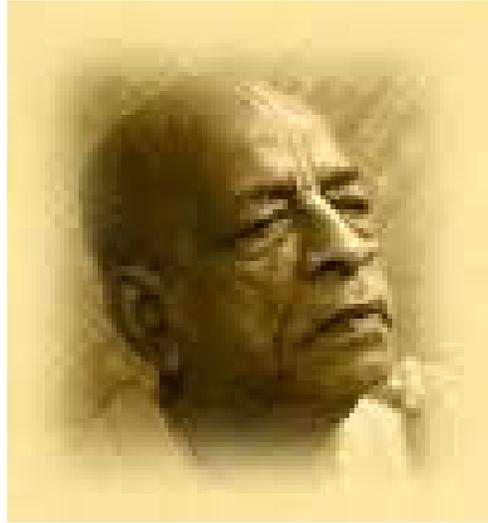


ALL GLORY TO SRI GURU AND SRI GAURANGA



**His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada
Founder-Acharya: International Society for Krishna Consciousness**

**Mithuna Twiins Astrological Services
“Home of the Bhrigu Project”**

Special Issue on Planet Venus: Sri Shukracharya

THE ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

16 August 2010 (#12)

“(Lord Brahma said)

‘O Indra, your enemies, the demons, were extremely weak because of their disrespect toward Shukracharya, but since they have now worshiped Shukracharya with great devotion, they have again become powerful. By their devotion to Shukracharya, they have increased their strength so much that now they are even able to easily seize my abode from me.’” (SB 6.7.23)

Chant this mantra:

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

...and your life will be sublime

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

Patita Pavana das Adhikary, Ed.
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In this Issue:

Shukracharya in the Horoscopes of Devotees
Where Is Venus In Your Horoscope?
Catastrophic Results of a Bad Muhurta

Dear Prabhus, We hope that this Edition finds you all happy, healthy and engaged in Krishna consciousness. Your Mithuna Twiins have just returned from two weeks of the ecstatic association His Holiness Indradyumna Swami at the Polish Festival Tour. The



Maharaja kindly invited us to run one of the astrology tents at the Polish Woodstock. The *kirtans* were all bliss, hundreds of thousands of people saw Lord Jagannath and tens of thousands danced in ecstasy and honored full plates of prasadam. The 400 Russian, Polish and other disciples on the tour are highly qualified *mahatmas*. All devotees must

see the Polish Festival Tour to experience once more what still truly pleases Srila Prabhupada the most: public chanting of the *mahamantra*.

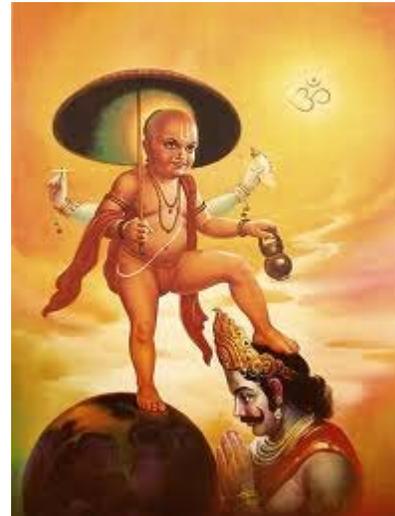
And, yes, those smiles are sincere. This photo was taken in the huge tent with His Holiness Bhakti BB Govinda Maharaja--accompanied by his renowned troupe of expert Kazakhstani musicians--leading the most wonderful *kirtan* that we've ever experienced. Such bliss must be shared. So plan to visit and witness the fulfillment of Lord Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's prophecy of worldwide *sankirtan* by the grace of the unbreakable system of disciplic succession.

Shukracharya in the Horoscopes of Devotees

Abhaya Mudra Dasi

Shukracharya, deity of the planet Venus, is a great devotee of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. He is great soul although he is often disregarded simply because he is the *guru* of the *asuras*. Shukracharya is not a simple character; his exalted qualities are hidden. Often he acts in a twisted manner because it is not easy to direct his demonic disciples towards the path of devotion. Still on so many occasions--as verified by *shastra*--Shukracharya has been very successful with his tactics.

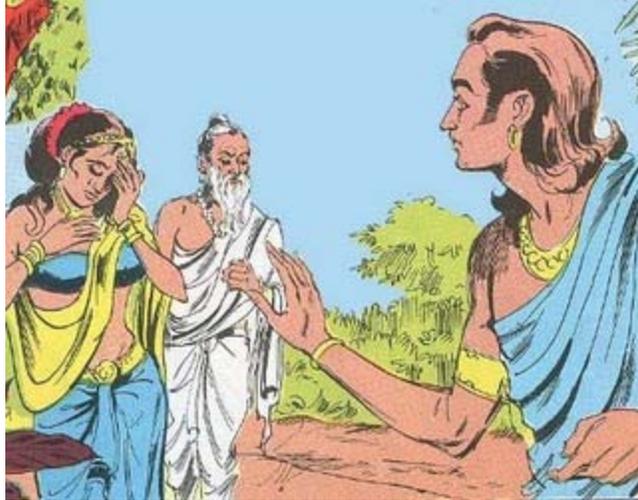
Let us look at the story of Vamanadeva. When Bali Maharaja usurped the kingdom of Lord Indra the demigods required help. Thus Vamanadeva appeared as Lord Indra's brother seeking justice for the demigods. When the Supreme Lord in the form of a dwarf *brahmana* appeared in front of Bali Maharaja, the king had no idea about the identity of Lord Vamanadeva. That information came from Shukracharya. The *guru* told his disciple, "This dwarf is directly the imperishable Supreme Personality of Godhead, Lord Vishnu..." Yet, in order to play along with the other *asuras* and to demonstrate some concern for their rights, Shukracharya also added, "...After giving everything to Vishnu you will have no means of livelihood." There have been many misunderstandings about this particular episode of the epic Sri Vamandeva *avatara-lila*. Apparently Bali Maharaja disregarded the warning of his *guru* in such a way that he became a *mahajana* and a great devotee of the Supreme Lord. Scant regard is given to the fact that the credit should go to Shukracharya for informing Bali Maharaja about the true identity of the Personality of Godhead.



Few recognize Shukracharya for his exceptional devotion. He is accepted as the deity of the feminine planet Venus. Natural law gives credit to the male and not to the subtle female energy. According to the flawless and perfect order of the Universe as ordained by the Supreme Person, the female is considered part of the male foundation. Nonetheless Shuracharya is very much a male and is not a female as wrongly portrayed by western astrology. Venus, like all other planets in Vedic astrology, is a demigod and not a

demi-goddess. Some of the characteristics of Shukracharya are well known and others are more obscure. But as followers of the Gaudiya Vaishnava *sampradaya* headed by Brahma, we side with the opinions of the demigods.

Shukracharya was born as the son of Brighu *muni*. With his curly black hair, he is described as beautiful to behold. He has a slender physique and rides a camel. In his hands he holds beads, a stick and a lotus. He dresses in a neat white *dhoti*. One of his daughters is Devayani. Devayani is famous for being cursed by Kacha, the son of Brihaspati. Kacha



became a student of Shukracharya to learn the art of *mrityu-sanjivani* or reviving the dead, a science well known to the *guru* of the demons. As Srila Prabhupada explains in the Bhaktivedanta Purport to SB 9.18.22 Devayani fell in love with the handsome Kacha and desired to marry him, but Kacha refused because she was the daughter of his teacher. She retaliated by cursing him that when he needed to employ the art of *mrityu-sanjivani*, it would be ineffective. Kacha retaliated by cursing the beautiful lady that she would never marry a *brahmana*. As a result of Kacha's curse, the daughter of Shukracharya eventually married the great King Yayati.

Shukra means white liquid. Another tinge of meaning assigned to the name of Shukracharya is "bright" or "shiny". By connotation, *shukra* is equated with semen, the most refined substance in one's body. *Shukra* is identified as well with *soma rasa*, or the drink of immortality. It is no wonder that Shukracharya has the ability to revive those among the dead if their bodies are intact.

In Vedic astrology, the malefic seven-year period (*mahadasha*) of Ketu is followed by the benefic twenty-year period of Shukra. The intense Ketu *mahadasha* can leave one torn between life and death or spirit and matter. Therefore who would not welcome the reviving touch of the planetary period of Venus? Sometimes the only individuals to whom one who is undergoing Ketu *dasha* can relate to are those who are running the Venus planetary period. That is not at all surprising because Venus--the *brahmana* Shukracharya--is very merciful to all suffering and misdirected souls.

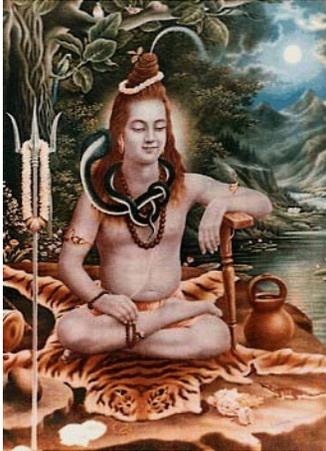
In *Bhagavad Gita* (10.37) Sri Krishna describes Sri Shukracharya as one of His representatives. It is not by chance that he is honored in the same verse as the great sage Vyasadeva, “...*muninam apy aham vyasah kavinam ushana kavih.*” In this verse Krishna confirms, “Among great thinkers I am Ushana (Shukra)”. In the purport to the same verse, Srila Prabhupada is likewise generous in his glorification of Shukracharya, “...Ushana was the spiritual master of the demons; he was extremely intelligent, far-seeing, political and spiritual in every way...”

Often in astrology, Jupiter or Brihaspati is called the “greater benefic” because his portfolio rules such assets as religion, philosophy, banking, progeny and education. Shukracharya is referred to as the “lesser benefic” because his benefits range from dining, luxuries and various pleasures of sense gratification to the arts. But, as we have seen in the *Bhagavad Gita*, the opinion of Sri Krishna is that both the Deva Guru (Jupiter) and Asura Guru (Venus) represent Him.

Soma, the demi-god of the Moon, is another feminine planet. Soma is equated with the left eye of the Universal form of Sri Krishna. Like Venus, the Moon also rules liquids since water is the most fertile of all elements. The Moon also does not get credit from gross materialists for infusing all living entities with their individual characteristics. The movements of the Moon are likewise mysterious as are the movements of the bright Venus. In *Srimad Bhagavatam* (5.22.12) Venus is described as always moving in proximity to the Sun. Shukracharya is never seen in opposition to the Sun--despite the fact that he is considered as one of the Sun’s enemies for technical reasons in astrology. Shukra, with his captivating brightness, is the first celestial body to appear upon the horizon while setting in the evening. Or he is the last luminary before sunrise.

The same verse from the Fifth Canto further describes Venus as being ever beneficial for all universal activities. One may wonder why it is that in Parashari Jyotish, Venus becomes exalted in the house of Jupiter. Brihaspati stands in staunch opposition to the policies of Shukracharya. But it is his challenge to the guru of the *auras* to fight or debate over the rights of this universe that makes Shukracharya stand out in his true light. Venus, being imbued with feminine passivity, has that sort of character that has to be provoked from outside forces in order to display his real spirit. Shukracharya’s only true equal is Brihaspati. On the battlefield he is often seen fighting with Brihaspati. In order to help the *asuras* convert to the right

path of *dharma*, Shukracharya hides his true nature and secretly enjoys the rebukes of Brihaspati. In his heart the *guru* of the *asuras* holds a conviction that equals the *guru* of the demigods: they both worship the Supreme Personality of Godhead.



Once Venus used his powers to revive the slain army of the demon Andhaka. For this act he was swallowed by Lord Shiva. Shukracharya was not able to free himself for one hundred celestial years. During this time he meditated upon Lord Vishnu's universal form in the belly of the angry Lord Shiva. But when Shukra managed to emerge, even Shiva was amazed. The greatest of the demigods blessed Shukracharya with powers that no other *jiva* in this universe can equal. Venus can revitalize the universe or an individual because of these splendid blessings.

But his position as the *asura guru* is always tricky and difficult to understand.

Many great devotees have debilitated Venus in their charts pointing to their renounced spirit. This is so in the case of Srila Prabhupada whose debilitated Venus, though powerfully *neecha-bhang* in the tenth house, indicates a temperament far above any attraction to sense gratification. Still other worshipers of Lord Sri Krishna have Venus exalted in their horoscopes, pointing to their desire to employ all beautiful things in life in the service of the Supreme Lord. We can find Venus in all different positions in the chart of devotees. It is Jupiter whose position in the horoscope of a devotee describes the extent of devotional influence (by emphasizing the houses of *dharma*), while the position of Venus further refines the chart.



Where is Venus in Your Horoscope?

Abhaya Mudra Dasi

The following descriptions in a nutshell of the positions of Venus are for each rising sign. Each also describes the multi-faceted character of Shukracharya.

Aries rising, Venus in:

1st house: Enjoys all pleasures, **2nd house:** Creates his wealth, **3rd house:** Tactful in all dealings, **4th house:** Rich and happy, **5th house:** The sorrowful talent, **6th house:** The thrifty loner, **7th house:** Bound to beautiful relations, **8th house:** Wandering pleasure picker, **9th house:** Pristine dignity, **10th house:** Landlord of worldly prestige, **11th house:** Beautiful surroundings, **12th house:** Floating in foreign waters.

Taurus rising, Venus in:

1st house: Wrestling strength, **2nd house:** Intelligence for gain, **3rd house:** Perpetual motion, **4th house:** Ordinary bits from everything, **5th house:** Misunderstood, **6th house:** Power of the wind, **7th house:** Tricky & handsome, **8th house:** Carried by others, **9th house:** Shaped by good *karma*, **10th house:** Idealistic persuasion, **11th house:** Thirst for wealth, **12th house:** Mystical loner.

Gemini rising, Venus in:

1st house: Efficient communicator, **2nd house:** Attachment to children, **3rd house:** A nervous string, **4th house:** Pretending to be happy, **5th house:** Inquisitive artist, **6th house:** Difficult to grasp, **7th house:** Never a loser, never a winner, **8th house:** Single-minded depth, **9th house:** Scientific mind, **10th house:** Progress for society, **11th house:** Intelligent collector, **12th house:** Must accept losses.

Cancer rising, Venus in:

1st house: Beautiful, **2nd house:** Poor aristocrat, **3rd house:** Lazy priest, **4th house:** Loved by everyone, **5th house:** Sweet wisdom, **6th house:** Cool intelligence, **7th house:** Elated pleasures of the world, **8th house:** Very old, **9th house:** Sheltered by God, **10th house:** Deserving happiness, **11th house:** Fixed in sweetness, **12th house:** Pleasure of being lost.

Leo rising, Venus in:

1st house: Elegant ambition, **2nd house:** An orphan, **3rd house:** Business tactician, **4th house:** Beautiful enterprises, **5th house:** The skill of being

right, **6th house:** Avoiding the trap, **7th house:** Tandem trust, **8th house:** World traveler, **9th house:** Prosperity and prayers, **10th house:** All-opulent, **11th house:** Knowhow advantage, **12th house:** Survival through giving.

Virgo rising, Venus in:

1st house: Harvesting the field, **2nd house:** Rich philosophy, **3rd house:** Excited belief in God, **4th house:** Right in the eyes of others, **5th house:** A sense for *dharma*, **6th house:** Clever politics, **7th house:** Exquisite possessions, **8th house:** Headstrong and careless, **9th house:** God given wealth, **10th house:** Auspicious business, **11th house:** Striking, **12th house:** Friend of the outcasts.

Libra rising, Venus in:

1st house: Journey of self discovery, **2nd house:** Adhere to the tested, **3rd house:** Noticeable endeavor, **4th house:** A king of his fortress, **5th house:** Deeply spiritual principles, **6th house:** Hero of the day, **7th house:** Self centered diplomacy, **8th house:** Creative penetration, **9th house:** Comfortable miss, **10th house:** Proud nobility, **11th house:** Almost on top, **12th house:** The sufferer.

Scorpio rising, Venus in:

1st house: Beautiful work, **2nd house:** Enjoyable expenses, **3rd house:** Family Pleasures, **4th house:** Self-made home, **5th house:** Cutting corners, **6th house:** Expelled from home, **7th house:** Embracing life, **8th house:** Walking on the edge, **9th house:** Living by what is given, **10th house:** Setting the target, **11th house:** Worldly expressions, **12th house:** Secret pleasures.

Sagittarius rising, Venus in:

1st house: Desire to be first, **2nd house:** Wealthy, **3rd house:** Acceleration force, **4th house:** Home cooked, **Fifth house:** Monetary friendship, **6th house:** Storage for the rainy days, **7th house:** Fixed on the spouse, **8th house:** A coin flip, **9th house:** Uncomfortable in one's own skin, **10th house:** Mixing results, **11th house:** Advantages, **12th house:** Nothing left.

Capricorn rising, Venus in:

1st house: Respected and respectful, **2nd house:** Knowledge of the world, **3rd house:** Liked no matter what, **4th house:** The grand proprietor, **5th house:** Artful politician, **6th house:** Fight on technicalities, **7th house:** Elegant relations, **8th house:** Dividing tactics, **9th house:** The ways of the idle, **10th house:** Judge of society, **11th house:** Grasping the value, **12th house:** "There is no use".

Aquarius rising, Venus in:

1st house: All around happiness, **2nd house:** Virtuous, **3rd house:** True power, **4th house:** Blessings, **5th house:** Artful, **6th house:** Against the norm, **7th house:** Strange, **8th house:** Lakshmi, **9th house:** Religious, **10th house:** Royal, **11th house:** Worship for results, **12th house:** Homeless.

Pisces rising, Venus in:

1st house: Clever courage, **2nd house:** Helped hand, **3rd house:** Proud fist, **4th house:** Self-starter, **5th house:** Reversing age, **6th house:** Accumulating energy, **7th house:** Pleasure is bitter, **8th house:** Mystic powers, **9th house:** Accumulated merits, **10th house:** Bringing back the old ways, **11th house:** Reliable strength, **12th house:** Restless.

Catastrophic Results of a Bad Muhurta

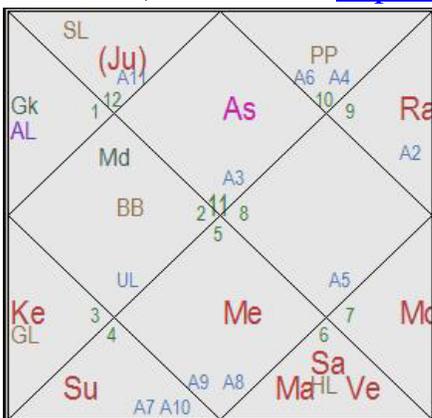
Patita Pavana das Adhikary



Sat., 14 Aug.2010: What went wrong at an off-road race in California's Mojave Desert when eight spectators were crushed to death and another dozen injured, mostly seriously? As seen from the video below, neither track rules nor rules of common sense were followed when a speeding Ranger truck went airborne over a jump

called "the rockpile" and plowed into a milling crowd of whooping sports fans. According to AP news, "The crash came shortly after the start of the 8 p.m. PDT race called the California 200." The driver, Brent Sloppy of Misery Motorsports, crawled out of the flipped vehicle, unhurt, but fearfully fled the fuming crowd. Emergency vehicles included 7 ambulances and 10 helicopters.

To watch, click here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EvNyFr_CtiM



Astrology can provide another--and we think, clearer--view of the catastrophe. Disaster struck just minutes after the desert duelers screamed off the line at 8:00 pm. According to the rules of *muhurta jyotish*, the timing

couldn't have been worse. Note that the literal meaning of dis-aster is "bad star" and there were plenty.

The fixed air sign of Aquarius (11) was rising at the start of the competition. Saturn, lord of Aquarius, was ominously tucked away in the eighth house of death, the feared *mrityustan*. Saturn, the grim reaper of the skies, was also the lord of the 12th (house of loss) for the *muhurta*. Since the race began on Saturday (Shaniwar), Saturn was also the day lord. Along with Saturn in the house of death were debilitated Venus (planet of entertainment) and violent Mars. Planets were engaged in *graha-yuddha* or planetary fights. The sort of violent, deadly entertainment that the three planets in Virgo (8th from Aquarius) had in mind was quite different from what was anticipated. No proper *muhurta* is ever chosen with any planet in the 8th house of death. For any astrologer worth his *dakshina*, two malefics and a debilitated benefic there would be unthinkable.

Now, for a few more of the ominous features: Venus, the debilitated lord of the 9th house of fortune, was sitting in the 12th to the 9th, indicating a "loss of fortune." The 8th house was in Virgo, which is ruled by Mercury. Mercury was 12 houses away from the 8th (again, denoting loss) in the 7th house in Leo. The seventh is called a death-inflictor or *maraka-stan*. Next, the lord of this house, the Sun, was 12 houses away in the 6th house of disease completing the domino effect. Apparently, the vision of Jupiter to the 8th could do little to help, either because Jupiter was retrograde or the hostile offensive originating in the 8th was just too overpowering.

Earthquake Steve, a devotee-astrologer from Boston, wrote to me just two days before the event with the following words, "Soon we will see what Saturn opposed Jupiter brings, I'll E you if I detect anything for that cosmic event, that happens rarely, around every twenty years."



Ominously, the disaster struck at the exact point when Saturn and Jupiter were within mere minutes of direct opposition. Jupiter was 8° 34' Pisces.

And Saturn was 8° 17' Virgo. Since Jupiter is now retrograde, he will turn around and meet Saturn head-on in direct opposition on 28 March 2011. The next such push-pull event between the two titans will be on 22 Dec 2029 while Saturn is retrograde in Aries.

Urgent Need for Muhurta-Vidya

There is a tremendous need for a proper knowledge of *muhurta jyotish* amongst members of ISKCON. Not long ago, your Mithuna Twins were invited to a wedding *yagna* which was begun while the Sun was conjoined a weak Moon both sitting together in a recently-eclipsed *nakshatra* in the 8th house! The 8th also rules intimacy since procreation is the cause of birth and hence death.

It is the *pandit's* duty to see that no couples' life together should ever be initiated under blighted stars. The *brahmana* who fails in this solemn duty is guilty as if of a criminal act. A word to all the astrologer hopefuls out there: misinterpreting the message of the planets, it is said, is equal to killing a *brahmana*. The results of "imbalanced pairing" of couples due to astrological misrepresentation causes endless sorrow and hardship. The reaction to the misreading of the stars will certainly haunt the astrologer.

On another occasion, we were invited to a gala *diksha-yagna* held under a wholly inappropriate *nakshatra*. The star in force was of the *tikshna* (sharp) variety, suitable only for "incantations, imprisonment, separation of friends and murder." And that, too, the *yagna* was held on Saturday. Spiritual life means walking the razor's edge, and beginning it on a field of thorns is asking too much of sincere and trusting new candidates. The new soldiers in the army of Mahaprabhu deserve better.

When Sri Krishna has provided us with this science of light, *jyotish shastra*, it is only good common sense to let His illumination shine. ·

A Pilgrimage and a War-like Omen

In July we were graced by a visit from Abhaya Devi's talented sister and brother-in-law, Sriji Rasa Lila Devi and Sriman Vrajendra Nandan Das. Taking advantage of the occasion, we trekked high into Bulgaria's Rila Mountains to visit the mystical Seven Sacred Lakes. Getting to the first lake involves a ski lift, but since that was under repair we hired a 4X4 which somehow managed to navigate the fierce, steep terrain. At the end of the rocky trail, we hired sturdy mountain pack horses. The herds roam free in the winter and are rounded up in the late Spring. Our horses carried us along the edges of steep cliffs overlooking glaciers and set us down at the first lake. I stayed with the backpacks while the three hardy Bulgarians took a *japa* walk over craggy boulders to the uppermost lake.

Elevations of the lakes range from 6,500 ft to 8,200 ft. Though their spiritual history is lost in the mists of time, they are still a popular pilgrimage destination for local worshippers. In late summer, they are the venue of a festival of religious gathering wherein thousands of vegetarian members of the White Brotherhood dance to a violin playing "Om". To taste the pristine waters of the uppermost lake (Abhaya tells me!) is to understand Sri Krishna's words *raso'ham apsu kaunteya*, "I am the original taste of water." (BGAI 7.8) Even upon drinking the liquid bliss of the lower lake, my body shook and my legs could provide no support.



After making our way down the mountain, the setting Sun took on the appearance of an angry copper kettle. As he inched into the basin of fertile farmland, Lord Surya Narayana turned a deep crimson red. The globe appeared to take on a sort of oval shape. It jogged a memory of an omen

described in a long-forgotten *nimmita-shastra* (science of portents): “When the Sun appears like a blood-red bow in the sky, it is a sign of war.”

We discussed what it could mean, and concluded that since the Sun was in Cancer, a water sign, there would be some conflict on the high seas in the



near future. The next day, 24 July 2010, North Korea promised to rain a “holy war” upon the United States for joining South Korea in massive naval exercises involving 20 nuclear-armed ships and subs and 200 aircraft. According to AP News, Pyongyang declared, “The army and people of the (North) will legitimately counter with their powerful nuclear deterrence the largest-ever nuclear war exercise.”

It is said that the same chain of mountains that form the Himalayas links to the great ranges of Europe. One of the beautiful aspects of the Rila Mountains, and other remote hideaways of the Earth, is that even after the demonic governments of the earth are finished with their business of destroying each other, these handiworks of Krishna’s glorious creation will still be here to inspire and shelter future generations:

yajnanam japa-yajno ‘smi sthavatanam himalayah

“Of sacrifices I am *japa*, the chanting of the holy names, and of immovable things I am the Himalayas.” (BGAI 10.25) -Ed. ·

Poetry Dept:

Flowers for Radha-Krishna

Patita Pavana das

Radha and Krishna the breath of my life,
Standing on Yamuna's flow'r-bedecked shore,
'Neath blossoms of fragrant *kadamba* trees blooming,
I've nothing but You and I want nothing more.

There in the splendidly sweet groves of Vraja,
There, Youthful Lovers, I'll make a gold throne;
There I will seat You in gem-studded glory,
There in the woods where the *tulsi* tree's sown.

On Lord Shyamasundar's dark limbs I will offer
Sweet-scented sandalwood pulp smeared with love.
Gourangi's gold arms will be amply anointed.
Your faces will beam like the moon-god above.

There will I fan You with peacock tail feathers,
And harvest bright *malati* buds from the land;
A garland I'll offer for Your Lordship's pleasure;
I'll dwell at Your feet and await Your command.

Letters to the Editor

E-Reunion with His Holiness Srila Krishnadas Swami

My dearmost spiritual brother Patita Uddharana Das,

All glories to Srila Prabhupada our eternal beloved spiritual master. My respectful dandavats to you. I was so overjoyed to receive and read your e-mail. Immediately all past sweet memories were awakened in my brain. Those were very beautiful days when we were together in the Bury Place temple and then Bhaktivedanta Manor. Our relationship was so strong I could never forget you. You are always there in my memory. I used to celebrate Gaur Purnima in Vrindavan. In Vrindavan, I always used to meet some devotees from America and I always enquired from them about you. But many of them could not reply. They didn't know and some had not seen you for long time. A few replied that they had met you but could not give me much information. At last my desire has been fulfilled by you directly sending me e-mail. I am extremely grateful to you for remembering me. Please say my Hare Krishna to all your family members and the devotees of Hare Krishna movement whom you happen to meet. Thank you Very much. Hare Krishna

Your humble spiritual brother and servant,

Krishna Das Swami

Blessed Success Story for the Mithuna Twiins

Dear Prabhus,

I wish to inform you that we have decided to get married to one another. I wish to thank you from the bottom of my heart for introducing us to one another and for running the astrological compatibility checks. In order to set aside the wedding dates, could you please choose the best possible dates in the months ranging from October 2010 to January 2011? As friends and family members will be attending, I am assuming that weekend dates can also be included so that working people can attend also. You already have our horoscope details for selecting the dates. Please let me know if you need them again. Looking forward to hearing from you soon as always
Thanks and Regards, “JK”

Prabhupada Gave the Highest Path

Dear Prabhuji,

Thank you for all your love and care. I went through the newsletter and it was really wonderful. Especially Srila Prabhupads lecture. What I liked the most was the letter of Srila Prabhupada which refers to him as Swami Jesus.

Prabhuji I always had a question in my mind that, how is so that when Lord Jesus came, Muhammad came, the times must have really been better (in terms of culture) as compared to when Srila Prabhupada came. Then how is it so that still Prabhupada came to give us the highest philosophy and not Jesus and others?

Once again thank you inspiring me in my service to Sri Guru and Gauranga. Seeking your blessings always. Thanking you.

Your servant, Sukumar Gaur das.

Prabhu, the answer to your question is found in these words of Srila Prabhupada from Chaitanya Charitamrita, Adi 8.15

“[Lord Chaitanya] is even more magnanimous than Lord Krishna Himself. Lord Krishna demanded that one surrender unto Him, but He did not

distribute love of Godhead as magnanimously as Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu. Therefore Srila Rupa Goswami offers Lord Chaitanya his respectful obeisances with the words *namo maha-vadanyaya krishna-prema-pradaya te krishnaya krishna-chaitanya-namne gaura-tviṣe namaḥ*. Lord Krishna simply gave the *Bhagavad-Gita*, by which one can understand Lord Krishna as He is, but Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, who is also Krishna Himself, gave people love of Krishna without discrimination.” -Ed.

How a Lame Man Crosses a Mountain

Dear Prabhu,

Please accept my respectful obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. All glories to Your Grace. Now I have promoted my self to 1st Rank among your fans. I was reading leisurely all the Chart Readings more thoroughly. You are an amazing writer. You are brilliant, a genius. How did you grasp such writing skills, so effective that they pierce the heart?

I have started admiring you so much. With every line you bring your clients closer to Krishna. Something bad in a chart, or something good in a chart; everything you convert it to transcendental platform.

Just one example, the Danda Yoga you flip this bad yoga in to Krishna's platform. You are amazing genius. Where were you hiding from us all these years Prabhu? Krishna for His own reasons hid you from our eyes.

Although my expectations are still mundane readings (I still request you give some info on all my questions) due to my own shortfalls, nevertheless I appreciate, in the ultimate analysis, how you dovetail even our star reading, astrology charts, in the service of Krishna. You are extraordinary.

All the remedials, you have given are getting us more serious in our Krishna Conscious practices. You are creating *utsaha* in our otherwise dull lives, where we have been practicing KC like a drudgery. We will read all your charts as often as possible every now and then when our *utsaha* battery has discharged, we will recharge by your guidance that you have given us in the chart.

We are totally humbled by all the planets readings. Srila Prabhupada our grand *guru* must be extremely pleased, how you are guiding us the grand disciples, or shall I say tricking us, or motivating us to surrender more and more to Guru and Gauranga.

I thank Krishna for guiding me to approach Your Grace, rather than some *karmi* astrologer, who would have ruined our lives. In astrology what you say is important, but how you say is even more important. You are blessed by both art and science of "What and How to say things".

I am not as good a writer as you are, so with my limited capabilities I have tried to glorify a wonderful Vaishnava like you.

I am trying to get my land registered and also the possibility of some *bhumi puja* at the plot to start construction. If those dates are not available, then please check in October. As per your readings, my toughest time is starting from Nov 2011 for 1 year so I have to finish construction of simple dwelling with in that time.

Your humble servant, BD

My dear Prabhuji,

Your words are kind and inspiring. We are pleased that our services have been a little helpful. However, if we have succeeded, then the real secret of success is found in the words of Srila Prabhupada's commentary on the very verse about Sri Shukracharya that appears at the opening of this edition. Please allow me to reveal to you those essential words:

Bhaktivedanta Purport to SB 6.7.23

“Lord Brahma wanted to point out to the demigods that by the strength of the guru one can become most powerful within this world, and by the displeasure of the guru one can lose everything. This is confirmed by the song of Vishwanatha Chakravarti Thakur:

*yasya prasada bhagavat-prasado
yasyaprasadan na gatih kuto'pi*

‘By the mercy of the spiritual master one is benedicted by the mercy of Krishna. Without the grace of the spiritual master, one cannot make any advancement.’

“Although the demons are insignificant in comparison to Lord Brahma, because of the strength of their *guru* they were so powerful that they could even seize Brahmaloaka from Lord Brahma. We therefore pray to the spiritual master:

*mukam karoti vachalam pangum langhayate girim
yat-kripa tam aham vandeSri-gurum dina-taranam*

‘By the mercy of the *guru*, even a dumb man can become the greatest orator, and even a lame man can cross mountains.’

“As advised by Lord Brahma, one should remember this shastric injunction if one desires success in his life.”

Prabhu, we can see practically that those who please Sri Guru are blessed with huge success, and this is the example Srila Prabhupada presented to the world. The worldwide influence of the Krishna Consciousness Movement is due only to Prabhupada’s strictly acting on behalf of his spiritual master. For example, today at the Polish Festivals manifestations of Srila Prabhupada’s pleasure were everywhere due to His Holiness Indradyumna Swami’s emphasis of *hari nama sankirtana*, so pleasing to Guru Maharaja. This is *parampara*. On the flip side, if we displease the spiritual master and tumble from the razor’s edge, there will be blood and injuries in all directions. -Ed.

Destruction of Demonic Civilization

Dear Patita Pavana Prabhu!

Pamho! AgtSP! Thank you very much for the June issue of The Astrological Newsletter.

It is a pity that many do not want to hear about the coming destruction of the present demonic civilization, although the first devotee in ISKCON to talk about this was Srila Prabhupada himself whom we all follow. I think Srila Prabhupada had very good reasons to do so because if the storm is coming we better prepare ourselves.

Yes, we may go through very difficult times in the coming decades as predicted by Srila Prabhupada 54 years ago. Right now everything points to a great world wide depression which will dwarf even the great depression of the 1920's. It is just beginning to unfold, but nevertheless some call it already "the greatest depression" which will be followed by a great war,

never seen before in recent history, probably commencing in the near future starting with the attack on Iran.

Yes we can see a dark plan behind all this if we care to look back far enough in history. It is always the same process, and they carried it out many times in the past again and again. First, our real rulers the global demonic oligarchs, the royals, the top 300 families, or whatever else you want to call them, rob the whole world blind by daylight in such a way that most people don't even notice, and then when we are so poor that we don't even have anything to eat, they erect great armies and take the whole world to war, in order to accomplish their dark sacrifices to their serpent-demons and thereby reduce the population of the globe. Just look back 5000 years ago to the world war of Kurukshetra. Kali himself in the body called Duryodhana instigated that great war of wars. Of course he could not imagine that he might lose. History is just about to repeat itself.

Interestingly enough, the previously mentioned palm leaf predictions, by the author Ritter, also mentioned that India, Russia and China will not be as much influenced by the coming world wide financial collapse as all other nations. The same predictions are made right now by independent alternative financial experts.

I am looking forward to the future with joy, hope and confidence. This demonic civilization will indeed come to an end soon, but it can not be destroyed by any other means than by its own sinful karmic reactions which will trigger catastrophes of unimaginable proportions. Right now we can see one of those catastrophes of global proportion unfolding before our eyes in the gulf of Mexico and it will not be the last one.

Isn't it wonderful that this kind of civilization will soon be annihilated and replaced by the predicted Satya Yuga? Isn't it great that at least our grandchildren will live on a wonderful planet full of spirituality, conducive for their return back to home back to Krishna where they can live eternally, hopefully together with all of us who want to live spiritual lives? Isn't it wonderful that our planet will be more or less free of corruption, manipulation and pollution? Of course it is, but until then we have a long long way to go and we better prepare ourselves both spiritually and materially.

Of course those of us who are ready to leave their bodies need nothing else

but the chanting of the holy Names of the Lord, but others who want to stay and serve longer on this planet, for the Lord's pleasure and for the benefit of others, may also need some material preparation.

If catastrophes hit many of those who are unprepared will leave their bodies, including devotees. We know from descriptions that at the time of a sudden death as in an accident or a catastrophe the devotee may not be able to think of and surrender to Krishna fully. Make no mistake, even a great personality like Bharat Maharaja had to come back in a deer's body, which means it can happen to anyone of us too. On the other hand if we are warned and are consciously aware of what is coming our way in the near future we may want to prepare ourselves for that moment and be trained how to remember the Lord and not to think about anything else than chanting His holy Names with our last breath.

Therefore I take the coming events as what they really are namely the blessings of the Supreme Lord so that I may finally take my spiritual life seriously and surrender to Him fully every day of my life I wish and hope that in the near future some of Srila Prabhupada's prominent disciples, who will be taken very seriously by all the devotees around the world, will come forward and broadcast some valuable guidelines about what may happen and how to prepare ourselves properly according to our personal level of advancement in our spiritual life for the coming disaster.

Since you are doing this already Prabhu I am offering my *dandavats* to you again and again and I am hoping that others will follow your example. I am sure that any devotee who tries to help other devotees, or even non-devotees, in whatever way they can are sincerely following Srila Prabhupada and are pleasing him perfectly. Thank you very much and please keep us informed.

Your humble servant,
Hema Lavanya Das