

Sun Sign Analysis: Part IV

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Sagittarius

The keynotes of Sagittarius are six in number--Duality, Ambition, Focused Attitude, Intuition, Idealism and Direction. On the ordinary wheel there is a fusion of dualities or an attachment between the human soul and the animal body it occupies. This is symbolized by the Centaur--half human, half beast--and indicates a consciousness identified with and limited by form. On the reversed wheel the relationship between soul and form becomes distinct and detached. The lower nature, after many cycles of incarnation, becomes purified and controlled and the intelligent, soul-identified consciousness uses it at will. This is symbolized by the archer on the white horse who freely mounts and dismounts the beast. The energy of Sagittarius stimulates human ambition in all its forms until, through the fires of life experience, personal ambition becomes fanned into the flames of spiritual aspiration. On the Mutable Cross the focused attitude of the Sagittarian (symbolized by the bow and arrow) is directed towards the satisfaction of the animal desires and instincts--for food, sex, comfort, power, etc.--as the individual is governed by the large appetites of the form nature. On the Fixed Cross this evolves into a one-pointed focus towards the light, leading eventually to soul alignment. Sagittarius governs the path of discipleship and the first and second initiations (soul consciousness in its early stages) and provides the momentum and vision that propels the disciple/initiate towards the higher initiations to be taken in Capricorn. Also when polarized on the Fixed Cross, the disciple learns to send out arrows of focused thought and aspiration in an upward direction which, if

of sufficient intensity, cause a return down flow of light and illumination. This demand and evoked response, which is the basis of the Science of Invocation and Evocation, result in the intuitive perception and spiritual guidance that are characteristic of the advanced Sagittarian. On the Mutable Cross the idealism of the Sagittarian confers the power to see and follow the vision of the lower self. On the reversed wheel this transforms into the power to see and be directed by the vision of the soul. The energy of direction, of orientation towards a goal or a new and higher objective also exists on both wheels. The unfoldment of directing purpose, whether dominated by personality intelligence or controlled by higher will, is the underlying theme of this sign.

2. The keywords for Sagittarius on the ordinary wheel are: "And the Word said: Let food be sought." These words are spoken by the Centaur, who is dominated by animal appetite in the early stages of personality development and whose mind eventually controls desire in the later stages. On the reversed wheel the keywords are: "I see the goal. I reach that goal and then I see another." The meaning of these words is obvious and not in need of elucidation except to note that the Sagittarian disciple has to demonstrate the ability to make steady and continual progress on the Path and to eventually attain the goal of being an expression of love-wisdom in form.

3. The polar opposites. On the Mutable Cross the one-pointed desire and self-seeking nature of the Sagittarian is balanced by the changing, unstable and mutable nature of the Gemini. This leads to the development, on the Fixed Cross, of the directed, focused aspiration of Sagittarius and to the recognition of soul

and form and subsequent soul dominance in Gemini. The development of the mental nature in Gemini is balanced and complimented by the development of the intuition in Sagittarius, thus demonstrating the mutual interaction and interdependence of the opposing signs.

4. The three decanates represent three phases or stages of development and focus within any sign. They correspond to the three aspects of body/emotions/mind and are reflections of the basic trinity of Monad-Soul-Personality or Spiritual Will-Consciousness-Form. The point in evolution of the individual and the direction of the wheel of life are the factors that determine the dominating decan influence. On the ordinary wheel (apparently moving backwards through the signs) the planetary rulers of the decans are the Sun, Mars and Jupiter. The Sun--representing soul consciousness in form--conditions predominately on the physical level and develops and tests physical vitality and appetites. Mars contributes to the emotionality, idealism, fighting spirit and one-pointedness of the Sagittarian who is developing the personality nature while Jupiter brings about the attainment of ambition and eventually develops mental expansion and openness. On the reversed wheel the first decan is ruled by Jupiter, the second and third by Mars and the Sun respectively. Jupiter's expansive energy affects the heart center, aids in the expression of love-wisdom and spiritual aspiration. Mars heightens idealism and the struggle to attain the goals and manifest the visions of the disciple. The Sun brings in the energy from, and represents the constant presence of, the soul.

5. The exoteric ruler of Sagittarius is Jupiter, agent of the second ray of love-wisdom. On the ordinary wheel Jupiter contributes to the fusion and blending of the dualities of soul/form and, within the form nature itself, of the dualities of desire/mind and mind/body. Jupiter's energy results in the satisfaction of ambition and the attainment of personal goals but it also guarantees that

material desire is eventually transmuted into divine love.

6. The esoteric ruler of this sign is the Earth, indicating that this planet itself becomes the Path and the field of experience for the evolved Sagittarian. The children of mind who inhabit the earth must achieve, through intelligence, the goal of balancing the relationship between the soul and the personality and be able to function as either with equal ease. The earth, as third ray ruler of Sagittarius, is closely related to Saturn, the third ray ruler of Capricorn, and aids in the transition from discipleship to intuition.

7. Mars rules the hierarchy of Lunar Lords (the three-fold personality or form nature) that must be brought under the control of the Solar Lord through conflict, struggle and war to the death of that form (symbolically speaking). It is for this reason that, in the yearly cycle, Sagittarius is a particularly auspicious time to focus on disciplining and controlling the lower nature.

8. The sign Sagittarius transmits three zodiacal rays: the fourth (Harmony through Conflict) the fifth (Concrete Intelligence) and the sixth (Idealism, Devotion). These also relate to the fourth, fifth, and sixth planes--the Buddhist, mental and astral and indicate a unique alignment of the energies of intuition, intellect and instinct. These energies enable the Sagittarian, through devotion to an ideal, the development of mind and intuitive perception, to blend the integrated personality and the soul into a harmonious unit. The process of building the antakarana, the bridge (in consciousness) between the soul and personality, is also under the influence of this sign.

9. Sagittarius is one of the arms of the Mutable Cross and the individual born under this sign while polarized on the ordinary wheel comes under the influence of two planets, Mercury (fourth ray) and Jupiter (second ray) as the following tabulation makes clear. Love and harmony through conflict eventually fuse the dual nature of a human being into a cooperative whole.

On the Ordinary Wheel

Sign	Exoteric Ruler	Keywords
Gemini		Mercury Changeableness, instability
Virgo	Mercury	Attachment to material life and ideas
Sagittarius	Jupiter	Ambitious desire
Pisces	Jupiter	Fluidity, psychic sensitivity

For the individual born in this sign but whose consciousness is on the Fixed Cross there are four planetary influences to consider:

On the Reversed Wheel

Sign	Esoteric Ruler	Keywords
Gemini	Venus	Recognition of and interplay between soul and personality
Virgo	Moon	Mother of Christ child, hidden development of soul within form
Sagittarius	Earth	One-pointed spiritual aspiration, discipleship
Pisces	Pluto	Sacrifice, mediatorship

The advanced Sagittarian is ever determined to enter new, wider experiences of life expression, to open to expanded vistas and horizons, to follow the vision which leads to the mountain top in Capricorn, thus Sagittarius is an important sign for all spiritual seekers to contemplate and comprehend.