

## **C-06: Will astronomy and astrology reunite after a long divorce**

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Astrology is the science that describes the influence of the heavenly bodies upon mundane affairs and upon human character and life. It is the oldest science in existence; it is not only prehistoric, but pretraditional. Astronomy is the out growth of Astrology; just as chemistry is an outgrowth of Alchemy. The Astrologers of Babylon were interested in Astronomy only so far as it was necessary in computing the positions of stars and planets of the solar system. They wanted to know what was in store for the nation even more than for the individual. However, Astrology is condemned as an illogical subject with no scientific basis at all, especially by many modern astronomers and scientists of other disciplines. Many people in Asia believe in Astrology as a very reliable and true science. According to press reports, even world leaders have faith in Astrology.

Not only in Astrology, like in almost all other areas of science, including Moon Landing, there are Naysayers, even in the USA. Charles Johnson, President of the Flat Earth Research Society International, rejects not only the Moon Landing but the very notion of space travel. The Society has nearly 3,700 members.

Mathematicians and scientists had forwarded their theories and findings using man-made, non-tangible notions called letters, numbers, symbols, figures etc. When the reality is that, how can one argue that tangible entities like planets, stars and any other celestial objects, cosmic phenomena cannot be used for the betterment of humanity. It is the science called astrology, after long-term observations by our ancestors, that forecast many an event on Earth, including human life pattern. Who is the scientist who can tell, say, the contents of an envelope, current passing along a wire, acceleration due to gravity of earth simply by gazing.

No one can, but it is they who, even without such abilities, are trying to discard the science of astrology.

Johannes Kepler, one of the greatest astronomers of history, was a true believer in Astrology - the last major astronomer, in fact, to be in any degree a convinced astrologer. There is abundant evidence of a widespread belief during the late Middle Ages and renaissance that the affairs of state were controlled by the planets in their revolution. Not only Kepler, Galileo and even Tycho Brahe cast horoscopes for the rulers as a part of their professional employment. In the 16th century, examples are there, where events of human history are linked with planets in relation to zodiacal signs.

Hopeless forecasts by inexperienced individuals, who do not know even the basics of astrology but are compelled to make a living out of that, columns in dailies giving forecasts for the entire nation in a few sentences, and inability to do another job rather than victimising 'Gullibles' are some of the main reasons for the highly controversial issues related to the field of astrology.

Religious beliefs, politics, and even the care for job security and popularity are some of the reasons why some of the believers in astrology do not make any comment in public or even within their closely-knit circles. Blind, dumb-deaf, or limbless people also can live. People can live without religions, getting married, education, travelling abroad, playing games or without listening to music. Lack of faith or knowledge in astrology, most probably, is almost the same; without it one can easily survive. But very many have faith in it. Profit and loss, reputation and disreputation, health and sickness, and praise and dispraise are vicissitudes of nature any human being has to face. Help of astrology can be obtained if the horoscope is accurately written, to get at least a fair forecast of vicissitudes of nature, whether one believes in astrology or not.