

Astrology and the Seven Rays

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To understand the Seven Rays, one must first accept the notion that all life is energy in manifestation. However, in esoteric thought, this energy is also considered ALIVE in its essential nature. This one energy animates all life as we understand it. Though it is fundamentally one energy, it is recognized in seven divisions and, in their totality, they represent the Light of Divinity. It is similar to white light as it travels through a prism refracting into seven colors (wavelengths). Each represents energy having different vibratory natures, resulting in the visible color spectrum we are all familiar with. Each Ray is thus characterized by a slightly different quality.

When consider on a human scale, the mixture and measure of these rays defines the very essence of our unique individual nature. Essentially, each of the Seven Rays can be recognized within us, though in differing proportions according to various astrological, psychological and karmic considerations.

Each of the Seven Rays work through three different signs of the zodiac. They each represent the *spiritual essence* of a sign, and indicate the qualities of consciousness that the soul seeks to cultivate within a particular incarnation. Below is a brief listing of some (but not all) of the psychological characteristics that each of the Seven Rays offer in support of the evolution of consciousness. Also noted are the twelve signs of the zodiac, and the Ray(s) subtly working through them.

First Ray - *The Ray of Will and Power*

Psychological Characteristics:

1. Strength of will
2. Ability to lead, govern and direct
3. Courage and fearlessness
4. Big-picture perspective
5. Strong one-pointed focus
6. Power to liberate
7. Keen understanding of principles and priorities

RAY 2 - The Ray of Love and Wisdom

Psychological Characteristics:

1. Loving wisdom
2. Empathy, sympathy and compassion for others
3. Natural ability to teach and illumine
4. Patience
5. Inclusive point of view
6. Love of truth
7. Natural intuitive sense about people

RAY 3 - The Ray of Active Intelligence

Psychological Characteristics:

1. Natural ability for abstract thinking
2. Mental versatility, agility and adaptability
3. Faculty for language and vocabulary
4. Capacity for speculation and theoretical inquiry
5. Keen ability to plan and create strategies
6. Tendency toward constant activity
7. Mental creativity

RAY 4 - The Ray of Harmony through Conflict

Psychological Characteristics:

1. An ability to bring harmony out of conflict
2. Inner struggle and crisis as a means to facilitate growth
3. Skill at compromise
4. Capacity to live creatively through skill-in-action
5. Love of beauty, and the ability to create it
6. Capacity for the dramatic
7. Spontaneity, and the ability to improvise

RAY 5 - The Ray of Concrete Knowledge and Science

Psychological Characteristics:

1. Ability to think and act in a scientific manner
2. Natural capacity to separate fact from fiction
3. Well-developed power of analysis and discrimination
4. Common-sense focus

5. Precision in both thought and action
6. Factual and detailed
7. Skill to investigate and research

RAY 6 - The Ray of Idealism and Devotion

Psychological Characteristics:

1. Idealistic
2. Devotion toward that which is loved or revered
3. Willingness to self-sacrifice
4. Profound honesty and sincerity
5. Emotional sensitivity and/or intensity
6. Unwavering loyalty
7. Optimistic, faithful and humble

RAY 7 - The Ray of Ceremonial Order and Magic

Psychological Characteristics:

1. Capacity for creating order out of chaos
2. Power to plan, organize and manage detail
3. Natural sense of timing and rhythm
4. Skill at coordinating group activities
5. Ability to synthesize
6. Practicality
7. Ability to organize time efficiently

Zodiacal Signs and the Rays

Aries	Rays 1 and 7	Libra	Ray 3
Taurus	Ray 4	Scorpio	Ray 4
Gemini	Ray 2	Sagittarius	Rays 4, 5 and 6
Cancer	Rays 3 and 7	Capricorn	Rays 1, 3 and 7
Leo	Rays 1 and 5	Aquarius	Ray 5
Virgo	Rays 2 and 6	Pisces	Rays 2 and 6