

Aries New Moon Talk & Meditation by Helen Holmes, March 1, 2003

Last week was the spring equinox. The equinox is the moment when the length of day and night are exactly the same. In the spring, the days get longer from the spring equinox to the summer solstice. In the cycle of the year, the spring equinox is similar to dawn in the cycle of the day. It is sunrise. In the cycle of the month the equinox is equivalent to the waxing new moon. All of these are times of increasing energy and light. On the circle of the compass it is the East, which relates to Life. In the Christian tradition, Easter is always the first Sunday after the full moon of Aries. Easter is the time of the resurrection of Christ, bringing eternal life to humanity. Aries is the first sign of year, the sign of dawn, new beginnings and the creation of life.

Aries is the sign of beginnings. In terms of energy, it is the initiating will to exist. It is the first sign of creation, when the idea takes form, but it has not yet worked through to the physical plane of manifestation. It is the driving energy that moves things. Aries is the first. In the field of astrology this driving, impulsive energy relates to cardinal signs, and Aries is the first of the cardinal signs. Aries transmits the energy of will or power, the will to be. It is the place where the initial idea to institute any activity takes form and moves forward.

So the kind of energy that is available now for both the sun and the moon is the energy of Aries. During the new moon, the sun and the moon are both in the same sign. Therefore the type of energy that is available now is this initiating, creating, new energy. It's new for this year, and for this month. It's a time when new things can be started, and changes can be initiated. A new beginning might be initiated. In our meditation, we will be mediating this energy of change and new beginnings.

In traditional astrology Aries is ruled by Mars. It is the sign of masculine energy and movement. It is a sign of idealism, and sometimes fanaticism, struggle and strife and war. But is also the sign of energy that can be used to move forward in a positive way.

On the esoteric level, Aries is ruled by Mercury, the planet of the mind. This makes sense, because initiating impulses first take form on in the mind. Creation doesn't start on the Martian level of activity, but it begins with the thought and the concept that is in the mind.

Mercury is related to the fourth ray energy of harmony through conflict. This is the ruling ray of humanity, which is the fourth or middle kingdom. It is through the correct use of the mind that you learn to harmonize conflict and to create harmony from conflict. This is much the same as the way that creation results from the interaction of opposites. You know that there has been a lot of conflict in the history of humanity, and maybe not as much harmony as we might wish. Mercury illumines the mind, brings clarity to issues, and facilitates connections, fostering harmony.

The hierarchical ruler, which relates to the angelic kingdom and any originating spiritual impulse is Uranus. Uranus relates to the seventh ray, which brings spirit into manifestation. The seventh ray is the ruling ray of Aquarius, which is the sign into which the sun is moving in its 25,000 year cycle of the zodiac. During the 2000 years that we are moving through Aquarius, we should be able to manifest the ideals we have been developing for a long time into full expression on the physical plane. During the Piscean age we developed ideals, but could not manifest them adequately in our lives. We developed the ideals of brotherhood, sharing, altruism, and living in harmony with each other and the earth, but the actual manifestation of the ideals has been spotty at best. This is because the sixth ray is not concrete and material. But the seventh ray is. During this new age we should learn to take these ideals and really start doing them, manifesting them on the physical plane more than we have in the past. All of this is initiated and impelled by the energies that come from Aries.

In the long course of evolution, human beings learn to express themselves as individuals, to be full complete human beings. When I got a divorce 30 years ago, I was trying to understand the concept of marriage and partnership. I realized that I could not have a good partnership with someone else if I were not first a whole human being myself. That's on the small individual scale, but on the larger scale each person must do this for him- or herself. Each person must develop individuality and be a whole and complete person. Then you realize that you are part of a group. You are not just alone as one person, but you are part of a bigger group working for some purpose. And beyond that, all of humanity is one being in the body of the earth. We are all linked to each other through our etheric bodies. We talk about being one with our brothers, but we do not always really realize it as a fact. It is only a recent development in human history that we have even begun to think that this is so. It's a big step forward that we are beginning to think in terms of our group and our consciousness of and our responsibility to the rest of humanity, and to the animal kingdom and the vegetable kingdom, or our responsibility to use our resources wisely for the benefit of the whole earth. We are anxious for more people to come to this realization. You are not as likely to do harm if you realize that your body is your body and you need all of it. You are not going to cut off your toe because you don't like it. If you realize that humanity is a body, you must know that each part of it serves a function and is necessary to the functioning of the whole. You are not likely to harm or persecute other parts of the body which are necessary to the whole. Likewise you will not harm the mineral or the animal kingdom, because they are essential parts of the great body of the Earth.

Aries is the beginning of the creative process, the first step of the soul into incarnation, the beginning of any cycle of activity or being. When we are meditating we should keep in mind this initiatory quality of the energy of Aries.

I've been thinking a lot lately about the astrological situation in the world and how it relates to the situation in the United States. This is a particularly important time for the United States in its relationship to the world.

In mundane astrology there is a fairly long opposition of Saturn and Pluto happening. It falls in Gemini and Sagittarius. There is no consensus on the chart of the United States, since we do not know what time of day the Declaration of Independence was signed. But many astrologers believe that the Ascendant of the chart is either Gemini or Sagittarius. Whichever is correct, the axis of the ascendant and descendant in the US charts fall in these two signs. The ascendant and the descendant express the individuality of the being you are charting and the descendant expresses the relationships of that being with others. Esoterically the ascendant relates to the soul purpose of the being under consideration. This Saturn-Pluto opposition strongly affects the chart of the US through its ascendant and descendant.

Saturn governs structure, form and time, law and tradition, government, and working out of issues through time. Saturn always presents challenges and crises, which are tests and opportunities. Pluto stands for wiping away established structures. It is sort of the volcanic energy, the burning ground that destroys those things that are not needed. It has a lot to do with power, and with power struggles. It rules oil and atomic energy. In the chart of the United States, we are being challenged in such a way that we can stick with the old rigid structures, be greedy and try to grab up the oil and keep a corner on atomic energy, or we can work with the Plutonian energy to transform our Saturnian structures into a new form that will work better with the rest of the world as well as be more useful to us. I am not clear in my mind exactly how that might happen, but it is important for us to be aware that the possibility exists to mediate this energy for the positive development of the future.

It's very interesting that this war on Iraq started immediately after the full moon of Pisces. At that exact time a very strong formation called a kite was present, which included this opposition of Saturn and Pluto.

There is also a fairly long term opposition occurring between Neptune and Jupiter. Neptune can be confusion, deception, dishonesty, and not getting the right picture or more positively it can be spiritual wisdom and creativity. Jupiter is expansion and reaching out. Jupiter could be expanding our profits, or it could be reaching out and expanding our alliances in the world. The energy can be used in different ways, but it is very potent. When the planets are related in any way, it increases the energy between them. When they are related by an opposition it is a difficult struggle between the two. If it were, for instance, a trine, it would be smoothly flowing energy and would express more harmoniously. But the opposition requires a great effort to blend and synthesize the energies, as well as to express them in the most positive manner. We might want to keep in mind at this particular time and this particular new moon that all these great potencies are going on. It's a very powerful time.

The Saturn Pluto opposition started in August of 2001 and will continue until September 2005. It's a very long period of time that started right before 9/11 and all of the events in the world today have some relationship to this cycle. We don't know how it will work out, but we can in meditation consciously channel energy to the higher good of world events, and it will percolate into the consciousness of humanity to influence the course of

events. At this time of germination of the powerful Aries initiatory energy during the new moon and on the rising tide of spring, let us contact the patterns of energy that are necessary at this time, and mediate the energy for the benefit of humanity and the Earth.

Meditation begins...