Born During a Solar Eclipse Season: Salvador Allende

by Alice Thomas



ny Eclipse occurs at times of syzygy during a planetary alignment between the Sun, the Moon, and the Earth. The three of them are aligned by longi-

tude and declination and as a result, one of them is obscured by the body that is in the middle.

Solar and Lunar eclipses have been a very important piece of our astronomical history for thousands of years. Notwithstanding, they have been very well known also among ordinary people for several reasons: 1) Because of their frequency as they occur mainly twice a year, every six months 2) They can be easier to observe with a naked eye in the sky, and 3) Because they can be quite spectacular due to their dramatic change of light.

The Solar eclipse always occurs during a New Moon--Sun and Moon conjunction in proximity to the Lunar nodal axis (at maximum 18°30″ orb). In other words, that conjunction gets close to the intersection between the Moon orbit and the Earth orbit.

On the other hand, the Lunar eclipse always occurs on a Full Moon, when the Sun and the Moon are in opposition, in proximity to the Moon nodal axis (at maximum 12°15" orb). See illustration at right.

Solar and Lunar Eclipses occur at an interval of 15 days. Astrologers and scientists both look forward to this time of the year, but astrologers focus more on the meaning and its implications upon human life.

Astrologers must consider that there are various methods to interpret eclipses. In this article, we will follow Bernadette Brady's approach.

This awarded and cultural astrologer states: "In the past astrologers have taken to examining the chart of a particular eclipse. However, far better results can be achieved by

stepping back and looking at the geometry of how eclipses occur, not on the individual level but rather on the larger cyclic playing field of life. For each seemingly isolated eclipse belongs to a larger pattern, each eclipse is a member of a family and each family has particular characteristics" (Brady, B: 2005:1)

The larger pattern mentioned above is what we call a **Saros Series**. A Saros Series alludes to a recurrence in which the Sun and the Moon return to approximately the same position in their orbits where eclipses can happen.

Saros, a name coined by Suidas, (10th century AD) means something to be repeated. This recurring pattern or repetition occurs approximately every 18 years and 11 days (or 223 lunations), but the whole series or "family of eclipses" can last over 1300 years. So each eclipse belongs to a larger "family" that responds to a periodicity. There will be a Saros Series for Solar Eclipses, and another for Lunar Eclipses.

Brady mentions that each family or Series has its own characteristics. To find the common thread of that characteristic Brady proposes to study the chart corresponding of the first eclipse of a Saros Series. And again I quote her: "This gives a "birth chart" for a particular Saros series, and this chart sets the theme of expression of every other resulting eclipse in the series. For once the first eclipse occurs, the rest of the series over 1300 years is a geometrical forgone conclusion." (Brady, B: 2005: 5)

Brady suggests interpreting the natal chart or life of someone born in an Eclipse Season, assuming that this particular individual connects more deeply to that Saros Series and its meaning.

She gives us in her book *Predictive*Astrology: The Eagle and the Lark, a detailed list of Solar Saros series between 1900 and 2050, with the commencement date of that series and the planetary positions at that moment, the tightest aspects also between planets and midpoints and offers a tentative delineation.

Everyone born 18 and a half days before a Solar Eclipse and 18 and a half days later is born during Eclipse Season, and theoretically could be connected to this Saros Series pattern.

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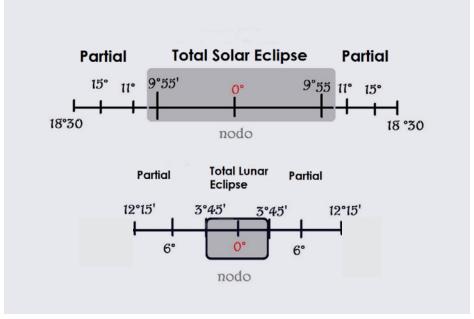


Illustration: Solar and Lunar Eclipse degrees

Given that many individuals can be born during an Eclipse Season within a major cycle or Saros Series that exceeds the year of their lives, we can ask ourselves: How can this characteristic of a Solar Saros Series express itself through the life of an individual?

This article explores Brady's hypothesis and does it through the life of Salvador Allende Gossens, former president of Chile (between 1970 and 1973). He was born during an Eclipse Season, the **26th of June of 1908 at 1:30 am**, in Santiago de Chile, three days *before* the Annular Solar Eclipse the 28th of June of 1908; corresponding to the Solar Saros series # 135 or 19 North (according to Brady's classification). Natal chart at right. The "natal chart" for the #135 series is shown below it.

The main aspects to be noticed in this Saros commencement chart according to Brady are Neptune conjunct the South Node and a T-square of Venus opposite Jupiter, both squared by Saturn. She gives a short and concise delineation for this Saros family:

"This Saros Series is about realism, a coming down to earth. The individual will become aware of an old situation, and see it for what it is rather than what he or she thought it was. This can be a constructive time for tackling the truth". (Brady, B. 2009: 335)

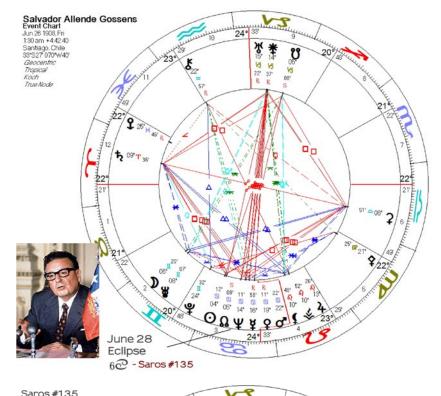
SALVADOR ALLENDE AND THE SAROS SERIES

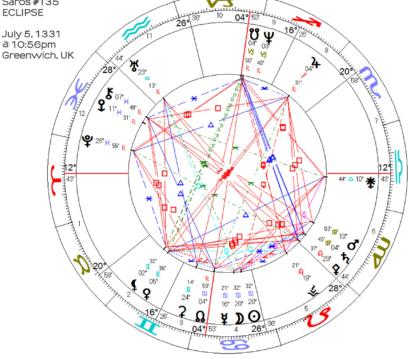
The world knows more about Salvador Allende because of the tragic circumstances of his death when he committed suicide during a coup, within an international political scenario typical of the Cold War. There is more to discover, though, when looking at his early life under the light of this subject (eclipses).

He was born within an educated family with high political commitment. His grandfathers were involved in the fight against the Spanish Crown. His Grandfather Ramón Allende Padín was a member of Freemasonry and the Radical Party that was the political pole of the middle class in those days. As a party, they advocated freedom of the press, universal suffrage, and the right to education. Ramón, his grandfather inaugurated one of the first laic schools in Chile in a society where 70% of children over seven years of age were illiterate. As a doctor, he was a member of the commission that defined national health policies that allowed the increase of hospital beds and vaccination.

His father, Salvador Allende Castro, was a lawyer, married to Laura Gossens Uribe, who was considered an aristocratic woman. Since 1897 he held various political posts in different presidential ministries, and as the family tradition demanded he followed the path of his radical and liberal ancestors.

Probably the same destiny was expected for the young Salvador Allende Gossens, a university career, with which he fulfilled by becoming a medical doctor, and a member of Freemasonry, an issue with which also fit. And finally it was expected that he participate in the political life from the same





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liberal values, something he somehow did, but not as expected.

He did not comply with the family mandate. And this is where we can analyze how the characteristics delineated for the Solar Saros Series #135 by Bernadette Brady can affect or shift an individual life.

At the age of 14 years, in 1922, when Pluto in transit made a conjunction with the degree of the Natal Solar Eclipse (7° of Cancer), and Saturn the same year squared the same degree, Allende's family moved from the north of Chile (Iquique City) to Valparaíso, a renown seaport city. In front of Allende's Valparaíso house was the house of an Italian carpenter and Anarchist who was called Juan Demarchi (Giovanni De Marchi). The young Salvador Allende Gossens became his friend and visited him as often as possible.

De Marchi taught him to play chess but also talked about politics with young Salvador Allende. He gave him books and they spoke about the inequities of capitalism, the struggles of workers in Europe and America, and the situation of workers in Chile (Amorós M, 2013). Salvador Allende interviewed by Regis Debray -the French philosopher, and writer- in 1971 told him about this period of his life:

"Being a boy, I was 14 years old. There was an anarchist and carpenter who had a very modest, very humble workshop in front of my house. Whenever I finished my classes at high school, I was going straight to talk with this anarchist: Juan De Marchi. A man that was at that time, around 60 years old. I played chess and discussed things about life, and I borrowed books...But above all, for me, his comments were valuable, because I did not have the vocation for in-depth reading. And he simplified things to me, with that simplicity of the workers who have assimilated a lot in life".

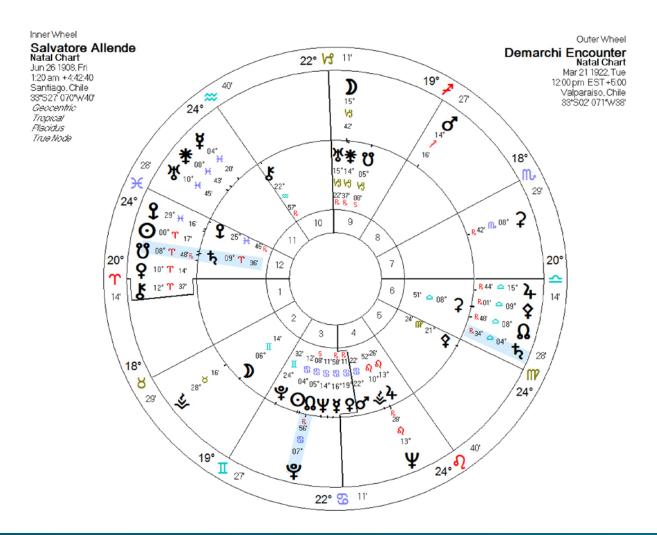
One of his biographers, Mario Amorós (2013), thinks this was the first step to distance Salvador Allende from the exercise of a liberal profession, and the foreseeable ascription to the Radical Party. Instead,

the social conscience of his grandfather Ramón (doctor) plus the libertarian footprint of De Marchi and the unpredictable discernment of history, prepared him for another destiny.

Considering Brady's delineation for this Saros Series, we can think that this passage of his life is powerful and crucial.

At the moment that Pluto and Saturn transits activated his Natal Solar Eclipse degree (7° of Cancer), Salvador Allende opened his eyes to a hitherto inaccessible reality for him. New facts and new ideas that help him to "come to earth".

The facts given by De Marchi awaken his sensitivity to the poorest people, those who suffer inequity. "The individual will become aware of an old situation," as mentioned by Brady. A reality that Allende will later try to fix by any means, and within the politics and democratic spirit of his predecessors. And get to govern by democratic means with a socialist project, which will seek to correct inequalities. Taking Salvador Allende the other part of Brady's delinea-



tion seriously: "This can be a constructive time to tackling the truth."

In 1930, after Saturn made an opposition to the Natal Solar Eclipse degree, Salvador Allende funded the Socialist Party, giving a structure and a form to what happened in 1922. He proposed a Chilean version of socialism, a constitutional, unarmed route. The Chilean situation did not need to be related to the dictatorship of the proletariat that international communism raised at that time.

That would be a different project than what had been built until then: "We set out on a new path" said Allende "we march without a guide through unknown terrain, just having as a compass our fidelity to the humanism in all times" he said in one of his discourses (De La Fuente, J.A., 2011: 1013)

How that project failed, and the reasons why, are now history.

Salvador Allende was born under a Season of Eclipses. Collective characters like Allende can show us how the meaning of a Saros Series - an issue probably owned by the collective unconscious - can be embodied during a brief individual existence, helping perhaps - as a case study - to confirm the work of Bernadette Brady.

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Traditional Approaches to Cancer and Capricorn Eclipses

by Öner Döşer

clipses are one of the primary elements used in predictive traditional astrology. Examining the eclipses also provides us awareness of the nature of the times we are in, and helps us better understand what opportunities we are offered.

In July, a solar and a lunar eclipse will occur in Cancer and Capricorn. In this article, I will give you the explanations of Abu Mas'har, Guido Bonatti, Wilşiam Lilly, Sadullah al-Ankarawi, H.S.Green, Raphael Sepherial, Ivy M.Goldstein-Jacobson, and Deborah Houlding about what these eclipses might bring to our lives.

Ancient astrologers perceived eclipses as negative celestial events. They believed that eclipses caused sad events and brought endings. Eclipses indicated

stressful times, imbalances, and unexpected problems. On the other hand, modern astrologers consider eclipses as a chance for change and an opportunity for growth. From the perspective of modern astrology, eclipses give us the energy to make the changes we want. They help us bring order to our lives. Each ending is always the beginning of another possibility.

In this article, I will mention the knowledge provided by the traditional astrology on eclipses that occur in Cancer and Capricorn. I do not intend to sound pessimistic, however, I would like to benefit from ancient knowledge and their warnings which bring awareness concerning the possible challenges. I personally believe an astrological approach that makes us informed and provides strategies to address potential problems, is going to be more useful than seeing these as inevitable fateful events.

Political Changes

Cancer and Capricorn are cardinal signs. In Ottoman Astrology, cardinal signs are called "Convertible Signs" which are associated with taking the initiative to bring change. According to Traditional astrology, the eclipses in cardinal signs are associated with political issues, changes in government, and state affairs, changes in business life, and public revolutions. They bring challenging events caused by external intervention, crises with government and authority figures, political changes, and adverse

impacts on world trade. Additionally, as the cardinal signs indicate the beginning of the seasons, the changes in the weather conditions are significant during the eclipses in cardinal signs, and the damages that occur suddenly with regards to the nature of the eclipses, are emphasized. (Green, Lilly)

Public Health and Social Issues

When making predictions about the eclipses, the ancient astrologers used to look at the things represented by the ruling planet of the sign in which the eclipse occured, as well as the main theme of that sign. The Total Solar Eclipse of July 2 will occur in Cancer. Cancer is associated with the seas and the places near water by the ancient astrologers because Cancer is a water sign and the Moon, its ruler, is related to the seas and waters. The Moon is also related to places at home and household goods, laundries, places related to child care and the places where nurses stay. (Öner Döşer, Dünya Astrolojisi (Mundane Astrology), Astroart Publishing, 2016) So, the above mentioned people, places and things can be affected by this eclipse.

In Mundane Astrology, the Moon, the ruler of Cancer, is associated with public health, crops and harvest, and wining and dining. In this context, according to traditional astrologers, when an eclipse occurs in Cancer, fruits picked in that time spoil, products like sugar and rice get damaged, and liverishness increases. (Lilly, Sadullah, Houlding)