

“My People Love Me!”: The Standoff in Libya

by Douglas Noblehorse

On February 19, 2011 I gave a short Hermes Half-Hour presentation to the [Arizona Society of Astrologers](#) on the revolutionary crises that were then in the developing stages across northern Africa and the Middle East. These uprisings and demonstrations have fascinated the outside world with their speed of propagation and their largely secular, popular support. They have also unnerved not only the political heavyweight Saudi Arabia (whose rulers fear the revolutionary contagion), but also many other parts of the world because of the uncertainty that now surrounds the availability and flow of oil, the current drug of choice for many countries including the United States.

My general methodology was to compare national horoscopes with the tropical [Aries Ingress chart for 2011](#)¹ which this year features a potent partile conjunction between the Sun and Uranus at 0 degrees tropical Aries.² This degree or portion of the Zodiac was also sensitized by the first (for this go-around) Jupiter/Uranus conjunction in June of 2010³. This region of the Zodiac will be further destabilized by the seven waxing squares that mark the Uranus/Pluto cycle (echoing the turmoil and unrest that accompanied the conjunction between these two during the 1960s) from 2012-2015. Add to this the seasonal stations of both Saturn and Pluto in cardinal signs and its clear that nations whose founding charts include points and/or planets in early cardinal signs will be connected (on some level) to the current unrest in the Middle East.



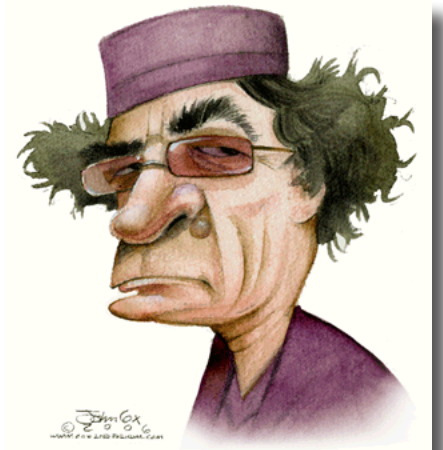
One of the countries I briefly examined was Libya, whose unrest, protest and emerging revolution boiled over on February 15, 2011 - just four days before my talk. Protestors were met with a heavy hand from Libya's martial forces, first the police, then the Army when the police defected to the protestors. By that weekend Qaddafi, the strongman holding Libya in his grip, began importing mercenaries to break up the crowds and discourage any anti-Qaddafi movement - because his Army (in many cases) like the police refused to fire on their countrymen. Qaddafi however, raised the stakes as he began organizing his core military support to begin a violent crackdown - even using helicopter gunships to fire on his own citizenry.

The chart I used for Libya was the [Independence](#) chart, set for December 24, 1951 in Tripoli, Libya, no time known so a Solar Chart was employed. With a natal Saturn and Mars in mid-Libra (being set off by a Saturn station on January 25, 2011 - the beginning of the Egyptian revolution - at 17 Libra, this being also the degree of the Moon in the Aries Ingress chart); a natal Sun at the beginning of Capricorn (under the thumb of a transiting Pluto); and a natal Jupiter in early Aries it was quite suggestive to me that Libya was sailing into *rough waters*, especially with the Saturn and Mars emphasis, Saturn bringing a *crushing* response aligned with Mars' *violence*. Jupiter doesn't help by *prompting* Qaddafi towards *overkill*.

The capper to this scenario was the [Aries Ingress](#) Sun/Uranus on the IC Astro*Carto*Graphy line that runs through Libya right by the capital Tripoli. With the [Aries Ingress](#) Pluto on the Ascendant ACG line running by Cairo, Egypt signifying the *transformative* revolution there, it's easy to suspect the Uranus/IC line of bringing *instability* and *unpredictability* to Libya.

Given my time constraints for my talk I could not present a deeper analysis. With subsequent developments in Libya however, and with the rising threat of civil war I thought it prudent to take a closer, follow-up look at events in Libya. In the interest of broadening the picture I will be using [the chart for the current Libyan regime](#), which has its genesis in Khaddafi's coup that took place on September 1, 1969, with Khaddafi announcing the new Libyan Republic on the radio at 6:30 AM - presumably from Tripoli, the capital.

I will also include the [Solar Chart for Qaddafi](#), set for sunrise on June 7, 1942 at



Sirte, Libya. I choose the solar Sunrise Chart as it echoes the **1969 revolution chart that is timed at sunrise**. In his **natal sunrise chart** Qaddafi's Moon ranges anywhere from 28 Pisces to 10 Aries - which connects directly with the sensitive early Aries degrees of the **2011 Aries Ingress chart**.

On September 1, 1969 Muammar Qaddafi led a coup that began at about 3:00 AM, with most of the country under his control by 5:00 AM, which led to his radio pronouncement of the new Republic at 6:30 AM⁴. **This chart** dials directly into the current unrest through a Uranus/Mercury/Jupiter conjunction in early Libra opposing the Aries Point. Furthermore, the Lot of Fortune falls at 4 Capricorn, so the material Ascendant (along with transiting Pluto in Capricorn) forms the apex of the natal Uranus/Mercury/Jupiter on one end and the transiting Sun/Uranus/Aries Point on the other. The material or Fortune Ascendant involves the *actual physical makeup of the nativity*; in **this chart** it signifies not only how the country is *structured*, but also *how the people see and think of themselves as a nation*. With Pluto passing through Libya's Fortune Ascendant, one would expect a *radical transformation in not only Libya's government, but also in how the people see themselves as Libyans*.

Also, the t-square falls across succedent houses in the **Libyan chart**, so one would expect a *reactionary response* to the Uranian/Plutonian impulses towards fundamental change. And in fact the Libyan uprising is part of an overall Islamic response first called for by the revolutions in Tunisia and Egypt. It also appears that Qaddafi was caught somewhat off guard by the Libyan revolution's outbreak - as of this writing at the end of February 2011 he is hanging on to power in Libya by a thread and by the ruthless use of military hardware on civilians that has drawn widespread international condemnations and calls for prosecution.



Bringing **Qaddafi's natal sunrise chart** into play, one immediately notices Qaddafi's natal spread in Gemini that involves Uranus, Saturn, the Sun, a retrograde Mercury and Jupiter. This Gemini congregation falls in the 10th house of the **Libyan revolution chart of 1969**. This not only reflects Qaddafi's nearly 42-year grip on power (*longevity* signified by Saturn, and by Uranus - 42 years being 1/2 of the Uranian orbital period of 84 years), but also the current pressure being applied by the transits of Uranus (at the Aries Point), Saturn (from Libra), the Sun (at the Aries Point) and both Mercury and Jupiter (from mid Aries.) Of course, Khadaffi's natal Moon being in the early Aries region anchors him to current events that are buffeting Libya.

However, this is **Khadaffi's only direct connection** to the current transits in cardinal signs, which explains his seeming *inability to understand and decisively deal* with the current revolution. The Moon is *changeable (some say mad!)* and *does not easily settle on one course of action*. The Moon is also *the public*, which highlights for Qaddafi the source of the turmoil, despite his public protestations that outside forces are to blame. Also, this Aries activity takes place in the 8th house of death and/or transformation in the **Libyan chart**; importantly it is the 8th house that is affected, signifying the *adjustment and reaction to the passing of someone important to the nativity*. In other words, as the seventh house is the *point of death for the nativity*, the 8th house is the place of *the nativity's manner of dealing with deaths, passings or lasting change in the nativity's environment* - the nativity in this case Libya. This suggests that Libya will be spending the next year (especially the next six months until the Libra Ingress) *adapting to the significant changes* (symbolized by Pluto in Libya's Aries Ingress 1st house) *brought about by death, passing or transformation*. Qaddafi has a dog in this hunt through his afore-mentioned natal Moon in early Aries.



As of this writing Qaddafi and the protestors are locked in a deadly stalemate, each one unable to gain significant advantage. On March 4, 2011 the **New Moon** occurs at tropical 14 Pisces. New Moons bring *new cycles and new beginnings*, so

it's possible that this **New Moon** will see a *change* in Libya. In the **New Moon** chart Mars (which signifies *wars, death and killing*) is at 8 Pisces; this Mars position is in partile opposition to the **Republic of Libya's** natal Sun at 8 Virgo. The **New Moon** Mars also affects **Gadaffi's natal chart** by partile conjunction with his South Node and of course opposition to the North Node, which according to modern astrological indications brings a *fated element to these proceedings*. Finally, the **New Moon** Sun/Moon conjunction squares **Khadaffi's natal** Sun at 15 Gemini, showing that Friday's events will affect him *directly and personally*.

Finally, using the Hellenistic timing procedure known as Zodiacal Releasing⁵, we find that in judging Libya's *will to take action* that the chart entered a new period of activity on January 24, 2011, the start of the Egyptian Revolution. This period is marked by the Moon and Mars, which in Libya's chart are in aversion or quincunx - and so the governing planets cannot cooperate with one another. This is reflected I think in not only the demonstrator's *quick successes* - leading to a what now? mindset - but also in Qadaffi's *confusion* and *hesitancy in dealing with the demonstrators*. However, tomorrow March 2 the releasing under study changes to a new period, bringing in the Taurus image and the planet Venus to play. Libya's natal Venus is in the 12th house or place of *fear*; Libya's natal Taurus is resident home to the natal Moon, who is the current CEO in this timing study. With the Moon ruling the *people* and the natal Venus in the 12th *Libya's people will confront their fears and take action*. Action taken will be *decisive* (there's a square natally between Libya's Moon and Venus) but *difficult* (Libya's natal Moon conjunct Saturn.)

There are significant contacts between Libya's two charts, both the **Independence** chart of 1951 and the **Republic chart of 1969, Khadaffi's natal chart** and the **Aries Ingress chart of March 21, 2011**. As shown, the early degrees of Aries especially and cardinal images in general are sensitized; charts with planets and/or points in this region are sensitive to the shenanigans currently engaged in by Uranus and Pluto. These significations are related to and a direct outgrowth from (at least metaphysically) the Uranus/Pluto conjunctions that marked and shaped the turmoil of the Sixties. The Libyan people have joined the *revolutionary fervor* sweeping the Middle East; however, neither they nor their erstwhile leader Muammar Qadaffi seem to be in firm control and are presently engaged in a standoff. This will begin to change as early as the end of this week as the Libyan people confront their *fear* and *hesitation*, bringing the Libyan crisis to a head.

¹I use tropical Whole Sign houses with traditional lordships or rulerships, and Hellenistic planetary orbs of 3 degrees (13 for the Moon.) Therefore, all references to the Midheaven are to the 10th Whole Sign house rather than the *medium coeli* or MC point - which I refer to specifically as the MC in astrological analysis.

²Sidereally this point is measured at around 6-7 degrees Pisces - Aries Ingress charts derive their power to effect significations not because a planet is entering Aries, but because the planet is crossing from southern declination to northern declination.

³Jupiter and Uranus sensitized the last degrees of Pisces (and by extension, mutable signs) as well, through their retrograde and final direct conjunction.

⁴*The Arabs: A History*; Eugene Rogan; 2009; p. 359

⁵Zodiacal Releasing - in Greek *aphesis* - is a Hellenistic timing procedure, the mechanics of which are too complex to go in to here. For more information on this subject see **Project Hindsight's work on this procedure**. Additionally, you can find classes in Zodiacal Releasing taught at **Chris Brennan's website**.