

# Annie Besant: Astrological Relationships

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Annie Besant was born in London, England, October 1, 1847. A considerable amount of information regarding Besant's life has been given by numerous articles, horoscope delineations and biographies. What all of these investigations agree upon is that Besant was greatly influenced by relationships during her life and as she moved from one relationship to another, these often marked major shifts in her world outlook. Once again, the horoscope might be a most effective tool to describe what is happening.

A birth chart, or horoscope, plots energies that correspond to the various planets that circle in our magnetic field, and it involves the relationship between the larger universe outside and the personal universe within. The energies that correspond with the planets affect us and describe the basic pattern that continues throughout life.

Besant was born with a tight t-square in cardinal signs — most of the planets retrograde — indicating negative traits carried over from a past lifetime. Negative traits are very often simply good traits taken to extreme or used inappropriately. In this context, life is about finding balance and learning wisdom. Looking at her being influenced through relationships, it could be surmised that Besant's best path would be to identify noble individuals working for causes she admired and who exhibited balance and wisdom, and then use her talents and abilities in the service of the cause they shared. She would then have a friend capable of checking the negative use of her talents, and this would give her a way of using her talents and abilities for good rather than letting her talents and abilities rule her. Does the horoscope support this surmise?

A t-square creates tension; it is symbolic of a dynamic personality. The Sun and the inner planets (Venus and Mercury) in Libra in opposition to Uranus show deep social concern, and the square to the Moon/Jupiter conjunction manifests itself by flouting convention — going against the normal grain.

And she did. She was deeply involved in political change. She fought for the causes she thought were right, such as freedom of thought, women's rights, secularism, birth control and workers' rights.

The predominance of the Libra planets indicates a turning point in her evolutionary process. Here the soul has to balance the world of appearance — the personality — with the inner world of reality — the soul. The soul can no longer function in the *me* consciousness, it has to become the *we* consciousness. Partnerships became a must in her life; she was always secure in relationships and never tried a new venture by herself. She did attract difficult and dominant males who influenced the direction of her life path. One such early influence was Charles Bradlaugh. Together they published John Knowlton's book on birth control, *The Fruits of Philosophy*. Here is what Mahatma KH had to say concerning this work:

I am sorry you took the trouble of posting me about Bradlaugh. I know him and his partner well. There is more than one trait in his character I esteem and respect. He is *not* immoral; nor could anything that might be said against or for him by Mrs. K. or even yourself, change or even influence my opinion of both himself and Mrs. Besant. Yet the book published by them — "*The Fruits of Philosophy*" is infamous and *highly pernicious* in its effects whatever and however beneficent and philanthropic the objects that led to the publication of the work. I regret — very deeply, my dear friend, to be obliged to differ widely in my views upon the said subject from you. I would rather avoid the unpleasant discussion. As usual, H.P.B. blundered greatly in rendering what she was told to say to Mrs. K., but on the whole she gave it out correctly. I *have not* read the work — nor ever will; but I have its unclean spirit, its brutal aura before me, and I say again in my sight the advices offered in the work are abominable; they are the fruits of Sodom and Gomorrhah rather than of Philosophy, the very name of which it degrades. The sooner we leave the subject — the better. (*Mahatma Letters*, Letter 86)

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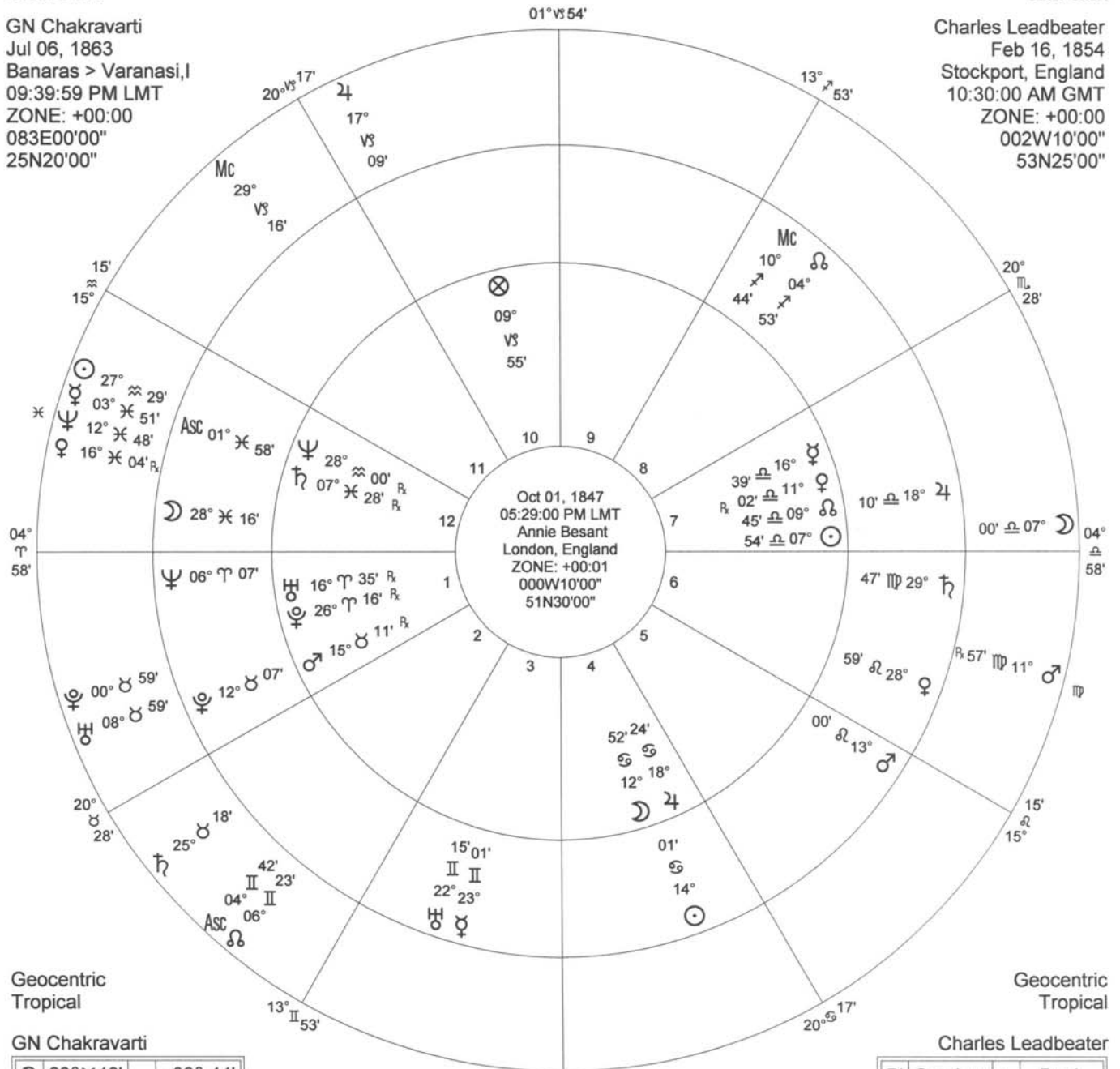
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**Second Chart**

GN Chakravarti  
 Jul 06, 1863  
 Banaras > Varanasi, I  
 09:39:59 PM LMT  
 ZONE: +00:00  
 083E00'00"  
 25N20'00"

**Outer Chart**

Charles Leadbeater  
 Feb 16, 1854  
 Stockport, England  
 10:30:00 AM GMT  
 ZONE: +00:00  
 002W10'00"  
 53N25'00"



**GN Chakravarti**

☽	28° 16'	+03° 44'
☼	14° 01'	+22° 43'
♃	23° 01'	+20° 16'
♄	28° 59'	+12° 59'
♅	13° 00'	+18° 05'
♆	18° 10'	-05° 57'
♇	29° 47'	+02° 14'
♈	22° 15'	+23° 20'
♉	06° 07'	+01° 06'
♊	12° 07'	+00° 27'
♋	04° 53'	-21° 08'
♌	10° 44'	-22° 04'
Asc	01° 58'	-10° 47'

☽	12° 52'	+17° 34'
☼	07° 54'	-03° 08'
♃	16° 39'	-06° 12'
♄	11° 02'	Rx -11° 57'
♅	15° 11'	Rx +13° 57'
♆	18° 24'	+22° 10'
♇	07° 28'	Rx -10° 40'
♈	16° 35'	Rx +05° 54'
♉	28° 00'	Rx -12° 45'
♊	26° 16'	Rx -06° 02'
♋	09° 45'	-03° 52'
⊗	09° 55'	-23° 05'
Mc	01° 54'	-23° 27'

Annie Besant  
 Geocentric  
 Tropical  
 Placidus Houses

Chart Compliments of  
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**Charles Leadbeater**

Pl	Geo Lon	Rx	Decl.
☽	07° 00'		+01° 12'
☼	27° 29'		-12° 21'
♃	03° 51'		-11° 34'
♄	16° 04'	Rx	+01° 25'
♅	11° 57'	Rx	+11° 04'
♆	17° 09'		-22° 23'
♇	25° 18'		+17° 13'
♈	08° 59'		+14° 08'
♉	12° 48'		-07° 38'
♊	00° 59'		-03° 43'
♋	06° 23'		+21° 23'
Mc	29° 16'		-20° 19'
Asc	04° 42'		+21° 06'

This letter, written in 1884 by KH demonstrates that according to the Masters, good people can be attracted to morally degrading works and that Besant was the publisher of just such a work through her association with Bradlaugh. It is also important to note that KH identified Besant as having a laudatory object in mind when publishing this book but the practices that were advocated could only lead logically and inevitably to a greater promiscuity in the social fabric.

In opposition to her Libra planets are Uranus/Pluto in Aries. Uranus, the higher octave of Mercury, aspecting Mercury gave her the gift of creative genius, also great writing and communicative abilities. Her power of suggestion was so logical that people accepted her ideas subconsciously without realizing they did so. She wrote many articles and books, depending on the ventures she was involved in at the time.

Pluto is in her first house: This is the salesman who can stir people's emotions, mobilize public sentiment, and make others act and move according to the things they care about. This energy can be used in a constructive or destructive way, as there is a tendency to force circumstances, or dictate to other people how to transform the world according to the salesman's conception of its needs. This is interesting in light of what Ernest Pelletier writes on the analysis of Besant's palm by Dr. A. Basu, who practices Indian palmistry. In "Annie Besant: Her Passions and Her Relationships", we read:

Dr. Basu indicated that it was possible, however, that Besant perceived that there were obstacles along the way. He stated that for 95% of the population such obstacles do in fact exist but that for the other 5% the obstacles are in fact simply a strong perception of such on their part. Cheiro mentions that "Mrs. Besant was a reformer and a 'fighter' in every sense of the term. She did not know what fear meant. She courted opposition and in many ways encouraged it." Besant believed that obstacles, possibly individuals, were standing in the way of achieving her goals, her passion, and she worked harder than most to achieve them. Dr. Basu believes there is an organic connection between palm and mind; that the mind is a powerful tool and the palm, being rooted in the individual's "reality", would have reflected Besant's perception of her circumstances. This, along with Dr. Basu's earlier statements, show that she was driven by a strong need to believe. After logically deducing and arriving at a conclusion, she was hooked and would go through almost any hardships to promote her current belief. As mentioned earlier, in her own words, Mrs. Besant was well aware that strong convictions delivered via speech could "sway thousands". This appeared to be one of her uppermost passions, if not her primary goal. Can we merely dismiss this as a passing phase in

her life or was this her life's motto? (*Fohat* Vol.V, No.1)

When we try to force new ideas on others we naturally antagonize people, and this gives rise to enemies. Besant through her many changes would have been constantly courting new enemies, to the extent that it would have been very easy to see them where none really existed.

The apex of her t-square is the Moon/Jupiter conjunction in Cancer. The square to the other planets shows conflict, great upheavals and sudden changes. This can also dominate and overshadow her mind, subjecting her to every form of emotion from unseen forces. She has to be careful not to allow this emotional capacity to impact on her negatively, as she can attract so-called false mystics, masters or gurus into her orb or become one herself.

Neptune is the highest degree planet in her chart in mutual reception with Saturn. This indicates unusual, intuitive and scientific abilities. If used negatively she could exaggerate and distort events. Here we see Besant is able to perceive the world in ways that are different than most others. Often when someone is trying to make others see something in a way that they are not accustomed, they exaggerate that something thereby distorting it out of its true context.

Neptune represents the mystic — Uranus the occultist. With Neptune void-of-course she did not pursue this power. Uranus compelled her toward occultism, but the negative aspects denied her full achievement. To look at it another way, this was a life of learning for her. She was never going to be a powerful occultist, but if she could discipline herself to govern herself so as to eliminate many of her negative traits, she would be that much closer in future lives to achieving the mastery that she desired.

Saturn in trine to the Moon has the making of a great teacher; she can also build on foundations already established, such as businesses or institutions. The Moon in Cancer is not the mark of a psychic; all it shows is a high degree of sensitivity. This sensitivity realized itself in one way through the sympathies she exhibited for the lower classes and disenfranchised, and the work she did to better their plight.

This is the condensed version of Besant's birth map; it shows her tendencies and potentials. Like a road map, it is up to the individual to choose which road to travel on, when to stop and where to turn.

Progressing her chart will show patterns and trends for a particular year, and the changes of consciousness from within. Transits reveal how the motion of

the planets will affect the person from the outer world. If it is a negative condition the possibility is always there to change it before it manifests.

From 1877 till 1888 Besant was living the energy of her tremendous t-square. She made her mark in politics, and became a prolific writer and a powerful orator.

In 1889 she was assigned to write a review for the *Pall Mall Gazette* on *The Secret Doctrine*, a book by H.P. Blavatsky. Besant was greatly taken by *The Secret Doctrine*, and after meeting Blavatsky she embraced Theosophy and her life's ambitions changed dramatically. Shortly after joining the Society she was appointed Recording Secretary of the Inner Group and soon published her first theosophical work.

Let us see how she responded to the Astro-influences. The progressed Moon in her tenth house (career, reputation and prestige) squared her natal Sun conjunct progressed Venus. This indicates a challenge which could change her attentions into a new creative direction. This progressed Moon corrects the imbalance of her natal t-square, making it into a grand square; this is a very dynamic configuration. This grand cross and the oppositions indicate she will be brought in contact with people who will represent her — as she was in past lifetimes.

In 1891 Blavatsky decided to send Besant to America, to attend the Convention of the Theosophical Society's American Section as her special delegate. This was also the year when Blavatsky made her statement that Besant was neither spiritual nor psychic, that she was all intellect. Besant has her Uranus square Jupiter. Blavatsky, on the other hand, has Uranus conjunct Jupiter, and this is an aspect of a true occultist with great intuitive powers. Besant's square aspect tends to go overboard and embark on all sorts of ill-defined schemes. Her Uranus-Mercury denotes the genius and intellectual. Finally, this was also the year of Blavatsky's death.

Besant's chart was in aspect by transiting Pluto in trine to her natal Sun, and the transit of Jupiter conjunct her natal Saturn. This transit tells of self-restrictions, as well of restrictions placed upon her by circumstances. Pluto tells of accomplished ambitions.

In 1893 Besant went to Chicago for the World's Fair, Parliament of Religions, Theosophical Congress. Her progressed Moon now on her natal Saturn tells of isolation and loneliness. This is a strong conflict between what she thinks of herself and what she thinks she should be. The transit of Saturn on her natal Libra planets, and Jupiter on her Aries planets indi-

cates a need to confront the unconscious areas of the psyche. New relationships with a strong "fated" quality may come into her life.

Besant met Prof. G.N. Chakravarti, a Hindu scholar. Besant was very much attracted to Chakravarti, and his influence on her was tremendous. Besant also went to India and became an orthodox Hindu. She formulated the case against W.Q. Judge with Chakravarti. "The Horoscope of Annie Besant" by Sepharial (Walter Old) describes the period of 1893 to the end of the century. He wrote the following while Besant was in India:

From the present year (1893) till the close of the century, a series of evil primary directions are formed in the horoscope, and it is to be hoped that the effects signified thereby — severe illness, loss of friends, changes in life, severed links, home troubles and losses, — will lose some of their keen edge when working out their destined purpose in a life already charged with so much sorrow and hardship. (*The Theosophist*, January 1894, p.223)

According to Sepharial, the period from 1893-1900, was a period where Besant was to be tested and allowed to work through some negative currents. Instead of working through these challenging influences like Blavatsky (prior to 1876) and Judge (from 1876-1884) in private, she was thrusting herself into a leadership role. Her mistakes were destined to affect many and cause great disunion within the cause that she was championing. This period starts in India with Chakravarti.

The Astro chart of Chakravarti shows Uranus is conjunct his Mercury, an original genius with insights through intuition and other forms of occultism. The conjunction is squared by the Moon. This tells of a strong-willed person who is not bound by moral principles. His conjunction trines Besant's Libra planets, which made her an easy and willing target for his influence as she wanted to become a famous occultist. This influence lasted a few years and it changed Besant's philosophy toward Theosophy as she brought many changes to the Society and her actions split the Society into many parts.

Because it is very difficult to verify exact birth times a century and a half ago, it is not wise to put stock in the exact position of the houses nor in the placement of the quick moving Moon. However, if the times we are using are correct, Chakravarti's natal Sun is in almost perfect conjunction with Besant's natal Moon. The flow of influence would therefore be from a dominant Chakravarti to a receptive Besant. The strong-willed and morally flexible Chakravarti could cause havoc in Besant's psyche if she opened up to him, which, according to Archibald Keightley, she indeed did.

In 1895-96 Besant turned her attention toward Charles W. Leadbeater, a Theosophist who received his occult training in India. He had far more influence over Besant than Chakravarti. His planets Neptune and Venus are conjunct in Pisces, Neptune being the higher octave of Venus, a sign of a true mystic. Besant's progressed Moon conjuncts her natal Aries planets, Uranus and Pluto. This brings very intense emotional experiences, like manipulating or being manipulated by a partner. Chakravarti was also to lose his place as the principle occult influence on Besant.

Again, with Leadbeater, we have an interesting Sun/Moon conjunction with Besant. This time it is the other way around with Besant's natal Sun conjuncting Leadbeater's natal Moon. Besant could be seen to be a dominant influence on Leadbeater. This is interesting in light of the notoriety that Leadbeater was to gain later on. We already know that Besant was willing to rationalize immoral practices for her time when it came to birth control. Was she also as practical when it came to the sexuality of adolescent boys and was this something that she would feel free to discuss with Leadbeater? If Leadbeater was merely acting on theory as outlined by Besant in his interaction with adolescent boys, would this explain why Besant so readily accepted him back into the Society after Olcott died?

Leadbeater and Besant developed their ability to "travel" in time and space and also began to examine atoms and molecules in research they called Occult Chemistry. Besant experiences occult knowledge by observation and instructions from Leadbeater. In a letter to F. Arundale, Leadbeater wrote the following on a short holiday he shared with Besant in 1895:

We stayed at a house called "The Cottage", a real old fashioned place, delightfully clean and quiet, but possessing modern conveniences as far as baths and good cooking are concerned. We were visited more than once by the Masters, also by D.K. and H.P.B, and while we were there Mrs. Besant learnt to use astral vision, which is not only a never-ceasing delight to her, but a great help to me, as I have now another person to help check my recollection of things. She plunged into it all with the greatest ardour, and we made some very interesting investigations together, the results of which will no doubt materialize them-

selves presently in the form of papers or articles. ([www.katinkahesselink.net/other/leadb2.html](http://www.katinkahesselink.net/other/leadb2.html))

Everything Besant was accusing Judge of in her still ongoing case against him, she herself could be seen to be duplicating here. Some would argue that she was rapidly losing her moral center. The mind and body needs to prepare by exercises and esoteric meditation before the psychic centers can be purified and then awakened. Besant's restless energy was geared toward action — she could not wait and go through a long learning period. In 1891 Blavatsky described her as "pure intellect"; in 1895 she claims to be socializing with the dead Blavatsky in the astral.

In 1907 Besant became president of the Theosophical Society till her death in 1933. Saturn has returned to its natal position, a time of endings and new beginnings. The progressed Sun in sextile aspect to the natal Sun, brings a time of opportunities where her goals and objectives will be met.

In 1909 Krishnamurti came into Besant's life via Leadbeater. He discovered the Indian boy and declared by seeing his aura, that he was the long awaited Lord Maitreya. Besant adopted him and raised him as her own son. Her progressed Moon conjuncts her natal Venus and is square to her natal Moon, and her progressed Venus is now in trine to her natal Neptune. This denotes a pleasant time in her life; only time will tell if this is a spiritual undertaking or a delusion.

In 1929 Krishnamurti rebelled, breaking with the Theosophical Society and denouncing his divinity. Besant was by now aged and senile, never realizing that her dream of cultivating the Maitreya has been denied. Besant's progressed Sun reached the beginning of Capricorn in a critical degree and the progressed Moon landed at its natal position. The Sun this time is in a grand square to her natal t-square. She began her theosophical journey with the progressed Moon creating a grand square with her natal t-square and ends her journey with her progressed Sun creating a similar grand square. If the first grand square signified the planting of the seed that was Besant in the theosophical soil, the second grand square might be seen as its fruit — her senility. ☹️

A comparison of this horoscope may be made with Sepharial's original 1893 version found at [www.TheosophyCanada.com](http://www.TheosophyCanada.com).

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