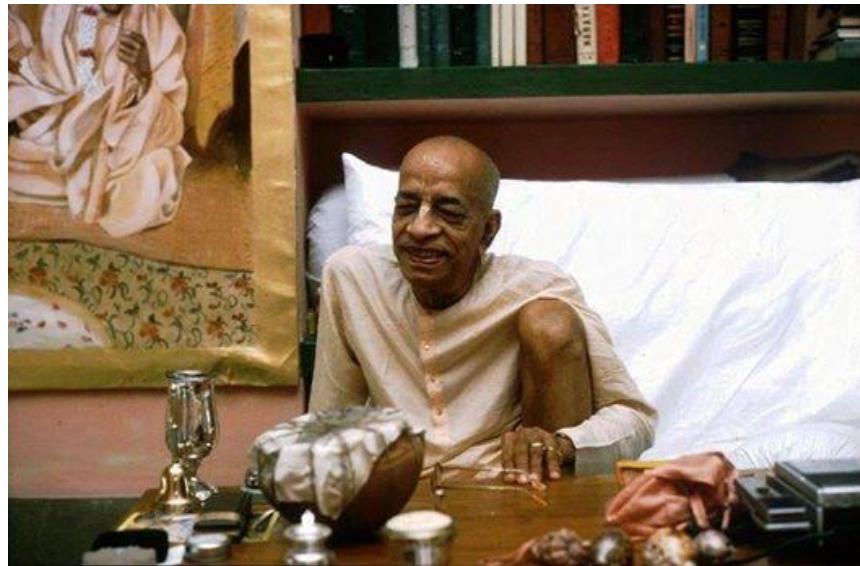


## ALL GLORY TO SRI GURU AND SRI GAURANGA



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

“One cannot be independent and at the same time become a devotee because all devotional activities are based on surrender. So in the association of devotees we learn this important item—how to surrender, but if we keep our independence and try to become devotees, that is not possible.”  
-Srila Prabhupada (letter to Rayarama, Oct. 22, 1971)

## THE ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

### Mithuna Twin Astrological Services “Home of the Bhrgu Project”

In this issue:

### *Bright Stars of ISKCON*

Chant this mantra:

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Hare Hare  
Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Hare Hare

*...and your life will be sublime*

**12 December 2013 (#38)** Mrigashirsha Shukla Paksha, 527 Gaurabda Era corresponding to the bright *ekadashi* known as Mokshada Ekadashi, the day Sri Krishna spoke *Srimad Bhagavad Gita* to Arjuna <http://salagram.net/ekadasi-2.htm>.

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

Patita Pavana das Adhikary, Ed.

Abhaya Mudra Dasi

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Visit us at: [www.vedicastrologers.org](http://www.vedicastrologers.org)

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### ***Dear Prabhus,***

Dandavats to the Vaishnavas—and welcome to the issue. We are grateful to have the e-association of each one of you. This issue examines the science of *muhurtas* from different points of view. There is an article (one that is a bit technical) by Abhaya Mudra Dasi. For those of you who are not familiar with the astro-lingo of that article, please write to us and we will send you a glossary. Other *muhurta* discussed herein run from the relatively mundane to the spiritual, as well as some thoughts behind this vast subject of *muhurtas*.

**COMET ISON:** Have you noticed things falling out of the sky lately? A plane in the former Soviet Union nose dives into the earth. A train in New York goes over a cliff. A police helicopter in Glasgow crashes into a crowded pub. At sports games across America fans fall out of the stands to their deaths one after another. Skydivers collide and parachutes prove useless. From our perspective, these are the inklings of the growing threat of Comet ISON. If the comet grows brighter, then its Ketu effects will become more pronounced here on earth. Those future effects may not be just major disasters, but governments and currencies toppling.

From An ancient Chinese document titled *Record of the World's Change* we read the following prophecies:

“Comets are vile stars. Every time they appear in the south, something happens to wipe out the old and establish the new. Also, when comets appear, whales die ... When a comet appeared in the constellation of the Big Dipper, all soldiers died in chaos ... When a comet appears in the North Star, the emperor is replaced. If it appears in the end of the Big Dipper, everywhere there are uprisings and war that continues for years. If it appears in the bowl of the Dipper, a prince controls the emperor. Gold and gems become worthless ... Scoundrels harm nobles. Some leaders appear, causing disturbances. Ministers conspire to rebel against the emperor.”

As ever, we look forward to your feedback and love to be in touch with each one of you. Always wishing you the very best in Krishna consciousness, I beg to remain,

Yours at the lotus feet of the servants of Srila Prabhupada,

***Patita Pavana das Adhikary, Ed***

*What is the future of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness? Through the window of jyotish shastra Abhaya Mudra Dasi offers a glimpse into the future of a spiritual family that Srila Prabhupada founded on the principle of delivering the universe ...*

***Bright Stars of***



**Incorporated on 13<sup>th</sup> July 1966**

**Abhaya Mudra Dasi**

The following chart of the time of the incorporation of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness offers many clues to the future of the Hare Krishna Movement. The actual date as seen on the official document of incorporation is 13 July 1966 is seen here <http://prabhupadabooks.com/incorporation>.

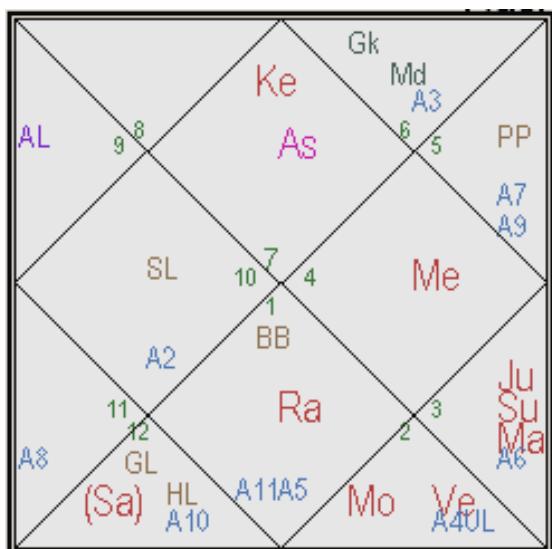
Some say that I.S.K.CON. incorporated two days earlier on 11<sup>th</sup> July. It was on that date during a lecture that Srila Prabhupada requested support from the audience to officially incorporate his society. Steven J. Goldsmith, the notary who would two days later help with the paperwork, was present and was pleased to oblige His Divine Grace.

The date of 13<sup>th</sup> July is reflects the auspiciousness of Srila Prabhupada's birth chart. The chart below is drawn for the early afternoon 13 July, 1966,

the likely hour the document was notarized and/or handed over to Srila Prabhupada.

### The Stars of Worldwide Sankirtana

There are quite a number of significant positions in this horoscope. The lord of the 9<sup>th</sup> *dharma* Mercury—the signifier Lord Vishnu in astrology—is in the 10<sup>th</sup> *karma* revealing the spiritual intent of the organization. The lord of the 10<sup>th</sup> house of business Moon (lord of the mind) is exalted and forms *raja yoga* in the 8<sup>th</sup> house of longevity along with Venus, the house lord. Venus as 8<sup>th</sup> lord in the 8<sup>th</sup> creates *sharala yoga* for ease of progress. Here is a certain astrological indication that the International Society for Krishna Consciousness is destined to enjoy a very long lifespan—no doubt one which will continue for the entire 10,000 years of the Golden Age in Kali Yuga.



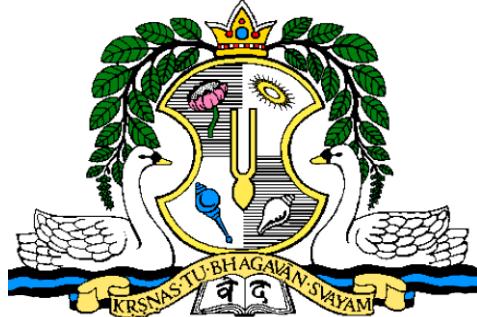
Venus is the lord also of the 1<sup>st</sup> house of self which illustrates that the shape and form of the organization will continue as desired by Srila Prabhupada. One may point to the fact that the lord of the rising sign (which represents the *atma* or self in astrology) is conjoined the changeable Moon. In fact, Chandra is in exaltation in Taurus, a fixed earth sign. Therefore the Moon is not only steady but immovable. Interestingly, the Moon in the sign of the bull reflects

the lunar position under which His Divine Grace the Founder-Acharya appeared. The Moon is in the *nakshatra* of the demigod of the Sun, Krittika, which (according to Bhishma in the *Mahabharata*) is the star under which the sword was created. That certainly describes the preaching activities of the early devotees.

Saturn, who is a good friend of Venus, looks onto the 8<sup>th</sup> house. His aspect or *drishti* over the *ayushbhava*, the “house of longevity” gives added assurance that the Society will remain fixed and will grow.

Ketu, the *moksha-karaka* or “planet of liberation” in astrology, is positioned in the 1<sup>st</sup> house of self, the *atmasthan*. This indicates that the organization is based upon transcendental ideals. Indeed, the spiritual goals of ISKCON

culminate in the deliverance of the conditioned souls from the clutches of material energy. Ketu is astrology's bridge between the mundane and transcendence. Rahu, who is always the opposite of Ketu, sits in the 7<sup>th</sup> house of partnerships revealing that many low-born individuals will join the Society and become spiritualized.



Note that Mars, the dispositor of the 7<sup>th</sup> house, is well positioned in the 9<sup>th</sup> house of good fortune with Sun and Jupiter, the other fire sign rulers. Therefore the friendly lords of fiery Aries, Leo and Sagittarius all sit together in Mercury's air sign Gemini in the *dharma-stan*. This threesome in the 9<sup>th</sup> house of religion—emboldened as it is by *ubhayachara yoga*, too—is extremely important. It is a *tri-graha yoga* that is formed by Jupiter (expansion and spirituality), Sun (ego and leadership) and Mars (power and war). It plainly reveals ISKCON's “fired-up” and aggressive focus on returning souls back to their eternal constitutional position of pure devotional service at the lotus feet of the Supreme Personality of Godhead Sri Krishna. These three planets are all chiefs in their own right. Brihaspati is the chief priest, Mangala is the chief of war in astrology and Surya is the chief of the nine planets. In a word this rare conjunction in the 9<sup>th</sup> shows that ISKCON will become the spiritual leader of the world.

The Society will survive and will remain victorious throughout its many tests and hurdles. And since this three-planet conjunction occurs in Mithuna or Gemini ruled by the planet of communication Mercury, it gives further evidence that expansion succeeds through sharing of spiritual information—or enthusiastic preaching. Everything is given by Srila Prabhupada in his books. The nature of the message is shown by the great aspect that the threesome of Sun, Mars and Jupiter cast to the 3<sup>rd</sup> house of literature ruled by Jupiter. The above combination is also significant because it shows the eternal presence of Srila Prabhupada in his divinely inspired writings.

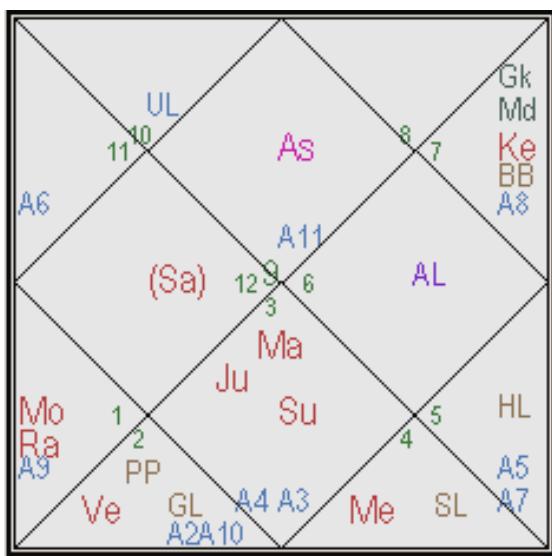
The rising sign of the chart is Libra. It is the sign of balance calling for cooperation and harmony. Mars (Bhauma)—the son of Mother Earth and the *bhumi-karaka* or “planet of landed properties”—gives his exalted, *raja yoga* aspect to the 4<sup>th</sup> house of buildings proclaiming that the society will have many great temples. And these temples will be scattered all over the world since Mars aspects the 12<sup>th</sup> house of foreign activities and the 12<sup>th</sup> house is

also ruled by Mercury who has gone in the 10<sup>th</sup> house of business or *karmastan*.

Saturn, too, plays a crucial position in this chart as he is astrology's ruler of *karma* or time. Remember that in Srila Prabhupada's horoscope, Saturn is the exalted 2<sup>nd</sup> (wealth) lord in the 11<sup>th</sup> house of popularity and personal benefits. Saturn comes to the rescue as the chart's breaker of *kala sarpa yoga*. Since Saturn alone sits outside the axis of Rahu and Ketu, the pair did not succeed in harming the perfect *muhurta* of incorporation. Had *kala sarpa yoga* ensnared the planets, it could have locked the moment in time without hope of future progress.

Indeed, Saturn not only breaks *kala sarpa yoga*, but he also offers some solutions for any future problems that might develop. Saturn, though a natural malefic, is always welcomed in the 6<sup>th</sup> house *shatrustan*. That is because he destroys the portfolio of that house, which rules enemies and sickness. The 6<sup>th</sup> is further described as the "house of service." Saturn rules the 4<sup>th</sup> house of happiness or *sukhastan* showing that happiness will only be achieved through service. Saturn also rules the 5<sup>th</sup> house of knowledge showing again that true knowledge can only be gained through unalloyed service, which devotees understand to mean full surrender to the Lord's pure devotee and his successor *acharyas*. Saturn sits in the sign of Guru or Brihaspati, Dhanush *rashi*, who in turn has achieved *raja yoga* association in the 9<sup>th</sup> house of *dharma*.

### Srila Prabhupada's Call for Action on July 11<sup>th</sup>



the 5<sup>th</sup> house (*vidya*) lord Mars and lord of the 9<sup>th</sup> (*Sri guru*) Sun. So there is

6

In comparison to the above marvelous chart the one of July 11<sup>th</sup> at about 7:30 pm when Srila Prabhupada would have finished his lecture could be looked upon as an adjunct, though not as a main chart.

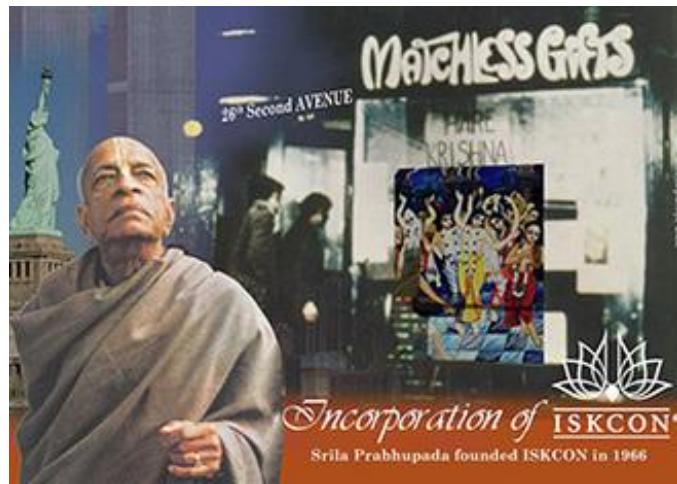
What we have here is the beautiful conjunction of Jupiter, Mars and Sun in the house of partners showing that Srila Prabhupada did indeed gather full support for his new organization on July 11<sup>th</sup>. The Lord of the rising sign is Jupiter positioned along with

a gathering of Sri Guru Maharaja and his students together in the house of partnerships dictated by the Srila Prabhupada (as the 9<sup>th</sup> house is empty). The 5<sup>th</sup> house of students is occupied by Rahu and the Moon. This combination is technically known as eclipse and shows that the students were not only unqualified but had their own issues as the Moon rules the 8<sup>th</sup> house of secret matters. The conjunction of Rahu with the Moon reveals that the collective minds of the students were not yet sufficiently pure should they be left to their own devices at that time.

### From Such Humble Beginnings

The austere Saturn (lord of funds) positioned in the 4<sup>th</sup> house of domicile shows that the place of the lecture—26 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.—was rather Spartan. And Ketu afflicting the 11<sup>th</sup> house of gains supports the verdict of Saturn. These were indeed lean times for the fledgling movement. Ketu's dispositor Venus is positioned in the 6<sup>th</sup> house in his own sign forming *harsha* and *daridra yogas*. Though the congregations was poor (*daridra*) they were blissful (*harsha*) at the lotus feet of Sri Guru. Venus along with Mercury in the 8<sup>th</sup> house makes for *shubha kartari yoga* (“auspicious scissors combination”) in relation to the 7<sup>th</sup> house of partners. Benefic planets sitting on either side of the 7<sup>th</sup> reveals that the meeting with Srila Prabhupada was all auspicious and peaceful despite the humble origins of his early followers. The main topic was not so much about forming the corporation—as shown by 10<sup>th</sup> lord (house of business) Mercury in the 8<sup>th</sup> house of secret intent (which creates a *duryoga* for difficulties), but more to support the Founder-Acharya. This is shown by the aspect of Jupiter to the 1<sup>st</sup> house of the horoscope. This horoscope does not reveal much longevity since the purpose was just a meeting. Nonetheless, the good intent is clearly visible for the future establishment of the International Society of Krishna Consciousness on 13 July 1966.

Two days later on the 13<sup>th</sup> ISKCON was established on the auspicious *ekadashi tithi*, which is a very auspicious *ananda* or “joyful” *tithi*. Specifically, it was the day of Kamika Ekadashi. And it was Wednesday, the day of Mercury or Budhwara, which is also very auspicious. We



have noted that Mercury as the ruler of the day also rules the 9<sup>th</sup> house or *dharmastan* and is positioned in the 10<sup>th</sup> house *karmastan*. Since the *hora* or hour of Chandra was apparently in effect, the transaction went smoothly. The Sun was moving in *uttarayana* during which time he travels his northward route in the region of the *devatas*. This auspicious moment could only have been personally planned by the Supreme Personality of Godhead Sri Krishna for the glorification of His pure devotee and benefit to the world.



*The material world or Durga's Citadel is controlled by the Goddess of the Three Modes of Nature, Trigunamayee. Capturing the right moment in advance when she is in a mood to bless a project or trip is one of the tricks of the vast science of muhurtas.*

## *Some Stray Thoughts on ...*

# **The Science of Muhurtas**

**Patita Pavana das Adhikary**

**1. Shailputri**



**2. Bhramcharini**



**3. Chandraghanta**



**4. Kushmunda**



**5. Skandmata**



**6. Kaatyayani**



**7. Kaalratri**



**8. MahaGauri**



**9. Siddhiratri**



A basic understanding of *jyotish* rests upon the science of *muhurtas*. As we all know, this material world is the Citadel of Mother Durga. Durga, who is an expansion of the wife of Lord Shiva, Parvati, has many moods according to her feminine nature, and her moods pervade the universe in different ways. Finding a good *muhurta* means understanding in advance the mood of the Universal Mother. Sometimes she appears as the deadly Kali and sometimes she manifests as Annapurna, the provider of food grains. Through understanding her moods with reference to the stars, activities in this Devi-dham can be blessed with a more favorable

outcome. And—whatever her many forms may be—*bhaktas* do not fear her. On the contrary we devotees worship her as Vaishnavi, one of the greatest devotees. Indeed, she is the chastiser of Kamsa and the very sister of Lord Krishna.

### Rare Muhurta at Venu Kupa

As an important example of a rare and auspicious *muhurta*, let us look to the recent Somavati Amavashya which devotees observed this year in Vrindavana on Monday, 2 December. The recent Somavati Amavashya was further enhanced because it occurred during the powerful Anuradha *nakshatra*. Anuradha, falling within Scorpio or Vrischika *rashi*, is the wonderful *devagana* star under which Srimati Radharani appeared.



So on Somavati Amavashya under the beneficial rays of Anuradha, the devotees repaired to Bhandiravana (“forest of banyan trees”) led by Prabhu Dina Bandhu das. It was here that Lord Balarama slew Prahlambhasura. There is also a well or *kupa* here called Venu Kupa. On Somavati Amavashya the waters turn milky and possess immense spiritual strength and healing powers. Barren women bathe in the waters under this *muhurta* and pray for a worthy son. This Venu Kupa or Bhandira Kupa was dug by Sri Krishna Himself with His own flute (*venu*) in order to relieve the thirst of his cowherd boy friends. The water naturally contains the sacred waters of every holy place on earth. Since Baladeva Himself came here to refresh Himself after slaying the wicked Pralambha, there is the impression of the crown of Sri Krishna’s elder brother in the stone.



Srila Jiva Goswami states in his *Gopal Champu* that Sri Sri Radha and Krishna were married here at the tree called Bhandira Vat, which is around fifty meters from the temple. This events of this holy union of the Divine Couple is described in the *Adi Varaha Purana* and in the *Garga Samhita*. There is a unique temple here

wherein a deity of Lord Brahma is officiating the marriage ceremony. This temple is called Sri Sri Radha-Ananda Bihari and the Deity of Krishna is in the mood of ceremoniously applying *kum kum* to the forehead of Gaurangi, the Queen of Vrindavana.

## Anuradha Nakshatra and the Concert for Bangladesh

While reflecting upon the recent Somavati Amavasya and Anuradha *nakshatra*, my mind strayed to an unrelated yet important *muhurta* that occurred over three decades back under Anuradha, the Concert for Bangladesh. In one of his very last television interviews, Sriman George Harrison explains how he was asked by his friend the talented Ravi Shankar to organize what would indeed become the first of the rock and roll mega-fund raisers. George obliged and spent the next few weeks bringing together icons of the industry to raise money for the Bengali refugees.

In the interview—<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZYozQfn8a0> (see the 5:00 mark), George explains how he consulted an Indian astrologer and asked him for the best *muhurta* for the concert. When the astrologer told him 1<sup>st</sup> August 1971, George Prabhu called up the management of the Madison Square Garden in New York City and booked the legendary hall for that *muhurta*. During the concert, which was attended by 40,000 fans, George greeted the crowd with “Hare Krishna,” and sang two of his most devotional songs, “My Sweet Lord” (see 28:40 mark of link below) and “Awaiting on You All” (“by chanting the Names of the Lord and you’ll be free”—see 33:10 mark). Another favorite, “Here Comes the Sun,” George’s praise to the Sun god (he chanted Gayatri *mantra* each day) is found at 1:06:07. There is little doubt that the sound advice of a Vedic astrologer to hold the concert under Anuradha contributed greatly to the smooth success and lasting influence of the Concert for Bangladesh <http://vimeo.com/66413717>. ↗

*The British scholar / poet Sri Ralph TH Griffith writes in his 19th c. Ramayana:*

*These were the rites, and many more, Arranged by light of holy lore  
The Aptoryam of mighty power, And, each performed in proper hour,  
The Abhijit and Vishvajit, With every form and service fit;  
And with the sacrifice at night, The Jyotishthom and Ayus rite.*

*Next we examine that victorious moment, the Abhijit !*

## Remarkable Abhijit Muhurta

### Patita Pavana das Adhikary

The *muhurta* called *abhijit* can be a saving grace, especially if no auspicious moment is available at other times during the day. *Abhijit* means “victorious” and commencing some activity at *Abhijit* insures victory. and That is because by its own power it destroys unsavory elements like 8<sup>th</sup> house planets or debilitated planets, and promotes victory. Technically, this

triumphant moment sits at the exact division or *sandhi* between morning and afternoon, i.e., mean noontime. However this does not mean that it occurs at high noon or 12 o'clock, which is only a modern non-Vedic conception. *Abhijit* is easily calculated by finding the exact midpoint between sunrise and sunset. Only when the Sun rises exactly at 6:00 and sets at 6:00 pm will the *abhijit muhurta* be at noon.

A *muhurta* is measured at 48 minutes, however that calculation is only for a 12-hour day and the time expands or compresses according to the season. This means that for a 12-hour day, the *abhijit muhurta* would extend to 24 minutes before and after the precise *abhijit* moment. As we will see next, *abhijit muhurta* is praised in throughout the revealed *shastras*.

### **Abhijit Muhurta in Srimad Bhagavatam**

In the *Bhagavata* (3.18.27) Lord Brahma entreated Lord Vishnu Varaha to kill the wicked Hiranyaksha with the request: “The auspicious period known as *abhijit*, which is most opportune for victory, commenced at midday and has all but passed; therefore, in the interest of Your friends, please dispose of this formidable foe quickly.” As revealed in the narrative, Lord Brahma was worried that a “demonic hour” would ensue once *abhijit* had flown past, which would automatically increase the demon’s power.

It is also described in the *Bhagavata* (8.18.5) that Lord Vamanadeva appeared during *abhijit muhurta*. Therein we find: “On the day of Shravana-dwadashi (the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the bright fortnight in the lunar month of Bhadra), when the moon entered into the lunar mansion of Shravana, at the auspicious moment of *abhijit*, the Lord appeared in this universe. Considering the Lord’s appearance very auspicious, all the stars and planets, from the sun to Saturn, were munificently charitable.”

Srila Prabhupada notes that Lord Vamanadeva appeared not only during *abhijit muhurta*, but also under the Abhijit *nakshatra* which is the most powerful *nakshatra*. In the Purport His Divine Grace writes: “... when the Lord appeared, the planets and stars became situated very auspiciously according to astrological calculations to celebrate the birth of the Lord.”

### **Abhijit Muhurta in Mahabharata and Ramayana**

King Yudhisthira also appeared under this most auspicious *abhijit muhurta*. As stated in the *Mahabharata* (*Sambhava Parva*, 123):

“Vaisampayana said, ‘Kunti summoned Lord Dharmaraja to obtain offspring from him by repeating the *mantra* that Durvasa had given her. Intrigued by her incantations, Dharma

arrived in his chariot that was as resplendent as the Sun at the spot where Kunti was seated. Smiling, he asked, ‘O Kunti, what may I give you?’ And Kunti, smiling in return, replied, ‘You must give me a son.’ Then Kunti obtained from Dharmaraja a son who was devoted to the benefit of all creatures. This excellent child, who would live to acquire a great fame, appeared at the 8<sup>th</sup> *muhurta* called *abhijit*, the hour of noon of that very auspicious day of the seventh month (Kartika), viz., on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the bright fortnight, while the Moon was conjoined *Jyeshta nakshatra*.’

The *Mahabharata* also explains that Lord Ramachandra was installed as King of Ayodhya upon His return from exile under *abhijit muhurta*: “Vaishampayana said, ‘And Vasishtha and Vamadeva then together installed that Hero in the sovereignty (of Ayodhya) at the 8<sup>th</sup> *muhurta*.’” The 8<sup>th</sup> *muhurta* of a day refers to *abhijit*. Furthermore, it is also believed that Lord Ramachandra not only appeared under *abhijit*, but married Queen Sita at that moment.

### **Lord Krishna Marries Princess Lakshmana During Abhijit**

Next we find in Srila Prabhupada’s *Krishna the Supreme Personality of Godhead* that Queen Lakshmana, one of Lord Krishna’s eight principle queens of Dwaraka, married the Lord under *abhijit muhurta*. The dialogue is between Queen Lakshmana and Queen Draupadi.

Then Lakshmana said, “My dear Queen, many times I have heard the great sage Narada glorifying the pastimes of Lord Krishna. I became attracted to the lotus feet of Krishna when I heard Narada say that the goddess of fortune, Lakshmi, was also attracted to His lotus feet. Since then I have always been thinking of Him, and thus my attraction for Him has increased. My dear Queen, my father was very affectionate toward me. When he understood that I was attracted to Krishna, he devised a plan. His plan was like that devised by your father; during the *svayamvara*, the prospective bridegrooms had to pierce the eyes of a fish with their arrows. The difference between the competition in your *svayamvara* and mine was that in your case the fish was hanging openly on the ceiling, in clear view, but in my case the fish was covered with a cloth and could only be seen by the reflection of the cloth in a pot of water. That was the special feature of my *svayamvara*.

“The news of this device was spread all over the world, and when the princes heard of it, they arrived at my father’s capital city from all directions, fully equipped with armor and guided by their military instructors. Each one of them desired to win me as his wife, and one after another they raised the bow and arrow which was left there for piercing the fish. Many could not even join the bowstring to the two ends of the bow, and without attempting to pierce the fish, they simply left the bow as it was and went away. Some with great difficulty drew the string from one end to the other, and being unable to tie the other end, they were suddenly knocked down by the spring-like bow. My dear Queen, you will be surprised to know that at my *svayamvara* meeting there were many famous kings and heroes present. Heroes like Jarasandha, Ambashtha, Shishupala, Bhimasena, Duryodhana and Karna were, of course, able to string the bow, but they could not pierce

the fish, because it was covered, and they could not trace it out from the reflection. The celebrated hero of the Pandavas, Arjuna, was able to see the reflection of the fish on the water, but although with great caution he traced out the location of the fish and shot an arrow, he did not pierce the fish in the right spot. His arrow at least touched the fish, and so he proved himself better than all other princes.

“All the princes who had tried to pierce the target were disappointed, being baffled in their attempts, and some candidates had even left the place without making an attempt, but when at last Lord Krishna took up the bow, He was able to tie the bowstring very easily, just as a child plays with a toy. He placed the arrow, and looking only once at the reflection of the fish in the water, He shot the arrow, and the pierced fish immediately fell down. *This victory of Lord Krishna was accomplished at noon, during the moment called abhijita, which is astronomically calculated as auspicious.* At that time the vibration of ‘Jaya Jaya!’ was heard all over the world, and from the sky came sounds of drums beat by the denizens of heaven. Great demigods were overwhelmed with joy and began to shower flowers on the earth.

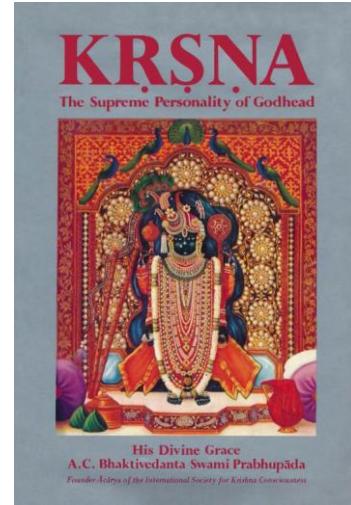


“At that time, I entered the arena of competition, and the ankle bells on my legs were sounding very melodiously as I walked. I was nicely dressed with new silken garments, flowers were decorating my hair, and because of Lord Kāñëa's victory, I was in ecstatic joy and smiling very pleasingly. I was carrying in my hands a golden necklace bedecked with jewels, which was glittered at intervals. My curling hair encircled my face, which was shining with a bright luster due to the reflection of my various rings. My eyes blinking, I first of all observed all the princes present, and when I reached my Lord I very

slowly placed the golden necklace on His neck. As I have already informed you, from the very beginning my mind had been attracted by Lord Krishna, and thus I considered the garlanding of the Lord to be my great victory. As soon as I placed my garland on the neck of the Lord, there sounded immediately the combined vibration of *mridangas*, *patahas*, conchshells, drums, kettledrums and other instruments, causing a tumultuous sound, and while the music played, expert male and female dancers began to dance, and singers began to sing sweetly.

“My dear Draupadi, when I accepted Lord Krishna as my worshipable husband, and He also accepted me as His maidservant, there was a tumultuous roaring among the disappointed princes. All of them became very agitated because of their lusty desires, but without caring for them, my husband, in His form as the four-handed Narayana, immediately took me on His chariot, which was drawn by four excellent horses. Expecting opposition from the princes, He armored Himself and took up His bow named Sarnga, but our celebrated driver, Daruka, drove the beautiful chariot without a moment's delay toward the city of Dvaraka. Thus, in the presence of all the princes, I was carried away very quickly, exactly as a deer is carried away from the flock by a lion. Some of the princes, however, wanted to check our progress, and thus, equipped with proper weapons, they opposed us, just as dogs try to oppose the progressive march of a lion. At that time, due to the arrows released by the Sarnga bow of Lord Krishna, some of the princes were cut on their left hands, some of them lost their legs, and some lost their heads and their lives, and others fled from the battlefield.

“The Supreme Personality of Godhead then entered the most celebrated city of the universe, Dvaraka, and as He entered the city, He appeared like the shining sun. The whole city of Dvaraka was profusely decorated on that occasion. There were so many flags and festoons and gates all over Dvaraka that the sunshine could not even enter the city. I have already told you that my father was very much affectionate to me, so when he saw that my desire was fulfilled by getting Lord Krishna as my husband, in great happiness he began to distribute to friends and relatives various kinds of gifts, such as valuable dresses, ornaments, bedsteads and sitting carpets. Lord Krishna is always self-sufficient, yet my father, out of his own accord, offered my husband a dowry consisting of riches, soldiers, elephants, chariots, horses and many rare and valuable weapons. He presented all these to the Lord with great enthusiasm. My dear Queen, at that time I could guess that in my previous life I must have performed some wonderfully pious activity, and as a result I can in this life be one of the maidservants in the house of the Supreme Personality of Godhead.” 



## *Srila Prabhupada Tells All:*

# Destiny Versus Free Will

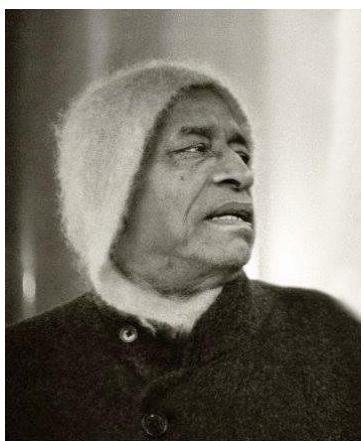
In *Sri Chanakya Niti* (4.1) we find the following instruction:

*ayuh karma cha vittam cha vidya nidhanam eva cha  
panchaitani hi srijayante 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.”**

Yet there are others who disagree with this verse and assert that we are free to change our fate as we like. Thus the classic debate of nature versus nurture is rekindled. For the devotee, the answer is simple. While traditionalists usually look to the fixed position of the planets under which we are conceived and are born, those schooled in modern thought give more weight to our ability to persevere and improve ourselves. As devotees we merely look to the teaching of Srila Prabhupada and the age old issue is resolved.

### From Perfect Questions, Perfect Answers:



**Bob (soon, Brahma Tirtha das):** Is the time that I'm going to die, and others are going to die, preset before we are born? When I'm born, do I have a certain given life span?

**Srila Prabhupada:** Yes.

**Devotee:** And he cannot change that?

**Srila Prabhupada:** No, he cannot change it, but Krishna can change it.

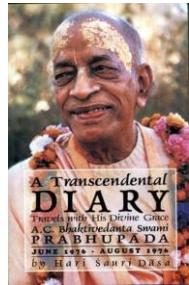
**Devotee:** If he commits suicide, is that also preset?

**Srila Prabhupada:** Not preset. That you can do because you have a little independence. It is not natural to commit suicide; it is unnatural. So because we have independence, we can go from nature to “un-nature.” A

prisoner cannot go out of the prison house naturally, but somehow or other he arranges to jump over the wall and goes away. Then he becomes a criminal for further imprisonment. Naturally, the prisoner cannot go out of the prison house, but if somehow or other he manages to escape, that means he becomes again a criminal. He will be arrested again, and his term of imprisonment will be increased, or he will be punished more. So, naturally we cannot violate destiny. But if we do it, then we will suffer. But our destiny can be changed by Krishna when we are Krishna conscious. We do not do it, but Krishna will do it. Krishna says: *aham tvam sarva-papebhyo mokshayami*: “I shall give you protection.” That change takes place for my protection.

## From A Transcendental Diary

Sriman Hari Sauri Das Prabhu's *A Transcendental Diary* continues to amaze me as one the most significant literary contribution by a disciple of Srila Prabhupada. (The other contender is the 3-volume *Memories* set by Siddhanta Das). In vol. 2, p. 248 Hari Sauri tells of a letter that Srila Prabhupada received from an Indian life member from Lusaka, Zambia.



“(The life member wrote) ... ‘What happens when a heart transplant is done and the heart is taken out and at times a donor’s heart is replaced. Isn’t it that the recipient loses his individuality as a different soul is entering in that body along with that live heart of the donor and it looks as if that gets another’s life because his own life-giving heart is already out. Will you explain in detail to solve this sensitive but mysterious problem?’”

Srila Prabhupada answered his questions at length giving clear explanations to settle his doubts. “Life cannot be prolonged by heart transplant. You cannot increase the duration of life. One can perhaps give some relief to disease, that is another thing, but the duration of life is destined. From the dead body one cannot bring life. Similarly, it may appear as though one is prolonging the duration of life by medicines or heart transplant, but that is not the case. If one lives 4 years after having had a heart transplant, that is nature’s law and he was destined to live 4 years with or without having had the heart transplant. So what is the value of a heart transplant? Only by yogic process can one prolong the life. By stopping the breathing process, keeping in *samadhi*, the breath period is not being misused, and he increases the life span. Therefore, destiny can only be changed by devotional service or *yoga*. Otherwise, what you must suffer you must suffer, and what you must enjoy you must enjoy. For the devotee, however, whatever it may be, he takes the opportunity to chant Hare Krishna and if by Krishna’s grace destiny is changed, it is alright.”

*In his documentary “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Moon” gonzo journalist Bart Sibrel quotes Matthew 10.26: “There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed.” It seems that nearly everyone you talk to is skeptical about America’s Moon landings. For devotees, the evidence is right there in the shastras. For not only is the Moon the abode of nectar, but according to Srimad Bhagavatam (5.22.8) Chandra sits even above the Sun. Hence for the true believer, America’s claimed visits to the Moon, the chief planet in Vedic astrology, are nothing but a colossal hoax. -Ed.*

## Space Hoax

In *Sri Chaitanya Charitamrita* (Antya 1.128) it is stated, “May the pastimes of Sri Krishna reduce the miseries existing in the material world and nullify all unwanted desires. The pastimes of the Supreme Personality of Godhead are like *shikharini*, a blend of yogurt and sugar candy. They overpower the pride of **even the nectar produced on the moon**, for they distribute the sweet

fragrance of the concentrated loving affairs of Srimati Radharani and the *gopis*.” This is but one of thousands of shastric passages which describe the Moon as a heavenly planet, and the abode of nectarous rivers. The Moon, Chandra-loka, is the home of highly elevated demigods and not some “Nevada desert” floating wantonly in a starless sky, as claimed by America’s dubious spacemen.

Do you believe that this grinning fellow walked on the Moon? American “history” records that Dr Buzz Aldrin was the second man to hop, skip and jump over the dusty lunar wasteland. Wouldn’t anyone with a modicum of common sense concur that it takes some degree of intelligence to navigate a primitive space ship to the Moon and back? Then, truth be told, why do astronauts appear so pathetically unintelligent on camera? It is because they are good corporate men, spacecraft dummies who are paid to keep up a good front and not to think.



In the first link below, Dr Aldrin is “interviewed” by British comedian Sasha Baron Cohen in his raucous guise as Ali. Throughout the interview, Aldrin does not even figure out that the whole presentation is a gigantic hoax—much like the American government hoaxed the world with their contrived lunar landing. In the second link we see Dr Aldrin angrily punching journalist Bart Sibrel in the face for asking him to swear that he went to the Moon. In one interview an astronaut avoids sensitive questions with the excuse that he was merely a passenger on a lunar flight. Unable to answer questions, they want the gullible public to believe that astronauts are like tourists flying the friendly skies to some romantic destination. The third link, Sibrel’s magnum opus “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Moon,” unmasks the deceit behind the lunar con game. So click on the following links, Prabhus, because seeing is believing. ↗

**Ali interviews Aldrin:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hTKedyQQkZQ>

**Astronauts Gone Wild:** <http://vimeo.com/24508433>

**A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Moon:**  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xciCJfbTvE4>



## Letters to the Editor

(Edited for brevity)

### “Flying Blind Without It”

Dear Pavanji,

I will work on visiting the both of you in Bulgaria in Spring of 2014. Where in Bulgaria do you live? It has been a turbulent few years for

me. I found my vedic astrological chart prepared by Abhaya Mudra very useful. I would have been flying blind through life without it. Namaste!  
RN (Malaysia)

*Yes, this charming part of the world, SW Bulgaria, is indeed lovely and is virgin territory for spreading Krishna consciousness as well. We look forward to having you and we encourage all our friends and clients to come for an extended stay in our Suhotra Sadan guest apartment. Healing hot springs abound for bodies that need renewal.—Ed.*

### **“Amazingly Accurate”**

Dear Brother Patita Pavana Prabhu,

Please accept my most humble obeisances and prayers for your good health and well being. Yes, our friend has received your chart and he has been reading it again and again, and says that it is amazingly accurate. He says that only he himself can actually know just how incredibly exact it is, especially the synthesis done by Abhaya, wherein it describes his inner nature. He is very very pleased. Thank you so much for doing such a good job of helping him and you are helping so many devotees!

May Krishna bless you and keep you safe

Your servant and sister,

GD (USA)

### **“Extremely Accurate”**

Aloha friends,

Your reading is very good. I found the Abhaya Uvacah to be extremely accurate, more so than I thought would be possible. Also I found it interesting to learn about Sadi Satee and Niritti. Your advice, and future predictions will be paid close attention to. Thank you also for your spiritual encouragements. I wish you both the best.

Haribol,

CD (USA)

### **“Stunningly Accurate”**

Dear Patita Pavana Prabhu,

Prabhu, I must say that your reading of my horoscope was not just accurate but stunningly accurate. Your description of my thought, relationships, career, health etc. all seemed to exactly describe the position that I am now in, more or less. Reading the document was like listening to someone who had closely watched me over many years. It also gave me a lot of answers as to why I do some things that I way do. I will take all the recommendations that you have made to my heart and make the necessary steps to closely guard my spiritual life.

Prabhu,I would also definitely engage your service when it comes to matching the charts for my marriage – whenever it will be.

Prabhu,I have never had any interest in horoscope reading by mundane materialists because they all seemed to make up different stories each time and were hardly right. I did not understand the planets and their positions but many a times listened to the conclusions from many so-called horoscope readers as a child/teenager. My mother had a great interest in them but I lost trust after a while because of their vast inconsistencies

each time someone told me something. Over the last few years, I have decided to only stick with Devotees. Your assessment has certainly been a revelation to me, Prabhu.  
Your servant,  
TA (Australia)

### **“Amazing”**

Hare Krishna Prabhu, Pamho, Jai Prabhupada. Please let me know if you received the payment. Also I really enjoy reading yours astrological newsletters, they are amazing, Thank you.

Ys, dd (Sweden)

### **“Whole New Outlook”**

Dear Patita Pavana Prabhu and Abhaya Mudra Devi Dasi

Please accept my humble obeisances, all glories to Srila Prabhupada. I am in receipt of my 'life management reading.' It is very extensive and very reassuring. Reading it has caused me to have a whole new look towards my service and spiritual life in general- a very positive one. It contains very insightful advice and i will be digesting it for the next few weeks. By Krsna's mercy It has come just at the right time.

I am very thankful for your devotional and professional service  
MM (UK)

### **“A Wonder”**

Dear Patita Pavan and Abhaya Mudra Dasi,

Hope all is well with you and your family. I just wanted to express how amazed I get your reading of the chart you have prepared for me. It's amazing how accurate it describes aspects of my character and personality. How's it possible to know so much about a person through astrology, I still wonder. I keep going back to it and rereading it. It's a source of help in self knowledge and discovery.

Love and Light,  
LM (Portugal)

### **“Deeply Appreciated”**

Hello Patita Pavana das... Please accept my humble obeisances. Thank you again for such a kind service in completing my astrology. I cannot offer enough gratitude for your time and service. I appreciate this deeply. Thank you.

Hare Krsna  
LB (USA)

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