# The Tājika Lunar Calendar User's Guide

by Greg Stein

# **Acknowledgements**

Many friends and colleagues have helped to bring this calendar to life. To them I am deeply grateful. I would like to thank especially:

**Isabel Patino** for her help with the graphic design.

**Laura Lewellyn** for her patient editing and valuable feedback.

**Penny Farrow** for her support and encouragement.

Pursottam Dabasia for sharing his knowledge so generously.

**Sonia Masocco** for her encouragement and ideas.

**Robert Chatburn** for his helpful editing and feedback.

Kathe Fradkin for her support and valuable feedback.

**Noreen Purcell Dillman** for the opportunity to share about the calendar on her podcast.

Last but not least, William Lilly for his inspired writings and astrological insight.

# **Contents**

1.	Using the Tājika Lunar Calendar	3
2.	Guide to Reading the Calendar	9
3.	Information for Astrologers	10
4.	Resources	14
5.	Frequently Asked Ouestions	15

# **Using the Tājika Lunar Calendar**

This calendar is intended to make the astrological art of good timing accessible to all. When an activity is commenced at a favorable time astrologically, it is more likely to bring success and harmony into our lives. The Tājika Lunar Calendar offers a simple yet worthwhile first step towards astrological awareness. No previous knowledge of astrology is required.

## **Basic Instructions for the Non-Astrologer**

The color-coding on the calendar is all you really need to pay attention to. The text simply provides the details behind the colors for those with some astrological knowledge. There are two components which are color-coded: "bars" and "shading". Bars indicated what we call "applying lunar aspects", while shading indicates various other factors. They are both important to consider.

First, note that the calendar is given in Pacific Daylight Time. If you are in another timezone, simply adjust all of the times indicated. For example, add three hours to all times shown if your timezone is EDT. This adjustment applies to all of the color coding as well as the text.

Next, let's say you have to schedule an event of *minor importance* - such as a meeting, an important phone call, or a social gathering. You have a few practical options available according to your schedule. Use the color-coding on the calendar to select a favorable time to *begin* the event.

Please remember - what is important astrologically is the moment something is begun.

## In selecting your time, there are three simple rules to follow:

- 1) The best times are when there is both a green bar and green shading. Choose this if possible.
- 2) Second best is when there is a green bar, with no shading and no blue of any kind.
- 3) If neither of the above are possible, go for neutral times with no bars or shading.

#### Example:

Let's say you have to schedule an important meeting at work, and it can be anytime from 9am to 5pm on the week of January 17th, 2022. So you take a look at that week on the Tājika Lunar Calendar:

- 1) You see that there is a time with both a green bar and green shading from about 8:30pm on the 20th until 5am on the 21st. That would be ideal, yet it is not during your working hours.
- 2) You see that beginning around Noon on the 20th there is a green bar, and no blue of any kind. That is the only time during the week which meets this criteria. So you schedule the meeting for anytime on that Thursday afternoon. Done! You have just used astrology to bring a little more success and harmony into your work experience.



Now what if your boss says, "actually I only have time to meet on the 17th, 18th or 19th?" Simply avoid the blue times and go for the neutral times - with no bars or shading - if possible. The most obvious choice here would be in the morning on the 19th.

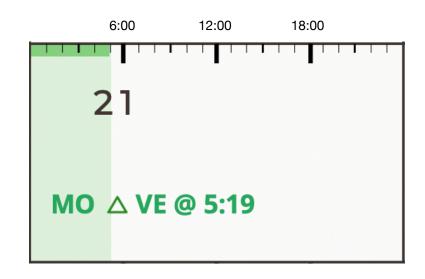
Now, if that's not available as per your boss's schedule, and you have no choice but to choose a "blue" time, try to choose a time with the *least amount of blue*. For example, we would prefer Noon

on the 18th, rather than Noon on the 17th - for on the 18th there is just a blue bar, while on the 17th there is a blue bar as well as blue shading.

#### **A Few Additional Tips:**

- 1. It is recommended to allow a two-hour margin after a blue bar ends, before beginning your endeavor. This allows the Moon to separate at least 1° from the challenging aspect indicated. It is also best to avoid the two-hours before a blue bar begins for something commenced at that time may result in challenges coming in a delayed manner. Simply put, give blue bars two hours of elbow room on either side.
- 2. The closer an event is begun towards the end of a green bar, the sooner the positive results will tend to come. An event begun towards the beginning of a green bar will bring positive results later on.
- 3. The calendar is as accurate as possible to the hour. It may be helpful to zoom in for greater time accuracy. For example:

Lets say you want to know with greater accuracy when the green bar & shading ends on January 21st, 2022. Zooming in on that day, you can see that the green section ends right around 5am.



## Please keep in mind...

The Tājika Lunar Calendar as a stand-alone tool is meant to be used *lightly* for <u>activities of minor importance</u>. Some possible examples include:

- Initiating important conversations or communications (such as emails, phone calls, etc.)
- Beginning small projects.
- Holding meetings or events of minor importance.
- Implementing therapies of minor importance.

For <u>activities of major importance</u> such as marriage, starting a business, long journeys, surgery, beginning a new job, etc., *the factors represented in the calendar are not enough on their own*. In such cases it is best to consult an astrologer who can go into great detail in the selection of an auspicious time.

It is suggested to experiment with the calendar and observe. Learn about its usefulness through your own experience as you make use of it over time. You will get a feel for how much weight to give what is indicated, alongside the other practical considerations of life. There will occasionally be inevitable circumstances when there is no choice but to commence something during an "unfavorable time". In such cases it is suggested to simply go with the flow and try to use the power of positive intentions to make the most of the situation.

It is my sincere hope that the Tājika Lunar Calendar helps to promote success, harmony and positive experiences for all who make use of it.

## Guide to Reading the Calendar

SU - Sun

MO - Moon

MA - Mars

ME - Mercury

JU - Jupiter

VE - Venus

SA - Saturn

RA - Rahu

KE - Ketu

ARI - Aries

TAU - Taurus

GEM - Gemini

CAN - Cancer

LEO - Leo

VIR - Virgo

LIB - Libra

SCO - Scorpio

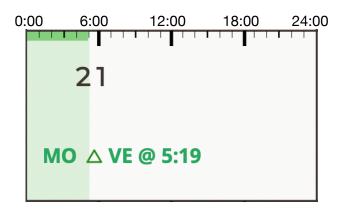
SAG - Sagittarius

CAP - Capricorn

AQU - Aquarius

PIS - Pisces

The longer bold lines on the top of each day divide the day into four six-hour periods.



The shorter lines show the hours.

# **Information for Astrologers**

I originally started creating the Tājika Lunar Calendar for my own practice, since none of the present Vedic Astrology programs readily display the information it indicates. My interest was to consider Tājika principles in the selection of a muhūrta *in addition to* the more classical components. In practice, when selecting a muhūrta for an event of high importance, I would also pay attention to any applying aspects involving the lagna lord in addition to that of the Moon.

I feel confident that paying attention to these factors in the selection of a muhūrta is of great value. Some recommended books for those interested in learning more about Tājika Jyotiṣa include:

Christian Astrology, Books 1 & 2 by William Lilly Prashna Shastra, Volumes 1 & 2 by Deepak Kapoor A Textbook of Varshaphala by Dr. K S Charak

## The criteria that form the basis for the color-coding in the calendar:

Green Bars	<ul> <li>When the Moon is applying to a trine, sextile or conjunction with Jupiter or Venus, provided neither is debilitated or seriously combust.</li> <li>When the Moon is applying to a trine or sextile with the Sun.</li> </ul>	
Green Shading	• When an auspicious Pañcānga Yoga occurs at the same time as a green bar, thus forming favorable confluence.	
Blue Bars	<ul> <li>When the Moon is applying to a conjunction, square or opposition with Saturn, Mars or the Sun.</li> <li>When the Moon is applying to a conjunction with Rāhu or Ketu, from the time it enters the same Nakṣatra as the respective node.</li> <li>Tithi Gaṇḍānta.</li> </ul>	
Blue Shading	<ul> <li>Gaṇḍānta Moon.</li> <li>Debilitated Moon.</li> <li>The period from Kṛṣṇa Ekādaśī to Śukla Pratipad.</li> <li>The period three days before and after an eclipse.</li> <li>When an inauspicious Pañcāṅga Yoga occurs at the same time as a blue bar, thus forming unfavorable confluence.</li> </ul>	

There are a few additional nuances which are factored in, all of which can be understood from a study of the books mentioned above.

# Advanced Use of the Tājika Lunar Calendar

#### For activities of minor importance:

For those with working knowledge of Vedic Astrology, it is recommended to take a look at the condition of the lagna as an important additional factor in selecting a quick muhūrta for something of minor importance. The suggestion here would be to select a favorable time according to the guidelines given in Section 1 of this User's Guide. Then, within that timeframe select the period with the strongest lagna, and rule out any time when the lagna is weak or afflicted.

## For activities of major importance:

For events of major importance (see Section 1 for examples), it is recommended to use the information given by the bars in the calendar as one additional factor to consider. For example, let's say you are selecting a muhūrta for the week of January 17th, 2022. As per traditional methods you find (hypothetically) that the 18th at 2pm or the 20th at 5pm both look good. Now you look at the Tājika Lunar Calendar and you see that there is a blue bar for almost the entire day on the 18th, and

a green bar from about Noon onwards on the 20th. Therefor, selecting the 20th at 5pm rather than the 18th at 2pm has an additional advantage.



For students seeking to learn more about traditional methods for selecting a muhūrta, the book Muhurta: Traditional and Modern by K. K. Joshi offers a good introduction to the subject.

Please note that there are additional ways in which Tājika principles can be used in the context of muhūrta. This requires further study and is beyond the scope of this introductory guide. For further learning, refer to the Resources section (p. 14) for information on books, lessons and tutorials.

# **Resources**

**Books** 

Christian Astrology, Books 1 & 2 by William Lilly

Llewellyn's 2022 Daily Planetary Guide\*

Muhurta: Traditional and Modern by K. K. Joshi

Prashna Shastra, Volumes 1 & 2 by Deepak Kapoor

A Textbook of Varshaphala by Dr. K. S. Charak

**Websites** 

MyPanchang.com

Astro.com

The "Celestial Events" section lists the daily lunar aspects.

#### **Videos**

Electional Astrology: How to Find Auspicious Dates and Times (The Astrology Podcast)

This is a tutorial on Western Electional Astrology, available on YouTube. Much of what is discussed is relevant to the techniques used in the TLC.

Visit <u>VedicHealing108.com</u> for recorded tutorials on the use of the Tājika Lunar Calendar.

#### Lessons

Lessons are available for further learning, visit <u>VedicHealing108.com</u> for more information.

<sup>\*</sup>Note that what is offered in the Tājika Lunar Calendar has some similarity to the *Opportunity Periods* given in Llewellyn's Daily Planetary Guide. However, there are a number of significant differences, and the Tājika Lunar Calendar is designed to fit into the framework of Vedic Astrology.

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

Q: I see times on the calendar when there is a mixture of green and blue bars or shading, what does this mean?

A: The astrological factors shown are of a mixed nature at that time, in terms of favorability. If there is more green than blue, the time is somewhat favorable. If there is more blue than green, it is best to avoid that time for beginning something. However, the most favorable times are when there is both a green bar and shading, and no blue of any kind.

Q: I have another astrological calendar and it shows the Moon in different signs on some days than in the Tājika Lunar Calendar. Why is this?

A: The Tājika Lunar Calendar uses the Sidereal Zodiac, which is based on the stars. This is the zodiac mainly used in Vedic Astrology. A Western Astrology calendar or ephemeris generally uses the Tropical Zodiac, which is based on the Sun and the seasons. They are simply two different systems and perspectives. At present there is about a 24° difference between the two zodiacs. More information on this topic can be found in most introductory books on Vedic Astrology.

Q: I'm not sure if I understand how to adjust for my timezone correctly, can you provide an example?

A: Of course. Let's take a look again at the week of January 17th, 2022:



As mentioned earlier, the timings in the calendar are given in Pacific Daylight Time. If your local timezone in EDT for example, to use the calendar properly you must add 3 hours to all times indicated. This adjustment applies to both the color coding as well as the text (remember that the text mainly provides the details indicated by the colors).

While looking for a favorable time that week, you see that there is a period with both a green bar and shading that goes from about 8:30pm on the 20th until 5am on the 21st. Adding 3 hours to these times we see that for someone whose timezone is EDT, the period goes from 11:30pm on the 20th until 8am on the 21st according to their local time.

If you are in Alaska, you would have to subtract 1 hour. If your timezone is MST, add 1 hour; for CST add 2 hours. Similarly, wherever you are in the world you simply need to find out the difference between your local time and the current time in PDT and adjust accordingly.

# **About the Author**

Greg Stein is a Vedic Astrologer and healer who has been interested in the traditional wisdom of India since 2005. He has received in-depth training in Yoga, Ayurveda and Sanskrit in addition to his astrological studies.

Greg currently resides in Scappoose, Oregon, just outside of Portland. He offers consultations either in person for local clients, or online. Lessons and classes on Vedic Astrology and Sanskrit are also available.



Visit Greg's website at VedicHealing108.com