

Dear Gopi / Suman

I was a sceptic wrt astrology for the longest period. This was consistent with being a "rebel without cause" since my 20's wrt hinduism in general.

In the recent decade, out of frustration (failure of my 1st venture) and for the heck of it, I started consulting Velamuri Ramana garu. I was astounded with the accuracy of his observations wrt ups/downs of my life. Venkata Ramana Velamuri garu also explained a bit about "planetary positions", "past life karma" etc. I heard him out without any sense of acceptance or opposition.

As usual I started researching on/off ... Particularly to see the position that GOI (Government of India) took.

A renaissance is underway in Hindu society, Bharat. There is a sea-change in attitude towards Hindutva and associate disciplines (yoga, ayurveda, astrology). An important data-point being UGC's (University Grants Commission) position ...

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/bangalore/ugc-asks-higher-education-institutions-to-introduce-vedic-maths-astrology-as-part-of-degree-courses/article66839613.ece>.

Bharat's history has been seriously distorted, and "initiatives" are afoot to set it right. Broadly speaking sometime during 11th / 12th century we peaked as a civilization but became "soft". This enabled Islamic barbarians to attack, loot, plunder etc. They destroyed centuries worth of work of our sages/munis. (e.g destruction of Nalanda University). <https://youtu.be/1ZlWhZuxWVI>

Of course, this was followed by British conquest, where they succeeded in destroying Bharat's culture and self-pride. The very fact that I am communicating with you in English is a sad testament to this. Of course, Britain successfully destroyed our economy as well. CONgress advanced the worst aspects of Islamic conquests, British domination and Communist / Social systems causing further deterioration and lack of self-belief.

All that is changing. Hindu orgs have steadily consolidated and are gaining momentum. What we see publicly is Modi-ji / BJP / RSS. But under the covers these movements have been developing and consolidating for at least 2 - 3 centuries. Bharat is waking up. More importantly Hindu's are waking up from their Kumbhakarna sleep. NRI success story is a small (very small) aspect of this.

In this backdrop, we got a reference to Shri Raghava Sarma garu from Kavitha's extended family. On my 1st meeting with Raghava Sarma garu, I started getting the feeling that he is genuine. That he understands his subject (Vedic Astrology) and that he is willing to explain. He explained many events of our life with high level of accuracy. This happened with surprising but somewhat predictably again with Gopi's life. Further his remedies (puja's, Pariharas ) seem to have a calming effect.

This is how our journey evolved. I consider myself a "seeker". We (Kavitha & I) feel that our journey is still evolving. Kavitha is of course a stronger believer and is interested in temple-tours etc. (Bhakti Marg). I feel happy to have found bearings in my work and feel I can afford to study our Rishis / Munis / Siddhas.

Having experienced "relief", amidst this general-backdrop, I have accepted that "Vedic Astrology" is a "Science", an abandoned "Science" ... perhaps a Probabilistic-science.