In the grip of what? The Grahas in Jyotish

a shala La

with Jesse Gordon



In Jyotish, or Vedic Astrology, the planets are known by the Sanskrit word "Graha". Graha means to grip - or grasp - because the planets, in ways both subtle and not so subtle, take hold of us and change our lives. Not only do they create a thumbnail sketch of our destinies at the time of our birth (aka our horoscopes), they also dynamically affect us over time - influencing choices, relationships, and outcomes on an almost constant basis! This workshop aims to be a "meet and greet" with the grahas and their energies, from a Vedic astrology perspective. We will look at a few of the main ways the planets "grip" us, starting with our "Lagnesh", the "birth planet" that most represents each of us; the "Dashas", how different phases of our life are ruled by different planets; and transits, a look at a couple of the most famous planetary transits,

and how current placements are influencing us in the here and now. If we know what the *grahas* are doing, we can collaborate with them or even use them to our advantage. If we don't know what they are doing, we are at the mercy of their grasp.

We may look at some charts in this class. If you are interested in participating in this way, please bring your birth information, including birth time (which should be as accurate as possible) and we will cast your chart before the session begins!



Jesse Gordon discovered Jyotisha by way of Ashtanga Yoga. He had his first reading in Mysore in 2001 and began studying right away, eventually finding his teacher Pandit Sanjay Rath, who comes from a lineage of astrologers in Orissa, India. Jesse lives in Los Angeles where he also works as a filmmaker, a pursuit he sees as related to Jyotish because both are about honing stories – written in light – to be as truthful, and effective, as possible. beautifulknowledge.com

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