit gauche around the edges, always eager to claim what isn't quite theirs. Baba shows this quite clearly, in his intense (Moon-Pluto) desire to be a great religious figure, to the extent he claimed to be the reincarnation of Krishna himself. Or, if you're not quite comfortable with that, permitting the claim to be made in his name. This is an absurd claim on its face, not because the Gods cannot take incarnation like any of the rest

of us (of course they can), but because no god, no god whatever, will ever make that claim. Such a claim merely gets in the way of their work. It hampers them. In supporting the claim, Baba used his mastery of various siddhis to transform himself into various guises. Reports I have heard is these were always done privately and often while in a car, for his personal amusement. I am sitting opposite Baba now, in the railway carriage. He clearly wants to do this, for my pleasure, it seems, but is too tired.

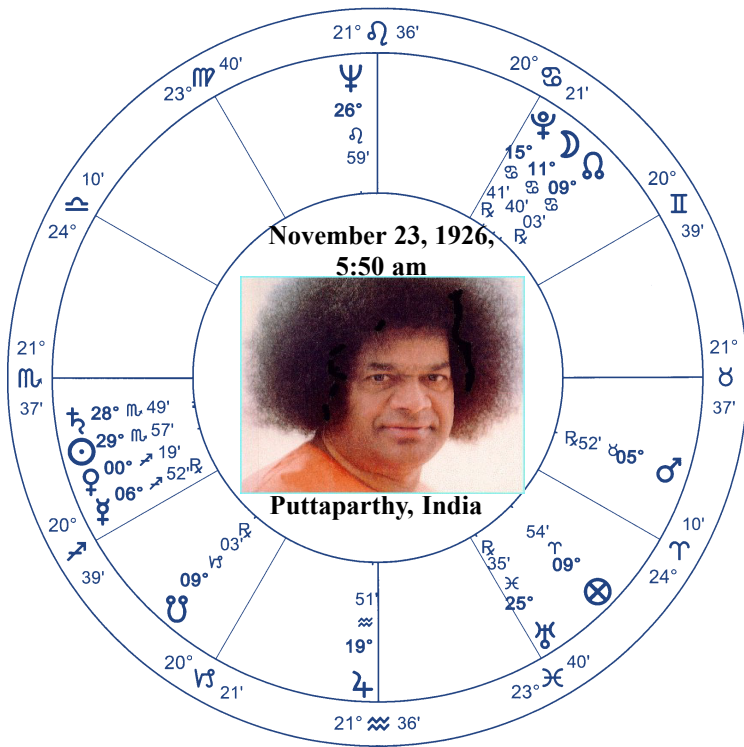
He can only smile wanly.

SAI BABA claimed to be the reincarnation of **Shirdi Sai Baba** (died October 15, 1918, birth unknown). Which was widely discounted by Shirdi devotees, who pointed out how very different the two men were. Shirdi died destitute & had a mean & hungry look about him. Looking at Sai Baba's chart, can we know if the claim is true?

No, we really cannot, but there are clues. One, the very tightness of the Sun-Saturn conjunction makes us think of a previous life that was hard and tiring. That they are crammed into the very last one degree, eleven minutes of Scorpio makes us think rebirth as Sai Baba was rushed (which, only eight years out of body, it would have to have been) and that many compromises were made – which, again, would seem to be the case. That it was in the very last of Scorpio, and that Scorpio is known to be largely hidden, reminds me, again, that there was a great deal about Baba which will never be known.

But I can take some pot-shots. One, birth so soon after death means the normal post-death process was aborted. Presumably Shirdi Sai had devotees who were eager to have him as their son and who would willingly generate his next body. If this were true, then Shirdi chose among the various candidates. The resulting parents would have little, if any, karmic affiliation, and as a result there would be little physical resemblance between Shirdi and Sai. (Karmic affiliation, not direct lineage, makes for similarity from one birth to another.)

It is common in these cases for the per-



son-to-be-born to impress a vivid dream on some immediate family member, usually the mother-to-be. In it, he will introduce himself and give a vision of the life he wants to lead, the goals he wants to accomplish. This sort of dream, by the way, is not unusual. Many mothers have them.

The concentration necessary to reincarnate in this way guarantees that memory will be maintained, from one life to the next. Which is not unusual, either. Those who die young, especially in war, often reappear quickly and retain much of their memory. See **Stephen Crane**.

So as they say on Mythbusters, Baba's claim of prior birth is plausible. To me, at any rate. So if you are young and a devotee of Baba and your sex life is under your control, you next could have the honor. — Does this sound like what you read in the Bible? No?

Outside the railway carriage the countryside speeds past. There is a loud clackety-clack to the rails, so we are not in any advanced country. Here and there the sun is breaking through the low, gloomy clouds. Baba is suddenly looking refreshed and alert, as if rest has already done him good. Or maybe it's the promise of sunshine. The train is slowing. Baba has his valise in his hand and seems to be preparing to depart. While he was alive he said that after he died he would quickly reappear for a third and "final" incarnation. It looks as if he spoke the truth.

Baba clasps my hand and gives me a cheery good-bye, the only word he spoke, and leaves. The train starts up again with a lurch. I wish him much success at his new destination. Perhaps I will meet him for real, some day. Reassignment.