

ASTRO*SHAMANISM - PART 5

The Planets as Chakras

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Ok, now we are getting to where we learn to use the shaman's journey in astrology, which is what this blog is all about, and it is very simple:

The Inner is the Key to the Outer

The entire process we are about to describe here refers to the process of our spiritual birth or awakening and, for most of us, this does not occur until after our Saturn return (or just prior to it) at 29.4 years of age, although some precocious wake up a little earlier and witness their Saturn passage. What follows here has to do with the opening of the chakras, what has been called the process of spiritual awakening or self-discovery.

In each case, in order to reveal, open, and use the outer, we learn to take from within, that is: we ourselves must go within. It is a personal journey not an intellectual exercise. Each planet (from Saturn into the Sun) is the ENTIRE essence and key to the planet just outside its orbit, which brings us to what might seem at first to be a paradox:

The key to this external world is not to be found outside in the external world itself, no matter how hard we may search, but can ONLY be found within us, by looking inside, and by actually ourselves going within. We have all heard this concept. The religions of the world have made it a constant refrain: look within. The process of how this is done, step-by-step, is what will now be presented. This is the mystery of the seven seals or planets.

The Planetary Key

As for the astrological use of this information, what follows is a simple planetary KEY to personal horoscope interpretation that any counseling astrologer can use with confidence. The natural ordering of the planets outward from the Sun to Saturn and then back in is literally a description of their function and use. In this blog, there is only one key thought necessary in order to use the planets in your own natal horoscope and that is: the inner is the key to the outer.

The Inner is the Key

To repeat, the KEY idea presented in these pages is that THE INNER IS THE KEY TO THE OUTER. We must learn to take from within ourselves, discover and bring what we find there out, and manifest our good intentions (inner) in this world. We go in to get out.

Learning to take from within, to look within, is what we are studying here. It is something that can be understood, learned, and realized. It requires that we stop only looking outside for answers, and learn to look within ourselves for direction and support. This may require training. How we do that is what we are presenting in this blog.

Most astrologers would agree that, in our personal horoscope, we can look to Saturn in our chart to see just how we will be tried and tested. Saturn is time and the test of time. Saturn

represents form and limitation, and is the limiter. In this approach to shamanic astrology, the key to overcoming and working with our Saturn or limitations will always be our natal Jupiter, and meditation and study on this part of our chart (Jupiter) will gradually help us to succeed in rising above and handling our Saturn. Jupiter is the next planet within Saturn's orbit, so we can look within to that planet.

Again: In this approach, the inner planet is the KEY to the planet outside its orbit, from Saturn into the Sun. The outer planets (Uranus, Neptune, etc.) follow another pattern, which will be discussed later in this blog. "God helps those who help themselves," but from within.

When doing astrological counseling, we use the same concept: the key to the outer is the inner. For example, the key to Saturn in the chart will always be the planet Jupiter, the next inner planet, and so on. Now let's look at all of this in a little more detail.

Saturn: A Formal Definition

Most of you are already familiar with the astrological nature of Saturn, but let's go over it again, and I will not spare the prose:

Saturn or Chronos rules time, form, and the physical in all its aspects. Saturn is limitation, and thus the great limiter. Saturn (sometimes called Satan) has been said to be the prince of the material world. Saturn is the very narrowness that makes the way felt, the raceway or spillway through which course (Jupiter = the course) the waters of life. Jupiter is the pathway through which the blood courses, the "way we go," but Saturn is the course-walls of the arteries, the resistance that allows pressure to build to something definite, to real "feeling."

Saturn the Shaper

Saturn is like a wood shaper that is adjusted to produce a certain piece of molding. Any wood presented to this shaper has no alternative but to pass through, and then only where it conforms to the desired or possible shape as set by the limits. All other wood is shaved away. In this analogy, Saturn is that limiter and we are the wood, like the force of gravity. As my teacher said "We don't break nature's laws; nature breaks us."

Eternity or truth dictates the limits, and Saturn is the shaper or test of form. When we talk about "getting straight" or "getting in line" or "in tune," we are talking about getting within the control that already is. In this sense, Saturn helps to determine the shape of things to come. All of these Saturnian laws working together: form.

Saturn: Walls That Make Homes Possible

Saturn is most simply the system of natural laws, the functioning of which determine what is possible in this material world (such as the law of gravity) — the laws that hold things in place, the walls that make homes possible. Saturn is the laws that govern the forms things take, as well as (simply put) the form things take. The forms things take is only the form things are taking (the process). Saturn represents those laws to which we will be physically determined. Saturn is the form to which we each must submit before our evolution or unfolding may take place. Without that form, there can be no unfolding.

Saturn is the laws against which we may ram our head until such time as we learn, by feeling our way, to walk around or even to build upon them, to count on them. Saturn is literally where

we are bound to learn. It is simple, as mentioned: We don't break nature's or Saturn's laws; they break us if we go against them.

The Test of a Lifetime

Saturn is the test of a lifetime and equally a lifetime of test. We are subject and tested by these laws until such time as we learn to use these laws in our own behalf, and put them to use working for us. We rise above Satan or Saturn in proper use and obedience to the physical laws. "Render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's." Handling Saturn is the province of Jupiter, the lawyer and guide through Saturn.

Saturn is where you come to grips with yourself and first learn of spirit. It shapes the end to which we are tending, but also affects how we tend to get there. "Call what carriage as you may your hearse," for Saturn holds you together, as much as it may appear to hold you back. That is the general idea of Saturn.

The Seven Chakras

The chakras are paired with the traditional planets, from Saturn in to the Sun, and that would be Saturn, Jupiter, Mars, Earth, Venus, Mercury, and the Sun. The Sun and the Moon, the Lights, are not directly used here, but will be covered elsewhere. The traditional seven chakras, using their Sanskrit names, are:

Saturn (Muladhara Chakra) Base of Spine; Jupiter (Svadhithana Chakra) Genital Region; Mars (Manipura Chakra) Navel; Earth (Anahata Chakra) Heart Center; Venus (Vishuddha Chakra) Throat; Mercury (Ajna Chakra) Third Eye; Sun (Sahasrara Chakra) Crown of Head. Let's go over them one by one.

Saturn (Muladhara Chakra) Base of Spine
Chakra: Saturn (form, circumstances)
Key to Chakra: Jupiter (career, life path)

The Saturn chakra represents the physical world of form and the process of time that created that form. As we grow to complete our Saturn return around the age of 30, we each gradually come to grips with the rules, laws, and limitations of Saturn.

The Key to the Saturn chakra will be to invoke Jupiter, and without activating the Jupiter chakra, life would be very, very difficult in the Saturn chakra, as we will describe later on.

Jupiter (Svadhithana Chakra) Genital Region
Chakra: Jupiter (Career, life path)
Key to Chakra: Mars (Meaning, Union, Marriage)

The Jupiter chakra is the key to Saturn, and has to do with the life path or career, the particular way to pass through Saturn or form. Jupiter is the way we go through life.

The Key to the Jupiter chakra will be to invoke Mars, which has to do with the directionality or the meaning of life. Once the Jupiter or career is functioning and we have our head above water (making a living), the next chakra, Mars, has to do with "But what does it all mean?" and this is the chakra Mars, which leads to marriage and union.

Mars (Manipura Chakra) Navel

Chakra: Mars (Meaning, Union, Marriage)

Key to Chakra: Earth (The end of meaning, what it all means)

The Mars chakra is the key to Jupiter, and has to do with what life means, the sense life makes, and this leads to some sort of yoga or union, marriage being the most common form of yoga.

The Key to the Mars chakra will be to invoke the Earth chakra, which is the heart of what it all means, the Self, or simple existence itself. Earth is where we are all trying to get to and where we ultimately live.

Earth (Anahata Chakra) Heart

Chakra: Earth (The End of Meaning)

Key to Chakra: Venus (love, compassion)

The Earth chakra is the key to Mars, and has to do with simple existence, being the end of all meaning, the point we have been striving to reach.

The Key to the Earth chakra will be to invoke the Venus chakra,. As the literature of the world has told us forever, the key to life on Earth is love, loving kindness, and compassion.

Venus (Vishuddha Chakra) Throat

Chakra: Venus, Compassion, Love

Key to Chakra: Mercury (Light, Mind)

The Venus chakra is the key to Earth, and refers to love, kindness, and loving compassion. The Key to the Venus chakra will be to invoke the Mercury chakra, an inner chakra, which refers to the light in our eyes, the mind itself. Through all recorded history the key to life on Earth has been love, Venus. All the poets say so.

Mercury (Ajna Chakra) Third Eye

Chakra: Mercury (light, mind)

Key to Chakra: Sun (life process itself)

The Key to the Mercury chakra will be to invoke the Sun chakra, the innermost chakra, representing the entire life process itself.

Sun (Sahasrara Chakra) Crown of Head

Chakra: The Sun (the entire life process and center)

The Sun is more than a chakra, being the whole process of life itself, all of the planets and their interdependent interaction.

Ok, this is the rough outline. Next I will show you how to determine what chakra you or a client is in now. The symbol on this post, the Heart Center symbol, is my credentials, for those who can read signs.

Astro★Shamanism

Astrological
Rites
of Passage

