Medieval Astrology Profile for the Emperor Taishō of Japan

File History: Initial 12-Feb-2013; Tables Revised 8-Jun-2016

Introduction to delineation of appearance and character in natal astrology. The following document is a hand-written analysis of the **Emperor Taishō**, using the principles of medieval predictive astrology. The discipline of natal astrology focuses on the fate of an individual based on a horoscope cast for the moment of birth. Within natal astrology, the 1st house occupying the eastern horizon at birth describes the native: physical vitality, appearance, and character. Between the Hellenistic and Medieval eras several specialized models were developed to assess these characteristics. They include **longevity** (vitality and length of life), **physiognomy** (form and shape of the face and body), **victor of the chart** (overall life purpose), **manners** (social conduct including ethical behavior), and **temperament** (elemental mix of fire, earth, air, and water with applications in medical astrology). Prior research has presented models and results for longevity (*A Rectification Manual: The American Presidency*, Chapter 4) and physiognomy (*Astrological Physiognomy: History and Sources* & *Astrological Physiognomy: Empirical Tests of the Leo Rising Decan*).

Victor of the Chart. Included are two competing models for computing the victor of the chart said to be the single most powerful planet in the horoscope. According to Plato's follower Porphyry, by configuration in the natal horoscope the planet signifying the victor of the chart shows the life choice made by the soul prior to incarnation. Plato explains the details of his soul model in *The Myth of Er* found in the closing pages of his work *The Republic*. Porphyry and his peer Antiochus offer specific rules for determining the victor of the chart. The method of Antiochus/Porphyry is compared to a later method for determining the victor suggested by the Jewish Rabbi Abraham ben Meir ibn Ezra, a philosopher and astrologer active in the 12th century. For a discussion of these two models, see the companion paper *Victor of the Chart: Testing Methods of Antiochus/Porphyry and Ibn Ezra*, which serves as a key to what is presented here.

Manners. Plato was not alone among Greek philosophers in conceiving models for the soul. Aristotle's model of vegetative, sensitive, and intellective soul levels (assigned respectively to the plant, animal, and human kingdoms) was taken up by Ptolemy, who found a correspondence between the sensitive and intellective soul and Moon and Mercury in the natal horoscope. Configuration of the Moon and Mercury, with special emphasis given to their rulers, is a second method for analyzing the soul. Ptolemy introduces this model in *Tetrabiblos III.13* "Of the Quality of the Soul." Subsequent authors refer to this model as "Significators of the Soul" or "Manners." A summary template for the Moon and Mercury is presented in the paper and will be further developed in future versions.

Acknowledgements

Birth Data
Emperor Taishō, 31-Aug-1879, 8:12 AM, Tokyo, Japan.
Source: Quoted BC/BR (Rodden Rating: AA). Provided by arrangement with Astrodienst.
Birth Data Link: http://www.astro.com/astro-databank/Yoshihito,_Emperor_of_Japan

Photo Image
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Emperor Taishō

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Emperor Taishō (August 31, 1879 – December 25, 1926)

Toshihito was one of fifteen children of the Emperor Meiji's brood. Ten of his other siblings died as infants or during childbirth, most from meningitis. Five Meiji children remained. With all four of his siblings being females, Toshihito was named the official heir on August 31, 1887. Unfortunately for Toshihito, he contracted cerebral meningitis as an infant but unlike his other siblings he survived to adulthood. This condition left Toshihito with permanent mental disabilities which limited his ability to function as titular head of the Japanese nation. Following his accession to the throne on July 30, 1912, the Emperor Taishō's public appearances were limited. Following deteriorating in mental health in 1918; he no longer appeared in public. On November 25, 1921, his son Hirohito was named regent in preparation for Hirohito's reign.

During his reign, The Taishō period (1912-1926) is remembered for the shift of political power from elder statesmen to the Diet (representative legislative body) and various democratic organizations. This period was a distinct break between the pre-WWI industrial buildup achieved during the Meiji period and the militarism of the early Showa period.

What is striking about the horoscope of the Emperor Taishō is Venus/Libra conjunct the ASC, consistent with peace and liberalism as a political theme. A similar configuration can be found in former US President Bill Clinton's horoscope, with both Venus and Mars in Libra conjunct the Ascendant. Like the Taishō Emperor, Clinton also presided over a period of liberalism and strong growth in democratic institutions.

Jupiter/Pisces-rx placed in the 6th house of pets is consistent with the explosive popularity of koi (large carp fish bred for color and ornamentation) following display of color variations of koi during the 1914 Tokyo Exposition held during the Emperor's reign.

References

I have not found any single book length biography on the Emperor Taishō and have relied on details provided in biographies of his father (the Emperor Meiji) and his son (the Emperor Showa) for this research. Another perspective is offered by Stephen Large who argues that the Emperor Taishō's legacy was purposely diminished and distorted by pro-military factions who judged political liberalism under Taishō's reign inconsistent with Japanese imperial ambitions. Thus, Large advocates Emperor Taishō as a greater figure than the slobbering madman sometimes described by his enemies.

Donald Keene. *Emperor of Japan: Meiji and His World, 1852-1912*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002.

Herbert Bix. *Hirohito and the making of modern Japan*. New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2000.

Stephen S. Large. *Emperors of the Rising Sun*. Tokyo: Kodansha International, 1997.

Research Interests

Japan Mundane Astrology

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Rectification

Available Birth Data

Astro-Databank cites official birth records for an 8:12 a.m. birth time. The proposed rectification is slightly earlier.

Proposed Rectification

Emperor Taishō
31-Aug-1879
8:09:39 AM
LMT -09:19:05
Tokyo, Japan
139e46
35n42
ASC 9LI16’19”

Solar Arc Directions

For death of the Emperor Taishō’s father on 30-Jul-1912, two solar arcs are exact:

d.s.a. Sun conj ASC and d.s.a. Sun rules the 11th, or death of father.
d.s.a. Saturn 16TA58 conj Lot of the Father 16TA58. Saturn rules the 4th of the father and is placed 8 signs from the Sun, which links it to death of the father by derived houses from the Sun.

In my opinion, this combination of measurements virtually locks down the rectification. This is confirmed by the following primary directions:

Primary Directions

PT	D	Venus/Libra	P	dex. trine Moon (l=MO) d. => ASC	10-May-1900
PT	D	Venus/Libra	P	dex. trine Moon d. => ASC	12-Apr-1901

Marriage, 10-May-1900, exact date.
Birth of Hirohito, first son, 29-Apr-1901.

REG	D	Venus/Libra	P	dex. trine Moon d. => Venus	17-May-1902

Birth of 2nd son Prince Chichibu, 26-May-1902.

REG	D	Saturn/Aquarius	P	Moon d. => North Node	18-Dec-1915

Birth of 4th son Prince Mikasa, 2-Dec-1915.

PT	D	Venus/Capricorn	P	dex. square Saturn c. => Moon	22-Nov-1926

Death, heart attack following pneumonia, 25-Dec-1926.

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Template for Computing Victor of the Chart a/c Ibn Ezra

Total Victor Scores for 12 Model Variations

			☉	☽	☿	♀	♂	♃	♄	Victor
Taisho Emperor of Japan	Chaldean	IA	11	9	19	29	10	7	30	Saturn
Taisho Emperor of Japan	Chaldean	IB	11	9	19	29	10	7	30	Saturn
Taisho Emperor of Japan	Chaldean	IIA	18	9	25	29	8	6	29	Venus Saturn
Taisho Emperor of Japan	Chaldean	IIB	18	9	25	29	8	6	29	Venus Saturn
Taisho Emperor of Japan	Chaldean	IIIA	18	15	31	29	14	15	32	Saturn
Taisho Emperor of Japan	Chaldean	IIIB	18	15	31	29	14	15	32	Saturn
Taisho Emperor of Japan	Triplicity	IA	10	7	20	31	10	7	30	Venus
Taisho Emperor of Japan	Triplicity	IB	10	7	20	31	10	7	30	Venus
Taisho Emperor of Japan	Triplicity	IIA	17	7	26	31	8	6	29	Venus
Taisho Emperor of Japan	Triplicity	IIB	17	7	26	31	8	6	29	Venus
Taisho Emperor of Japan	Triplicity	IIIA	17	13	32	31	14	15	32	Mercury Saturn
Taisho Emperor of Japan	Triplicity	IIIB	17	13	32	31	14	15	32	Mercury Saturn

Breakout Scores for Triplicity – IB Model

1507 Version, In-sect triplicity ruler, Triplicity decans

	----------	☉	☽	☿	♀	♂	♃	♄
Sun	7VI08			10	5			
Moon	27AQ06				1			10
ASC	9LI16			2	6			7
LOF	29PI14				7	1	5	2
Syzygy	24LE29	8				3		
Superiors – Oriental						1	1	1
Houses		2	7	8	12	5	1	10
TOTAL		10	7	20	31	10	7	30

KEY

Rulerships: *house=5; exaltation=4; in-sect triplicity=3; bound=2; face=1*
Houses: *H1=12; H10=11; H7=10; H4=9; H11=8; H5=7; H2=6; H8=5; H9=4; H3=3; H12=2; H6=1*
House system: *Alchabitius semi-arc with 5 degree offset rule*
Superiors – Oriental: *helical rising to sextile=3; sextile to square=2; square to 1st station=1*

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Investigating the Victor of the Chart a/c Antiochus/Porphyry – Stage I – Identify

	Significator	Position	☉	☽	☿	♀	♂	♃	♄
	MC degree	10 CA 15							
*	MC degree - sign ruler			1					
	MC degree - bound ruler					1			
	MC degree - dwad ruler	03 SC 06					1		
*	Planet in MC sign								
*	Planet in MC bound								
	Asc degree	09 LI 16							
*	Asc degree - sign ruler					1			
	Asc degree - bound ruler				1				
	Asc degree - dwad ruler	21 CP 13							1
*	Planet in Asc sign					1			
*	Planet in Asc bound					1			
	Moon degree	27 AQ 06							
*	Moon degree - sign ruler								1
	Moon degree - bound ruler								1
	Moon degree - dwad ruler	25 SA 22						1	
	Sun degree	07 VI 08							
	Sun degree - sign ruler				1				
	Sun degree - bound ruler					1			
	Sun degree - dwad ruler	25 SC 46					1		
	Pars Fortuna degree	29 PI 14							
*	Pars Fortuna degree - sign ruler							1	
	Pars Fortuna degree - bound ruler								1
	Pars Fortuna degree - dwad ruler	20 AQ 49							1
	Pars Spirit degree	19 AR 18							
	Pars Spirit degree - sign ruler						1		
	Pars Spirit degree - bound ruler				1				
	Pars Spirit degree - dwad ruler	21 SC 37					1		
	Syzygy degree	24 LE 29							
	Syzygy degree - sign ruler		1						
*	Syzygy degree - bound ruler						1		
	Syzygy degree - dwad ruler	23 TA 57				1			
	Planet Phases								
*	Rising within 7 days				1				
*	Setting within 7 days								
	Acronycal rising							1	
*	Station within 7 days				1	1			
	Total (Sign only)		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Total (Bound only)		0	0	2	2	1	0	2
	Total (Dwad only)		0	0	0	1	3	1	2
	Total (Sign + Bound)		1	1	3	3	2	1	3
	Total (Sign + Bound + Dwad)		1	1	3	4	5	2	5
	Total		1	1	5	7	5	3	5

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Investigating the Victor of the Chart a/c Antiochus/Porphyry – Stage II – Evaluate

SECT	☉	☽	☿	♀	♂	♃	♄
Diurnal planets: Is the chart diurnal?	1					1	1
Diurnal planets: Placed on same horizon as Sun?							1
Diurnal planets: Placed in masculine sign?							1
Nocturnal planets: Is the chart nocturnal?							
Nocturnal planets: Placed on opposite horizon as Sun?		1		1			
Nocturnal planets: Placed in feminine sign (except Mars)?							
Is Mercury diurnal on diurnal chart, or nocturnal on nocturnal chart?			1				
SOLAR PHASE	☉	☽	☿	♀	♂	♃	♄
Velocity	0.97	13.02	-0.39	0.11	0.42	-0.1	-0.1
Latitude	0	2.8	-2.57	-6.3	-2.4	-1.4	-2.7
Superiors oriental or inferiors occidental?				1	1	1	1
ADVANCED: SUPERIOR PLANETS							
Superior: Cazimi - Conjunct Sun							
Superior: Oriental - Combust							
Superior: Oriental - Under sunbeams							
Superior: Oriental - Rising to waxing sextile							
Superior: Oriental - Waxing sextile to square							
Superior: Oriental - Square to 1st station					1		
Superior: Oriental - 1st station (retrograde)							
Superior: Oriental - Retrograde to acronycal rising							1
Superior: Acronycal rising						1	
Superior: Occidental - Opposition to 2nd station							
Superior: Occidental - 2nd station (direct)							
Superior: Occidental - From 2nd station to waning square							
Superior: Occidental - Waning square to sextile							
Superior: Occidental - Sextile to sinking							
Superior: Occidental - Under sunbeams							
Superior: Occidental - Combust							
ADVANCED: INFERIOR PLANETS							
Inferior: Cazimi - Retrograde conjunction							
Inferior: Oriental - Retrograde combust							
Inferior: Oriental - Retrograde under sunbeams			1				
Inferior: Oriental - Rising to 1st direct station							
Inferior: Oriental - 1st direct station							
Inferior: Oriental - From 1st direct station to sinking							
Inferior: Oriental - Direct under sunbeams							
Inferior: Oriental - Direct combust							
Inferior: Cazimi - Direct conjunction							
Inferior: Occidental - Direct combust							
Inferior: Occidental - Direct under sunbeams							
Inferior: Occidental - Rising to 2nd retrograde station				1			
Inferior: Occidental - 2nd retrograde station							
Inferior: Occidental - From 2nd station to setting							
Inferior: Occidental - Retrograde under sunbeams							
Inferior: Occidental - Retrograde combust							

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Investigating the Victor of the Chart a/c Antiochus/Porphyry – Stage II – Evaluate - CONT

HOUSE POSITION	☉	☽	☿	♀	♂	♃	♄
Relative to Ascendant							
Whole Sign House Position (ASC): Angle				1			7
Whole Sign House Position (ASC): Succedent		5	11		8		
Whole Sign House Position (ASC): Cadent	12					6	
Relative to Lot of Fortune							
Whole Sign House Position (LOF): Angle	7					1	
Whole Sign House Position (LOF): Succedent				8			2
Whole Sign House Position (LOF): Cadent		12	6		3		
Relative to Lot of Spirit							
Whole Sign House Position (LOS): Angle				7			1
Whole Sign House Position (LOS): Succedent		11	5		2		
Whole Sign House Position (LOS): Cadent	6					12	
House of Joy							
Whole Sign House of Joy							
Quadrant Placement relative to Sex							
Masculine planets in masculine quadrants (4,5,6,10,11,12)	1					1	
Feminine planets in feminine quadrants (1,2,3,7,8,9)							
ESSENTIAL DIGNITY	☉	☽	☿	♀	♂	♃	♄
Dignity - Sign				1		1	
Dignity - Exaltation							
Dignity - Exaltation degree							
Dignity - Triplicity - Diurnal							
Dignity - Triplicity - Nocturnal							
Dignity - Triplicity - Participating					1		1
Dignity - Bound							
Dignity - Decan				1		1	
Dignity - Fall							1
Dignity - Detriment					1		
PLANETARY/NODAL CONFIGURATION	☉	☽	☿	♀	♂	♃	♄
Moon's configuration							
From which planet does the Moon separate?			1				
To which planet does the Moon apply?							
Reception							
Which planets are received by sign?		1		in		in	
Mutual reception by sign							
Which planets are received by exaltation?				1	1		
Mutual reception by exaltation							
Which planets are received by bound?		1	1	1	1		1
Mutual reception by bound							
Position relative to the Nodes							
Conjunct the North Node by sign?							
Conjunct the North Node within 12 degrees?							
Conjunct the South Node by sign?							
Conjunct the South Node within 12 degrees?							
Square the Nodes within 5 degrees?							
TIME LORDS	☉	☽	☿	♀	♂	♃	♄
Day ruler	1						
Planetary Hour ruler			1				

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Template for Investigation of Manners

MANNERS	-------	☉	☽	☿	♀	♂	♃	♄
MOON 27AQ06								
Sign Ruler	♄♈							
Bound	♄♒							
Bound Ruler	♄♈							
Mubtazz Scoring - single point	♄♈				1			**1,1,1**
Mubtazz Scoring – early medieval	♄♈				1			**5,3,2**
Mubtazz Scoring – late medieval	♄♈			3	1		3	**5,3,2**
Fixed Stars								
Saturn conj Alpheratz 1 31’ (Pegasus)	♀							
MERCURY 25LE47								
Sign Ruler	☉♍							
Bound	♂♌							
Bound Ruler	♂♉							
Mubtazz Scoring for Mercury – single point	☉♍ => ♀♎	**1,1**				**1,1**		
Mubtazz Scoring for Mercury – early Medieval	☉♍ => ♀♎	**5,2**				3,1		
Mubtazz Scoring for Mercury – late Medieval	☉♍ => ♀♎	**5,3**				2,1	3	3
Fixed Stars								
Sun conj Alioth 0 47’ (Ursa Major)	♂							
Sun conj Thuban 0 43’ (Dragon)	♂♄							
Venus conj Vindemiatrix 0 35’ (Maiden)	♄☿							
Venus conj Caphir 0 48’ (Maiden)	☿♀							

KEY – Mubtazz Scoring
Single point: assigns 1 point for each essential dignity
Early medieval: sign 5, exaltation 4, bound 3, primary triplicity lord 2, decan 1. Used by Al-Kindi and Māshā’allāh.
Late medieval: sign 4, exaltation 4, triplicity lords (all) 3, bound 2, decan 1. Used by Schoener; taught by Zoller.

Fixed Stars from Janus 4.3 software. Criteria: conjunction within 2 degrees longitude.

Additional

Moon’s Configuration: Moon separates from Mercury and is void of course.

Moon-Mercury whole sign aspect? Yes. Moon opposed Mercury.

Do scoring methods agree? With the exception that the single point scoring system for Mercury ranks Mars on par with the Sun (whose bound ruler is in turn Venus), methods agree on **Saturn-Venus** as significators of manners.

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Model Summary

(for model details see www.regulus-astrology.com/research.html)

Physiognomy

Ascendant sign: Libra
Ascendant sign ruler: Venus/Libra
Ascendant decan: Libra
Ascendant decan ruler: Venus/Libra

The 1st photograph, probably taken during youth, is not a reliable indication of physiognomy features which do not fully manifest until adulthood. For the 2nd photo, the perspective obscures the shape of the face, so it is not clear whether or not Toshihito has an ovate-shaped face according to Willner's facial shape model for Libra. However the overall appearance is balanced, well–proportioned, and somewhat slender; all characteristics consistent with Libra.

Longevity: 47y 3m 24d

Figure is nocturnal and Moon/Aquarius/5th is allowable as hilaj. Venus rules the Moon's decan and is the best dignified planet in the figure in addition to being the victor. Venus is the kadukhudhah and grants her 82 major years. Saturn opposes and deducts 30 minor years for a net longevity projection of 52. He lived fewer years.

Victor of the Chart: Venus/Libra

Any planet placed in its sign rulership and conjoined to the Ascendant is difficult to reject as the victor of the horoscope by any method. Venus is also in the favored evening star/occidental solar phase. Venus/Libra is the victor.

Manners: Saturn-Venus

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