



ASTERIAN ASTROLOGY & THE MOON



By Jade Luna

The Moon is the Earth's companion satellite, though some astronomers believe that it approaches being a planet in its own right. The Moon is large enough for its gravity to affect the Earth, stabilizing its orbit and producing the regular ebb and flow of the tides. The Moon is also familiar to us for its different phases, waxing and waning in appearance in an unchanging cycle.

The Moon orbits the Earth in 28 days, spending a fleeting 2.33 days in each of the Signs of the zodiac. Recently, more accurate measurements of the Lunar orbital period have revealed two different numbers, depending on viewpoint. The synodic period is measured relative to the Sun and gives us a period of 29.5 days from new Moon to new Moon, the start of the lunar month.

When observed from the Earth, and relative to a fixed point in space, the sidereal period is 27.3 days with minor variations. In order to give a figure in whole numbers for ease of astrological calculation the Lunar orbit can be approximated to 27.75 days which then returns a period of 54 hours or 2.25 days for the Lunar transit of each Sign.

The Moon is the most important 'planet' in a person's birth chart, thus Asterian Astrology is observed by the Moon first and Sun second. In the greatest sense, the Moon is the concept of nature on all levels as what nurtures, sustains, protects, and yet is always changing; we say Mother Nature.

The Lunar cycle correlates with the menstrual cycle of women, influences the tides of the oceans, and can be very important in agriculture as when to plant and when to reap.

The Moon controls the tides on this planet and human beings are 70% water, therefore the Moon describes the nature of the basic self. The Moon as the Earth's satellite symbolizes the reflection of the soul in and around the body. In a general sense this is the psychic material world, more specifically the Moon represents the personality, feelings, moods, habits, memory, impressionability, imagination, emotions, and the subconscious. The subconscious stores all your karma and impressions from previous lives. Lunar Astrology assists in helping a person become aware of their subconscious, thus speeding up the process of self-awareness.

The Moon is a prevalent symbol for every human being on this planet. In ancient times writers referred to the soul as feminine and symbolized by the Moon. All beings come from the same place, a mother's womb.

The first part of life in the womb and as a baby relate to the Moon, because the mother is the dominant influence during this period.

This is also significant for the development of the basic self which will remember everything the conscious self forgets.

Asterian Astrology then becomes important because the Moon continually fluctuates as it waxes from new Moon to full Moon and wanes down to a new Moon again. Every being on the planet is directly affected by this process.

The Sun, Mercury, Venus, and Mars usually change signs only about once a month, and the outer planets in periods of years. But the Moon traverses the zodiac in 27.3 days. So, the day-to-day interpretations are usually based primarily on changes of the Moon Sign and the Lunar Mansion.

It is interesting to note that the astrology columns which usually appear in daily papers for the Sun Signs are often based primarily on the position of the Moon.

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The full Moon tends to bring out extremes of the basic self in eating, drinking, emotions, desires, etc. Thus, the word lunacy came from Luna, or Moon. In ancient culture they worshiped the Moon more than the Sun. In the world of astrology, the Sun symbolizes the light body. Of course, the light body is transcendent of the distinction between male and female, and the symbolism of the Sun or Moon. However, these concepts have been used to point to the higher truth that is beyond conception, but just is.

STARS (LUNAR MANSIONS)

There are 27 Star (Lunar Mansion) divisions of the sky, identified by a prominent cluster of stars in and around the constellations. The Moon passes through them during its monthly cycle, as used in ancient astronomy and astrology. Therefore, each Star represents a division of the ecliptic similar to the zodiac (13°20 each instead of the 30° for each zodiac Sign, although Prometheus and Vulcan are a little smaller). The orbit of the Moon is 27.3 days, so the Moon takes approximately one day to pass through each Star.

The starting point for a Star is the place on the ecliptic directly opposite of the star Spica (other slightly different definitions exist). It is called the "Start of Aries". The ecliptic is divided into each of the Stars eastward. Each Star is governed as 'Lord' by one of the nine main planets in the following sequence: South Node, Venus, Sun, Moon, Mars, North Node, Jupiter, Saturn and Mercury.

This cycle repeats itself three times to cover all 27 Lunar mansions/Stars; my book reveals each of the 27 Stars and their meanings, with their equivalent positions in the Sidereal Zodiac.

In astrology the Stars are a division of the ecliptic similar to the Zodiac. The mansion associated with a given date corresponds to a portion of the constellation wherein the Moon is passing through at that time.

The Sun, the Secondary Presence of Asterian Astrology

(The REAL Constellations of the Zodiac)

The ecliptic, or the position of the Sun as it's perceived from the revolving Earth, passes through the constellations which form the Zodiac: Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius and Pisces. Zodiac Signs were originally determined by which constellation the Sun was "in" on the day you were born.

Early astronomers observed the Sun traveling through the Signs of the Zodiac in the course of one year, spending about a month in each. Thus, they calculated each constellation extends 30 degrees across the ecliptic. However, a phenomenon called "precession" has altered the position of the constellations we see today.

There are 27 Stars, covering 13°20 degrees of the ecliptic

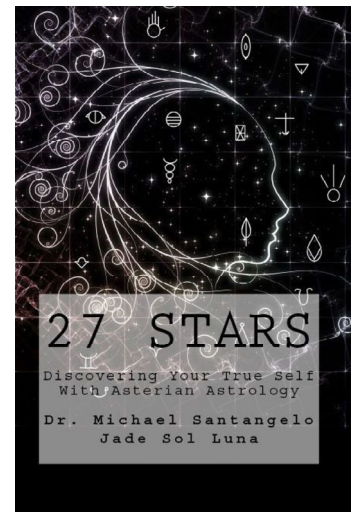
More Understanding of Precession and Astrology

The first day of spring in the Northern Hemisphere was once marked by the zero point of the Zodiac. Astronomers call this the vernal equinox and it occurs as the ecliptic and celestial equator intersect.

Around 600 BCE, the zero point was in Aries and was called the "first point of Aries." The constellation Aries encompassed the first 30 degrees of the ecliptic; from 30 to 60 degrees was Taurus; from 60 to 90 degrees was Gemini; and so on for all twelve constellations of the Zodiac.

The Earth continually wobbles around its axis in a 25,800-year cycle. This wobble, called precession, is caused by the gravitational attraction of the Moon on Earth's equatorial bulge. Over the past two-and-a-half millennia, this wobble has caused the intersection point between the celestial equator and the ecliptic to move west along the ecliptic by 36 degrees, or almost exactly one-tenth of the way around. This means that the Signs have slipped one-tenth, or almost one whole month, of the way around the sky to the west, relative to the stars beyond.

For instance, those born between March 21 and April 19 consider themselves to be Aries. Today, the Sun is no longer within the constellation of Aries during much of that period. From March 13 to April 13, the Sun is in the constellation of Pisces, which demonstrates the precession of the equinoxes from 600 BCE to 2600.



The 27 Signs of the Ancient Zodiac have returned. In time, you will forget the 12 signs ever existed. The Oldest book on Astrology ever written "The Yavanajataka" (the book that Alexander the Great brought to India) has been simplified for the public by author Dr. Michael Santangelo and Asterian Astrologer Jade Sol Luna. Which one of the 27 Stars are you?

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