

AN NATAL ASTROLOGER'S GUIDE TO HORARY

Part 5 of Olivia Barclay's introduction for Transit readers.

Planetary Hours

From antiquity there had been a condition upon which the validity of a chart depended, which I have not so far mentioned, and that is upon the planetary hours. Is it stretching the bounds of credibility too far to suggest that not only a moment, but an hour has its quality? Since Zadkiel deleted them entirely from his book called 'Introduction to Astrology' which purported to be the work of Lilly, and since Lilly, (whose infallibility is second only to Perry Mason,) always used them, I shall be at pains to explain them.

Before our present generation the consideration of planetary hours had always been an integral part of astrology, and it was used in other ways beside determining the validity of a chart. For instance, if the ruler of the planetary hour is angular the person or object is at home, as much as if the main significator is there. In 7th house questions the ruler of the planetary hour can symbolise the thief. Ancient aphorisms tell us wisely about them. But when Zadkiel, on page 186 of his book, quotes aphorisms, the first **should** read; "See the Question be radical or fit to be judged, which is when the Lord of the Ascendant and the HOUR be of one nature and triplicity." But, as with other aphorisms Zadkiel has changed it.

Perhaps he was afraid that mention of planetary hours would associate our work with superstitions that used to be held. In the 17th century medicines were given at appropriate hours, and herbs collected then. But in 1984 surely astrologers can use planetary hours again to help our work, which is hard enough without having information withheld. Besides, I think they

are very interesting to know about, you can at least judge for yourselves.

Everyone associates the days of the week with the planets, Sunday with the ☉, Monday with the ☾, Tuesday with Mars (French Mardi, Northern Europe Tiw.) Wednesday with Mercury (French Mercredi, Northern Europe Woden.) Thursday with Thor or Jupiter, Friday with Venus (French Vendredi or in Northern Europe Freya or Frigg,) and of course Saturday with Saturn.

A day once started at daybreak, at sunrise. The hours were of uneven lengths. The time between daybreak and sunset was divided into 12 equal periods, called hours. Again the time between sunset and daybreak was divided into 12 equal parts, so that the summer days had long hours and the summer nights short hours. A winter day had short hours and a winter night long hours. Each day begins with the hour after which it is named. Each hour belongs to a planet in a never-ending sequence. Even between one day and the next the order of the sequence is not broken.

The order of the sequence is thus; *

☉ ♀ ☽ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿

So, Sunday's hours are;

☉ ♀ ☽ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿

☿ ☿ ☿ ☿

continuing on Monday (TRADITIONALLY THE FIRST DAY)

☽ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿

☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿

continuing on Tuesday ☿ etc.

Notice that when each day starts it is the turn of the hour of that day! Then turn to Ptolemy's Tables of the Dignities of the Planets and look at the Faces of the

(YOU WILL NOT SEE THE SAME SEQUENCE BECAUSE FACES ARE NOT CYCLIC)

Planets. You will see that the same sequence is repeated here. Look at the Faces of Aries ☉♂♀, then ♀ continues ♀☽. Consider now the antiquity of this arrangement. The sequence is Egyptian. If Earth is substituted for Sun the order looks familiar.

A Horary chart is not valid unless the planetary hour harmonises with the ascendant or ruler of the ascendant. There were different ways in which such a harmonization could be satisfactory.

1. The ruler of the hour should be of the same triplicity as the ascendant. To discover this look at Ptolemy's Tables of Dignities, referred to above. For instance if ☽ is ruler of the hour and the day chart ascendant is II, this harmonises, because ☽ rules the air triplicity in the day time (a connection many modern astrologers might overlook!). Or if the planet of the hour was ☿ and the ascendant a water sign this is in accord because ☿ rules the water triplicity.

2. If the ruler of the hour is the same as the ruler of the ascending sign, as with Sagittarius ascending and Jupiter is ruler of the hour. That's O.K.

3. And then it is said that it is valid if the hour and the ascendant are of the same nature. This needs a little explaining. In old astrology the signs were described thus; (I always wondered why).

- ♈ hot and dry, ♏ cold and dry,
- ♉ hot and dry, ♐ cold and moist.
- ♊ hot and dry, ♑ cold and dry,
- ♋ hot and dry, ♒ cold and moist.
- ♌ hot and dry, ♓ cold and dry,
- ♍ hot and dry, ♔ cold and moist.

The planets, too, are given such attributes; ☉ hot and dry, ♀ cold and moist, ☿ hot and dry, ♋ hot and moist, ☽ cold and dry, ♆ cold and dry, ☾ cold and moist.

Therefore if ♆ ascends, and ♆ is ruler of the hour, the chart is valid because both

ascending sign and planet are of the same nature, cold and dry.

4. The planet of the hour agrees even if it is in accord by trine to the ruler of the ascendant or to the ascendant, or to the lord of the triplicity of the ascendant. If Leo ascends in a daytime chart, and the ♋ is ruler of the hour, one could consider that ♋ is ruler of the triplicity, and if the ♋ is in trine to ♋ that would be considered valid.

If you decide to use planetary hours it is a good idea to make a table for reference. Your table must suit the vicinity in which you live, because periods of time between sunrise and sunset vary according to locality. What you require is the time of sunrise and of sunset. Of course one table applies to any year, you don't have to recalculate it. I will give a small section of such a table, because there is not room for a complete table here in this article. When we can publish these articles in book form I will of course give full tables.



Olivia

(LENGTH SHORTER BY APPROX 30% LIKE HOURS)

MORE PROBABLY IT WAS THE REIFICATION PROBLEM (SEE PAGE 1+2)

NOTE 1: IT WAS THE INVENTION OF THE MECHANICAL CLOCK IN THE LATE MIDDLE AGES THAT CONVENTIONALIZED HOURS INTO THEIR FAMILIAR EQUAL LENGTH SEGMENTS.

NOTE 2: LIKE THE SUN SIGNS, OUR WEEKDAY NAMES WILL NOT NECESSARILY MATCH THE MUNDANE WEEKDAY NAMES DUE TO ORBITAL PROGRESSION + THE LATE MIDDLE-AGES CONVENTION OF THE LEAP DAY + THE MODERN (200 YEAR OLD) CALENDAR

See Lilly's Tables.

Example

Suppose the date was 3.5. 1983, a Tuesday, and the time 10.30 a.m. GMT. The \odot is at $12^{\circ}29' \delta$. Look at Fig. 1. You see the left hand side of the page headed "Hours Before Noon." Look down the 1st column under the δ until you find δ 12° . In the next column, but along the same line you see Sunrise was at 4.34 a.m. that day, so there starts the 1st hour (as it is Tuesday that hour belongs to δ). In the next column you note it lasts until 5.48 a.m., carry on to the next column and you see that the 2nd hour lasts until 7.30 a.m., the 3rd hour until 8.17 a.m., the 4th hour until 9.31 a.m., the 5th until 10.46 a.m., and the 6th from then until noon. Our time of 10.30 a.m. therefore, is during the 5th hour. The sequence is always $\delta \odot \phi \psi \delta$. 10.30 a.m. is therefore the hour of the δ . In the example. Satellite chart the δ also ruled the hour, and ascended, and the δ rules the night triplicity of that sign, it was in accord, and the chart confirmed valid.

CONSIDERATIONS BEFORE JUDGEMENT OF A HORARY CHART

So now that our knowledge of Horary astrology is wider I will list fully, and with attention to detail, what should be considered before a chart is judged. These rules are for a warning and protection to the astrologer, not for a nuisance.

The rules handed down from antiquity are these:

1. The chart is valid when the Ruler of the Hour and the Ascendant or Ruler of Ascendant are the same planet, or of the same triplicity or nature (these ways I have just described with example, but in practice I find some of Lilly's maps have the Ruler of the Ascendant or Moon in strong aspect to the Ruler of the Hour, and that is accepted.) The original chart and not the turned chart is apparently the one that counts here

2. When 0° , 1° or 2° ascend, especially in signs of short ascension, it is no use judging, unless the querent is very young and his body, complexion, moles and scars with the sign ascending.

3. If 27° , 28° or 29° ascend in any sign it is not safe to judge, unless the Querent's age corresponds to that number of degrees. Or unless it's the chart of an event.

4. It is not safe to judge when the Moon is in the later degrees of a sign, especially $\overline{\text{II}}$, $\overline{\text{III}}$ or $\overline{\text{IV}}$.

Having told us that, Lilly does judge when the Moon is in later degrees, as on pages 385 and 401. I can only suggest we keep to the rules of the ancients until we are as proficient as Lilly, just as when learning a language you sometimes need to be more exact than when speaking your mother tongue.

I have found an extract in 'The Astrologer's Guide,' Coley's translation by Lilly, republished in 1953 — "The 30th Consideration, is, to observe when a planet that is Significator, or the Moon, shall have past the 29th degree of the Sign wherein it is, and touches the 30th, and especially if it have passed one minute of that degree: for then it shall have no strength in that Sign, but in the next; so that if in the first it signified any evil, it shall hurt the person or thing threatened no more than the fall of a house shall one that is just got out of it..."

That may explain why Lilly does it, but his instructions to his pupils was to refrain from such a judgement.

5. When the Moon is in the Via Combusta. This is a traditionally tricky part of the ecliptic. The official stricture is against the Moon being positioned there, not the Ascendant, although with the ascendant it is well to be **wary**, unless of course your natal ascendant is in such

* NB. Not just with other considerations that it is not safe. Be judicious, but simply be warned. "All matters go hard — or, you can do nothing."

↑ degrees. The degrees are from 15° Libra to 15° Scorpio.

↓ * **6. When the Moon is Void of course** 'all matters go hardly' says Lilly, and again, he himself shows examples of charts judged with the Moon in this position. He continues by saying it is alright to do so if the chief significators are very strong, and the δ in $\delta \odot \phi \psi \delta$. (Ivy Goldstein Jacobson says the word to remember here is NOTHING, that is; nothing will happen. This can be good, if the question is about a fear. Barbara Waiters says, there is no future in the situation as things stand.)

* **7. If the cusp of the 7th house is afflicted, or the Ruler of that house Retrograde or impeded, if the question is not about a 7th house matter.** This shows the astrologer's judgement will not please anyone. **Here are further rules from the Arabians.**

8. If Saturn is in the Ascendant, especially Retrograde, the matter seldom or never comes to good.

9. Saturn in the 7th is either a sign of the poor judgement of the Astrologer, or that the matter will go from one misfortune to another.

10. If the Ruler of the Ascendant is Combust, that's no good.

11. If the Ruler of the 7th is unfortunately placed, in it's fall, or in the terms of the infortunes, you won't get a good judgement (practically the same as No. 7?)

In regard to Nos. 7, 9 and 11, these strictures are made assuming the Astrologer is represented by the 7th house, 'the other' from the querent, but if the Astrologer takes his own question, which is increasingly the case now so many are learning Horary, should the same strictures apply? Here, I think we must use discretion, and if the question is obviously valid, judge it.

Also, we must remember than when

Lilly gave us these rules there were only two malefics. Now we have more, although we are not sure which of the outer planets to call malefic. Perhaps we should confine ourselves to the original malefics. At least I am sure we should again use discretion, and if we feel the map is obviously valid, despite an outer planet's unfortunate aspect, then judge it.

Lilly has shown maps where even the square of Saturn is disregarded. But if there is an invalidity about the map, if the symbols do not fit the people and circumstances of the question, discard it.

There are Astrologer's who do not want to accept any of these strictures at all. I do not advocate this. It is always tempting to find some pleasant reply, and rather than stretch the truth, when you find one of the traditional, obvious strictures, do discard the chart.

12. And of course, one cannot ask the same question twice.

Fixed Stars

These are used when in close conjunction with a planet or or Ascendant (there is much more to say about them at a future date). I have heard of people trying their hand at Horary and using them at midpoints and house cusps. That won't do.

Sinister and Dexter

In November Transit page 5, I mentioned that a sinister aspect is made in the order of the signs as from Aries to Leo and a Dexter against the order or the signs, as Leo to Aries. See "Encyclopaedia of Astrology," by Nicholas de Vore page 110, Gadbury's Doctrine of Nativities page 33, and Lilly's "Christian Astrology" page 108.

However, it has been brought to my attention by Dymock Brose, a well known Australian Astrologer, that I should mention Edward W. Whitman, whose book "Astro-Kinetics, Vol. 3 Aspects and their Meaning" reverses the names of these aspects. Alone among notable Astrologers Whitman has written, page 6, "A Dexter aspect is one which is made forward in the Zodiac whilst a sinister aspect is one made backward in the Zodiac."

This is a pity because it must have confused many Astrologers. It does not detract from the excellent interpretations made by Whitman, which examine the difference between these categories of aspect, and surpasses any other explanations I have come across. I recommend them to Natal and Horary Astrologers alike. But personally, for my own sanity and clarity of mind, I went through the book crossing out sinister and writing in Dexter, in pencil, and vice versa. Luckily by page 60 Mr. Whitman, who may by then have noticed that he used the opposite word from everyone else, changes to saying "aspects made forward," and "aspects made backwards." Whitman's book was compiled and published posthumously, which may explain why he never altered those words.

There is a good deal of difference between the meanings of Dexter and Sinister. Nowadays they seem unpopular, perhaps because a Dexter aspect implies that the thing happens to you, rather than

you make it happen, there is more force of circumstance, or effort required, it is more of a fatality. Whitman gives pages of examples of the differences between Dexter and Sinister in particular cases, I will give one random example (as with my pencil alteration). In telling us of Jupiter square Fortuna Whitman says an unwise adherence to the factor of luck interferes with the application of practical remedies for solving difficulties... the sinister square will bring disappointment through misplaced personal efforts, the Dexter square through being let down by other people.

The Significator

Similarly Mr. Whitman uses the word 'significator' to mean "applying planet" (page 5 of the above named book), and although that meaning is correct in a certain sense, it more usually has the wider meaning of my definition on page 9 of Transit, May 1983. N. de Vore explains this in his Encyclopaedia of Astrology, page 380, which states "A planet may be taken as a significator of a person or of an event."

In a Horary chart one is dealing with a specific question. Having decided the house involved, and noted the sign on the cusp, you then find the planet that rules that cusp and it is called a main significator, as is the planet ruling the sign on the ascendant. Other planets are significators of other matters relevant to the question, but some merely contribute to the description of significators, perhaps by aspect or disposition.

In de Vore's Encyclopaedia under "Promittor," page 316, is a description of a "significator" being used in the way Whitman uses it. Both ways are correct.

The Preceding Syzygy

(previous new or full Moon).

Ptolemy explains that in Mundane Astrology, the first and most potent cause of events lies in the conjunctions of the Sun

and Moon at eclipses, and the movement of the stars at the time. The rules of Horary are close to those of Mundane Astrology. If you are doing a Horary about an important event you should note the degree of the preceding Syzygy.

At a new Moon both luminaries are in the same degree, but at full Moon, the luminary above the horizon is considered.

The planet ruling the eclipse is the one that disposes of that degree by sign, term or triplicity. Note was taken of aspects to that point.

If, therefore you find a significator in your chart in the place of, or related to, the degree of the previous syzygy you know it is of importance.



rule chart is w/ below hour
day " " " above "

Honey

DIRECTIONS FOR FINDING PLANETARY HOURS
USING LILLY'S CHRISTIAN ASTROLOGY,* PAGES 474-481

Note day of week; each day of the week is governed by a planet;

- Sun rules Sunday
- Moon rules Monday
- Mars rules Tuesday
- Mercury rules Wednesday
- Jupiter rules Thursday
- Venus rules Friday
- Saturn rules Saturday

Choose which of the tables you need for your chart: in Christian Astrology the first table (page 474) is for 0 Aries through 30 Virgo for sunrise to noon; p. 475 is 0 Aries through 30 Virgo, for the hours between noon and sunset; p. 476 is for 0 Libra through 30 Pisces for sunrise to noon, p. 477 is for 0 Libra through 30 Pisces for noon to sunset. Page 478 is 0 Aries to 30 Virgo from sunset to midnight, p. 479 is 0 Aries through 30 Virgo from midnight to sunrise, p. 480 is 0 Libra through 30 Pisces from sunset to midnight, and p. 481 is 0 Libra through 30 Pisces from midnight to sunrise.

S.D. means Solar Degree; H.M. means Hours, Minutes.

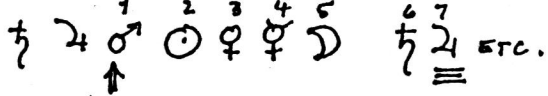
Take the Sun's degree-and-minutes and find the nearest degree-and-minutes on the side of the chart - it might be on the left side or the right - and then run your finger horizontally along page to find the time before noon (or after noon, or before midnight, or after midnight), that the time of the chart falls after; then look to the top of that column for the number of hours for the "hour count". After sunset, add 12 hours. (The numbers at the top of the "H.M." columns are counts from the ruler of the day, to get the ruler of the hour.)

Next start to count from the ruler of the day (if Sunday, the Sun; if Wednesday, Mercury etc), because the first hour of each day, that is, the hour after sunrise, is ruled by the ruler of the day. The count continues in order of planets according to their average daily motion:



If your chart is Saturday, start with Saturn; if Tuesday, start with Mars, etc. When you come to the end, start at beginning again, if necessary.

Tuesday, 7th hour: start at Mars and count to 7...Jupiter.



Remember that planetary hours start at sunrise: therefore between midnight and dawn it is still "the day before" in calculating planetary hours. 3 AM Wednesday is not Mercury's day, but Mar's, because sunrise has not occurred yet, so it is still counted as Tuesday.

DKR

* 52 N NOTE: THE HEBREWS USE SUNSET AS THE START OF THE NEW DAY