



For the spiritualist, the path of the zodiac forms an important course of his theoretical and practical study. The zodiac is the limitation of man when he is in the lowest and at the same time it is the path of his liberation when he is on the higher plane.

These lines are from "Spiritual Astrology" by Dr. E. Krishnamacharya. Spiritual astrology deals with the relationship between man and cosmos. It is one of the six keys to the secrets of wisdom whose centre is the consciousness of man. Through study and continuing meditation on the human and animal forms of the zodiac, he discovers that he is a small image of the cosmic man. He eventually realizes within himself all the planets, the solar system, and the cosmic plan to which he devotes his life. This wisdom reveals itself to the person who lives in the soul consciousness. Whoever is firmly anchored in the personality will never find the subtle dimensions.

The "Letters on Spiritual Astrology" contain thoughts from the wisdom teachings. Their purpose is to give encouragement to explore connections and correspondences and to elevate oneself to the level of Oneness which is found beyond the riddles of creation.

Taurus

THE WILL RIDING ON THE BULL

In order to make abstract spiritual principles more easily understandable, the ancient sages have depicted the different aspects of wisdom figuratively or also acting as persons. The work of spiritual realities is thus visualized in allegories and stories. Without the key of wisdom however we only see the pictorial personifications, the deeper truth being lost. Eastern wisdom for example describes Lord Siva as riding on the bull Nandi. As an earthy sign the zodiacal sign of Taurus stands for the material universe, which is called the fourth state of the Word of God. In the light of a higher understanding we realise that the representation of Lord Siva on the bull symbolically describes how the divine aspect of Will rides on the Word as a vehicle and enters into manifestation through the sign of Taurus. The new impulses of will energy released in Aries pour down in Taurus and fertilise life. Therefore the Sun in Taurus is worshipped as the bull fertilising Mother Earth with his sperm and bringing the light of enlightenment into matter.

Astrologically the part in man reaching from the eyebrows down to the throat is assigned to Taurus, and thus also the tongue and speech. The ordinary Taurus person has a taste for rich, rare food and a sense of harmony, rhythm and colour. This indicates Venus as the mundane ruler of Taurus. She brings about the development of sound as voice and music. In the East the speech centre in man is called the "bull", for the idea conveyed by a talk fertilises the listener. Continuous, meaningless talking however only wastes energy. When we speak in a critical, judging and negative way, we hurt others and also

harm ourselves. Throat problems arise from a wrong use of our speech and action. All wisdom teachings emphasize that on the spiritual path we have to regulate our speaking and refine the quality of our speech. The initiation of mankind takes place through the throat centre and symbolically it is said that in Taurus the tongue has to be pulled out to become silent.

By uttering sacred sounds and mantrams our speech slowly gets purified and our voice transformed. In order to get a feeling for the more subtle vibrations it is helpful to regularly clean the mouth and also the tongue. It is an important act of good will to neutralise negative emotions and thoughts in our surrounding by a right use of language, and in this we have a great responsibility.

This cannot be done by arguments or by discussions; it needs time and very much patience, love and compassion.

THE ROARING BULL

In Sanskrit the sign of Taurus is called "Rishabha", the Great Bull. It is represented by the sound of the syllable "R", which, when produced by the vocal chords, fertilises the consciousness. Between the 11th and 24th degree of Taurus there is a brightly shining star which is of the Pleiades and is also called the Eye of the Bull. In the West it is called Aldebaran and in the Vedic system Rohini. Rohini means "that which roars"; it stands for the uttering forth of the Will energy, whereby Light, Love and Will pour down into our system. In the Vedic symbolism the roaring of the Cosmic Bull is also presented as a light ray entering through Rohini and being re-

ceived via the soul of this planet also called the Lord of the World or Sanat Kumara. In our essence we are also nothing but light rays, radiations of the divine Will having descended into bodily forms. Out of the will which is in us we should develop a direction for our lives. We realise the direction, if we don't run after our own shadow, the personality. "If we run after our own shadow, we have no direction", Pythagoras says. This means that we cannot reach the Light and follow the Plan, as long as we only meet our own needs. When we take to the path and work in a field of service, the bull gets yoked and he is given responsibility. He can do a lot of work, when it works with all his energy into the right direction.

BULL AND UNICORN

For receiving a fresh dose of Will energy for the work of good will, we should align ourselves at the time of Taurus full moon, just as the initiates do to tune up to the Will and the Plan of the year. For those who lead us are lead by others in the higher circles. Thus there is a bridge from the Highest down to the mortals. The cosmic energies of Will come from the Eye of the Bull and are reflected and received via the moon in an extenuated form. At Taurus full moon it is in Scorpio in the constellation of Vaisakha. Therefore Taurus full moon is also called Vaisakh or Wesak full moon. Since times immemorial it is celebrated in the Himalayas as the Vaisakh festival, since Gautama Buddha also as the festival of his enlightenment.

In man the eye of the bull corresponds to the third eye on the forehead, the point between the "two horns of the bull". The two converging horns of the symbol of Taurus ♉ represent the receiving crescent of the moon, they also stand for the energies in us flowing into two directions and known as Ida and Pingala. The Pingala-energy is the movement of energy in us directed upwards, leading from the dense to the subtle, and the Ida-energy is the downward-movement directed from the subtle down to the dense. The right eye represents the Pingala-energy and the left eye the Ida-energy; the Third Eye is the source and the meeting point of both. The purpose of spiritual practice is to bring the material and the spiritual in us to an equilibrium. Symboli-

cally speaking the bull with two horns then becomes a unicorn. We can meditate on the symbol of the unicorn as a pillar of light, particularly in the month of Taurus, so that our work becomes more and more focussed and effective. In this we contemplate the horn as a pillar or light shining out from the heart centre up to the higher Third Eye and beyond, up into the Higher Circles. Taurus full moon is the culmination of this contemplation. When we have developed this vision, we can come out via the horn of the unicorn and see on the other side our own physical body and thus realize that we are not our body, but in reality an essence of light living in this body.

PARTICIPATING IN THE VAISAKH FESTIVAL

With the body of light we can experience the spectacle of the Vaisakh full moon in Vaisakh-Valley. Sometimes we can also participate in it, if we get temporarily enlightened for this purpose: It is an assembly of the Masters, who form the Inner Government of the World. At the day of Taurus full moon Sanat Kumara releases the energy impulse for the year and passes it on to the spiritual hierarchy, so that they transform it down through their co-workers and distribute it to humanity at Gemini full moon. The energies are directed from Shamballa through the Dhyani Buddhas via Gautama Buddha into Vaisakh Valley, where the World Teacher and his team of initiates receive them. And the world disciples participate in it, for experiencing the energy and sharing it out, so that it is received by all those who are seriously seeking it.

During the whole month we should try to remain in this consciousness, bringing it into our work and thus manifesting the energy in our surrounding. The entire process is for bringing enlightenment into the material world, for the well-being of the planet and all beings living on it.

2003. Sources used: K. P. Kumar: *Hercules. The Man and the Symbol* / seminar notes / E. Krishnamacharya: *Spiritual Astrology. The World Teacher Trust - Dhanishta, Visakhapatnam, India (www.worldteachertrust.org)* - A. A. Bailey: *Esoteric Astrology, Lucis-Trust, London.* (www.netnews.org / www.lucistrust.org).



Synthesis

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Circle of Good Will