Copies of this book can be had from:

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INTRODUCTION

I have great pleasure in being able to present before the public one more monumental work—Jataka Tatva (जातकतत्व)—which I think will prove a useful addition to the student of Astrology. That Astrology is a boat necessary to save mankind from the dangers which come unnoticed, cannot be denied. Vaidyanatha Dikshita rightly observes in his Jatakaparijata as follows:

अर्थाज्ञेन सहायः पुरुषाणामपदगच्छे पोतः ।
यात्राकाले मन्त्री जातकमपहाय नास्त्यपरः ॥

"There is nothing in the world like a horoscope to help men in the acquisition of wealth, to save them like a boat in a sea of troubles and to serve them as a guide in their journey." This school of thought was kept in vogue in ancient Hindu system of education, wherein a Brahmin, before entering the portals of married life, should necessarily undergo tuition in the four Vedas and the Shad Angas (six Angas) viz.,

शिक्षा कल्यो व्याकरणं निरुक्तं ज्योतिषं गतिः ।
छन्दसं ख्यातं चैव पद्मं वेदं उच्चते ॥

"Phonetics, work dealing with Rituals, Grammar, Etymology, Astronomy and Astrology and Prosody." It was thought that the student's career would not be complete without a good knowledge of ज्योतिष (Jyotisha). It is a pity that the modern leading Universities of the
world are not paying the attention which this celestial Science deserves. Any time spent on it is not a waste, but an acquisition. No doubt importance should be given to the correct method of teaching, and if this be faithfully followed, I have no doubt one of our long-cherished hopes will be fulfilled.

The present work is significantly different from other works, inasmuch as the method of imparting is by *Sutras* and not by *Slokas*. The author has very cleverly classified results under different heads making reference easy. Much importance is given to the connection between Medicine and Astrology which only goes to show how a knowledge of Astrology will go a long way to increase the Doctor's merit. This has been rightly observed by Rao Bahadur Dr. M. Gurusami Mudaliar of Madras in his Presidential address to the Scientific Session of the Tenth L. I. M. Conference held at Madras last December wherein he says: "A knowledge of Astrology if judiciously applied, has not merely a theoretical value; it has also a practical value. The horoscope of any individual may be noted in his Case Sheet."

Mahadeva, the author of this work, seems to be a man of exceptional merit. His knowledge of Medicine and his fluency of Sanskrit are all well brought out in this work. He seems to be a devotee of Goddess Parvati, more in the *प्रवृत्तिमागी*-Pravrithi marga than in the *निन्द्रित*-Nivritthi one. The first Sutra in the *संज्ञात्व*-Samjna Tatva and the introductory *Sloka* in the *प्रकीर्णत्त्व*-Prakeerna Tatva speak in support of this statement. He has freely adopted ideas from *Vārahāmihira,*
Kalyana-Varman, Vaidyanatha Dikshita and others, but with the difference that he has made use of his own free views wherever necessary. This goes to show that the date of Mahadeva should be a later one than that of Vaidyanatha Dikshita.

The work consists of five Tatvas: viz., (1) संक्षात्तत्व-Samjna Tatva (2) सूतिकात्तत्व-Sutika Tatva (3) प्रकृणत्तत्व-Prakirna Tatva (4) स्त्रीजातकर्त्तत्व-Stri Jataka Tatva, and (5) दृष्टात्तत्व-Dasa Tatva. The word तत्तत्व-Tatva, itself gives us a suggestion that the five elements which compose the human body respectively correspond to the five above Tatvas. पृथ्वीतत्व-Prithwi Tatva is the foundation of our body and संक्षात्तत्व-Samjna-Tatva is therefore enunciated first. This is followed by सूतिकात्तत्व-Sutika Tatva as 'water' follows Earth (पृथ्वी-Prithwi). प्रकृणत्तत्व-Prakirna Tatva is the biggest and the most beautiful of the work; and if this is removed, the work suffers extinction, just as our body suffers extinction, if तेजस-Tejas is removed. स्त्रीजातकर्त्तत्व-Stri Jataka Tatva is comparable with वायु-Vayu as the planet presiding over this तत्तत्व-Tatva is Venus — a female planet — vide यत्तकालामसू IV-25. Further, the direction for which वायु-Vayu is the lord owned by the Moon—another female planet. (Vide ऋ. जा. II-5). The दृष्टात्तत्व-Dasa Tatva is the finale of the book and corresponds to Ether, the last of the पञ्चतत्तत्व-Pancha Tatva. A clear interpretation of a दृष्टा-Dasa is a difficult task and in rarity is capable of being compared with the rare element Ether and is as far from the human reach as the conservative planet Saturn is from the Earth.

I beg to acknowledge with deep gratitude the valuable help rendered to me cheerfully by His
Holiness Sri Vaidyanatha Bharathi Swami D.D., D.V.S.,
President of the Mysore Ayurvedic Academy, in
suggesting correct technical English medical terms for
the several kinds of diseases referred to in this book.

Opportunity has been freely taken to show the
esoteric side of Astrology. Helping incidents from
the Indian Mythology have been stated more than once
in their proper places. An appendix containing two
charts has been added wherein importance of constella-
tions and their influence on life are widely discussed.

I have to state here that almost all the notes in
this work have been written by my son, Chi.; K. S.
Krishnamurthi, B.sc. (Hons). I must offer my thanks
to Mr. V. B. Srikantaiya of Messrs. V. B. Soobbiah &
Sons, for the neat and expeditious execution of the
work.

Basavangudi,

29th January 1941.

V. Subrahmanya Sastri.
Preface to the Second edition

I have great pleasure in pleading before the public, the 2nd edition of this monumental work. Copies of of the 1st edition were exhausted long back; but due to several reason beyond my control, I could not bring forth the revised edition earlier. For this lapse on my part, I crave the pardon of the generous public.

During my study of the science in recent years, I was fortunate enough to come across a copy of this work i.e. Jataka Tatwa with Hindi commentary by Srinivasa Mahadevji Pathak through the kind agency of Sri B. Gopalakrishna Acharya Mangalore. This copy of Jataka Tatwa referred to above, throws very interesting light on the dates of the author Sri Mahadeva whose full name is furnished as Sri Mahadevji Revashankarji Pathak, Rutlam and his dates have been furnished as, birth 1899 Vikram Saka (corresponding to 1842 A. D.) and death 1945 Vikram Saka (1888 A.D.). The commentator has given indication that the said Mahadeva has written this book after a great study and analysis of many of the original astrological texts such as Parasharihora, Lomasamhita, Jaiminisutra, Shambuhora Prakasa, Sukhaphakkika, Jatakaparijata, Manasagari, Lagna-Chandrika, Jatakabharana Sarvartha-Chintamani etc. etc, I am deeply indebted of Sri Gopalakrisna acharya for this additional useful information.

The commentator Sri Srinivasa Mahadevji Pathak who is said to be the very son of the author has indicated in his commentary that the author Mahadeva
hails from Parasara dynasty. No wonder the author is full of astrological cream as Parasara is well known to be the founder of astrological science in our country. This work is reported to have been completed on Phalguna Shukla Panchami of the Vikrama Samvat 1928 (corresponding to 1871 A.D.) I am indeed very grateful to the commentator for this very useful piece of information.

It is high time that this Science of astrology is understood, analysed & studied in the proper perspective. Mere three dimensional knowledge is found to be inadequate and intuition with analytical brain seems to be the catchword of a perfect astrologer. I may add that this book is a self contained text on astrology complete with all relevent branches.

My thanks are due to the proprietor of Sri Sadhana Press, Gandhinagar, Bangalore, who has helped me to get this book neatly printed and bound within the shortest possible time.

BANGALORE 15th August 1967

K. S. KRISHNA MURTHY