



## Historical Ephemeris Timelines: Light/Dark Ages - Earlier

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### Astro-historical timeline 5: Age of Light and Dark - Earlier Waxing Neptune-Pluto hemicycle 411-657 CE

Key:

\* = a period of change or a general trend

? = an uncertain date

+411	ROME: Augustine's book "City of God" (written on fall of Rome)	<b>411 NE CONJ PL Ta Ta</b>
+	IBERIA: Sueves found a kgdm in Galicia (411-585)	411 Sa CONJ NE Ta Ta
+	ITALY: Alaric dies en route to Tunisia, to find Visigoth home; Ataulf leads Visigoths to Spain	
+	412 NW EUROPE: withdrawal of troops and weakening of Roman administration in Britain & Gaul	411 Sa CONJ PL Ta Ta      412 UR Pi
+	* C AMERICA: building begins of TEOTIHUACAN CIVILISATION (Mexico, 400-600)	<b>412 NE CONJ PL Ta Ta</b>
+413	JAPAN: Japan opens direct relations with China (adopting Chinese calligraphy & cultural ways)	
+		
+414		414 NE Ge
+		
+415		415 NE Ge
+		
+416	IBERIA: Visigoths conquer Vandal kingdom in Spain	
+		
+417		
+		
+418	* FRANCE: Franks & Visigoths move into parts of France	418 PL Ge
+		
+419	FRANCE: Visigoths found Kingdom of Toulouse under Theodoric I (419-51) (treaty with Romans)	419 UR Ar
+		419 PL Ge
+420	CHINA: Liu Sung Dynasty (420-79) succeeds Eastern Chin at Nanking	420 UR -sxt PL Pi Ta
+	CHINA: Wei dynasty of Toba kingdom predominates	420 Sa OPPN UR Li Ar
+421		420 UR -sxt PL Ar Ge
+		421 Sa OPPN UR Li Ar
+422		422 Sa OPPN UR Li Ar
+		
+423		
+		
+424	PERSIA: Council of Dad-Ishu: Eastern Church declares independence of Rome & Byzantium	
+		
+425		425 UR -sxt NE Ar Ge
+		425 UR -ssq PL Ar Ge
+426		426 UR -sxt NE Ar Ge
+		426 Sa OPPN PL Sg Ge
+427	MED'N: Imperial protection of Jews ends; pogroms follow, many Jews retreat to Persia	426 UR -ssq PL Ar Ge      427 UR Ta
+		427 UR -sxt NE Ar Ge
+428	IBERIA: Gaiseric, king of the African Vandals (428-477)	427 Sa OPPN PL Sg Ge      428 UR Ta
+	C ASIA: Hsiung Nu (Ephthalites) invade Transoxiana & Khorasan (threatening Persia) (428-50)	428 NE Cn
+429	BRITAIN: Picts & Scots ejected from England by Saxons, Jutes & Angles, invited by Vortigern	429 Sa OPPN NE Cp Cn
+	N AFRICA: Vandals invade Tunisia: wealthy Vandal kingdom lasts 429-533; Gaiseric takes Carthage	
439		
+430	INDIA: foundation of Nalanda, principal Buddhist seminary (university) (430-988)	430 UR -ssx PL Ta Ge
+	ROME: Aetius, minister to Valentinian III (virtual ruler of Western Empire) (429-454)	
+431	MIDEAST: 2nd Council of Ephesus rejects teachings of Nestorius (on human nature of Christ)	

+			
+432	BRITAIN: St Patrick begins his mission to Ireland (converting many chiefs, building churches)		
+			
+433	C EUROPE: Attila (the Hun) becomes chief of the Hsiung-Nu (Huns, 433-53)	433 UR -ssq NE Ta Cn	
+			
+434		434 UR -ssq NE Ta Cn	434 UR Ge
+			
+435			435 UR Ge
+			
+436	FRANCE: Hsiung Nu destroy Worms & kingdom of Burgundians; Burgundians settle in Savoie 443	436 NE +ssx PL Cn Ge	
+			
+437		437 NE +ssx PL Cn Ge	
+			
+438		438 NE +ssx PL Cn Ge	
+			
+439	* JAPAN: clans & chiefs lose power to centralising Emperor (influx of Chinese ideas & Koreans)	439 UR CONJ PL Ge Ge	
+ N AFRICA: Gaiseric the Vandal takes Carthage from the Romans (making it his capital)			
+440	BRITAIN: Angles and Saxons occupy coasts of East & SE England; last Romans leave England 436	440 UR CONJ PL Ge Ge	
+ ROME: Pope Leo I (440-461) (first authentic Pope, establishes Roman primacy & prestige)	440 UR -ssx NE Ge Cn		
+441	E EUROPE: Attila the Hun becomes sole ruler of Hsiung-Nu (441-53), advancing on E Roman empire	441 UR -ssx NE Ge Cn	441 UR Cn
+ EUROPE: final withdrawal of Roman legions & admin from Britain & Gaul			441 NE Le
+442	N AFRICA: Vandal king Gaiseric recognised as legit independent ruler of Carthage by Imp gov't		442 NE Le
+ N AFRICA: Berber revolts against Arian Vandals, suppressed			
+443	FRANCE: Germanic Alemanni settle in Alsace	443 Sa CONJ PL Ge Ge	
+			
+444	EUROPE: epidemic of bubonic plague	444 Sa CONJ UR Cn Cn	
+			
+445			445 PL Cn
+			
+446	CHINA: brief persecution of Buddhists by Northern Wei (Taoist-Confucian resistance)	446 Sa CONJ NE Le Le	446 PL Cn
+			
+447	GREECE: Attila the Hun & Hsiung-Nu stopped at Thermopylae		447 UR Le
+			
+448	BRITAIN: isolation from Med'n brings reversion of Irish Church to Celtic/Druidic ways	448 UR +ssx PL Le Cn	
+			
+449			
+			
+450	* AMERICAS: Moshica culture of Chemic Indians in Peru; Mississippi valley culture		
+ * W EUROPE: migration of Britons to Brittany, to escape Saxon invasions in Britain			
+451	MIDEAST: Council of Chalcedon imposes relig orthodoxy (alienating Nestorians & Monophysites)	451 HALLEY'S COMET	
+ EUROPE: Huns (Hsiung Nu) stopped in Greece 447 (Thermopylae), by Franks in France at Chalons			
+452	EUROPE: Hsiung-Nu (Attila) attack N Italy	452 UR CONJ NE Le Le	
+ ITALY: Venice founded by refugees from Attila the Hun's campaigns	452 NE +ssq PL Le Cn		
+453	E EUROPE: on death of Attila, Hsiung-Nu retreat to Russian plains, disturbing Ostrogoths	452 UR +ssq PL Le Cn	453 UR Vi
+ * INNOVN: invention of the foot stirrup in China or Korea			
+454	C EUROPE: revolt against Hsiung Nu (Huns) by Hungarian subjects	453 UR CONJ NE Le Le	
+		453 UR +ssq PL Le Cn	454 UR Vi
+455	INDIA: Skandagupta, Gupta emperor of India (455-467) (repulses Hsiung-Nu from India)	453 NE +ssq PL Le Cn	
+ ROME: Rome raided by Gaiseric and the African Vandals	453 NE +ssq PL Le Cn		455 NE Vi
+456	E EUROPE: Ostrogoths begin migration from Danube, through Greece to Italy	454 NE +ssq PL Le Cn	
+ * E EUROPE: slow migration of Slavs into the Balkans (from Belarus)			456 NE Vi
+457	BRITAIN: Britons beaten by Saxon Jutes, Hengist & Horsa, Britons abandoning Kent	457 UR +sxt PL Vi Cn	
+ BYZANTIUM: Leo I, East Roman Emperor (457-474)			
+458		458 UR +sxt PL Vi Cn	
+			
+459			
+			
+460	IBERIA: Vandals destroy Roman fleet off Spanish coast	460 Sa OPPN PL Cp Cn	460 UR Li
+ * C ASIA: Ephthalite (White) Huns destroy Kushan lands, raid Sasanid Persia and attack NW India			
+461	FRANCE: Burgundy establishes a capital at Lyons		
+			

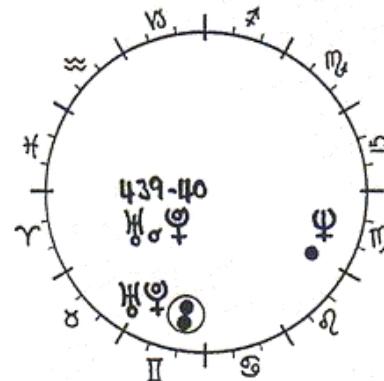
+462			
+			
+463			
+			
+464		464 UR +ssx NE Li Vi	
+			
+465		465 Sa OPPN NE Pi Vi	465 PL Le
+		465 UR +ssx NE Li Vi	
+466	@ CHINA: T'su Ch'ung-chi calculates first accurate value of Pi	<b>466 UR +SQR PL Sc Le</b>	466 UR Sc
+			
+467	*INDIA: repeating Ephthalite Hun invasions of N India (460-528)	<b>467 UR +SQR PL Li Cn</b>	467 PL Le
+			
+468	* RUSSIA: rise of the Khazar Khanate in Ukraine	<b>468 UR +SQR PL Sc Le</b>	468 NE Li
+		468 Sa OPPN UR Ta Sc	
+469	BYZANTIUM: Constantinople inundated by rain & floods, hundreds die	469 Sa OPPN UR Ta Sc	469 NE Li
+			
+470	EUROPE: Hsiung Nu withdraw from Europe	470 Sa OPPN UR Ta Sc	470 NE Li
+	* AMERICAS: growth of Mayan city civilisation in S Mexico		
+471	C EUROPE: Theodoric becomes King of Ostrogoths (with ambitions of Roman power)	471 UR +ssq NE Sc Li	
+			
+472			
+			
+473			473 UR Sg
+			
+474			474 UR Sg
+			
+475	GREECE: Theodoric & the Ostrogoths settle Macedonia (forcing Roman consent)		
+	EUROPE: climatic extremes bring plague of locusts to Europe, followed by famine		
+476	ROME: END OF THE WESTERN ROMAN EMPIRE; last emperor deposed & executed by Germans	476 Sa CONJ PL Le Le	
+	GREECE: Proclus, philosopher, heads Platonic Academy in Athens (leading Neo-Platonist)		
+477	BRITAIN: kingdom of Sussex founded; Wessex founded 495		
+	ITALY: Vandal Gaiseric sells E Sicily to Ostrogothic Theodoric		
+478	JAPAN: first Shinto shrines are built (effect of Buddhism on indigenous nature religion)	478 UR +sxt NE Sg Li	
+	INDIA: Budhagupta, emperor (477-95) (Gupta decline, later Guptas become rulers of Maghada, to 700s)		
+479	CHINA: Southern Ch'i dynasty (479-502) succeeds Liu Sung dynasty at Nanking	479 UR +sxt NE Sg Li	
+		479 UR +tri PL Sg Le	
+480	INDIA: Hsiung Nu tribes destroy the Gupta empire in north India	480 UR +tri PL Sg Le	
+			
+481	MIDEAST: Mamikonian gains political & religious freedom for Armenia (481-4)	481 UR +tri PL Sg Le	481 UR Cp
+	W EUROPE: Clovis ascends throne of Franks at age 15, founder of Frankish Merovingian line	481 Sa CONJ NE Li Li	481 PL Vi
+482		482 Sa CONJ NE Li Li	482 PL Vi
+483	PERSIA: Nestorian Christians tolerated in Persia, Persian Church draws exiles from Byzantium		482 NE Sc
+	PERSIA: Bar-Soma ests Nestorian doctrine of two natures in Christ (human & divine)		483 NE Sc
+	ROME: Ostrogoth Theodoric appointed Magister, then Consul		
+484	PERSIA: Hsiung Nu (White Huns) kill Sassanid Emperor in Persia, but Persian empire survives		
+	EUROPE: Schism between Church in East & West: Pope Felix III excommunicates Patriarch Acacius		
+485			
+			
+486	W EUROPE: Frankish Merovingian kgdm founded by Clovis (486-511, filling vacuum of Roman empire)		
+	FRANCE: Frankish Clovis defeats last Roman governor of Gaul		
+487	ITALY: Ostrogoths under Theodoric begin invasion of N Italy	487 UR +sqt PL Cp Vi	
+			
+488		488 UR +sqt PL Cp Vi	488 UR Aq
+			
+489	MIDEAST: Nestorians ejected forcibly from Edessa by Byzantines; settle in Persia 498	489 UR +sqt PL Aq Vi	
+			
+490	RUSSIA: Khazar khanate attacked by Persians (stimulating growth of Khazars until Viking times)	490 UR +sqt PL Aq Vi	
+	* PERSIA: Zoroastran Mazdak preaches zealous communal & ascetic doctrines (deep future infl)		
+491	BRITAIN: Saxons attack Britain at Pevensey, Sussex		
+			

+492		492 Sa CONJ UR Aq Aq
+		
+493	ITALY: Ostrogothic kingdom established in Italy & Malta under Theodoric the Great (489-526)	493 UR +SQR NE Aq Sc 493 PL Li
+		
+494		494 UR +SQR NE Aq Sc 494 PL Li
+		
+495	PERSIA: zealous Magian priest Mazdak preaches ascetism & communism (unrest follows)	495 UR +SQR NE Aq Sc
+	CHINA: Northern Wei (Toba Tatars) move capital of N China to Loyang	495 Sa OPPN PL Ar Li
+496	FRANCE: Conversion-baptism of Merovingian king Clovis and Frankish nation	496 UR +SQR NE Aq Sc 496 UR Pi
+		496 Sa OPPN PL Ar Li 496 NE Sg
+497	ITALY: Roman Emperor recognises Ostrogothic rule in Italy	496 UR +qcx PL Pi Li 497 NE Sg
+		497 UR +qcx PL Pi Li
+498	* SE ASIA: Hindu cultural influences reach Indonesia	498 UR +qcx PL Pi Li
+		
+499	INDIA: scientist Aryabhata teaches of rotation of earth and value of Pi=3.1416	499 UR +qcx PL Pi Li
+		



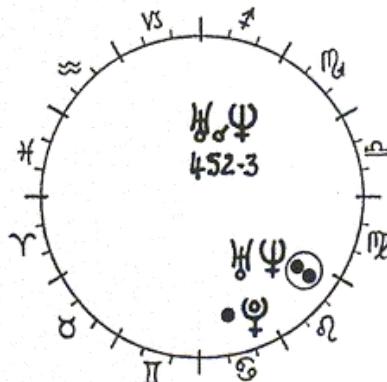
**Neptune conjunct Pluto 407-412**

Rome sacked by Visigoths; Roman withdrawal from much of empire; barbarian settlement of Europe (Franks & Vandals expand in France); Jerome translates Bible into Latin; divisions between Eastern & Western Christian churches; Nestorian Christians migrate to Central Asia; building of Teotihuacan, Mexico; Mochica culture, coastal Peru; Japan opens relations with China



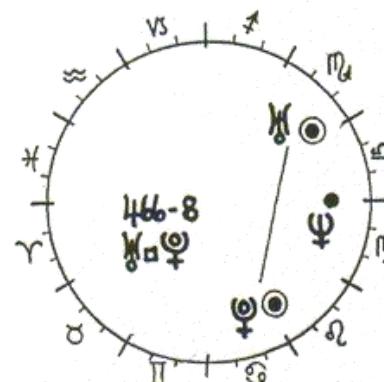
**Uranus conjunct Pluto 439-40**

Final withdrawal of Roman legions; European breakdown, bubonic plague; Attila the Hun rampaging in Europe; centralising emperor in Japan; first Pope in Rome; Celtic Christianity at peak - St Patrick; Vandal barbarians from Spain take Carthage (Tunisia)



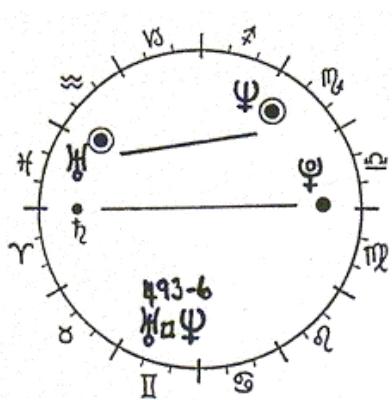
**Uranus conjunct Neptune 452-53**

Council of Chalcedon - orthodoxy in Christianity; Huns attack Greece & Italy; migration of Slavs into Balkans; Franks block & defeat Huns - Hunnish threat declines; Venice founded; Rome raided; British defeated by invading Saxons; establishment of Byzantium; Mississippi Valley culture



**Uranus square Pluto 466-68**

Huns withdraw from Europe, destroying Gupta empire in India; rise of Khazar Khanate, Kazakhstan; growth of Mayan cities & culture; final end of western Roman empire



### Uranus square Neptune 493-96

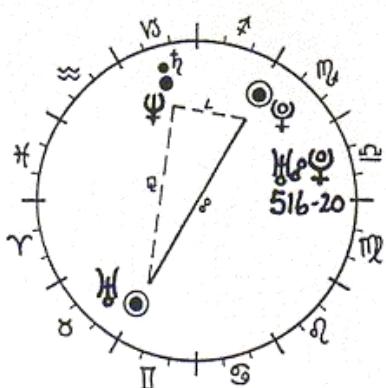
Roots of European states - foundation of Frankish & Ostrogothic states - Franks (Clovis) adopt Christianity; zenith of Tiahuanaco, Peru, & Huari, Bolivia; mythical king Arthur stops Saxon advance in Britain; radical Zoroastrian preacher Mazduk active in Persia; Hindus reach Indonesia

+500 * AMERICAS: ZENITH OF CLASSICAL TIAHUANACO & HUARI (Bolivia-Peru, 500-1000)	500 Sa OPPN NE Ge Sg
+ GERMANY: Marcomanni tribe move from Bohemia to Bavaria; Czechs occupy Bohemia	500 UR +qcx PL Pi Li
+ BRITAIN: British (Arthurian?) victory over expanding Saxons, at Bt of Mt Badon	501 UR +qcx PL Pi Li
+501 * C AMERICA: decline of Teotihuacan influence (regionalisation of Mexican city states)	501 Sa OPPN NE Ge Sg
+502 CHINA: Liang Dynasty (502-557) succeeds Ch'i in Nanking; Wu Ti, Nanking Emperor (502-49)	502 UR +qcx PL Pi Li
+	503 UR Ar
+503 INDIA: rise of Vishnu Hindu Chalukya dynasty in Maharashtra (peak of prosperity 630)	503 UR Ar
+	504 PL Peri 24Li
+504 * EUROPE: FOUNDATION OF EUROPEAN PROTO-STATES (in Germany, France, Italy)	504 UR Ar
+	505 PL Sc
+505 * S AMERICA: decline of Moche state (after catastrophic floods)	505 PL Sc
+	506 PL Sc
+506	506 PL Sc
+	507 UR Ar Sg
+507 FRANCE: Frankish Clovis annexes Visigoth Toulouse; Visigoths re-establish in Castile	507 UR Ar Sg
+ IBERIA: Visigothic kingdom of Spain (507-711) (weak and poor)	508 UR Ta
+508	508 UR Ta
+	509 UR +tri NE Ar Sg
+509	509 UR +tri NE Ar Sg
+	510 UR Ta
+510 FRANCE: Italian Ostrogoths occupy Provence (roots of kingdom of Savoy)	510 UR +tri NE Ar Sg
+	511 UR +tri NE Ta Cp
+511 FRANCE: Merovingian realm subdivided amongst Clovis' sons (by tradition) on his death	511 NE Cp
+	511 Sa OPPN UR Sc Ta
+512	511 UR Ta
+	512 UR +tri NE Ta Cp
+513 MIDEAST: Basra cathedral built (Syria) (prototype for the Byzantine architectural style)	512 Sa OPPN UR Sc Ta
+	513 Sa OPPN UR Sc Ta
+514	513 Sa CONJ PL Sc Sc
+	515 NE +ssq PL Cp Sc
+515 * INDIA: Aryabhata, Hindu astronomer & mathematician, at work	515 UR OPPN PL Ta Sc
+	516 UR OPPN PL Ta Sc
+516 * CHINA: great pagoda-building period (516-60) (eg Yung-ning-su 516, Sung-yueh 523)	517 NE +ssq PL Cp Sc
+	517 UR +ssq NE Ta Cp
+517 CHINA: Emperor Wu Ti becomes a Buddhist (introducing Buddhism to C China)	517 UR Ge
+	518 UR OPPN PL Ge Sg
+518 ? * BRITAIN: zenith of legendary High King Arthur (chivalry, security, Grail quest)	517 PL Sg
+	518 UR +ssq NE Ge Cp
+519 EUROPE: reconciliation of Schism between East & West Christian Churches	518 UR Ge
+	518 NE +ssq PL Cp Sg
+520 INNOVN: decimal system invented by mathematicians Varamihara & Aryabhata in India	519 UR OPPN PL Ge Sg
+ JAPAN: revolt in Kyushu (dissent in Japan against Korean campaigns & economic conditions)	519 Sa CONJ NE Cp Cp
+521 BRITAIN: est of Irish schools at Aranmore & Clonard draws scholars from Europe	519 UR on UR NNode
+ W EUROPE: major Irish scholastic & missionary influence in Europe (monasteries & schools)	519 UR +ssq NE Ge Cp
	519 NE +ssq PL Cp Sg
	520 UR OPPN PL Ge Sg

+522		520 UR +sqt NE Ge Cp
+		520 NE +ssq PL Cp Sg
+523		521 NE +ssq PL Cp Sg
+		522 NE +ssq PL Cp Sg
+524	ROME: Boethius (480-524), philosopher, theologian, musician, executed for treason	522 NE on NE SNode
+	BRITAIN: Dalriada Scots from N Ireland settle in Argyll (SW Scotland)	524 NE Aq
+525	MIDEAST: Abyssinia under Caleb invades the Yemen	523 NE +ssq PL Cp Sg
+	* INDIA: Ajanta caves, adorned with Buddhist carvings	524 UR +ssq PL Cp Sg
+526	ITALY: death of Theodoric the Great, Ostrogoth king (471-526)	525 NE +ssq PL Aq Sg
+	MIDEAST: Antioch and area destroyed by an earthquake, killing 250,000 (May 26)	525 UR +ssq PL Aq Sg
+527	BYZANTIUM: Justinian, Byz Emp (527-65); dominates Church, starts long Church-State friction	526 UR +ssq PL Aq Sg
+	BRITAIN: creation of Saxon kingdoms of Essex & Middlesex	
+528	ITALY: Italian Dark Ages (depopulation, desecration, disintegration)	529 UR -qcx PL Cn Sg
+	INDIA: Ephthalite Huns driven out of India by a coalition of Hindu states	
+529	GREECE: Justinian closes Athens Sch of Philosophy to counter paganism (Syria & Persia inherit)	530 UR -qcx PL Cn Sg
+	ITALY: Benedictus founds Benedictine order at Monte Cassino (to regulate western monasticism)	530 HALLEY'S COMET
+	BYZANTIUM: Justinian's "Codex Vitus" (Code of Civil Laws) (replaced 534 by revised Codex)	531 Sa OPPN PL Ge Sg
+530	*INDIA: fragmentation of N India as Gupta empire declines	531 UR -qcx PL Cn Sg
+531	PERSIA: PEAK OF SASANID INFLUENCE & PROSPERITY (Khosrau I Anohshirvan, Shah 531-79)	532 Sa OPPN PL Cn Cp
+		532 UR -qcx PL Le Cp
+532	BYZANTIUM: insurrection in Constantinople, defeated (city destroyed, later rebuilt in style)	533 PL on PL SNode
+	FRANCE: Franks overthrow kingdom of Burgundy	
+533	BYZANTIUM: Justinian reconquers Roman territories (Belisarius); Vandal N Africa kgdm taken	534 UR -sqt PL Le Cp
+	BYZANTIUM: bldg of St Sophia Basilica in Constantinople (533-8) (zenith of Byz architecture)	<b>535 UR OPPN NE</b> Le Aq
+534	MED'N: Malta, Ostrogothic Italy and Naples taken (534-6) by Byzantium (under Belisarius)	535 Sa CONJ UR Le Le
+	CHINA: Persian Bodhidharma founds Ch'an (Zen) school of Buddhism at Loyang	535 Sa OPPN NE Le Aq
+	CHINA: Eastern Wei Dynasty (534-50, at An-yang), Western Wei (535-56, at Ch'ang-an)	535 UR -sqt PL Le Cp
+535	* BRITAIN: devel of Celtic monasticism & evangelism by Columba, to Europe 563; Book of Kells	<b>536 UR OPPN NE</b> Le Aq
+536	* C AMERICA: economic & political crisis (534-93) in MAYAN CIVILISATION (cultural hiatus)	536 UR -sqt PL Le Cp
+		537 UR OPPN NE Le Aq
+537	? BRITAIN: death of legendary King Arthur at Bt of Camlan (killed by his illegitimate son)	537 UR Vi
+		536 Sa OPPN NE Le Aq
+538		<b>537 UR OPPN NE</b> Le Aq
+		537 UR -sqt PL Le Cp
+539	MIDEAST: war between Byzantium and Persia (539-562)	538 UR OPPN NE Le Aq
+		539 NE Pi
+540	ITALY: Ostrogoths reclaim Ostrogoth Italy territories, entering Rome	<b>539 UR OPPN NE</b> Vi Pi
+	* BRITAIN: zenith of Welsh epic poetry: Taliesin, Aneirin, Llywarch Hen	540 UR -tri PL Vi Cp
+541	* E AFRICA: Christianity introduced to Nubia	541 UR -tri PL Vi Cp
+	SE ASIA: Viets rebel against Chinese rule (541-547)	
+542	* EUROPE: plague halves population of Europe in 50 yrs (origin Syria & Egypt, to Britain 547)	542 UR -tri PL Vi Cp
+	BRITAIN: Gildas' "History of Britain"	
+543		543 UR Li
+		
+544		544 UR Li
+		
+545		
+		
+546	C EUROPE: scandinavian Langobards (Lombards) est Lombard dynasty in Moravia under Audoin	
+	ITALY: Rome forcefully emptied of all inhabitants by the Goths	
+547		548 UR -qcx NE Li Pi
+548	* SE ASIA: decline of Funan trading kingdom (Cambodia) and takeover by Chen-la (Laos)	<b>549 UR -SQR PL Li Cp</b>
+549	BYZANTIUM: Justinian of Byzantium obtains silkworms from China	549 Sa CONJ PL Cp Cp
+550	CHINA: Northern Ch'i Dynasty (550-77) rule at An-yang (overthrown 577 by N Chou of Ch'ang-an)	549 UR -qcx NE Li Pi
+	* E EUROPE: Slav, Polish and Ukrainian tribes settle in Mecklenburg & Galicia	<b>550 UR -SQR PL Li Cp</b>
+	* C ASIA: TURKISH KHANATES DOMINATE CENTRAL ASIA	550 UR -qcx NE Li Pi
+	* BRITAIN: Welsh Celtic Christians converted to Catholicism by St David	551 PL Aq
+	* BYZANTIUM: GOLDEN AGE of BYZANTINE ART, RELIGION and CULTURE	<b>551 UR -SQR PL Sc Aq</b>
+	* INNOVN: beginnings of use of Chess game, in India	551 UR -qcx NE Sc Ar
+551	ITALY: Byzantium beats Ostrogoths, annexing Rome & Naples (under Narses, by 554)	551 NE Ar
+552	JAPAN: Buddhism introduced by Korean priests & Soga Clan; Asuka (historical) period begins	552 NE Ar

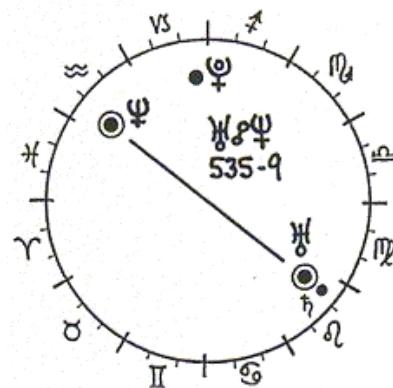
+ ASIA: Celestial Turks destroy Avar state in E Asia (causing Avar migration to Hungary)	552 NE +sxt PL Ar Aq
+553 BYZANTIUM: fifth Christian Council of Constantinople (Justinian's reorganisation of Church)	553 NE +sxt PL Ar Aq
+	
+554	554 NE +sxt PL Ar Aq
+	554 UR -sqt NE Sc Ar
+555	555 NE +sxt PL Ar Aq
+	555 Sa CONJ NE Ar Ar
+556	556 UR -sqt NE Sc Ar
+	556 UR -sqt NE Sc Ar
+557 BYZANTIUM: Constantinople damaged by an earthquake, many works destroyed, thousands killed	557 UR -sqt NE Sc Ar
+ CHINA: Southern Ch'en Dynasty (557-89, at Nanking), Northern Chou (557-81, at Ch'ang-an)	557 UR Sg
+558 FRANCE: Frankish kingdoms reunited by Chlothar I, Frankish king (511-561) (son of Clovis)	558 Sa OPPN UR Ge Sg
+ EURASIA: bubonic plague kills millions across Old World	558 UR -sqt NE Sg Ar
+559 BYZANTIUM: Bulgar (Hun) & Slav assault on Constantinople repelled by Byzantine Belisarius	559 Sa OPPN UR Ge Sg
+	559 UR on UR SNode
+560 E EUROPE: onslaught of Avars drives Slavs into C Europe, Lombards into Italy	560 UR -sxt PL Sg Aq
+ N AFRICA: many cities in Egypt & N Africa damaged by earthquakes, thousands killed	560 Sa OPPN UR Ge Sg
+561 C AMERICA: defeat of leading Mayan city of Tikal by city-state of Caracol	561 UR -sxt PL Sg Aq
+	
+562 W EUROPE: Avars invade Frankish kingdoms	562 UR -tri NE Sg Ar
+ E ASIA: Japanese driven out of most of Korea by Korean state of Silla	563 UR -tri NE Sg Ar
+563 BRITAIN: St Columba founds Iona monastery (beginning of Irish evangelist ministry abroad)	
+	
+564 * CHINA: infiltration of N China by many peoples absorbing Chinese culture & custom	564 UR -tri NE Sg Ar
+	564 Sa OPPN PL Le Aq
+565 E EUROPE: Avar state (558-803) in Hungary at zenith under Bajan, Avar Kagan (565-602)	565 UR -tri NE Cp Ta
+ * BYZANTIUM: decline of Byzantine overseas strength	565 Sa OPPN PL Le Aq
+566	565 UR -ssq PL Cp Aq
+	
+567 W EUROPE: permanent partition of Frankish kingdom (roots of France & Germany as nations)	566 UR -ssq PL Cp Aq
+ IBERIA: Visigoths under Leovigild the Visigoth (567-86) drive Byzantines out of W Spain	
+568 ITALY: rise of Lombard Italy (568-774): overstretched Byz N Italy & Rome occupied by Alboin	
+ * C ASIA: zenith of first Turkish empire in Turkestan (emissaries sent to Byzantium)	
+569 @ BRITAIN: Columba converts Picts in Scotland to Celtic Church (bringing Med'n cultural infl)	569 NE Peri 10Ta
+	
+570 MIDEAST: Persians drive Abyssinians out of Yemen	
+ ISLAM: birth of Mohammed the Prophet (570-632) in Arabia	
+571 * C ASIA: foundation of first Tibetan state (Yarlung dynasty)	571 Sa OPPN NE Sc Ta
+	571 UR -ssx PL Cp Aq
+572 MIDEAST: war between Persia and Byzantium (until 591, Persian expansionism)	572 Sa OPPN NE Sc Ta
+	
+573	572 UR Aq
+	
+574 ARABIA: Sasanian Persians invade Yemen (to control Red Sea)	573 PL Pi
+	
+575 CHINA: T'ien T'ai School of Buddhism founded (incorporating Confucian practices & values)	574 PL Pi
+	
+576	
+	
+577 CHINA: Northern Chou (557-81, Ch'ang-an) overthrow Northern Ch'i (550-77, An-yang)	
+	
+578	578 NE Ge
+	
+579 * S AMERICA: rise of local Nanteno & Milagro cultures in Ecuador (500s-1463)	579 UR Pi
+	579 NE Ge
+580 CHINA: SUI DYNASTY (580-618) at CH'ANG-AN; Yang Chien, Emperor (580-604) (ex Chou minister,	<b>580 UR -SQR NE Pi Ge</b>
+	580 UR Pi
+581	<b>581 UR -SQR NE Pi Ge</b>
+	<b>582 UR -SQR NE Pi Ge</b>
+582	<b>582 UR CONJ PL Pi Pi</b>
+	582 Sa CONJ UR Pi Pi

+583 * C AMERICA: slow decline of Teotihuacan as dominant power in Mexico (also Mayan ascendancy)	<b>582 NE +SQR PL</b> Ge Pi
+	582 Sa CONJ PL Pi Pi
+584 RUSSIA: Kubrat Dulo (584-642) consolidates Bulgar tribes (ex Finno-Tatars & Huns) in S Russia	<b>583 UR CONJ PL</b> Pi Pi
+	<b>583 NE +SQR PL</b> Ge Pi
+585 IBERIA: Visigoths under Leovigild conquer the whole of Spain; end of Sueves kgdm of Galicia	<b>584 NE +SQR PL</b> Ge Pi
+ JAPAN: Yomei, Emp of Japan (585-7) adopts Buddhism as Imperial faith	<b>585 NE +SQR PL</b> Ge Pi
+586 S AMERICA: abandonment of Moche (Mochica coastal capital) for inland Lambayeque valley	<b>586 NE +SQR PL</b> Ge Pi
+	
+587 JAPAN: civil war between ruling Buddhist Soga clan & traditionalist Nakatomi & Mononobe clans	587 UR Ar
+ IBERIA: Visigoths convert to Catholicism (beginning of Catholic rule in Spain)	
+588	588 UR Ar
+	
+589 EUROPE: Visigoths and Lombards converted to Catholicism (absorption of Barbarians)	
+ CHINA: REUNION OF CHINA under Sui dynasty (581-617) (by conquest of S Ch'en dynasty, Nanking)	
+590 W EUROPE: Irish St Columban's mission to Europe (founding monasteries in Germany & Italy)	590 Sa CONJ NE Ge Ge
+ ROME: Pope Gregory I the Great (590-604) (1st monastic Pope, growth of worldly Church power)	
+591 PERSIA: Khosrau Parviz II (590-628) succeeds to throne & renews war with Byzantium	591 NE Cn
+	
+592	592 UR +ssx PL Ar Pi
+	592 NE Cn
+593 JAPAN: Empress Suiko & Prince Shotoku Taishi (593-628) promote Buddhist temple-building, learning, Chinese forms of unified central gov't, Confucian moral principles & economic changes	
+594 * INNOVN: use of negative-relief block printing and book printing in China	594 UR Ta
+	
+595	595 UR Ta
+	
+596 BRITAIN: Gregorius I sends Augustine to Britain to convert Anglo-Saxons & counteract Celtic Church	596 Sa OPPN PL Vi Pi
+ * N AFRICA: zenith of Coptic culture in Egypt; INDIA: cultural, artistic, architectural climax	597 UR -sxt NE Ta Cn
+597 * N AMERICA: approx building of city of Cahokia (Illinois, peak 1050-1250)	597 Sa OPPN PL Vi Pi
+598 * S AMERICA: HUARI conquests in Peru (expansion of Huari empire)	597 UR +ssq PL Ta Pi
+599	598 UR -sxt NE Ta Cn



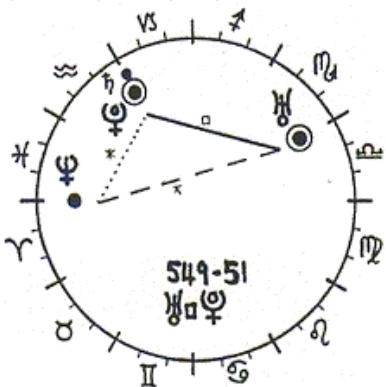
Uranus opposition Pluto 516-20

Emperor of China becomes Buddhist, Chinese ascendancy; decimal system invented, India; Irish Christian scholastic tradition; legendary king Arthur, Britain; emperor Justinian, Byzantine ascendancy; zenith of Sasanid Persia; revolts in Japan; mathematical advances in India (Aryabhata)



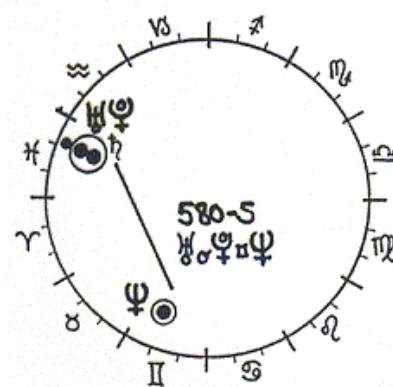
Uranus opposition Neptune 535-39

Crisis in Mayan civilisation; Byzantine Justinian reconquers many Roman lands; Shah Khosrau, zenith of Sasanid Persia; plagues throughout Europe; monasticism - Benedictus & Benedictine rule; founding of Ch'an (Zen) Buddhism, Loyang, China; Celtic evangelism in Europe (Columba)



Uranus square Pluto 549-51

Golden age of Byzantine art & culture, Justinian's lawmaking &



Uranus conjunct Pluto square Neptune 580-85

Sui dynasty reforms & reunites China, capital at Chang-an; decline of

reorganisation of Orthodox church; dawn of Toltec culture, Mexico; Buddhism enters Japan; Avar invasions of Europe; roots of France & Germany; decline of Funan (Cambodia), takeover by Chen-la (Laos); Turkic khanates dominate C Asia	Teotihuacan, Mexico, Mayan revival; Visigothic kdgm of Spain; Mochica decline, Huari expansion; zenith in Japan; end of barbarian invasions in Europe; Pope Gregorius (growth of worldly church power); Bulgar tribes united in Ukraine	
+600 * BRITAIN: peak of Welsh post-bardic heroic verse (eg "Gododdin" by Aneurin)	598 UR +ssq PL Ta Pi	
+ * EUROPE: END of BARBARIAN INVASIONS in EUROPE, settling of peoples	599 UR -sxt NE Ta Cn	600 PL Ar
+ * RUSSIA: GROWTH OF KHAZAR KHANATE (astride Volga & Don rivers, capital Itil, trading city)		601 PL Ar
+ * BYZANTIUM: development of the Icon as religious artform in Byzantium & Bulgaria		601 UR Ge
+601 FRANCE: widespread famine in France (600-04)		602 PL Ar
+602 CHINA: Huang Ho (Yellow River) changes course as a result of disastrous floods	602 Sa OPPN UR Sg Ge	602 UR Ge
+ BRITAIN: Augustine establishes Catholic archbishopric in Britain at Canterbury		603 Sa OPPN UR Sg Ge
+603 MIDEAST: major war between Persia & Byzantium (ravaging Armenia, Syria, Anatolia)	603 UR on UR NNode	
+ SE ASIA: revolts in Annam (N Vietnam) & Chams (Cambodia) suppressed by China (over sea trade)	604 Sa OPPN UR Sg Ge	
+604 JAPAN: Constitution of 17 Articles (Shotoko Taishi code, Buddhist); Japan opening to Chinese influences		604 UR -ssq NE Ge Cn
+ ROME: last meeting of the ancient Roman Senate 604 NE on NE NNode	605 UR -ssq NE Ge Cn	605 NE Le
+605 CHINA: opening of the Grand Canal at Loyang (built by a million labourers)	605 UR -ssq NE Ge Cn	606 NE Le
+ CHINA: Yang Ti, Sui Emperor (605-18) (mismanagement & fruitless wars, new capital at Loyang)	606 UR -ssq NE Ge Cn	
+606 INDIA: ZENITH OF LATER GUPTA EMPIRE in N India, under Sri Harsha of Thanesar (606-647)		607 NE +tri PL Le Ar
+ CHINA: public examinations instituted for applicants to Mandarin public office in China	607 HALLEY'S COMET	
+607 JAPAN: opening of Japan to Chinese cultural influences; Japanese ambassadors in China	608 NE +tri PL Le Ar	608 UR Cn
+ C ASIA: unification of Tibet by the Yarlung dynasty	609 NE +tri PL Le Ar	
+608 * CHINA: major public works, incl Yangtze-Huang Ho canal, Great Wall	609 Sa OPPN NE Aq Le	609 UR Cn
+ S INDIA: Mahendravarman I, Pallava king (c600-25) (anti-Jain, pro-Shiva; much religious building)	610 NE +tri PL Le Ar	
+609 SE ASIA: foundation of Thai Nan Chao state	<b>610 UR +SQR PL Cn Ar</b>	
+610 MIDEAST: Mohammed the Prophet's vision on Mt Hira		611 NE +tri PL Le Ar
+ BYZANTIUM: Heraclius, Byz Emperor (610-41): BYZANTIUM GROWS as a Greek-speaking, Christian civilisation, stretching from Gibraltar to Euphrates (soon to shrink before the Arabs)	<b>611 UR +SQR PL Cn Ar</b>	
+611 MIDEAST: Persia conquers (611-26) Antioch, Damascus, Jerusalem, Egypt (618) and Asia Minor	611 UR -ssx NE Cn Le	
+612 CHINA: Sui dynasty invasion of Koguryo (Korea) fails, at great cost	612 UR -ssx NE Cn Le	
+613 CHINA: revolts around China reduce power of Sui dynasty (empire exhausted by war & excess)		614 Sa CONJ PL Ar Ar
+614 MIDEAST: Persians sack Jerusalem (removing relic of the True Cross)		615 UR Le
+615 BRITAIN: friction between Saxon England and Gaelic Ireland		
+ INNOVN: petroleum ("burning water") first used in Japan		
+ C AMERICA: recorded accession of Maya lord Pacal (615-83) (building of major Maya structures)		
+616		
+617 CHINA: Sui dynasty ends (burden of public works & Korea invasion), China falls into anarchy		
+ MIDEAST: Persians conquer to within one mile of Constantinople		
+618 CHINA: T'ANG DYNASTY established (618-907) (retaining Sui admin system, China largely unchanging)		618 NE Vi
+619 CHINA: "Ten Classics" (Suan Ching), scientific manuals ; spread of Ch'an & Pure Land Buddhism in China		619 NE Vi
+620 * PERSIA: LAST ZENITH OF SASSANID EMPIRE (stretching from Anatolia to Afghanistan)	620 NE +sqt PL Vi Ar	620 NE Vi
+ BRITAIN: first invasions of Ireland by early Vikings from Norway & Denmark		
+ * CHINA: porcelain production, formation of orchestras with 100s of players		
+621		
+ * INDIA: beginning of Bhakti Vedantist revival in Hinduism (Shiva-Brahma-Vishnu, Krishna)	621 NE +sqt PL Vi Ar	621 UR Vi
+622 ISLAM: HEGIRA of Mohammed: Muslim migration from Mecca to Medina (start of Muslim calendar)	622 UR +sqt PL Vi Ar	622 UR Vi
+ BYZANTIUM: start of campaigns of Heraclius to protect Byzantium	622 NE +sqt PL Vi Ar	
+623 C ASIA: Nestorian Christians visit Tibet & Dzungaria	<b>623 UR CONJ NE Vi Vi</b>	
+624 ISLAM: publication of much of the Quran (Arabia)	623 UR +sqt PL Vi Ar	
+ CHINA: China united under the T'ang Dynasty (beginning 618); Eastern Turks raid Ch'ang-An	623 NE +sqt PL Vi Ar	
+625 ISLAM: Mohammed the Prophet's mission starts, at Medina, Arabia	<b>624 UR CONJ NE Vi Vi</b>	
+ MIDEAST: Persian conquests of Middle East fail (surrounding E Med'n, threatening Byzantium)	624 UR +sqt PL Vi Ar	
+ * AMERICAS: ZENITH of MAYAN CIVILISATION (eg building of Palenque temples in Mexico)	625 Sa CONJ NE Vi Vi	
+ S INDIA: Pallava Narasimhavarman I (c625-45) (public works, Dravidian temples, consolidation)	626 Sa CONJ UR Vi Vi	
+626 BYZANTIUM: Constantinople besieged by Avars and Persians – repulsed (Europe at risk)	626 PL Aphn 25Ar	
+627 BRITAIN: conversion of Northumbria to RC Ch; Edinburgh founded; RC conversion of Wessex ?635	626 UR +qcx PL Vi Ar	627 UR Li

+ MIDEAST: Persians beaten by Byzantines at Nineveh; SASANID PERSIA BEGINS DECLINE	627 UR +qcx PL Vi Ar
+ CHINA: T'AI TSUNG, Emperor (627-49), CHINA AT CLIMAX (tolerance & patronage of arts & letters)	628 UR +qcx PL Vi Ar
+ BYZANTIUM: sugar reaches Europe (pure Indian sugar discovered by Heraclius' troops in Persia)	628 Sa OPPN PL Li Ar
+628 ISLAM: Mohammed the Prophet takes Mecca, writes to rulers throughout world, announcing Islam	628 UR Li
+629 MIDEAST: Byzantine Heraclius recovers Jerusalem from Persians	629 Sa OPPN PL Li Ar
+ CHINA: Hsuan Tsang, Buddhist scholar, travels to Cambodia & India to study Buddhism	630 PL Ta
+630 * BRITAIN: major church (Glastonbury, St Albans, Winchester) & castle building period	
+ * MIDEAST: introduction of cotton to Arab lands (from India)	
+631 CHINA: Northern Turks beaten by Chinese; suzerainty extended to Turkestan by 641	631 PL Ta
+ * INDIA: Parsee Zoroastrans settle in W India ("Jews of the East")	
+632 ISLAM: DEATH OF MOHAMMED: ARAB EXPANSION BEGINS; "Holy War" declared (Abu Bakr)	632 NE +qcx PL Li Ta
+ C ASIA: Buddhism becomes the state religion in Tibet (temporarily)	632 NE Li
+633 MIDEAST: churches of Jerusalem, Antioch & Alexandria closed to Christians by Islamic Arabs	633 NE +qcx PL Li Ta
+ IBERIA: Visigothic Spain becomes an elective kingdom	633 NE Li
+634 ISLAM: Omar I (634-44) 'Ruler of the Faithful' (transforms Arab state into theocratic empire)	<b>634 UR OPPN PL Sc Ta</b> 634 UR Sc
+ BRITAIN: Britain in anarchy (struggles between Northumbria & Mercia, Celtic & Roman Churches)	634 NE +qcx PL Li Ta
+635 ISLAM: Arabs overcome Damascus & Ctesiphon; end of Sassanid empire	<b>635 UR OPPN PL Sc Ta</b>
+ ISLAM: caliphate moves from Medina to Damascus (Islamic empire ceases being purely Arabian)	635 NE +qcx PL Li Ta
+636 * JAPAN: feudal nobility in ascendancy in Japan	635 UR +ssx NE Sc Li
+ * NW EUROPE: Christianity generally accepted in Anglo-Saxon lands (bringing cultural upswing)	<b>636 UR OPPN PL Sc Ta</b>
+ BRITAIN: Irish Celtic Church submits to Papal Roman Catholicism	636 NE +qcx PL Li Ta
+ ISLAM: Arabs take Syria (from Byzantium)	636 UR +ssx NE Sc Li
+637 ISLAM: Persian empire falls to Arabs (637-1258) (Islam replaces Zoroastranism)	
+638 ISLAM: Arab Muslims take Jerusalem (from Byzantium)	
+ ASIA: Persia warns and appeals to China for help against Arabs	
+639 ISLAM: Arabs attack Armenia	
+ W EUROPE: death of Dagobert brings effective end of Frankish Merovingian dynasty	
+ ASIA: Srong-tsan Gampo, king of Tibet, unifies Tibet and converts to Buddhism	
+640 * W EUROPE: gradual separation of French & German languages in old Merovingian lands	
+ ISLAM: Arabs conquer Egypt, expanding into North Africa	
+641 N AFRICA: destruction of Alexandrian school & library (centre of ancient thought)	641 UR Sg
+ * MIDEAST: peak of Armenian architecture and civic life	
+642 * BYZANTIUM: Byzantium loses trade & infl from recently-conqd Arab territories; econ decline	642 UR +ssq NE Sg Li
+ S INDIA: Pallavas pillage Chalukya capital (ending prosperity & upsetting S Indian balance)	643 UR -qcx PL Sg Ta
+ PERSIA: fall of Sasanian Persia to Arabs (end of independent Persia)	
+643 ISLAM: Dome of the Rock, Jerusalem, first major Islamic mosque; Arabs conquer Tripoli	643 UR on UR SNode
+ CHINA: visit of Byzantine & Persian ambassadors to China	643 UR +ssq NE Sg Li
+644 * CHINA: Hsuan Tsang translates 75 Buddhist books, initiating Pure Land school of Buddhism	644 Sa OPPN NE Ar Li
+645 ASIA: China annexes Korea; Dzungaria & Tarim Basin (645-743) (expansionist policies)	644 UR -qcx PL Sg Ta
+ JAPAN: downfall of Soga clan; "Taika Reform" by Fujiwaras reorganises Japan centrally	645 Sa OPPN NE Ar Li
+ C ASIA: Buddhism introduced in Tibet (on Chinese-Tibetan alliance, first temple 651)	
+ ASIA: Nestorian Christians settle in China (missionary activity & monasteries from 678)	
+646 MED'N: Byzantine fleet retakes Alexandria (temporarily)	
+647 INDIA: end of Later Gupta period in N India, on death of Sri Harsha (since 320AD)	646 Sa CONJ PL Ta Ta
+ BRITAIN: Celtic Church gains upper hand in Britain under Aidan of Iona (until 664)	646 NE Sc
+648 * C ASIA: expansion and growth of Tibetan culture and kingdom under Srongtsen Gampo	647 NE Sc
+ * EUROPE: supremacy of Celtic Church in N W Europe (until Boniface)	648 UR -sqt PL Sg Ta
+649 ISLAM: Arabs conquer Cyprus	649 UR +sxt NE Cp Sc
+650 ISLAM: Quran revised to become more 'biblical' by Caliph Othman (murdered 656)	649 UR -sqt PL Cp Ta
+ * CHINA: traditional Buddhism challenged by Amida (Pure Land) school, led by Shan Tao	649 Sa OPPN UR Cn Cp
+ E EUROPE: Khazars conquer Bulgarian empire in S Russia; Croats & Serbs occupy Bosnia	650 UR +sxt NE Cp Sc
+ * SE ASIA: Hindu SRIVIJAYA EMPIRE (Sumatra, Malaya, Borneo) cap Palembang (600-1400)	650 Sa OPPN UR Cn Cp
+651 E EUROPE: Bulgars under Isperikh (643-701) migrate to Lower Danube (after Khazar & Avar force)	651 UR +sxt NE Cp Sc
+652 ISLAM: Arab expansion in Africa stopped by Nubians at Aswan (on the Nile)	
+	
+653	653 UR -tri PL Cp Ta
+	
+654	654 UR -tri PL Cp Ta
+	
+655 ISLAM: Arab fleet destroys Byzantine fleet at Lycia (Arabs become maritime power)	
+ C ASIA: Arabs invade Khorasan	

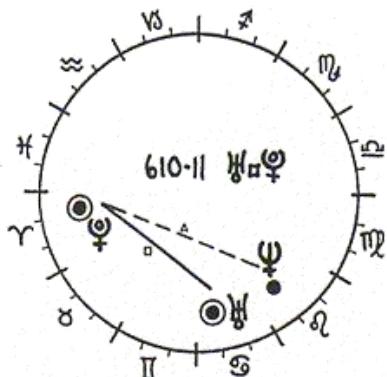
+656 ISLAM: standardisation of the Quran completed

656 UR Aq

+

+657 \* ASIA: Western Turks disperse to Russia-Hungary & some later follow Mahmud of Ghazni to India

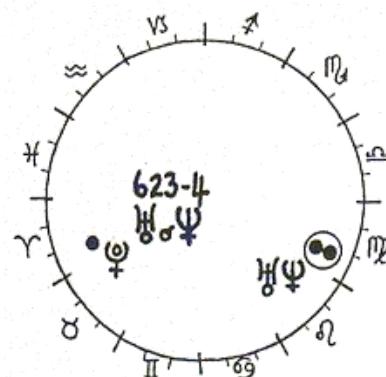
657 NE OPPN PL Sc Ta



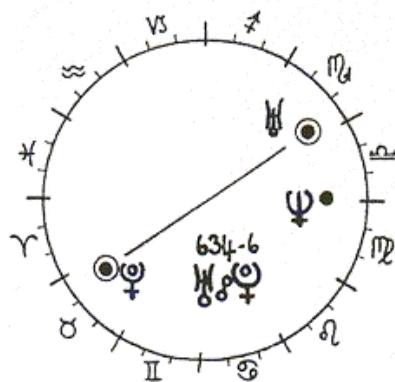
#### Uranus square Pluto 610-11

Zeniths in Later Gupta India (Sri Harsha), Sasanid Persia & Byzantium (Heraklius); mission of Mohammed the Prophet, Arabia; first Viking raids in Europe; foundation of Nan Chao (Thailand); Persia invades Syria, Egypt & Anatolia; major public works in China (Great Wall, Grand Canal); unification of Tibet; first use of petroleum (Japan); Saxon ascendancy, England

Zenith of Mayan civilisation (Palenque temples); cultural climax in China (T'ang dynasty); birth of Islam (the Hegira); decline of Sasanid Persia; Christian Saxon England, Celtic decline; Viking invasions (Ireland); zenith of Pallava dynasty, S India; Byzantium besieged by Avars & Persians (Europe threatened); sugar reaches Europe from India

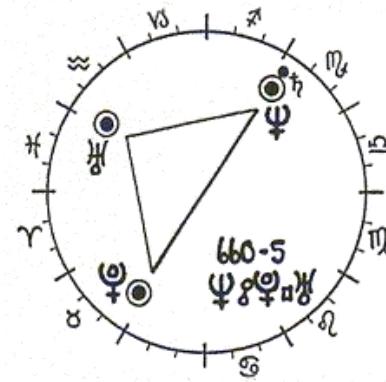


#### Uranus conjunct Neptune 623-24



#### Uranus opposition Pluto 634-36

Arabic expansion into Egypt, Jerusalem, Syria, Persia (Caliph Omar); anarchy in Britain; Gupta decline, India; Byzantine decline; Fujiwara reforms, Japan; Buddhism adopted in Tibet (Srongtsan Gampo); Irish Celtic church submits to Catholicism; end of Frankish Merovingian dynasty; Persian Parsees settle in India; China extends into Turkestan



#### Neptune opposition Pluto square Uranus 660-65

Sudden end of Teotihuacan, Mexico; Hindu Srivijaya empire, SE Asia; expansion of Tibet; Umayyad Caliphate, Damascus; Arab invasion of Maghreb (N Africa); decline of Celtic church (Synod of Whitby); Silla period, Korea; Bulgars migrate to lower Danube from Ukraine; reduction of Byzantium (Arab pressure); revision of Quran (Othman); Turks disperse into Russia & India

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## The Historical Ephemeris

by Palden Jenkins

Astro-historical tables for 2,500 years