

The Seventh House

Main Rulerships: Marriage and all forms of intimate relationships. The spouse, sweetheart, or lover. Business partnerships and the legal contracts that pertain to them. Watters notes that affliction of the 7th represents: “an open rupture in a partnership or marriage”.³² This house indicates the opponent in any lawsuit or conflict and in mundane charts shows the possibility of war.

All enemies that are identifiable as such belong to this house; the 12th house warns of secret enemies operating in a clandestine manner, but as soon as their existence is known they are represented through the 7th house which signifies opposing forces and those who invade our territory or act against us.³³ This applies even where the identity of the opponent is unknown; for example, in horary questions relating to theft the 7th house is used to derive a description of the perpetrator(s). The 7th house also signifies fugitives and runaways, including known criminals who are at large, such as escaped convicts. In journeys it indicates the destination and in concerns regarding whether or not to move it denotes the place of the proposed move.

Simmonite suggests that it rules grandfathers (4th from the 4th), but these would normally be shown directly from the 4th house so the 7th should only be considered where there is a need to identify the father and grandfather separately.

In Horary Astrology: The 7th house has a general signification over the person at the other end of the process. In trade it is the customer, in medical treatment it is the physician, and in astrological consultations it is the astrologer. If this house or its ruler is heavily afflicted the astrologer is advised to pay extra consideration to the value of their judgement as it may be impaired or the situation they are involved in may bring unanticipated difficulties. This is especially

32. *Simplified Horary Astrology* p.65.

33. William Lilly suggests that if someone asks about the potential of a secret enemy, the question is assigned to the 12th house if the querent is unable to name or identify the suspected secret enemy, but if they are named the question should be assigned to the 7th house. (*C.A.* p.460).

so if the 7th-ruler is afflicted in the 10th house, which suggests harm to the professional reputation. If the horary concerns a 7th house matter, however, the affliction may be appropriately describing the situation under review, in which case the warning is to proceed with diligence.

The 7th house signifies the other person asked about in all relationship questions, whether the querent is already in the relationship or asks out of hopeful anticipation. But if one member of a partnership asks about the other's prospects in a matter of mutual concern, we can view their partnership as a union, through which they are both assigned to the 1st house and the chart is read directly from its radical symbolism. For example, the question "should my husband take on a business partner?" asked by a wife who supports her husband's career, is one in which the wife shares the husband's dilemma and voices the concern, identifying with him in the asking of the question. In such charts there is no need to signify the husband through the 7th house of the 'other party' and this may then be attributed more clearly to the potential business partner asked about.

Some people assume that because the 7th house signifies fugitives it also signifies missing persons generally, but the fugitives it represents are those trying to escape our personal or collective influence, so they adopt the same 7th-house signification as we assign to prey in questions relating to hunting.³⁴ Note that the 7th house is not 'any other person'; it relates only to those with whom we are directly and personally involved, or in general (otherwise indefinable) relationships, those we oppose. Hence, in the question "will the missing celebrity be found?" the celebrity is signified by the 1st house because there is no relationship between the quesited and querent other than general concern. But in the question "will the leader of the country we are at war with be found?", that leader is signified by the 7th house, as is any unknown perpetrator or attacker in nationally reported crime.

34. *C.A.* pp.371-2.

In Mundane Astrology: The national marriage and divorce rate and issues pertaining to them. Public enemies, i.e., enemies to the nation – outlaws and fugitives who are not imprisoned. Whether war or peace may be expected. Treaties and agreements with other nations. Raphael notes:

“Mercury in the 7th denotes much activity in foreign affairs and, if well aspected, treaties, commercial agreements, and successful negotiations with other powers. If afflicted it shows double-dealing with other powers, diplomatic blunders, breaking of treaties, commercial and trade disputes with foreign countries and general disagreement in international affairs”.³⁵

Carter notes that this house shows international warfare, treaties and alliances, but advises that friendly nations must also be considered under the 11th house, and that all matters relating to international affairs have some relation with the 9th.³⁶

In Lawsuits or Conflicts: The opponent. The defendant in a lawsuit. Condemned persons or the criminal on trial.

In Events: The person against whom action is taken, or to whom a proposal or challenge is issued.

In Medical Matters: The doctor or physician treating the ailment and their ability to cure the disease. In the body it rules from the navel to the top of the legs, including the buttocks, lower intestines, bladder, womb, and reproductive organs.

In Commerce: The seller or the person you trade with. The capacity for a healthy customer base.

Colours: Black and very dark colours. Simmonite says blue-brown.

Qualities: Angular, masculine, diurnal. This is a strong and powerful house but in dangerous situations it is said to attack the safety of who

35. *Mundane Astrology* p.37.

36. *An Introduction to Political Astrology: Mundane Astrology* p.91.

or whatever is represented by the chart because of its opposition aspect to the ascendant.

Direction: West.

Associated Planets and Signs: No planet rejoices here. Lilly notes: “Saturn or Mars unfortunate herein show ill in marriage”.³⁷ Co-significators are Libra and the Moon.

Names: Angle of the West, Dysis (‘west/sunset’), House of Marriage.

The Eighth House

Main Rulerships: All matters relating to loss, decay, death, and the fear and anxiety attached these. The quality and nature of death. Who shall be heir to the deceased. Unexpected inheritance, wills, legacies and testaments of the deceased (note that paternity – wealth from the parents – is also shown by the 4th house).

Money belonging to a partner, spouse or another party. Financial obligations, debts, taxes, loans, losses, money owed to others. (In seeking a good time for a loan, make sure that the ruler of the 2nd house is dignified and strong – a strong 8th house ruler is more likely to indicate favour for the lender. Even in favourable aspects between the 2nd and 8th house ruler, the 2nd ruler should be received by the 8th house ruler to guarantee protection from loss³⁸).

Transits through this house often show a need to consolidate, to withdraw and re-evaluate, or to accept the loss of elements of life that are no longer fruitful or have served their purpose; the nature of the planet will indicate how the loss is accepted.

Traditional astrology relates the eighth house to crisis, hidden matters, anguish of mind, poison and deadly fears; yet psychological astrology often refers to it as a house of inner transformation and growth. ‘Transformation’ is probably too large a concept to be

37. *C.A.* p.54.

38. That is, the 2nd house ruler should be in the sign, exaltation, triplicity, or two of the lesser dignities of term and face, of the 8th house ruler.