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When Are We Now

a short hitchhiker's guide to the time



*A New e-Book
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IN A FEW WORDS

*or the so called "abstract". or perhaps the
"introduction". can also be regarded as the
"extroduction"*

So long, and thanks for all the fish.

Douglas Adams

Time, Space, the Universe and Everything...

The final answer to this question may well be known to be 42. But, unfortunately, this answer does not give us any more insight into the intertwined complexities of all the "smaller" questions and their answers. What could be Time? And how does Space emerge? Does the To Be have anything to do with it? When is the actual Now?

We all somehow "feel" that History is in time past, and the bright Future holds something "new". Through that somehow we all "feel" the Age we live in. And consequently we somehow all "feel" that the Ages are changing. And we all "long" for the change. Or perhaps "yearn" or even "crave". Or, probably, some of us "hate" the very idea things have to change.

Looking at our known history, we can see that certain very important, ground breaking, earth shaking, civilisation moving events happen from time to time. Though often we do not perceive those incidences immediately, somehow and somewhen very gradual but still quite fast changes creep into our behavioural patterns. And then we have a different approach towards life. As a collective.

Remember the period before more than five or six thousands years? Then Goddesses were in high regard. The fertility of feminine Nature and of masculine Energy was glorified. The Male and the Female were celebrated in consecration of the act of new creation...

Remember the amount of bull-horns in the Minoan culture? And how Moses was so angry on the Golden Calf? And then we had a lot of wars, an "angry god" saving his (and not any more her) people from the "others". And a lot of God's Lambs. The story of the Golden Fleece?

But then, suddenly everybody is trying to be an individual, and to help others. Suddenly all around you can see the Christian symbol of fishes.

Remember the musical "Hair"? When they, almost ritually, call forward to the Age of Aquarius?

When Are We Now?

The ancient experiences of astrology show us that somehow we are all connected to the motions of our Earth through the seen environment. The planets, the asteroids, the stars... they all move around us in a constant cosmic ballet. And we used to see them every night if there were no clouds.

Pondering on the meaning of Human life and the life of Cosmos, pondering on the correlations of the macrocosm and the microcosm ("As above, so below") we ask ourselves what are the "meanings" of the Dance of the Universe around us - meanings to us, to our lives, to our cultures and to our civilisations.

Those of you which take this guide in hands, see the term Astrology, and want to throw it away, as you do not "believe" in Astrology, do not rush with your preconceptions. As Mile Dupor¹ would put it: "Do not believe it - check it!".

In a Few Words

Well, this guide is not about astrology. It is primarily about Time. And its consequence - the Space. And the Cycles and Rhythms. And their consequence - the Universe. And than about Us on Earth. And, naturally, about astronomy. And than also about astrology. Or vice versa.

We start our journey through Time and Space by asking a simple question - How do we date anything in such a way that it could, with reasonable astronomical knowledge, be understood at any time of Human history? That whenever we land in our Time Machine somewhen, or whenever, in some future some-when, somebody digs up some of our noted event dates, we can with reasonable certainty say how many solar years apart it is/was.

To get at least some answers, we raise our Universal Thumb, to take a ride on any facts, science and knowledge available, as much as we are able.

First we look at our present day calendar, and travel some fifteen hundred years to the past. There we will learn that any human events bound year counting system is fully relative, and does have meaning only for those who live while that particular year counting is actively used, or at least well remembered - No solution here.

Whizzing around the past, we land in a land far far away and long long time ago. Now there are no common year counting calendar systems. So we have to use the position of our planet's system in regard to the stars. Here problems start again. Yes, we

1. Mile Dupor (14 November 1905 - 21 January 1981), Croatian astrologer, visionary and mystical philosopher.



do have a simple system to define when and where something is within a year, we call it the tropical system. We also know that this tropical system, synchronised with the Begin of Spring, the Vernal point of Earth's path, is constantly moving in relation to the actual "fixed" star positions, due to the precession of Earth's axis. This "fixed" system we call sidereal.

Moving around the Earth (at least as it seems from our perspective), or, if you prefer, around the Sun, all the planets, our Moon, the asteroids and planetoids, and naturally the Sun, or if you prefer, the Earth, journey on, a little bit below, a little bit above, the same plane. This plane of movement we call the Ecliptic. Around the Ecliptic we can see a series of Constellations. As they mostly represent animals (Ram, Bull, Fishes, Scorpion, Crab, the mighty Lion...) we call those Constellations the Zodiacal circle. Or the Cosmic Zoo. Those Constellations are quite fixed for many ages as we travel on our common Galactic Spaceship journey around the Milky Way.

Therefore we use those names to signify, or indicate, stellar positions. The Zodiacal Signs, used both in (less and less, except ♈) astronomy and (always) in astrology, make actually just a circular measuring system. Each Sign is exactly 30 degrees of a circle long, and approximately there where the Zodiacal Constellation is.

And here, with the Sidereal Zodiacal Signs the problems start. Just relatively shortly getting out of the terrible Kali Yuga, when we succeeded to lose so much knowledge, burn so many ancient books, commit to the fiery thongs of flame so many "heretical" thoughts, we just forgot where the Zodiac is fixed.

But to understand anything of the time related matters of Time, we need to get a broader view on Time itself. Therefore we

In a Few Words

take a long trip, hitchhiking on our knowledge far outside the Universe we can see, to see it from afar. After taking the unique chance to drink the best coffee in the Universe at the Caffè des Seins und der Zeit, discussing the matters of Time and Space with a well versed waiter there, we take a star-trek back home to Earth.

Looking now quite impassionately and detachedly at our own Galactic Spaceship, the Solar System, we suddenly see that nothing is ever in same interrelationships twice. Heraclitus already said: "You can never step twice in the same river!"

So now we have time to ponder on our global Universal position.

After that long and exhilarating odyssey we seem finally prepared to define the fixed point of the Sidereal Zodiac, and through that gain the knowledge of the beginnings of Ages. So done we reflect on some of the weird dates people have set. Like the 1. 1. 1 Anno Domini, or the Anno Mundi - the date of Creation.

And then we look still further into the pace of our own Mother Earth - and see that there is so much happening with her thoroughfare that it is completely mind-boggling.

So finally having, on the shores of the All, collected at least some morsels of knowledge, we finish our journey with a most important message:

