

NOTES ON PLUTO

by José Antonio Rodríguez

Cosmology

The two pointers of Ursa Major are the two stars that point to Polaris (the Polar Star, which indicates north in Ursa Minor). The two pointers have a relation with will, and hence not only with Aries as the main guardian of the energy of the First Ray, but also with Vulcan and Pluto, which are the agents through which this energy is distributed within the solar system.

The farther pointer of the Polar Star is a great reserve of higher will (cosmic, solar systemic, and planetary), and the closer one is a lower reflection of this will, which comes to us as our own will or personal will. The first indications of spiritual will make themselves felt only on the path of discipleship, hence the late discovery of these planets. In this sense Pluto is the great transmuter of personal will into spiritual will.

From the viewpoint of esoteric astrology, Pluto is a non-sacred planet which exercises the esoteric and hierarchic rulership of Pisces. It also has an exoteric relation with Scorpio due to the fact that it evolves together with Mars – the latter acting as an advanced referent for Pluto. Therefore we have a certain contradiction in the fact that Pluto is not a sacred planet, that is, together with Mars and Earth it has not passed certain cosmic initiations, and that it displays an esoteric rulership just as Vulcan does. What is clear is that the division of planets into “personal” and “transpersonal” promoted by Dane Rudhyar and supported unreflectingly by modern astrologers on the basis of a superficial observation of their physical position in the solar system does not do justice to the complexities of the relations involved. The most important three planets of the system from viewpoint of the final synthesis are Uranus, Neptune, and Saturn – the first, the second, and the third aspects.

It is true that Pluto is a system of minor dimensions than the lunar ones, having a nucleus of rock and ice made up of six objects orbiting the two major ones (Pluto and Charon) around a barycentre situated in space in the middle of both. Its origin is probably in the Kuiper belt in the outskirts of the solar system. It is not to be wondered at that exoterically it has lost its name of “planet” – although obviously its influence does not depend on its mass.

Plutonian Influence on the Human Personality (Mentality)

As we have said, the influence of Pluto makes itself felt only lately in human development, specifically only when the mind has been developed to a certain point, because it is in the mental sphere that it is possible to perceive its influence, basically as analysis, but also as separative force and imposition of the will.

That energy aspect of the First Ray which Pluto transmits is the destructive aspect, which can be applied in a beneficial manner only at advanced stages of evolution at which the will to unity overcomes all possibility of a separative motive. It is necessary to distinguish between the pulling down of ramshackle forms (the beneficial aspect of the first ray) and the obstacle to the creation of new evolutionary forms through the unceasing activity of involutory matter with a chaotic and disrupting effect. The dark side works with these forces to hinder the work of the planetary hierarchy, and one of its sources is to be found in this corner of the solar system. The energy of Pluto is transformational under the direction of an illuminated mind, but is used in a diabolical manner (literal, fragmented versus symbolical, synthetic) for those who work against unity.

In human development, when the mind grows and becomes strong, that power which it is now able to seize is often transformed into imposition of its own will and into oppression of that of others. As the cycle of incarnations goes on this usually becomes reversed and gives rise to inhibition of one’s own will and submission to some external will. This gives occasion to

many power plays for those who are not foreign to practical psychology. Every kind of hypothesis or creation of dependence on some authority or guru of any kind is contrary to the hierarchic methods. In any case they constitute violations of the law of freedom that the law of reaping sooner or later replace with equilibrium.

Analysis

In Scorpio, the fundamental role of Pluto is analytical and critical, and is the basic tool for annihilating fictions, illusions, and all such mental constructs as are foreign to reality. While the good is evident or should be so – all that is in accordance with the laws of life, the evolution of consciousness, and the welfare of all – evil is not and should be unmasked. Ignorance may linger for incarnations discovering what is obvious, but the deliberate will to deceive is based on the evolutionary blindness of the majority for the achievement of their ends.

There is no religion higher than truth, and it is impossible to build anything of enduring value upon false premises. Fiction begins precisely where the human capacity for the acquisition of knowledge through experience and universality of knowledge is questioned. This poison has impregnated all philosophies, theologies, and ideologies of the relativist kind during hundreds of years. The mental capacity becomes sovereign when it is capable of analysing the erroneous bases, inner contradictions, and absurd conclusions of all mental systems constructed by human beings. Through this critical and analytical process, the mental self sooner or later finds the esoteric mental system and realizes that it is irrefutable and of superhuman origin.

Just as Mars, the energy of the fifth ray is part of his brother's equipment. Only at lower stages does government assume the form of dictatorships. The preferred method of the involutory forces is deceit and passive consent to evil. Therefore Scorpio gives rise to the archetype of the detective; at lower stages this instinct passes into suspicion and mistrust, indicating the basic lack of trust in relations due to internal projection of darkness on others. It is impossible to build a community where suspicion is the common attitude. Sooner or later everybody is deceived and everybody is a deceiver. In the ranks of evil everyone is used without his knowledge. Trust alone makes it possible to forge bonds. At the same time, it is wise not to demand blind trust in one's own words, which is equivalent to stretching the cord more than human nature can bear for the time being. It is for this reason that in the world of the hierarchy nobody testifies about himself and nobody reveals his status. Anyone who boasts about his evolutionary status in the worlds of man is a liar, and this constitutes a criterion of insuperable clarity for sailing the stormy sea of human relations.

To accept nothing without sufficient ground is the best proof of mental maturity. There is no reason not to put any presentation to the test of logic and common sense. Doing this with due rigour one arrives at the conclusion that the human being is a born storyteller.

Analytical Psychology

The only valid analytical psychology is that which the individual himself does with the content of his own subconscious. If he is incapable of doing it by himself, no enduring or positive result can be had by exposing oneself to the ignorance of anyone who believes himself able to evaluate the subconscious of anyone else without the most elementary knowledge of reality or capacity for healing. When the moment arrives for investigating the fictions and illusions that are harboured by his individual and collective subconscious and also the unresolved tendencies that run contrary to the law, he will know it without the shadow of a doubt. Until then, the best thing he can do is to forget about his past and build positive attitudes as to the future and as to life. He will need them. The being of the fourth kingdom is a being in conflict with himself and at war against all the others.

But if it should be necessary, as happens during a Scorpio period, those patterns which lie hidden in the subconscious will be evoked and recalled from memory, will raise their heads

like the hydra, and will tend to lead the individual in the direction impressed upon him with his consent. The personal hydra presents himself justifying all mistakes made and rationalizing all decisions taken against the law. The absurd is self-evident – such as if everyone competes with the others for his own good, the common good will be automatically achieved – but a lazy mind picks up all arguments that suit it. The individual's work in Scorpio is as hard as the unmasking of his own self-deception, and this is the fundamental role of Pluto in this sign, which is his most known work of bringing to light what is hidden masked as good intentions. This work culminates in Capricorn where Hercules must descend to Hades, the dominion of Pluto, and put an end to the torments of Prometheus – by blotting out from his subconscious of the past every trace of opposition to his right and potential.

After revelation comes decision. There is no one on the planet causing evil without full knowledge of what he is doing. The only thing he probably does not know are the consequences, but as usually happens, the most intelligent are usually also the most stupid ones.

Death

The central concept of Pluto, however, is that of the death of the form. Esoterically death is not the violent disintegration of the form but its gradual disappearance from consciousness for lack of being attended to – by being stifled and deprived of vitality.

The death of the physical organism is the transference of consciousness from the dweller to another plane, after which its dissolution is effected. Thanks to this constant renewal of forms life flourishes everywhere. In the natural kingdoms this process occurs without cease so that the planet should not lose its beauty even for a moment.

In the psychological and evolutionary sense this process is carried out in Pisces, through separation or elimination. In this case it has not so much to do with recognizing evil as with separating oneself from forms that should disappear, whether they be mental forms, emotional patterns, or that social web of relations from which the individual has withdrawn or the web itself has disintegrated. This disintegration has to do with ends of cycles where the corresponding reaping has been settled, and this happens on all levels, those of the individual, family, nation, race, or civilization. Ideologies, cultures, and religions are born and die to set the human spirit free and enable its continuous ascension.

“ ... the Ancient One is no longer seen. He sinks to the depth of the ocean of life; he descends into hell, but the gates of hell hold him not. He, the new and living One, leaves below that which has held him down throughout the ages and rises from the depths unto the heights, close to the throne of God.”

Among other things, that which dies is the separative concept of desire and the personality as a separate entity. The analytical process of Pluto should pass through the solar plexus, the connection with the emotional subconscious, deep in the soil and in the darkness of the lesser burning ground until the past loses its power and sinks into the subconscious never to return.

“It governs the house of the great separations and of death. It is the soul that shoots the arrow of death.”

The astrological symbol of Pluto is the arrow pointing up.

The astrological symbol of Vulcan is the arrow pointing down.

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Translated by Lars Adelskog.