

The Astrology of Reincarnation

THE TIME LINK

IT IS GENERALLY ACCEPTED in the astrological community today that the Nodes of the Moon represent the major key towards understanding your life as part of a continual thread. Many astrologers believe that the Nodes hold more importance than the rest of the chart. To a qualified expert a knowledge of the Sun, Moon and Nodal positions can reveal the entire life of the individual.

At one level these Nodes reveal the track that your soul is running on in the current life, while the rest of the horoscope adds additional information as to how you are to make the journey. It is through the Nodes that Western astrology is now able to make its first inroads into relating this divine science to the Hindu concept of reincarnation.

The Nodes represent the cause and effect relationships by which you lead your life. They are the difference between mundane and spiritual astrology.

Here we find our first clues as to why the rest of the chart is manifesting the way it is. The personality and life of the individual have little meaning if not seen within a larger context. The Nodes place the individual on his stairway to heaven insofar as they define the karmic lessons he has chosen to take on for this life. Therefore his trials and tribulations begin to have new meaning when viewed as related chapters in the story of his continuous soul growth.

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The individual is no longer apart from the world but is instead an important part of world evolution. Everything he thinks and does is ultimately a karmic contribution to the improvement of his soul which upon reaching its ultimate nirvana is an improvement in the world he has helped to create.

Always man wants to know why. And always he turns to history for the answer on the assumption that effect always follows cause. The position of the Nodes link man with his past and point the way toward his future. When man can firmly establish the roots of his past, he starts to experience a thread of continuity which makes him feel more secure about walking into his future.

The Nodes are actually points of soul magnetism, one pulling toward the future and one coming from the past. The process which we call life is to blend these two into a median of happiness for the individual, so that his present incarnation is a symbol of his transition from the past to the future.

THE SOUTH NODE

The South Node is symbolic of man's past. It is not symbolic of one past incarnation but rather a combination of events, ideas, attitudes and thoughts from every incarnation whose accumulated unresolved effects have created the current life.

The most deeply ingrained behavior patterns are to be found here at the point of man's zenith of hundreds or thousands of years of working on himself. There is little he could do in the present life to alter greatly the balance of so many years of training and habits. For this reason man tends to rest on his South Node as the comfortable family of his

past in whose ways he is thoroughly familiar. The house he builds for himself in this life can only rest upon the foundation he has created before.

For some the South Node can be limiting, while for others whose past foundations are firm and large it can be just the factor which brings the present life to a fruition of achievement.

As an incoming president enters the White House to begin his new life there, so the possibilities of his achievements will be hampered or aided by all he has thought, said and done during his past record in Congress. You are president of your current incarnation but your karmic record in Congress is the concrete steps upon which you stand or the stilts below your wobbly feet.

THE SOUTH NODE— YOUR ACHILLES HEEL

The potentially weakest spot in any horoscope is the South Node for it represents the footsteps we have left behind us. Regardless of the paths we have taken this South Node trail leaves us open to karmic residue from behind. We constantly look to the future and rarely stop to examine the effects of all we have created until such effects loom ahead of us in our path.

Nevertheless, the tracks we have made are still there, symbolizing the habits of lifetimes, and so for many they point the way to the most observable path of least resistance. In fact an individual's most negative traits are those which for hundreds or thousands of years he has allowed to continue brewing within his soul. He keeps trying to piece together the fragments of his deeply-rooted past in the hope that they will form the foundation blocks

of his future.

Too often the past itself involves the individual in a type of curious fascination, hypnotizing him back into old methods of behavior, whereupon he forgets the reason for delving into his past and makes his reliving it the actual purpose of his existence rather than the means to the end he originally desired.

The South Node can be quicksand; safe enough to look back into as long as no physical steps are taken in that direction. One step into the South Node is almost certain to immerse the individual in reliving compressed memories from which it may well take years and the help of many other people to pull him back.

It is interesting to note that man's curiosity which is one of his most formidable assets can also be his greatest enemy, for as tiny flashbacks of his

South Node seep through to his conscious mind his own insatiable curiosity makes him turn around and go backwards to seek more. In order to come to full terms with his past, he seeks more than an intellectual understanding. Desiring to feel intuitively, relate emotionally, see, touch and perceive the reality of his past, he inadvertently makes it the reality of his present!

Here without knowing it he has suddenly thrown himself backwards into another time zone. In essence he has reprogrammed his computer, but the shift is so subtle that he doesn't notice it, until the admonitions of those close to him bring to his sensitivities the awareness that his functional behavior is somehow inappropriate to the life he is in here and now. Thus the South Node is to be used as the memory bank of grades already lived



Detail of cover for *Karmic Astrology*, designed by Alden Cole

through, but unless there are strong planetary conjunctions to it, the individual is to move ahead, forever drawing on his past, but not dwelling in it.

THE NORTH NODE

The North Node is the symbol of the future. It represents a new experience as yet untried. For the individual, this is the new cycle to which he is looking forward. Carrying with it all the apprehensions of the unknown and as yet untried experiences, this Nodal position nevertheless has a curious magnetic allure, pulling the soul towards its future growth.

There is Divine Providence in trying something new, and here the individual receives much help for his efforts. At the very deepest levels of his being he feels a sense of direction. His purpose to live spurs him on in spite of all obstacles. In fact, this Nodal position is like a treasure-filled cornucopia reaping one benefit after another as each obstacle is turned into a stepping stone of future growth.

It symbolizes the highest area of expression to be reached in the current life and therefore must be interpreted by the highest qualities of the sign and house in which it is placed. The new experiences seem lonely at first as the individual is unsure of his footing. He soon comes to realize that if his tests of courage are to be meaningful, they must be faced alone at the core of his being where each new adventure finds him as the single character of his own unique experience. The newness of it all creates a peculiar fascination in the individual.

Always he sees it in front of him like the proverbial carrot used to make the donkey walk, yet every time he thinks he reaches it, its higher possibilities become visible to him, demanding still more footsteps, more tests, and more of a desire to go forward.

But man cannot reach his North Node until he learns to shed his past for his past represents the shackles of his karmic prison. The new cycle of the North Node is a new problem heretofore unconfounded. It is man's discontent with the old and decaying ways of his past, coupled with his great desire for the discovery and exploration of his higher potential in the future.

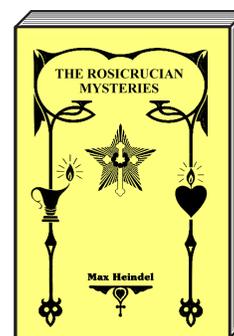
With each step closer he starts to feel better about himself. His life takes on new meaning as he experiences possibilities he had never considered. But man does not achieve his North Node until after he rises to the highest karmic levels of his South Node. He must learn to give up gracefully the negative habits and memories which no longer serve a useful purpose in his life. He must be willing to walk where he feels there are no footsteps before him.

The most amazing feature about the North Node is that however much man achieves it, there is always more to go—as it truly represents his everlasting upward spiral towards God. □

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