

*To whose temple the Arch is starlit,
In whose temple the Sun is the image of gold,
To whose temple the Moon goes every month,
And brings the message out every full-moon,
And whose message the Moon sings as a word of sixteen letters,
His religion I belong to, His temple I visit,
His name I utter, His glory I live in.
To Him I offer the lotus of my day,
To Him I offer the lotus of my night.*

These seed thoughts from the Spiritual Psychology meditations of Dr. Ekkirala Krishnamacharya give the note for the Lunar Messenger of the Circle of Good Will. The moon is the reflective principle and symbol of the mind. When pure and calm, it reflects impressions from higher circles. Especially the time of the full moon is conducive for higher alignment, if we are poised enough. The alignment of the sun, moon and earth in the sky helps experiencing the magic of the light of the soul and its manifestation down to the physical.

The Lunar Messenger is published every month in time for the full moon. It contains thoughts from the teachings of eternal wisdom. Its purpose is to inspire us to put them into practical life.

MARS - THE POWER OF WILL

Planetary Patterns

According to the wisdom of correspondences the position of a planet at the time of birth marks the influence that planet has on us during the course of the span of our life. As per their effects the planets are divided into benefic and malefic planets. Sun, Mars and Saturn are classed as malefic planets, while Jupiter, Venus and Mercury are classed as benefics. In fact the planets are neither benefic nor malefic but they stimulate that which is in store for the individual. The tendencies are carried from the previous births, according to the previous orientations of the individual, while the planets work as pointers of these tendencies. During the various revolutions these planets stimulate that which is in store whenever they touch these sensitive points in the horoscope. Thus the planets at the time of birth form a particular pattern according to which we are shaped as the arrangement of various tendencies in us.

Aspects of Mars

Each planet represents a plane of consciousness in our personalities. Mars embodies our power. It presides over the battle of life and bestows courage and determination. Mars has a positive and a negative side. Positive Mars harmonises and neutralises conflicts. The negative side leads to disputes which might end in a war with words and deeds. In the personality Mars governs the sexual urge and also its misuse. It stimulates a lot of passion and an endless pursuit of sensorial ex-

periences. Here Mars governs the sense of touch and the warmth of the physical touch in the animal magnetism between man and woman. Through desire and grasping the soul gets imprisoned by possessive instincts. We are firmly kept in the grip of the pairs of opposites as long as we let ourselves be guided by the desire of the lower self. The horses of the senses run off with the chariot of our lives; instead of being the driver of our vehicle we become a plaything of emotions.

Under the influence of the vibrations of Venus and Mercury on the higher plane we come to a deeper understanding and comprehension, and thus we are slowly liberated from the fetters of matter. This is also called the release of *Kundalini* from the hell-fires of the sacral centre which is under the control of Mars.

Mars governs the vibrations of the blood-red colour, blood surging up and its iron content, individuals with a hot-blooded temper. In the sky Mars also looks reddish. In the house the place of Mars is the kitchen where the heat of the stove serves preparing the meals.

The fiery aspect of Mars is also called Vulcan, the Roman god of lightning and of fire. It is the fiery will which enables growth and transformation, just like with a candle the wax is constantly transformed by the flame while heat and light are being released. Continuity in the spiritual practice is the prerequisite of transformation. A positive dynamism of Mars gathers the fire of aspiration and as a striving will it is indispensable on the path.

Since Mars gives the power to master one's own impulsiveness, it can also help us for the triumph over animal

nature, supported by the higher vibrations of Venus. Fine arts, spiritual love and service foster a harmonious synergy of Venus and Mars. Nobler feelings bring about an alignment and eventually a happy blending of beauty and power.

Free Will

Mars energy has to be directed by free will. What is good for us might not be good for others at all. Imposing something on others shows missing understanding, respect and love for the fellow beings. All aggressive religions full of emotional idealism and spirit of sacrifice are under the influence of Mars. Many religious leaders stipulate strict sexual rules for mastering sensual thoughts. They impose a Mars-Saturnian discipline on people and develop a hate of persons of a different opinion. The militant religious people forget that this doesn't work in the long run. They might think they are doing something good but when aggression is originating from us, it comes back to us with time and causes great problems to us. Inner transformation has to happen through one's own will, not through outer compulsion.

Mars dynamism gives the power to immediately renounce anything and to fight for a good cause with a spirit of sacrifice, without care for consequences. When in the mental body the hard shell of Mars vibrations has softened by the influence of Venus, the influence of Jupiter can liberate us through generosity, benevolence and charity from the locked-up, blocked state. Just like through unbridled energies Mars causes problems on the lower planes, the positive aspect of Mars gives the power to overcome obstacles and helps us to get on and to ascend. Mars is a planet which enables initiation by putting impressions from the higher mind, *buddhi*, into action and by giving an impulse for growth. With the principles of Mars we reach the higher mind in us and bring it into physical activity.

The Inner Fight

With the average man the Mars energy is turned to the outside, it would like to fight, to conquer and to win. With every fight with the partner, with friends or group members we lose points and nourish the dragon of our personalities. On the path of discipleship we have to take the fight inside and learn to fight and to neutralise unrest and conflicts in us instead of putting the fight out. In the scriptures this is called scorching the inner demons. They are also called the six negative aspects

of the lower centres - desires, anger, covetousness, ignorance or illusion, brutality and jealousy. The six-syllabled mantram of Mars, *Saravanabhava*, helps to purify the negative aspects of the lower centres.

Meditative Work

To improve the effects of the Mars vibrations, the Eastern wisdom recommends to meditate on Mars as the *Kumara* who is also called *Shanmukha* or *Subramanya*. He is represented as a six-faced boy-warrior with the weapons of a spearhead and *Ankusa* (the glyph of Saturn) in his hands. The spear signifies piercing through the dense lower nature of man. *Ankusa* is the symbol of self-discipline. His six faces or heads are the six pairs of opposites in struggling man that are to be transformed into six unified forces.

This meditation and the invocation with the help of the six-syllabled sound potency awakens the most sublime and divine aspect of the energy of Mars and enables us to transcend these opposites and to close the door where evil dwells. A meditation for this is also to construct a double pyramid within us, with one pyramid from the solar plexus or the heart centre upwards and another downwards. Within it we live totally isolated from all negative energies.

There is a holy symbol for the meditation on the *Kumara*, the three-dimensional cross with six arms emanating from a point, mutually at right angles. Projected into two dimensions it results in the figure which is used as the symbol of the World Teacher Trust, the cross within the square surrounded by the circle.

The wisdom teachings say that, at the time of the birth of this great *Kumara*, the seed of Lord *Shiva* was received by *Agni* and transmitted to the flow of water. The goddess of the sacred waters left the seed on the flowers of the white water-reed where *Kumara* was born as the six-faced child. Then six of the Pleiades suckled him with their spiritual milk. This conveys a profound symbolism including the passage of the divine spark into the divine ego of man. When this pure power of fire awakens in us, it strengthens our will and bestows the radiance of divine fire.

Sources: K.P. Kumar: *Uranus / Hercules / notes from seminars*. E. Krishnamacharya: *Spiritual Astrology. The World Teacher Trust - Dhanishta, Visakhapatnam, India (www.worldteachertrust.org)*



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