

The Astrology of Natural Disasters

Submitted by a Virgo-Libra member, April 2001

The ability to predict the occurrence of natural disasters is probably the best tool continuity planners can keep in their kit, packed neatly next to their back-up software, RAID drives, and airline tickets to an alternate site. In relative recent times, the USGS, NOAA, private industry and governments throughout the world have spent billions of dollars in this quest. They don't seem to realize that mankind has had this ability for centuries back to the days of Ptolemy and Kepler.

In a never-ending quest to improve my Business Continuity Planning abilities, I shared a cup of boiling tea (I think it was tea) with a gray haired lady in a candle lit room somewhere in Berkeley. And yes, she did have a wart on her nose. She told me that the ability to predict natural disasters is actually simple. In general (see exceptions below) it is clear that eclipses are always some way related to the area of a disaster, especially if the eclipse is angular or visible in the predicted area of a disaster. Such was the case following the August 1999 solar eclipse: destructive floods in France and Italy, major earthquakes in Turkey and Greece, and the huge cyclone in India. When one notices that the eclipse occurs in the fixed signs, as was the case in all of the above, their occurrence should be obvious.

The Tangshan, China earthquake of 1976 is a good example. Three months prior to this catastrophic event, an angular eclipse occurred in Taurus over Tangshan. Significantly, Uranus was exactly rising in Scorpio in opposition to the luminaries with Jupiter and Mercury also in Taurus. Adding to this was a conjunction of Mars and Saturn that occurred just before a partial lunar eclipse in Scorpio while Uranus was culminating on the midheaven in Scorpio right above Tangshan! How could the Chinese government miss this? Note: Kobe is an apparent exception to the 'eclipse rule,' but five planets were in Scorpio with Mars rising in Leo (another fixed sign).

The same holds true for the 1900 Galveston, TX hurricane that claimed over 6,000 lives. Preceded by a solar eclipse in Gemini just four months earlier, Mercury was in close conjunction with Neptune and Pluto also in Gemini. Jupiter and Uranus were in opposition from Sagittarius, and the opposition was on the prime vertical axis. The Gemini-Mercury connection indicates strong winds, especially when Jupiter and Uranus are in opposition to the eclipse. Always watch for Venus' influence-it can lower barometric pressure, increasing winter's snowfall and freezing rain. Beware of Mars, as it is known for long severe droughts. Saturn can increase the duration of storms as Uranus produces winter freezes and summer cold fronts. Neptune can cause torrential downpours and high winds. Note: the astrometeorology of Pluto is not well studied. When planets of contrary natures form hard aspects, such as the squares and oppositions between Mars and Saturn or Mars and Uranus, extreme weather systems can be produced. Tropical storms are often apparent under Sun-Mercury conjunctions. Even Venus and Jupiter (a fair weather influence) can produce severe weather if their aspects are not well suited (with Neptune, for example).

Volcanoes are also highly dependent on the stars. Martinique's Mt. Pelee eruption in 1902 was preceded by a total lunar eclipse after the luminaries set in Taurus and was in zodiacal and mundane square with Jupiter on the IC (no, not Incident Commander). One should note that Mercury and Mars were also in Scorpio. Getting the picture? In spite of the above, you should be most weary when the chart is cast for the time of conjunction in ecliptic longitude, new moons (or the opposition), but because this is not the generally accepted thinking, first check with a certified astrologer before drawing any conclusions.

We are all aware of the strong and significant influence planetary bodies have on the earth. Lunar tides are a primary example. It is easy to make the extension of these effects to natural disasters. Just ask Jim Berkland (yes, he is still around-check his website: www.syzygyjob.efc-inc.com). Jim was popular 10-15 years ago with his earthquake predictions based on planetary and lunar alignments until 'exposed' as a civil engineer, not a scientist and asked by his employer to step out of the limelight. As conscientious planners, it behooves us to become well versed on all aspects of our business.

Next article: Earthquake prediction based upon the antics of my cat.

Horoscope for August – September: Beware those who take life and BRMA articles too seriously.