

The Eastern Window

by Penny Farrow

Editor's Note: Cross ventilation produces a breath of fresh air. It is desirable in a house and even in a magazine! In this spirit, we are featuring a series of short articles designed to make some of the basic building blocks and ideas of Vedic astrology more accessible to all. We anticipate that opening the Eastern Window can clarify the complementarity between great astrological traditions.

The Intricate Weave of Relationships

Our existence is all about relationships. Every moment of every day finds us relating to countless entities both animate and inanimate. Even the decision not to relate invokes energy and intention, which in itself is a kind of relationship.

We observed in the last column that *grahas* (planets) form relationships by *yuti* (association) and *drishti* (as-

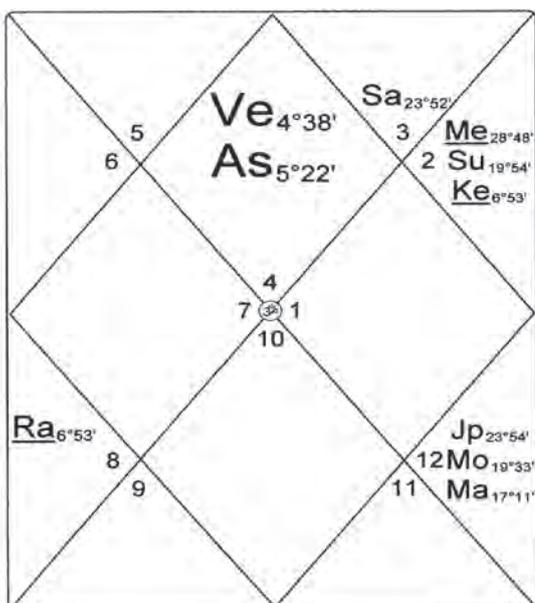
pects). The latter can be either *mutual* or *one-sided*. The themes of the *bhavas* (houses) in the chart that are highlighted by vibrant active planetary relationships will predominate in the life of the native. Whether or not that is a good thing will depend upon the nature and strength of the *grahas* and the significations of the *bhavas*.

Sambandha is a Sanskrit term that will simplify our discussion. The prefix *sam* can mean “together with” or “joined.” *Bandha* is a noun derived from the verbal root *bandh*, which is a cognate of the English word “bind” and literally means “to bind or tie together.”

Grahas in *sambandha* (*graha sambandha*) indicate a potent relationship that will meld together what they signify, including the themes of the *bhavas* they activate by rulership, location, and *drishti*. So, we can simply say that two or more *grahas* are in *sambandha*, with-

out necessarily having to spell out their specific mutual relationship.

We will continue to use the chart of Angelina Jolie that served us so well in the previous column (June/July 2017) to demonstrate the mechanics of *drishti*. Now it will be examined to show how *graha sambandha* helps to pinpoint major themes in her life. (See **Figure**, below.) An experienced eye, for example, would be drawn to her 9th *bhava* that contains three *grahas*. Why, you might ask, would we not be equally drawn to her 11th *bhava* (which I'll be covering in more detail below) that also contains three *grahas*?¹ Because there is a richer network of *sambandha* and one-sided special aspects involving the *grahas* placed in the 9th *bhava*. How so? Apart from the obvious *sambandhas* created by the association of Mars, the Moon, and Jupiter, Mars is also in *sambandha* with Saturn! This is created by their mutual



Angelina Jolie
North and South
Indian charts,
Lahiri ayanamsha,
and the Mean Node

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special aspects: Mars has its fourth drishti on Saturn, while Saturn has its tenth drishti on Mars. (See **Sidebar**.)

ASPECTS IN JYOTISHA

- The **full aspect** in Jyotisha is extended to all the grahas that are seven rashis (signs) away from each other — counted inclusively — which Jyotisha refers to as a 7/7 (or seventh) mutual aspect or drishti.
- The **special aspects** are given only to the extraterrestrial grahas: Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn. Jupiter has the special trinal aspect; therefore, in addition to aspecting seven rashis away, inclusively, from where it is located, it will also aspect five and nine rashis away. Mars, by contrast, is given two edgier special aspects: the fourth and eighth. Saturn is given the third and tenth aspects.

Further, Jupiter and Mars as outer planets have their unique special aspects, and can thereby spread their influence more widely through Angelina's chart. Jupiter's influence on key chart positions is eye-popping. Besides being the 9th bhava lord, residing in its own bhava, Jupiter is with the lord of the lagna (Ascendant), the Moon, while also aspecting the lagna lord by its special (trinal) drishti. Jupiter aspects the 3rd bhava as well, by its seventh drishti.

The pattern of Jupiter influencing both the 1st bhava and the 1st lord repeats with respect to Jupiter's sambandha with the lord of the 5th bhava (Mars), while simultaneously aspecting the 5th house. This pegs Jupiter as the most influential graha in the chart. Rounding out the 9th-bhava emanations is the seventh aspect of Mars to the 3rd bhava, and its eighth aspect to the 4th bhava as well as the already noted sambandha with Saturn.

A major ramification of this 9th-bhava activation centers on *Dharma*, one of the four purusharthas,² or aims of life, which can propel the native

toward activity that seeks to uplift the human condition. This often manifests as a powerful orientation toward service, charity, and restoring balance and harmony. How much of a motivator dharma will be in life is evaluated by looking at the 1st, 5th, and 9th bhavas and their lords. Sambandha between these dharma lords and their location in the dharma bhavas gives us an idea of its prominence in the life.

So, let's look at Angelina's chart from this point of view. A major focus of her life has been her activism on behalf of the underprivileged and oppressed, especially working to empower disadvantaged women in cultures where they are second-class citizens. She has also demonstrated a willingness to go to disaster zones and walk the walk — not just talk the talk. Her form of intense activism includes being physically present in troubled areas, as well as using her wealth and celebrity to influence policy. She has inspired and challenged others (including her ex-husband) to increase their level of commitment.

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Angelina has all three dharma lords in sambandha: the Moon (lagna lord), Mars (5th lord), and Jupiter (9th lord). They are all sitting in the principal seat of dharma — the 9th bhava. Jupiter, who represents dharma as a significator (*karaka*), is the lord of her 9th bhava in its own *rashi* (sign) of Pisces (*swa rashi*). This is a stunning confluence of factors, and would predict the kind of conviction we see in her life. The extent to which it plays out is the focus of the next column. Angelina's prominence on the world stage is due to extraordinary features in her chart. However, one need not be prominent to wave the flag of dharma as a primary motivation in life.

Two bhavas that have the most to do with foreign travel and prolonged contact with foreigners (the 9th and 12th) are highlighted by the sambandha of Mars and Saturn, along with Saturn's one-way aspects to the 9th bhava, the Moon, and Jupiter, which merge those very themes. Service in foreign lands, hard physical work, and trying circumstances thus link to her lagna lord (the Moon), the 5th lord (Mars), and the

The themes potentiated in the 9th will be major players in Angelina's destiny pattern.

9th lord (Jupiter) — the three grahas who form the very core of the dharma combinations.

It is said that the meanings of the bhava that holds the lord of the lagna often represent a strong karmic current for the native. Note that Angelina's lagna lord, the Moon, is one of the three grahas tenanting the 9th. This is yet another reason for highlighting the 9th bhava and the theme of dharma.

Since grahas (other than Rahu and Ketu) rule rashis and thus bhavas, Angelina's three grahas in the 9th will also spotlight the themes of the bhavas they own, thereby merging them with

the 9th-bhava themes in all kinds of interesting permutations.

Now let's check out the three grahas in the 11th bhava. Though these are quite noteworthy, one glance shows that the only sambandhas are the yuti (same rashi) between the Sun, Mercury, and Ketu and their mutual aspects with Rahu. The Sun and Mercury do not have any special aspects, and Rahu and Ketu are not lords of bhavas; therefore, there is less diverse thematic material converging on the 11th, compared with the 9th. So, we must conclude that the themes potentiated in the 9th will be major players in Angelina's destiny pattern.

However, the grahas in the 11th and 9th bhavas do ignite major themes in Angelina's life by drishti. The 5th bhava contains Rahu and is aspected by four grahas — the Sun, Mercury, Ketu, and Jupiter — while the 3rd bhava is aspected by Jupiter, the Moon, and Mars. The 5th and 3rd strongly indicate themes of the performing arts, creativity, directing, and producing.

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Dennis Flaherty

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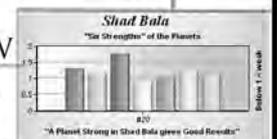
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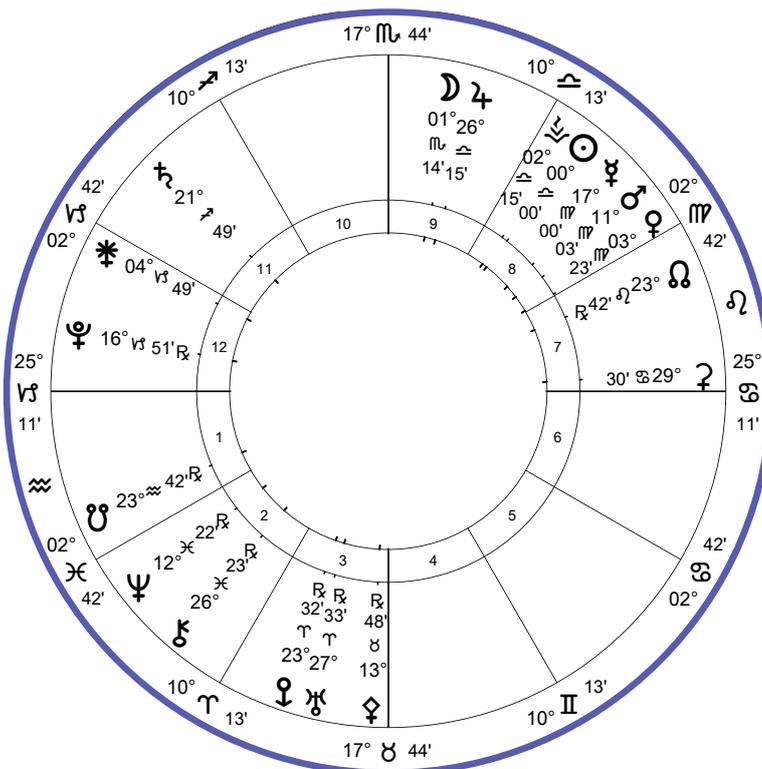
Libra Equinox – September 22, 2017

The Libra Equinox chart, cast for Washington, D.C., has Capricorn rising. Saturn, the ruler of the Ascendant, is at 21°49' Sagittarius in the 11th house, conjoining Donald Trump's natal Moon and opposing his Sun — another symbol of continued tough sledding for Trump as he tries to enact his agenda. (Things may improve for Trump after Saturn leaves Sagittarius in December.) With three planets in Virgo (and the Sun in Libra) in the 8th house, much attention is focused on health care, tax legislation, and job creation.

Moon-Jupiter in the 9th house — with Jupiter opposite Uranus and quincunx Chiron — points to surprising diplomatic developments, and possibly some positive events overseas, although major disruptions in domestic transportation and communication networks are more likely in the three months ahead.

The rising degree of 25°11' Capricorn is close to the Pluto in the U.S. founding chart (using any 1776 chart). During this season, there will be a spotlight on the best and worst facets of Pluto in the news emerging from Washington.

— Tem Tarriktar



September 22, 2017
4:01 p.m. EDT
Washington, D.C.

*Porphyry houses,
 True Node*

The Eastern Window — *continued from p. 23*

In contrast to the elaborate interactions involving the 9th and 11th bhavas, there can also be a configuration that is relatively simple yet so singular in its purity that it looms large in the life. Such is the case with Angelina's lagna in which Venus is placed. Venus and the lagna are not only completely untainted by the influence of natural malefics, but in fact are also stabilized by the one-sided trinal aspect of the powerful swa (own) rashi, 9th lord Jupiter. This hugely enhances the all-important lagna as well as the themes of the 4th and 11th bhavas, which Venus rules. In addition, the natural significations of Venus, such as beauty, the arts, elegance, and charisma, are heightened and infused directly into Angelina's nature and appearance.

Yet, her life might not have manifested the way it did had not the wheel of time been very kind to Ms. Jolie. When we turn our attention to techniques of dynamic analysis, her Venus will sparkle like no diamond you have ever seen. Stay tuned.

Chart Data and Source

Angelina Jolie, June 4, 1975; 9:09 a.m. PDT; Los Angeles, CA, USA (34°N03', 118°W15'); AA: BC/BR in hand.

Reference and Note

1. Ketu is considered one of the nine grahas (planets) in the Vedic tradition.
2. Penny Farrow, "The Eastern Window," in *The Mountain Astrologer*, April/May 2017, p. 23.

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Penny Farrow has an M.S. degree from Cornell University and has had an extensive career as a teacher, researcher, and business-woman. She has been involved in the Vedic tradition since 1971. She has studied Jyotisha intensively since 1991, primarily under the personal tutelage of Hart deFouw, and taught Jyotisha and Sanskrit at Vedic Vidya Institute in San Rafael, California for eight years. Penny was honored with a certificate from Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan for promoting Jyotisha in the United States. She now resides in Florida, practicing and teaching Jyotisha and Sanskrit full time. Telephone: (415) 497-2014; e-mail: info@vedicchart.com; website: <http://www.vedicchart.com>