

Paramahansa Yogananda and the Saturn-Jupiter Opposition

By Barbara Fahringer

As you are reading this, the Saturn-Jupiter opposition has widened out and in June, Jupiter will have moved into Taurus changing the sign dynamics. However since Jupiter had a retrograde station at 3 degrees Aries in July 2010 and Saturn will have a direct station at 10 Libra the feeling of the Aries-Libra opposition is still around us, probably until Jupiter's next retrograde station at the end of August.

Then at the end of December 2011, Jupiter will have a direct station at 0 Taurus and Saturn makes a retrograde station in early February 2012 at 29 Libra, making for an out-of-sign opposition with less than 1 degree orb. Those stations will continue the opposition energy for several months more.

It is interesting to note that at any time the current relationship of Saturn to Jupiter is a return to the relationship of Saturn to Jupiter from about **59 years earlier**. Sometimes this is only approximate rather than exact. Yet within a year's time a person has their second Saturn return and their fifth Jupiter return. Sometimes those two returns occur together at the same time, almost to the day.

So at 59-60 years of age there is a significant culmination of two cycles and the start of two new cycles for the individual (or event) in both Saturnian and Jupiterian energy.

Also of interest is that the 59-year cycle of the relationship between Saturn and Jupiter is part of an endless cycle of 59-year returns to a similar location of the zodiac. This Jupiter-in-Aries / Saturn-in-Libra aspect wasn't just in 1952, it was also in 1893 and 1833. Over centuries the returning aspects between Saturn and Jupiter start to widen, but incrementally, so there is a tendency to have 3 or 4 of these 59-year returns in the same signs and sometimes at the same degree.

And of course it isn't just the opposition; it is every Saturn-Jupiter aspect that reoccurs. There is constantly going on in our world, in the lives of individuals and events, a return to 59 and to multiples of 59 years ago.

In my own exploration of the Saturn-Jupiter cycles it seems that things are put in place with one return and then taken down with the next, or vice versa. Barriers are put up and then barriers are torn down, or there can be a separation of some type. Jupiter's more frequent returns can also trigger sudden changes in relationships viz a viz the opposition to Saturn.

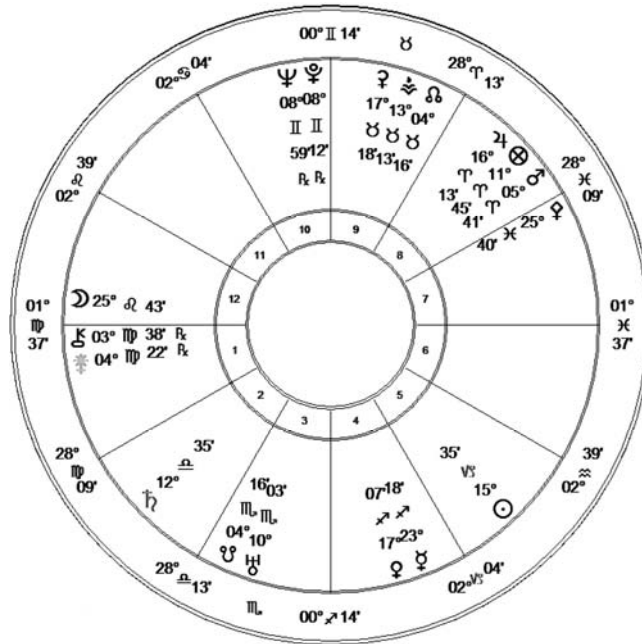
Paramahansa Yogananda

I first really noticed this 59-year cycle when studying Paramahansa Yogananda's chart.

Paramahansa Yogananda was born January 5th 1893 8:38 PM in Gorakhpur India. The birth date and time for Yogananda is listed in the Astrodatbank with an A rating so we can be fairly sure when we use it for timing.

He has Saturn at 12 degrees Libra in his 2nd house opposite Jupiter at 16 degrees Aries in his 8th house and both form a T-Square to his Sun at 15 Capricorn in the 5th house. There are many interesting points in his chart that could be discussed, including the close Neptune-Pluto conjunction at 8 degrees Gemini in his 10th house, however for this article we want to focus on Saturn and Jupiter.

When you have Jupiter and Saturn in hard aspect in your natal chart, then any time transiting Saturn makes a hard aspect to itself, it is also making a hard aspect to Jupiter, and vice versa. In Yogananda's case this includes a hard aspect to his Sun as well.



P. Yogananda
 Jan 5, 1893
 8:38 pm
 Gorakhpur, India

Yogananda was born into a very spiritual family and was one of the first to bring yoga and meditation to the United States. From an early age he was drawn to a devotional life, recounting past lives as a Himalayan monk. He studied Kriya Yoga as transmitted from his guru, Sri Yukteswar. Sri Yukteswar's guru was Lahiri Mahasaya – also the guru of Yogananda's parents. So Yogananda was part of a long lineage.

Yogananda met Sri Yukteswar, his guru, in 1910 when he was seventeen. This was a defining moment of his life and it happened during a transiting opposition of Saturn in Aries to Jupiter in Libra. There is not a specific date for their meeting, but on Yogananda's birthday that year the transits of Saturn to his natal Jupiter and of Jupiter to his natal Saturn were almost exact.

Yogananda's first Saturn return was October 24, 1922 with Jupiter at 20 degrees of Libra in the precessed Saturn return chart. Transiting Jupiter was opposite natal Jupiter in August of 1922 and transiting Jupiter and Saturn were conjunct at 27 Virgo in September 1921.

So what was going on in his life at the time of this Saturn return?

In 1920, at 26 years of age, Yogananda was invited to speak in Boston. He made his first trip to the United States where he ended up staying for the next fifteen years.

In June 1922, he established his first American teaching center at North Waltham, Massachusetts. The creation of something new and solid in the world based upon his life so far.

From 1920 to 1924 he toured the United States giving lectures to large groups of people and winning many over to the benefits of yoga and meditation. Eventually he settled in California and started a school there.

In May of 1934 Jupiter had a direct station at 13 degrees Libra, within a degree of Yogananda's Saturn at 12 degrees Libra, and soon transited opposite his natal Jupiter.

In 1934, Yogananda's *Advanced Super Cosmic Science Course* was published and he changed the name of his organization to the Self-Realization Fellowship, the name it is still known by today. In 1935 it was registered as an official church.

In 1935, after hearing a telepathic call from Sri Yukteswar, Yogananda traveled back to India for the first time since he had left. His guru Sri Yukteswar then passed on in 1936 which was a great loss for Yogananda. He then returned to the United States where he stayed for the rest of his life.

1946, with transiting Jupiter in Libra on his natal Saturn and transiting Saturn in Cancer squaring both his natal Saturn and natal Jupiter and opposite his Sun, his *Autobiography of a Yogi* was published.

Yogananda himself passed on the evening of March 7th 1952 in Los Angeles, California. After giving a speech at a banquet for the ambassador of India he entered into *mahasamadhi* (a yogi's conscious leaving of his body). Although some accounts say he died of a heart attack as he finished his talk, other accounts say he had hinted that he was soon to go and would choose to die from a heart attack.

Transiting Saturn was at 13 degrees Libra 25 minutes and transiting Jupiter at 17 degrees Aries 46 minutes.

One of the first things we notice is that he chose, on some level, for his passing the dual return of Saturn-Jupiter which was about as close as possible to his natal configuration.

Although he knew astrology I doubt that he consulted his chart or an astrologer to make the decision for his timing. However his well-developed spiritual, intuitive self chose the moment that coincided with this return.

Yogananda's precessed Jupiter return was March 4th 1952 and his precessed Saturn return was March 7th - the same day as his passing!
Yogananda's birth could be viewed as a separation from the vast spiritual cosmos and his death a dissolving of that boundary.

Sri Yukteswar said there is not only the planetary astrological but the inner eye that sees the inner spiritual person and their place in the cosmos. So when you are that advanced, you don't need the chart to tell you when to take certain actions or precautions.

According to Marc Edmund Jones there is a quality of fate to the relationship between Saturn and Jupiter further defined by the type of aspect. The Saturn-Jupiter opposition is about living two lives at once and certainly that could fit Yogananda in several ways: the life in communion with spirit vs. setting up organizations and schools, and being an administrator; the life of an Indian vs. the life of a Westerner. In his philosophy and teachings he built a bridge between East and West, Christianity and Hinduism.

It seems that the second return of Saturn that happens on or about the same time as the 5th Jupiter return is a profound moment of realignment with the opportunities life has given us and what we have done with them. It can be a point we can use as a springboard into a higher octave of being.

Berlin Wall

The Berlin Wall also has an interesting Jupiter-Saturn time-line. Again, we see the separation from and return to wholeness under these aspects.

May 26 1952

Border between East and West Germany is closed

Jupiter is at 6 Taurus and Saturn at 8 Libra

However, also:

January 1952 *Saturn had a retrograde station at 14 degrees Libra 58 minutes*

August 1951 *Jupiter had a retrograde station at 14 degrees Aries 10 minutes*

Border closed = Separation, opposition

August 13, 1961

Barriers are built between East and West Berlin

Saturn is at 24 Capricorn, and Jupiter is at 29 Capricorn

This is further separation and even more concrete. The conjunction had happened at 24 Capricorn in February 1961.

November 9, 1989

Berlin Wall is opened

Jupiter 10 Cancer opposite Saturn 9 Capricorn

So the separation that started under the Aries-Libra opposition and was furthered under the Saturn-Jupiter conjunction in Capricorn is then dissolved under the Jupiter-in-Cancer / Saturn-in-Capricorn opposition.

Could it be that Jupiter's exalted status in Cancer and Saturn ruling Capricorn made for a more harmonious expression of this opposition? ☼

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