

Dynamic Astrology 3 • Progression

The third dimension of astrology is the individual or organization or collective and how that entity progresses.

A natal chart is a horoscope made for the time and circumstances of birth, which contains factors and influences that apply during the entire lifetime. A progressed chart is a horoscope that is progressed forward in time, i.e., made for some time after birth. A natal chart is erected based on the details of birth, while the progressed chart starts with and proceeds from the natal chart. Llewellyn George has referred to the natal chart as being like the index to a book (lifetime), while the progressed chart is like a chapter in that book.

A progressed chart is all about the changes in influences that have occurred or will occur since birth. Many features in a progressed chart can strengthen or weaken features in the natal chart. A natal chart represents the “energy” that qualifies a person at birth. That conditioning and qualifying energy follows throughout the lifetime, but in some sense changes somewhat through progression, such that progressed influences represent opportunities inherent in the natal chart but not active until some later time. Both sets of influences apply.

Changes in influence occur due to the dynamic nature of the heavens, which is also to say the dynamic nature of karma and the divine plan. But superficially, these changes occur because of the earth’s motion (rotation) which causes the signs to “move” in a 24-hour cycle. Changes also occur because the various planets move through the ecliptic (passage around the sun, and relative to the earth). Each day in the progressed chart represents a year in one’s life.

In a natal chart, if the place and time of birth are not well-known, then the natal influences cannot be well-determined, especially with regard to the time of birth and the placement of houses. Similarly, if the birth details are not well-known, then a progressed chart has relatively little value, because small uncertainties in the location or time of birth reveal large uncertainties in the chart (again, especially with regard to houses and placement of planets in houses).

However, in many cases it is possible to rectify one's time of birth, by various rectification-progression techniques, provided there are well-defined significant events in the lifetime to use as markers.

- Transits

Transits are the passages of "planets" through the background of signs and houses. During the course of a transit various aspects are created and dissolved. Thus transits are in some sense ripples of energy, that convey opportunities for a period of time (duration of the transit) in a progressed chart. In mundane or personality astrology these can be significant, but even more so for someone of more refined consciousness, who can draw on the more subtle energies provided by transits.

Moving planets can provide considerable moderation of the background energy, either through strengthening or weakening the inherent influence and adding the character of the planet into consideration.

