

The Conjunctions of Saturn & Mars in Historical Astrology & A Look at Recent Events

Something I have been seeing more and more over the last few years is just how significant the Saturn/Mars conjunctions are in the greater scheme of national events. It is a subject that several of the Persian authors spent time documenting in their own national forums. The correlation of events like riots and rebellions and overthrowing of law and order and removal of caliphs etc. to the Saturn/Mars conjunctions in Cancer is documented especially in Abu Ma'shār.

*“Related to the superior planet furthest from the world of generation and corruption, i.e. to Saturn, is the indication for matters of Beginnings like religions, dynasties, and whatever lasts for a long time, since it is like the beginning for the other celestial bodies in terms of height... Related to the third of these planets in order, i.e. to Mars, is the indication for wars, strife, and the like, being as it were, **the decline to the final ends of things**, because the ends of things indicate destruction of their orderly arrangements after their perfection, and corruption of their regularity.”¹*

*“[3] We say that the most distinct of the indications occurring as a result of the influence of the conjunction of Saturn and Mars is in the sign of Cancer, since this sign is the detriment of Saturn and the dejection of Mars, and since the indication of this sign with Jupiter is for Iraq... Each sign has an indication for one of the regions, because sometimes a city is related to one of the signs and the predominant <planet> over it (the city) is not the lord of that sign. For example, the indication of Cancer with Jupiter is for Iraq because Jupiter is predominant over <the degrees of> the sign indicating Iraq, i.e. from its 19th to 26th degree. For the extent of these degrees of the sign of Cancer is the term of Jupiter, indicating Iraq... The presence of the malefics in it and their aspecting it from quartile or opposition indicate calamity, **the change of rule, and bloodshed**, if the triplicity to which the conjunctions shifts should necessitate that, **especially when the two malefics are in conjunction without the aspect of the benefics.**”²*

Abu Ma'shār goes on to examine this conjunction (i.e. Mars & Saturn in Cancer) with regards to changes in the rule over the Islamic empire. While his examination focuses on the conjunction in Cancer it is not entirely clear why Cancer is associated so strongly with Islam. That answer I believe lies in the chart of the beginning of Islam which we find in Māshā'allāh.³

“And Māshā'allāh said that when he looked in this image [at] the places of its planets, he found the strongest of them and the greatest of them in testimony, to be Saturn: because he was entering into the Ascendant,⁴ and he is the lord of its exaltation, and the Moon (the lord of the light of the night) is pushing her management to him from the tenth (by number) and the ninth (by division), the place of prophethood, and Jupiter is pushing his management to her. And he found Mars in Gemini (and it is the ninth by number), in the highest [part] of the

¹ Ibid Part I, Chapter 1:7 (p.7)

² Part II, Chapter 8:3 – *The Book of Religions & Dynasties (On the Great Conjunctions)* – by Abu Ma'shār, translated by Keiji Yamamoto and Charles Burnett from the Arabic original, Brill 2000.

³ f230v & f231r (pp. 48-50) – *The Astrological History of Māshā'allāh* – translation and comments by E.S Kennedy & David Pingree – Harvard University Press 1971

⁴ That is, he is retrograding into Libra.

belt,⁵ climbing to its highest point, receiving the management of the Sun, Venus, and Mercury (through his retrogradation)... Because the place of the Moon is in upper midheaven indicates that he will be secure from being killed and because Venus escaped combustion this indicates that he will meet hardships and go into hiding for a while; then he will establish connections and be strengthened, and become known, and **the people of his doctrine will rule**. Because the place of the moon is in upper midheaven and Mars is in the house of religion, these indicate that he will seek religion and its being established by struggle.⁶ And because of the connection of the moon with Venus the people of his doctrine will have the nature and manners of Venus⁷ ...”

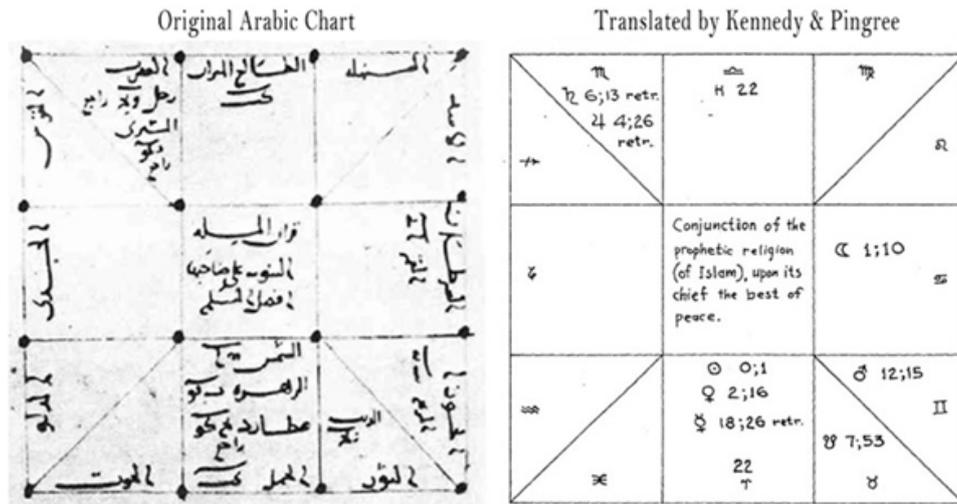
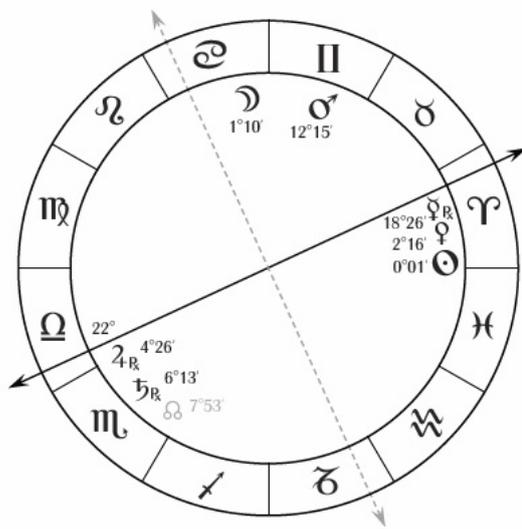


Chart of Islam from the book *The Astrological History of Māshā'allāh* by Pingree and Kennedy



Ingress of the Year for the conjunction of Saturn & Jupiter in Scorpio indicating Islam (571 AD)

What makes Cancer so relevant to the rule and rulers in the Islamic empire was the fact that the sect light, the Moon, was in the midheaven of the chart and indicated “*the people of his doctrine shall rule.*” It is no wonder that the Mars/Saturn conjunction in Cancer was relevant for each real change in the dynasty within the Islamic empire! This is exactly what Abu Ma’shār was indicating when he talks about how the signs indicate empires or countries and cities; “...each sign has an indication for one of the regions...”

⁵ Mars is in the middle of Gemini, advancing towards the solstitial point at 0° Cancer, the most northern zodiacal point in declination.

⁶ An interesting comment; It is clear under the reign of Islam that political correctness was the ‘de jour’ thing to do. It being Mars and knowing history at the time of Māshā'allāh, it would have been more precise to say “and it being established by war”! Of course the cancel culture thrives under totalitarian rule; but there the cancel would have included their head and not just their livelihood like it is today!

⁷ And here is the origin of Venus indicating the people of Islam!

Māshā'allāh as well had words to say about the Saturn & Mars Conjunction. He did not just specify them to the conjunctions in Cancer but spoke generally adding some important information.

“Māshā'allāh said the middle conjunction is namely the conjunction of Mars and Saturn, and it signifies the accidents of wars and the contrarities of battles. If you wished to know the accidents, know the one ruling in the figure of their conjunction; which if it were made fortunate, it will signify good and its fitness; and if it were malefic, it will signify evil and its impediment.”⁸

He gave his instructions in an earlier paragraph on how to know the one ruling in the figure.

“But the knowledge of the accidents from this is had by looking at the Ascendant, and at the planets at the hour of their conjunction, and which of them rules in the figure.”⁹

So basically you cast the chart of the conjunction itself and by looking at the ascendant see which planet is ruling the figure. You would examine the lord of the ascendant and its place as well as the lord of the conjunction and its place.

I am not going to go into detail here as it is the subject of its own discussion in its own paper, but the last several Saturn/Mars conjunctions have been in the angles of charts where there have been major upheavals and ‘rebellions’ like the upset victory of Trump and Brexit and also in charts of major EU countries where there is a real crisis of confidence and countries ‘rebellious’ against what they see as a tyrannical & oligarchical nepotism in EU bureaucracy! In the words of Abu Ma'shār,

As I was looking at the current revolution of the world year of the US I noticed some very interesting ‘coincidences’.

First I noticed that the first protest which devolved into a riot was on the 26th of May and the directed ascendant of the revolution of the year chart changed from the bounds of the malefic Saturn to the bounds of the other malefic Mars. On the 29th when the protest/riots intensified the participating planet also changed from a benefic to the malefic Saturn by its conjunction with Saturn. Mars then hands over to Mercury with Saturn participating in the degree of the conjunction of Mars & Saturn that occurred on March 31.

While that is particularly interesting it becomes more relevant when I add the chart that I use for the beginning of the US (see figure 1 below) as well as the transit of Mars in the chart of the ingress into the 3rd month (Gemini) which I show in a bi-wheel chart below.

First I am going to show the chart I use for the beginning of the US which is nothing more than the revolution of the year in which the US established their congress and president and became a republic rather than a loosely knit confederation of independent colonies in 1789. (Figure 1)

⁸ Chapter 11 (p. 307) – *On the Roots of Revolutions* by Māshā'allāh found in the book “The Works of Sahl and Māshā'allāh” translated by Benjamin Dykes PhD Cazimi Press 2008

⁹ Ibid Chapter 10 (p. 306)

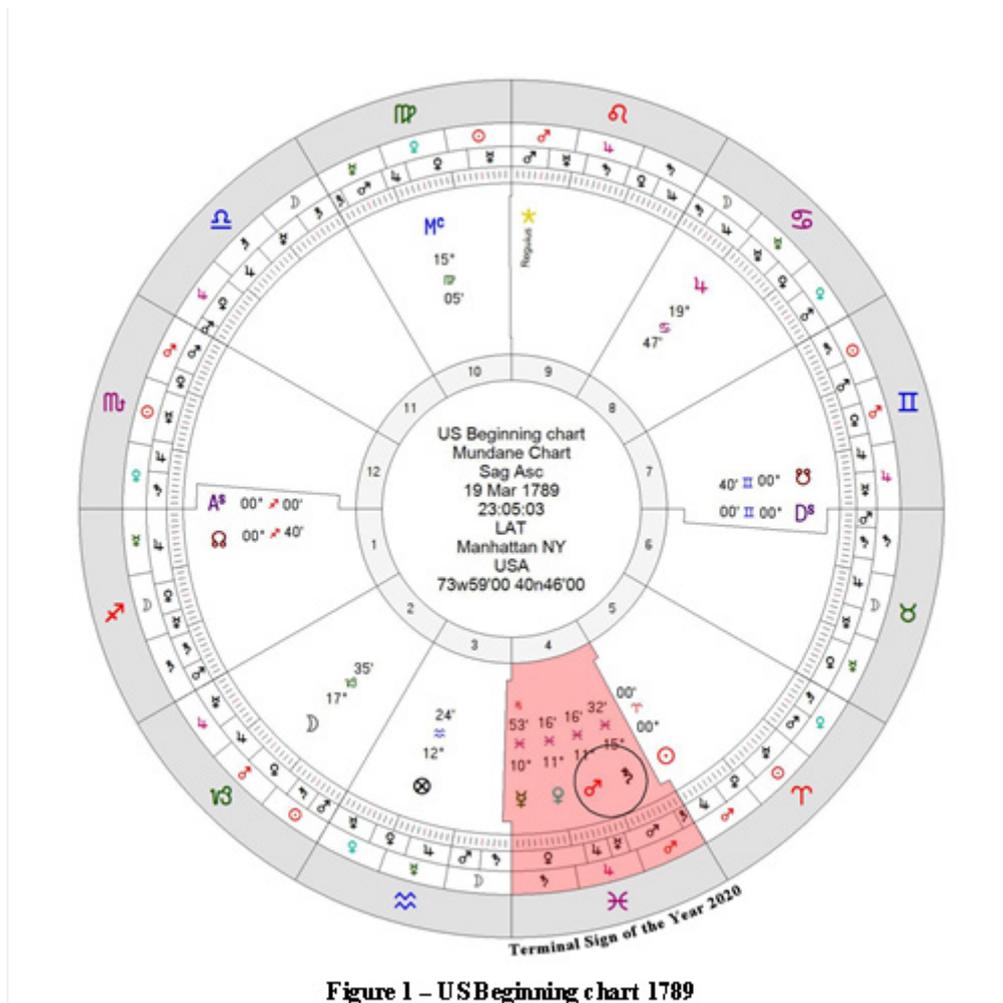


Figure 1 – US Beginning chart 1789

As I have highlighted in the chart it is a 4th house profected year and in the 4th house we find the Saturn/Mars conjunction in 1789. So first of all the conjunction has a correlation to the beginning chart. Very significant since their establishment as a republic was based on their rebellion to and overthrow of the British rule. It is worth noting that the conjunction occurred in 16° Pisces as they both just entered the terms of Mercury; highly significant since the bill of rights and the reasons for rebellion was all about freedom of speech, assembly & representation etc. The 12th part of this conjunction falls in the 10th house in Virgo ruled by Mercury. Therefore both the conjunction and Mercury are also significant to further significations.

The next chart I want to look at is the revolution of the year for the US in 2020. (See figure 2)

I would definitely deem Venus lady of the year since she has a testimony in the ascendant (out of sect triplicity ruler) and she most certainly sees the ascendant from an angle of the chart. The Moon is the sect luminary and she pushes her counsel to Venus from the angle of the 4th Venus in turn is joined to the lord of the ascendant in his exaltation. All 3 sectarians are joined giving their counsel. It should also be noted that on the 31st of March Mars conjoins Saturn in the 4th house, which corresponds to the 4th house of the beginning chart. There is a correspondence by house. I have highlighted in blue the bounds the Ascendant arrives to starting on the 26th of May.

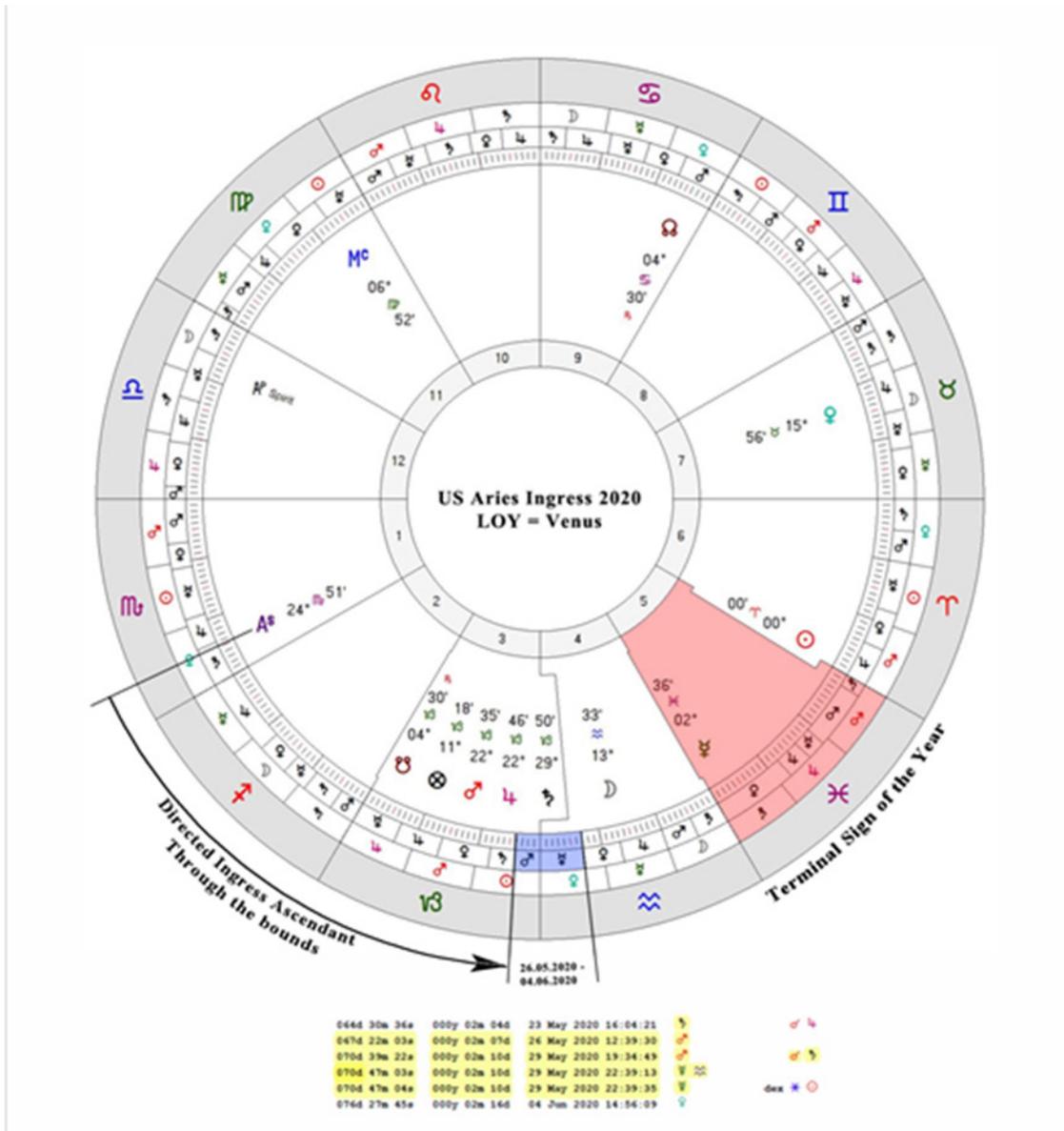


Figure 2 – Revolution of the year of the World for the US2020

So summarizing we have a repeat of the conjunction in the 4th house. The ascendant of the revolution is the 12th of the beginning chart. Mars is ruler of the ascendant and the LOY is pushing her counsel to him. The terms during this period are both Mars' and Mercury's terms and the conjunction will occur in Mercury's terms (in 0° Aquarius) once again where Mercury rules the MC while Mercury itself is making a return to its beginning chart position in the same terms! So we have several repetitions occurring.

This next chart (**Figure 3**) is the chart of the transit of Mars in the 3rd month (Gemini) ingress when the protest/riots occur.

Remarkably on the 29th at the peak of the protests/riots we see Mars makes a return to its natal place.

Inner Chart
 US Beginning chart
 Mundane Chart
 19 Mar 1789
 23:05:03
 LAT
 Manhattan NY
 USA
 73w59'00 40n46'00

Outer Chart
 03rd Month Mars transit
 Ingress Chart
 29 May 2020
 9:49:36
 EDT +04:00:00
 Capitol Building
 District of Columbia USA
 77w00'34 38n53'24

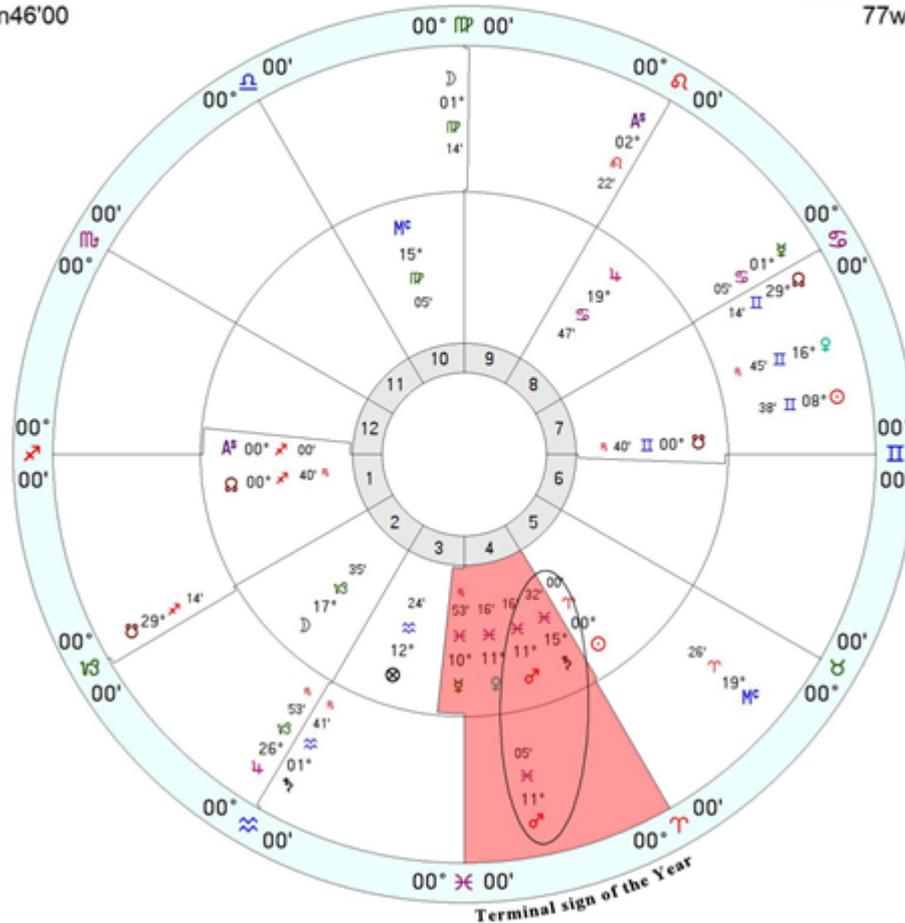


Figure 3 – Bi-wheel inner wheel beginning chart and outer wheel the transits during the 3rd month ingress in Gemini for 29th of May.

It would seem Abu Ma’shār’s words, “Mars, is the indication for wars, strife, and the like, being as it were, the decline to the final ends of things, because the ends of things **indicate destruction of their orderly arrangements** after their perfection, and corruption of their regularity,” certainly holds true.