

## SADDAM HUSSEIN By Virginia Reyer



Saddam Hussein was born on April 28, 1937, at 8:55 AM (rectified). His real date of birth was never recorded. Born in Al-Auja, near Tikrit, Iraq (long. 43 E 42, lat. 34 N 36), he came from a landless peasant family of sheepherders. His father, Hussein Abd al-Majod, disappeared before Saddam was born. Shortly afterwards, his 12-year-old brother died of cancer, which left his mother, Subha Tulfah al-Mussallat, severely depressed in the final months of the pregnancy. She attempted both to abort Saddam and to kill herself. She refused to take care of him when he was born. Saddam was sent to the family of his maternal uncle, Khairallah Talfah, until he was three.

His mother remarried and had three more sons. His stepfather was very cruel to him, beating him, insulting him, and making him work long hours in the fields. He did not let Saddam go to school and made Saddam steal chickens and sheep for him, for resale. At age 10, Saddam went to live with his uncle Khairallah Talfah in Baghdad. In 1957, at the age of 20, he joined the Ba'ath party, where he gained the nickname "Tikriti Mafia." In 1958, Saddam spent six months in jail for assassinating a communist leader who opposed the Ba'ath Party. In 1959, he was involved in an assassination attempt on the prime minister. Though shot in the leg, he managed to escape to Syria, then Egypt, where he finished high school. He was sentenced to death in absentia. In 1963, the Ba'ath Party overthrew the government and he returned to Baghdad, but he was arrested after the Ba'athists lost control. He was imprisoned from 1964 until his escape in 1967. In 1968, the Ba'athists were back in power under General Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr, a relative of Saddam.

From 1968 to 1977, Saddam rose through the ranks of the party, beginning as chief of internal security and intelligence and ending as Vice President. He expelled Ayatollah Khomeini in 1978, and by 1979 had emerged as the undisputed de facto leader of Iraq. Thousands died as he consolidated his power, and he went on to achieve international notoriety for his extreme ruthlessness.

The Ascendant at 5° Cancer gives a changeful, ambitious disposition, inclined to public life. Saddam expended a great deal of energy through his feelings, and his emotions were supported by his will. Great feeling for home and country. Sun conjunct Uranus in Taurus sextile the Ascendant gives a revolutionary spirit, a progressive mind, and a love of freedom. This man was self-willed, with a sudden turn in life. He had his own method for doing things and did not tolerate interference. Sun in Taurus gives endurance and a striving for security. The Sun-Uranus conjunction is intercepted, so he was not aware of inner motives, and self-analysis was not important to him. This conjunction in the 11<sup>th</sup> house shows a drive to have his needs and wishes fulfilled. With the sextile to the

Ascendant from the Sun-Uranus conjunction, he was open to new associations, new friends, and personal improvement.

Moon conjunct Mars in Sagittarius in the 6<sup>th</sup> gave strong feelings that influenced health and work. This combination brought inner tension, excitement, impulsiveness, intolerance. Optimism and pessimism alternated. Moon-Mars conjunction brought many changes and an urge to criticize; rashness and nervousness, and a need to convince others of his own ideas. A self-righteous attitude.

Moon conjunct Mars quincunx the Asc: Moon is the chart ruler, and stress affected his health. He wanted his needs met, looked after himself first, and damn the others. Desire for sexual interaction. The Moon-Mars conjunction is trine Saturn in the 10<sup>th</sup>. When Saturn is the highest planet it gives a tendency to strive for a goal or objective, determination. Help and assistance came through his friends.

The interceptions of Taurus and Scorpio gave two houses each to Cancer and Capricorn, ruled by the Moon and Saturn. Saddam had a lot of memories from the past and was concerned with family and home. Saturn squaring the Ascendant blocked his abilities to relate to others; he could be cold and unresponsive. This aspect brings difficulties in partnership and marriage. He was married three times, first to Sajida Talfah, a former teacher who was betrothed to Saddam at the age of 5. With her, he had two sons, Uday Saddam Hussein and Qusey Hussein, both killed by U.S. forces in 2003. He also had three daughters, Rana, Raghad, and Hala.

He married his mistress, Samira Shahbandar, in 1986 after forcing her husband to divorce her, and later married Nidal Al-Hamdani, general manager of the Solar Energy Research Center.

Neptune Rx gave Saddam an unstable character; and conjunct the IC, it gave strong unconscious, emotional ties with the home and family that were karmic in origin. Neptune in Virgo squaring the Nodes meant he could be nagging and fault-finding, with excessive emotional preoccupation, a lack of feeling, and a lack of team spirit. With Vertex in 22° Scorpio opposing Mercury, he was inconstant and superficial in his love, careless and verbose. May have had several partners manipulating him. The Anti-Vertex conjunct Mercury at 24° Taurus gives a bad reputation, and it is conjunct Algol, an evil star in the 11<sup>th</sup> house, showing bad friends. The Vertex and anti-Vertex also have to do with alcoholism. Vertex in Scorpio in the 5<sup>th</sup> shows one who wants to impose his will on others, as well as sensual pursuits.

Jupiter opposing Pluto is a desire for power and leadership; he built large projects and exploited the masses. This aspect brought conflict with authorities. Jupiter in the 8<sup>th</sup> and Pluto in the 2<sup>nd</sup> house have to do with finances and possessions, and in aspect to the Vertex, he used what belonged to others.

Saturn in 0° 19' of Aries is squared the Ascendant, giving a depressive, dictatorial attitude, but it also gives a fresh start, new beginnings in politics. 00 degrees are critical.

In cardinal signs, they give strong beginnings but lack stability. This degree is very egotistical and seeks importance in the outer world.

Mars/Jupiter midpoint = 00° 37' Capricorn. He was a politician whose self-worth hung on the ability to control the public, and this aspect also gave him a sense of internationalism. Jupiter's north node at 00° 51' Cancer made him a shrewd observer of cause and effect. Mars/Pluto midpoint at 00° 28' Libra shows planning and scheming, a person who needs to temper self-interest with cooperation. With all the 00 degrees he did not see himself as others saw him; he lacked awareness and did not like to cooperate with others.

With Saturn in Aries, the sign of its fall, his early career would last for years. Transpluto trines the Vertex and sextiles Mercury, giving him the ability to overcome great difficulties. Transpluto has much to do with the desire nature. Saturn in Aries can cause headaches and selfishness. Saturn sextile Jupiter made him prominent in politics and gave him great pride. Chiron conjunct the Equatorial Ascendant in the 12<sup>th</sup> house in Gemini brought him unusual opportunities and brought him to public notice; it also brought fated relationships and encounters. His actions were more deliberate, for adaptability is a striking feature of Gemini. He was affected by moods and uneasiness, was prey to fears, mental confusion, and threats of brutality and hurt.

Saddam's government was made up of a retinue of his close relatives and of members of the Tikrit tribe. In his dealings with Shiites, Kurds, Communists, and other opponents, Saddam achieved much notoriety for extreme ruthlessness. In 1980, his invasion of Iran led to a bloody 8-year war which ended in a stalemate after hundreds of thousands of casualties on both sides.

On May 2, 1990, Saddam invaded Kuwait, and the Gulf war started. The U.S. led a coalition that drove Iraq's troops from Kuwait. In the follow-up to this war, the U.S. invaded Iraq on March 20, 2003. Saddam went into hiding but was captured on Dec. 13, 2003, at about 8:30 PM after a tip-off from a clan member. His trial started on October 19, 2005 and lasted for over a year.

At the time of his capture the progressed Ascendant was at 26°52' Leo. It was conjunct Alphard, a star, pointing to his criminal tendencies and violent behavior. The nodes conjuncted the natal nodes in reverse and squared Neptune; he was a confirmed liar and lacked clarity. Vertex opposed the Sun: he was contemptuous; natal Vertex and natal Mercury conjunct the IC – he wanted self-approval, had a changeful life, and felt abandoned by everyone. Neptune stationary conjunct its natal position shows jail. Jupiter opposed to Pluto is unpopularity and ultimate downfall. Mars/Saturn midpoint opposing Pluto shows destructive energy.

On November 5, the judge found Saddam and sentenced him to death by hanging. On December 26, the highest court of appeals upheld his execution, and it was carried out on December 30, 2006.

The U.S. handed Saddam over to Iraqi custody on December 29, 2006 at 5:30 AM, BAT in Baghdad, Iraq (long. 33 N 21, lat. 44 E 25). In this chart, the Ascendant at 14° 45' Sagittarius is on a degree of indecision and changeability. The Ascendant is conjunct Uranus's south node, creating excitability. The individual is inconstant and irritable and causes much unrest in the environment. Jupiter ruling the 12<sup>th</sup> house shows him to be a two-faced person. Jupiter is conjunct Han, a fixed star signifying trouble and disgrace. Jupiter is also conjunct Mars's south node, a disharmonious collaboration that lacks "good fellowship" and disrupts associations. It is a waste of energy.

Mars in 16° 20' Sagittarius is conjunct the Ascendant, adding to his ruthlessness and brutality. Mars also conjunct Uranus's south node shows Saddam at odds with current social standards. He acted out of frustration and impulsiveness rather than in harmony with events around him. He had a fighting spirit and a destructive urge. With Mars ruling the 5<sup>th</sup> house he acted with great self-assurance and too much self-love, demonstrating egotism and unbridled passion. Venus solstice Jupiter led to excessive expression of emotional impulses, hypersensitivity, and a desire for popularity.

With Moon square Vertex in the 8<sup>th</sup> house he was emotionally possessive and intruded into the feelings of others. Such an aspect translates feelings from the past into emotional dominance in the present.

The MC at 29°16' Virgo is restraint, and the IC at 29°16' Pisces has a fatalistic influence. Moon/Jupiter midpoint conjunct Neptune is dwindling happiness and the tendency to abandon hope. Sun and Saturn in mutual reception gives self-discipline and eccentric religious beliefs and moral views. Sun/Saturn midpoint square the Vertex suppresses feelings for others. With the grand trine in fire (Moon – Saturn – Pluto) he was able to endure hardship in order to achieve long-range goals. Feelings were under the control of the will.



Saddam was taken to the execution room at 6:00 AM on December 30, 2006. The Ascendant was 22°09' Sagittarius, conjunct Pluto. The Sun squaring the MC and IC shows conflict with those in authority. The Sun conjunct the Equatorial Ascendant shows how he projected himself to others. Vertex conjunct Praesaepe, a star, shows destructions. Anti-Vertex conjunct Chiron: he questioned his own death. Chiron/Jupiter midpoint = Sun: the inner stirring of change gives courage.

On the tree charts, the Ascendant and MC move 10°. Vertex remains in the 8<sup>th</sup> house.

On the morning of Saddam's execution, the trap doors opened at 6:10 AM BAT in Baghdad. The Ascendant at 24°22' Sagittarius conjunct Pluto is physical change and transformation. The Nodes were solstice MC and IC. Vertex in the 8<sup>th</sup> house at 8° 01' Leo shows a violent death. Moon/Uranus midpoint was conjunct the MC: the execution was shown on TV.