

The Starfire Messenger

A Free Weekly Newsletter

From Astrologer Maureen Richmond, M.A.

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Contents

Signs of the Times: Multiple Planetary Cycle Interactions

Analysis and Prediction for the Week Ahead

Multiple Planetary Cycle Interactions

As mentioned in previous newsletters, planetary pair cycles constitute an important key to the understanding of evolutionary unfoldment in time. Fifteen such cycles exist, pairing the planets outside of the Earth's orbit one with another; these range in length from almost 500 to less than 2 years. Other shorter cycles also exist, defined by the pairing of the planets inside the orbit of the Earth. However, it seems to be the longer cycles which determine the greater trends of human behavior and history. For this reason, it is the ten longer cycles which are listed here.

The Ten Major Planetary Pair Cycles

Neptune-Pluto 494 years last conjunction 1891

Uranus-Neptune 172 years last conjunction 1993

Uranus-Pluto 143 years last conjunction 1965

Saturn-Uranus	45 years	last conjunction 1988
Saturn-Neptune	36 years	last conjunction 1989
Saturn-Pluto	36 years	last conjunction 2020
Jupiter-Saturn	20 years	last conjunction 2000
Jupiter-Uranus	14 years	last conjunction 2010
Jupiter-Neptune	13 years	last conjunction 2009
Jupiter-Pluto	12 years	last conjunction 2007

Each cycle can be viewed as a pulse, surge, or wave of energy. This wave begins with the conjunction phase, when the two bodies arrive at the same degree of the same sign in the zodiac. Much like a New Moon, the conjunction phase of any planetary pair cycle occurs when the two planetary bodies are separated by 0 degrees of zodiacal space. Like two mating bodies, the two planets bond and merge energies at the conjunction phase, giving birth to a new set of energies and ideas which wells up from Cosmic Mind and is projected into the collective consciousness of Humanity. These energies and ideas then take root, grow, expand, and begin to assume definite form as the cycle unfolds through the equivalent of First Quarter Moon phase, when the two bodies reach a separation of 90 degrees in the circle of the zodiac and hence are in waxing square phase. This waxing square represents a crisis or turning point during which time action should be and is taken toward the expression of the inspiration received at the conjunction phase. As the faster-moving planetary body of the two then pulls forward in zodiacal motion, the opposition phase arises, with the two planets seen on opposite sides of Earth, just as are the Sun and Moon at the time of Full Moon phase. The faster moving body of the pair then continues to pull ahead in the zodiac, forming the Last Quarter or waning square phase, a time when the entirety of the cycle is contemplated

and understood by the collective consciousness of Humanity. Finally, the wave or surge of energy loses momentum rapidly, as the energies of the cycle dissolve, die down, and return to center for rebirth at the next conjunction.

The entire cycle can be thought of as basically a two-stroke happening with a pattern just like that of the monthly cycle of the Moon. Hence, from conjunction to opposition, the planetary pair cycle is in its waxing phase, producing energy, drive, intensity, creativity, vitality, and outward expression. Then, the new thought or image received at the conjunction phase is made completely known and objective at the opposition, after which the cycle goes into waning phase as its energies gradually slow down. The original life surge becomes less pressing or compelling, slowly turns within, and then turns introspective and entirely dormant right before the next conjunction.

As a result, the final months and weeks leading into any conjunction of a major planetary pair cycle are profoundly imbued with the urge to relinquish the outer form and for consciousness to turn within, drop into spiritual slumber, die back, let go, and dissolve into the unity of life from which everything has emerged. This dissolution phase is immensely important to understand as the context of the worldwide covid 2019 event, for twelve of the fifteen planetary pair cycles were in closing or dissolution phase when the covid 2019 event began to appear on the news horizon in December of 2019. It was at that time that the issue of ill-health, lack of vitality, and vulnerability of the immune system became daily, hourly, and minute-to-minute topics of conversation.

The listing below gives all ten of the major planetary pair cycles. These are followed by the much shorter but still significant Mars pairings, all of which have a cyclic duration of approximately two years and which are intimately related to human vitality and the drive to survive.

Status of Planetary Pair Cycles December 2019

Neptune-Pluto	opening
Uranus-Neptune	opening
Uranus-Pluto	opening
Saturn-Uranus	closing
Saturn-Neptune	closing
Saturn-Pluto	closing
Jupiter-Saturn	closing
Jupiter-Uranus	closing

Jupiter-Neptune	closing
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Jupiter-Pluto	closing
Mars-Jupiter	closing
Mars-Saturn	closing
Mars-Uranus	closing
Mars-Neptune	closing
Mars-Pluto	closing

As is apparent, the closing phase relationship dominated the situation in December of 2019. The consequences have been all too graphic: terror, fear that a deadly disease would defeat all the best efforts, extreme measures imposed around the world, and the global economy thrown into a downward spiral. However, this circumstance is not permanent. Over the course of January-April of 2020, a number of changes in planetary phase relationship developed. First, Saturn and Pluto came to conjunction on January 12, 2020, resurrecting the Saturn-Pluto cycle; then transiting Mars made conjunctions to Jupiter, Pluto, and Saturn in late March and early April 2020, thus resurrecting those cycles. Finally, Jupiter and Pluto made

the conjunction on April 4, 2020, resurrecting that powerful cycle. (Jupiter and Pluto will do this twice more in 2020, dragging the process out a bit, but at the same time prompting far-reaching examination and transformation.)

Here are the consequent changes in phase relationships, indicated in red.

Status of Planetary Pair Cycles April 2020

Neptune-Pluto	opening
Uranus-Neptune	opening
Uranus-Pluto	opening
Saturn-Uranus	closing
Saturn-Neptune	closing
Saturn-Pluto	opening
Jupiter-Saturn	closing
Jupiter-Uranus	closing
Jupiter-Neptune	closing

Jupiter-Pluto	opening
Mars-Jupiter	opening
Mars-Saturn	opening
Mars-Uranus	closing
Mars-Neptune	closing
Mars-Pluto	opening

Thus, by April 2020, eight of the influential planetary pair cycles were in opening or waxing or momentum-gaining phase, contrasted to seven in

waning or dissolving phase. Here is a clear indication that the vitality of humanity is bouncing back from its deep dive into a death-like trance in December 2019, and that it is now gathering power and strength to come forth with immunity and physical vitality in a normal way, drawing inspiration and cosmic vitality from the ocean of space surrounding our planet.

In a bit less than year's time, the balance of opening to closing cycles will be even more profoundly weighted on the side of physical wellness, capability, and productivity.

Status of Planetary Pair Cycles February 2021

Neptune-Pluto	opening
Uranus-Neptune	opening
Uranus-Pluto	opening
Saturn-Uranus	closing
Saturn-Neptune	closing
Saturn-Pluto	opening
Jupiter-Saturn	opening
Jupiter-Uranus	closing
Jupiter-Neptune	closing

Jupiter-Pluto	opening
Mars-Jupiter	opening
Mars-Saturn	opening
Mars-Uranus	opening
Mars-Neptune	opening
Mars-Pluto	opening

At this point, **eleven** of the fifteen influential planetary pairs will be operating in waxing phase, with only four in waning phase. This is a certain sign that Humanity will rise from its present fears, hesitations, and quandaries to assert itself in a healthy way. Then, looking on into the future, there is this: the three most powerful cycles will continue in waxing phase through 2140, 2080, and 2047, respectively, affording Humanity another quarter-century or so at the very least to evolve an economic paradigm sufficient to address the many problems of wealth inequality and to honor the ecosystem. Yes, of course, it would be better that this much-to-be- desired development would happen sooner rather than later, but just in case it doesn't, it's good to know there's a good bit of energy, time, and creativity yet to flower forth.

Analysis and Prediction for the Week Ahead

The period of **Monday April 27 through Wednesday April 29** is conditioned by the transiting square of Mercury in Taurus to Saturn in Aquarius, thus signifying a three-day period of slow and painstaking mental effort. Ideas and materials must be organized and properly sequenced. Progress may come only haltingly, but clarity eventually dawns. We whittle down our lists of tasks and duties. Wednesday we start to feel the conjunction of transiting Mercury to Uranus, bringing a more rapid pace, anomalistic occurrences, novel insights, and wacky weather.

Thursday April 30 and Friday May 1 are colored strongly by the conjunction of Mercury to Uranus, stimulating innovative thinking and breaking up unimaginative routines. Energies begin to accelerate toward the special Full Moon of Taurus, known to esotericists as Wesak. Telepathy and other paranormal happenings bring interesting communications.

Saturday May 2 through Monday May 4 feels the dual energies of attractive Venus in multiple Gemini square unbounded Neptune in

double-bodied Pisces, with the Sun conjunct volatile Mercury in colorful and decorative Taurus. These two influences arriving right together promise to complicate the social situation, multiply entertainment opportunities, sensitize the intuition, and stimulate the thinking function to a high degree. For some, too much information to process all at one time decrees the need for quiet reflection and time spent alone. Solitude surrounds, but opportunities to interact also abound, as the unstable and fidgety Sun-Mercury conjunction signals giddy and excitable face-front chat times following the lifting of some restrictions on travel and social events. Uncertainty about right social protocol fills the air until **May 6**, when Mercury sextile Neptune conveys a sense of quiet knowing. Wesak commands the attention of all, as the Full Moon with Sun in Taurus and Moon in Scorpio occurs on **Thursday, May 7**, at 5:45 am CDT and in the 17th degrees of Taurus/Scorpio.

Papers by Maureen Richmond, Available Free on Request

*The Assagioli Study.....*89-page pdf following the spiritual life course and examining the astrological birth chart of Roberto Assagioli, F.C.D. in DINA I and II. Relates the spiritual guidance given by the Tibetan to transits, specifically the conjunction, square, and opposition of Neptune to Assagioli's Sun and Moon as indicators of major developments in his spiritual career.

*The Use of the Tropical Zodiac and the Nature of the Signs in the Esoteric Astrology of Alice Bailey.....*A 39-page pdf documenting the use of the tropical zodiac in the Bailey writings.

Request at: starsong1208@gmail.com