

Astrology under Scrutiny Volume 15

Corrections and comments

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16.5 A balanced assessment?

André Barbault's pioneering theories do indeed contain some incorrect assumptions which have been gathered and presented here. Nevertheless, the numerous correct and strikingly successful conclusions he has drawn are missing in this review of his work. One would almost suspect the editors of preconceived opinions and biased judgement...

Lack of historical insight?

In reference to the graph on page 245 (Top) the importance of the cyclic index was questioned by stating that although the two world wars indeed corresponded to a descent in the Cyclic Index of Barbault, the last descent (by which 1979-82 is noted) fails to correspond, due to a lack of drama.

This argument is continued, with reference to Robert Hand, on page 246. In a radio programme Hand commented that '*the early 1980s will be troublesome in the extreme*'. In response Geoffrey Dean states that one and a half wars in that period give no justification for such an alarming prophecy.

And here both Hand and Dean are mistaken. It is possible to check this on fig. 2 of *Waves of Wars 1500-2000* in which it is clear to see that the cyclic index declined in 1975 to 1983. It is unclear from the quotation why Hand only mentioned the deepest point of the wave (1979-82). Geoffrey Dean does not look further and named solely the Iraq-Iran War (1980) and the Falkland crisis (1982).

But what really happened during the declining wave of 1975 to 83?

1975-1978	Civil war Cambodia (Pol Pot)	+ -	-	-	1,000,000 victims
1978-1989	USSR interv in civil war Afghanistan	+ -	-	-	1,300,000
1980-1988	Iran-Irak War	+ -	-	-	500,000
1981-1987	Uganda: army vs people; massacres	+ -	-	-	308,000
1981-1990	Civil war Mozambique (famine)	+ -	-	-	1,050,000

These are five known conflicts in this period, including three mega-wars. At the same time there was a serious economic crisis and panic about the environment (acid rain, wide scale death of trees, the advent of a new Ice Age). It was the time of Punk and 'No Future'. An unforgettable period for those of us who experienced it.

Clear miss?

Another remark follows: 'The Gulf War of 1990-1991 coincides with a peak, not a trough, and is a clear miss. This is incorrect.

This war is marked on my list from William Eckhardt as occurring in 1991, the year that the U.S.A. began its intervention. But even if the moment is taken in which the Iraqis invaded Kuwait, i.e. 2 August 1990, and one looks at JU, then it is clear that JU had already passed the oppositions with SA, NE and UR, closing in on PL too. A worse decline in the C.I. is not possible. Unfortunately it seems that Dean overlooked fig. 2 of *Waves of Wars*, since it is clear to see there that from 1790, that is, from the moment that the Cyclic Index begins to show more characteristic fluctuations, the C.I. declines by 19 times, of which 17 occur simultaneously to

wide-scale and mega-wars which break out soon after the C.I. peak is reached. The 2 exceptions occur close to a period in which all the waves are rising. If Dean had noticed these remarkable facts there could have been no grounds for his conclusion of 'a clear miss'.

To achieve a balanced assessment of the cyclic index in *Can Barbault do better?* the published criticism needs to be reviewed and corrected according to the facts presented above.

1993.3 Waves and Wars 1700-1992 and 1500-2000

Geoffrey Dean states: ' In this study no hypothesis has been formulated in advance and hence none has been verified'. In order to prove that this remark is unfounded it is obviously necessary for me to provide some supplementary information.

My work (*Waves*) is based on two traditions.

1. The cyclic view of history as in Oswald Spengler's *Untergang des Abendlandes* (1918) and *A Study of History* (to 1961) from Arnold Toynbee, inspired by Spengler's work. Unfortunately the works of both suffered under the (justified) criticism from subsequent historians and therefore the whole idea of the cyclic approach to history has been lost.

2. History written in terms of planetary cycles (planetary-cyclic historiography), the earliest record of which is found in Mesopotamia, described in *The Great Year* by Nick Campion and cited at the beginning of my article *Mundane Astrology*, and the most influential of all: Plato's Great Year. Only in the 20th century does this approach re-emerge in Barbault's Cyclic Index and (my) Doolgaard's *Waves, Planetary Influences on Culture, 600 BC – 2000 AD* (in Dutch).

There was absolutely no necessity for me to formulate a hypothesis beforehand since my entire research consisted of testing my planetary-cyclic historiography. The bibliography of *Waves of Wars* should have been a clear indication that this article was one of many other studies, including and following-up on my book. In 1991 I sent Wout Heukelom *The Inner Power of Imagination* for publication in AinO, that is a summarized version of my book *Waves (Golven)* which had previously been published, on request from Charles Harvey in the *Astrological Journal*. In the 2nd edition of 'Mundane Astrology' Charles described *Waves* as "an important book", on the basis of this summarized version in English. Unfortunately the Dutch version remained unpublished by AinO. Perhaps Dean therefore concluded that *Waves of Wars* stood alone and so was not worthy of consideration?

Pride or prejudice?

A further dismissive comment from Dean suggests that I had played around with waves until I found one which corresponded with the outbreak of wars. No evidence was given for this assumption. All my research, from the very beginning, has been concentrated on the 5 outer planets! In mundane astrology it is widely accepted that JU and SA relate to society and social life in general and that UR, NE and PL represent the collective domain. Over the years I have surely published enough articles (see the website of the NVWOA) to provide adequate evidence for these claims. Since Dean suggests that it is possible to create so many waves from different combinations of planets that there is always one that fits, it would be reasonable to expect some evidence of this. And then 3 waves, just as in my work. Assumptions with such a lack of

evidence can surely not be acceptable.

Although I have the greatest respect for Barbault, the limitations of his Cyclic Index inspired me to create an index consisting of 3 waves (the JU-, SA- and UR wave) each with their own rhythm, and each pointing in the same direction as regards armed conflict and its victims.

Not enough?

Dean expresses the view that 22 mega-wars are too few for statistical analysis. (N.B. Other researchers using statistic analysis do not confirm this opinion).

Dean's conclusion would imply that 500 years of war, a huge dossier of the worst calamities in world history with all the atrocious ciphers of mortalities, as described in *Waves of Wars*, is unsuitable for this method?

And is it really necessary? One of the most important conclusions in my work is: "*The more destructive the war, the more often it breaks out during the descending phase of all the 3 cyclic indications- i.e. 'the catastrophe effect' "*. This seems to have been ignored by Dean.

Rudy Bes

I found it regretful that the research done by Rudy Bes was described and treated alike with mine.

Personally I find his article difficult to follow, lacking any logical pattern of thought. Already 10 years ago I had compared his graphs of his JU and SA wave (*Mountain Astrologer*) with mine (*WofW* fig. 2) to find out how many wars began both during the descending and rising phases in those of Bes. His SA wave shows a fifty-fifty result but his JU wave shows the opposite, contradicting his claims, so I did not understand why he also included the zodiacal length in his waves. To predict a global war in 2032 on that basis would be unfounded. He failed to first compare Barbault's cyclic index with his list of wars before drawing his conclusions. Unfortunately, like Richard Tarnas in his *Cosmos and Psyche*, Bes also omitted to look at previous research, it appears. Indeed, I find it somewhat puzzling that this single publication by Bes has been taken so seriously.

Predictions

Dean's conclusion that my research was solely '*a match after the event*' and his resulting criticism led me to comply with the editorial committee's request to make a few predictions and see if they turned out to be true (NVWOA, Utrecht 2004). To me this was not a question of prophecy, as practised by soothsayers but purely in the same way, using the same research as basis, that I answer the queries raised at conferences.

Predictions made from 2000 by Robert Doolaard:

1. December 2000: filmed for Kleurnet TV, Amsterdam, (on video)

In an interview with the American astrologer Dusty Park about his new astrology programme Digital Time Capsule. (conclusions expressed by Park and Doolaard):

From July 2001: power politics, violence, underworld...
Dramatic events expected around 6 September 2001 ('9-11').
The 2nd half of 2001 will be much serious than the first half.
(*as came true*)

2. 2001: Astrology Conference Soesterberg:

The next large war to take place would be in 2003
(*occupation of Iraq by the USA coalition*)

3. 2004: NVWOA:

4. 2005: ISBA economy-conference,

From 2007 the Dow Jones would fall -due to the artificial way the international stock exchange rates were being kept high and the

Pulitzer Hotel, Amsterdam:
5. 2006: Astrology conference Soesterberg:
6. 2006: International Astrology conference
Lille, France:

fact that the Saturn wave would descend in that year. The stagnation might well last till 2025. My advice was: retract investment on time (*see my paper: Dow Jones and the Saturn wave*).
(Indeed, that autumn of 2007 the Dow Jones fell simultaneously with the Saturn wave, and subsequently to crash to 53% within a year.

Perhaps the above seem limited in number. Nevertheless, they did turn out to mark the most dramatic moments worldwide.

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Articles by Robert D. Doolgaard can be found at: www.nvwoa.nl - English flag – publications.