Age of *Śrī Kṛṣṇa* (श्री कृष्ण)

Mahābhārata yuddha (महाभारत युद्ध)

Rāmulu Gajavāḍa Saṁskṛtam Teacher

Introduction:

The purpose of this article is to enlighten the educated intelligentsia with the most modern scientific methods available for properly determining the period of ***Śrī*** *Kṛṣṇa* (श्रीकृष्ण) and periods of *Mahābhārata* (महभारत) events in the History of India, *Bhāratavarṣa* (भारतवर्ष). During the period of British rule in India from 1755 AD, British historians and *Indologists* recorded the history of India with a political agenda to assert justification of British rule over India. They popularised the superiority of European white races over people of India. British historians said that India was invaded by people from out of India and was under alien rule in the pre Christian era. They invented the *Aryan invasion of India* theory and altered many dates of historical events. One such important period of Indian history was *Mahābhārata* (महाभारत) and *Śrī Kṛṣṇa* (श्रीकृष्ण), which has been grossly misrepresented as occurring during the tenth century B.C. (Britanica 1965).

Sir William Jones (1746 – 1794) established the Asiatic Society of Bengal. Though he was a great admirer of the *Saṁskṛtam* (संस्कृतम्) language, he was responsible for altering dates of historical importance in Indian history. One such specific example is of *Āryabhaṭṭīyam* (आर्यभट्टीयम्), a mathematical treatise by the famous Indian mathematician named *Āryabhaṭṭa* (आर्यभट्ट). The date of the *Āryabhaṭṭīyam* was discussed in a separate article named "Manipulation of Dating of *Āryabhaṭṭīyam* by Sir William Jones".

Dating of Events using Skymap programs.

The advent of electronic computers in the later part of the twentieth century and logging of astronomical data makes possible accurate determination of past events. Skymaps are published showing the dates and the configuration of stars on that particular day and time of interest. Computer "Skymap" programs show the configuration of stars and planets, more than 3,000 BCE in the past. If the configuration of stars in the sky is known, the time and date of that configuration is determined by searching these skymap programs.

Mahābhārata epic (महाभारत इतिहास) by Vedavyāsa (वेदव्यास)

Vedavyāsa (वेदव्यास) in *Bhīṣmapārva* (भीष्मपार्व) book of the *Mahābhārata* (महाभारत) epic describes the configuration of the stars, ***Nakṣtrāṇi*** (नक्षत्राणि) on the days of major events of the war. Using these star configurations, it enables to determine the dates of events during the war period wirh help of Skymap programs.

The star comnfigurations and dates of events from *Mahābhārata* (महाभारत) were collected and published in the following reference books.

1. "*The Dates of Mahabharata War*", written by Prof. Raghavan, published by Srirangam Printers, Srinivasanagar, 1969.

2. "*Bhāratīya yuddha*" (भारतीय युद्ध), astronomical references by Sathe S. Deshmukh V., and Joshi P., published by Shri Baba Saheb Apte Smarak Samiti, (Pune, 1985).

The dates in the above references by conventional vedic astronomical calculations and historical records.

Prof. Narahari Achar professor of physics from University of Memphis, Tennessee, verified the configurations of stars and dates of events from the two reference books mentioned using the Skymap computer programs. Nearly two hundred star configurations agree which were recorded by *Vedavyāsa* (वेदव्यास) in *Mahābhārata* (महाभारत). These programs show the dates of star configurations as far back as 3000 BCE or earlier. Accurate dates were assigned to the events as recorded in *Mahābhārata* (महाभारत) by reading of computer programs. Some of these events are zre presented in this article with figures indicating dates determined by Prof. Narahari Achar from Skymap programs.

Meticulous and remarkable research achievment was done by Dr. Narhari Achar and should be commended. This work brings glorious tribute to *Vedavyāsa* (वेदव्यास) and astronomical knowledge that existed in India earlier than 3000 B.C. and more than 5,000 ago from now (2009 A.D.).

Events of *Mahābhārata yuddha* (महाभारत युद्ध)

Mahā Bhārata Itihāsa (महाभारत इतिहास). *itihāsa (iti hāsa)* (इतिहास इति हास) literally means "so, indeed, it was"or "Indeed it was so" (महा भारत). *Mahā Bhārata* is an historical document describing the history of *Bhārata* (भारत) or ancient India. *Mahā-Bhārata* (महाभारत) was composed by *Veda-Vyāsa* (वेदव्यास) containing approximately one hundred thousand verses *ślokāḥ* (श्लोकाः) describing the history of the(कुरु) *Kuru* dynasty kings. In this dynasty there were two parties, *Kauravās* and *Pāṇḍavās* (कौरवाः च पाण्डवाः) who were cousins. There was conflict

between them about the propriety of the kingdom. Rivalry between the *Kauravās* and *Pāṇḍavās* (कौरवाः च पाण्डवाः) ultimately led to a game of dice to decide the fate of the kingdom. In this game of dice the *Pāṇḍavās* were defeated by deceit and exiled to the forest for twelve years and one year incognito. After the successful completion of thirteen years the *Pāṇḍavās* (पाण्डवाः) returned to a village named *Upalavyanagara* (उपलव्यनगर) in the kingdom.

***Śrī Kṛṣṇa rāyabhāraḥ* (श्रीकृष्ण रायभारः) September 26, 3067 BCE.**

On behalf of the Pāṇḍavā's (पाण्डवानाम्) *Śrī Kṛṣṇa* (श्रीकृष्ण), as an ambassador *Rājadūta* (राजदूत) started from the *Pāṇḍava* (पाण्डव) camp *Upalavyanagara* (उपलव्यनगर) to *Hastināpura* (हस्तिनापुर), the capital of *Bhārata* (भारत) India. This historical event was recorded by ***Vedavyāsa*** (वेदव्यास) in *Mahābhārata* (महाभारत) on *Revatī nakṣatra* (रेवती नक्षत्र) star. This date was September 26, 3067 BCE, and ***Śrī Kṛṣṇa*** (श्रीकृष्ण) arrived on *Bharaṇi* (भरणि) day, in *Hastinapura* on September 28, 3067 BCE. ***Śrī Kṛṣṇa*** (श्रीकृष्ण) put forward the *Pāṇḍavā's* (पाण्डवानाम्) proposal to share a small portion of the kingdom before the *Kauravās* (कौरवाः). The *Kauravās* (कौरवाः) did not agree with proposal to share even a very small portion of the kingdom with *Pāṇḍavās* पाण्डवाः) who rightfully deserved a part of the land. War between the *Pāṇḍavās* पाण्डवाः) and the ***Kauravās*** (कौरवाः) was inevitable.

Fierce comet near Pushya, *Puṣya nakṣatra* (पुष्य नक्षत्र)

Before the *kurukṣetra yuddha*, (कुरुक्षेत्र युद्ध) war a fierce comet appeared near the *Puṣya nakṣatra* (पुष्य नक्षत्र). It is conjecture that this comet was Halley's comet. This comet is seen in Fig.6. A record of this is in the ***Mahābhārata*** (महाभारत) and observation of the computer sky maps is a mutual confirmation of the validity of skymaps the dates of which can verify astronomical information presented in the *Mahābhārata* (महाभारत) epic.

***Balarāma's* (बलरामस्य) pilgrimage November 1, 3067 BCE.**

Balarāma (बलराम) brother of *Śrīkṛṣṇa* (श्रीकृष्ण), did not participate in the war. He went to the holy *Sarasvatī* (सरस्वती) on a pilgrimage. *Vedavyāsa* (वेदव्यास) records the start and completion of this journey. *Balarāma* (बलराम) sets off on a pilgrimage to *Sarasvatī* (सरस्वती) on *Puṣya* (पुष्य) day, November 1, 3067 BCE, Fig. 7, and *Balarāma* (बलराम) returned from the *Sarasvatī* (सरस्वती) pilgrimage on *Śravaṇa* (श्रवण) day December 12, 3067 BCE. Fig. 9.

***Mahābhārata kurukṣetra yuddha* (महाभारत कुरुक्षेत्र युद्ध) starts on November 22, 3067 BCE**

The Kauravās (कौरवाः) did not agree with any proposals by *Śrīkṛṣṇa* (श्रीकृष्ण) on behalf of the *Pāṇḍavāḥ* (पाण्डवाः). War was inevitable between those two parties of cousins. *Pāṇḍavāḥ* (पाण्डवाः) were five brothers and *Kauravās* (कौरवाः) were one hundred brothers and their allies. *Vedavyāsa* (वेदव्यास) records detailed astronomical information

in the great epic *Mahābhārata yuddha* (महाभारतयुद्ध). War commenced on November 22, 3067 BCE Saturn (*śani* शनि) was in rohiṇī (रोहिणी) and Jupiter *guru* (गुरु) was in *revati* (रेवति). This is presented in the skymap Fig. 8. This fierce war between Kauravāḥ and Pāṇḍvāḥ (कौरवाः च पाण्ड्वाः) lasted for eighteen days with ultimate victory of *Pāṇḍvās* (पाण्ड्वाः). Description of some events is given below.

Ghaṭotkaca gets killed (घटोत्कचस्य वध) December 8, 3067 BCE.

Vedavyāsa (वेदव्यास), the composer of *Mahābhārata* (महाभारतयुद्ध) epic, recorded the time of death of *Ghaṭotkaca* (घटोत्कच) was the son of *Bhīma* (भीम), one of the *Pāṇḍava* (पाण्डव) brothers. *Ghaṭotkaca* (घटोत्कच) was killed by *Karṇa* (कर्ण) using a divine weapon given to him by Sun god *Sūrya* (सूर्य), December 8, 3067 BCE.

***Bhīṣmācarya attains liberation* (भीष्माचार्यस्य परमपदम्) January 8, 3066 BCE.**

Bhīṣma (भीष्म), the grand sire of *Pāṇḍavās and Kauravās* (पाण्डवाः च कौरवाः), the field marshall of the *Kauravās* (कौरवाः) army, was fatally wounded with arrows by *Arjuna* (अर्जुन) and ended on the death bed. Virtuous *Bhīṣma* (भीष्म) passed away on *Māghaśukla aṣṭamī* (माघशुक्ल अष्टमी), January 16, 3066 BCE. See the skymap Fig. 11. Six verses *Ślokāḥ* (श्लोकाः) describing the final condition of virtuous *Bhīṣma* (भीष्म) are

presented in the appendix with word by word meaning in English from *Saṁskṛtam* (संस्कृतम्).

Śrī Kṛṣṇa (श्रीकृष्ण) July 27, 3112 BCE. - 3031 BCE,

Undoubtedly, it is a fact that *Mahābhārata Itihāsa* (महाभारत इतिहास) is an historical document with astronomical information which can be verified with modern scientific methods and *Śrī Kṛṣṇa* (श्रीकृष्ण) is a real historical divine personality taking part in the Mahābhārata (महाभारत) war. *Vedavyāsa* (वेदव्यास), composer of *Mahābhārata*(महाभारत), incorporated the Divine teachings of *Śrī Kṛṣṇa* (श्रीकृष्ण) in *Bhīṣma parva* (भीष्म पर्व) of *Mahābhārata* (महाभारत). On the eve of the Mahābhārata yuddha (महाभारत युद्ध) war Arjuna (अर्जुन) the hero of the Pāṇḍavā brothers (पाण्डवानाम्), was downhearted seeing his kith and kin on the opposing side of the battle, whom he had to kill. He refused to fight and laid down his bow. Śrī Kṛṣṇa (श्रीकृष्ण) who was the charioteer of Arjuna (अर्जुन) seeing this downhearted condition of Arjuna (अर्जुन) imparts the divine message of man's duty, purpose and the ultimate goal. Arjuna (अर्जुन) regains the balance of his mental composure and puts up a tremendous fight. The righteous Pāṇḍavās (पाण्डवाः) ultimately win the war with help of Śrī Kṛṣṇa (श्रीकृष्ण). This divine message of Śrī Kṛṣṇa (श्रीकृष्ण) to all human beings defining their purpose, duty and ultimate spiritual goal is compiled into a book called ***Śrīmadbhagavadgītā*** (श्रीमद्भगवद्गीता). Śrīmadbhagavadgītā(श्रीमद्भगवद्गीता) is a holy and sacred scripture to millions of Hindus throughout the

ages for more than 5,000 years. And to be exact 5,076 years have passed (in the year 2009 AD) ,since this divine message was delivred to Arjuna (अर्जुन) on the battlefield of *Kurukṣetra* (कुरुक्षेत्र) to *Arjuna* (अर्जुन) in 3067 BCE.

Prof. Raghavan in his book "The Date of the Mahabharata War" Published by Śrīraṅgam Printers, Srinivasanagar, 1969., gives the following dates for ***Śrī Kṛṣṇa*** (श्रीकृष्ण) as below;

. ***Śrī Kṛṣṇa*** (श्रीकृष्ण) was born on July 27, 3112 BCE.

2. ***Śrī Kṛṣṇa*** (श्रीकृष्ण) went on a diplomatic mission to Hastināpura (हस्तिनापुर) as an ambassador, rājadūta (राजदूत) on behalf of **Pāṇḍavās (पाण्डवाः) to the court of Duryodhana (दुर्योधन)** September 26, 3067 BCE.

3. **Ś**rī Kṛṣṇa (श्रीकृष्ण) took part in the Mahābhārata yuddha (महाभारत युद्ध) as a charioteer to Arjuna (पार्थसारथि) and gave the message of **Ś**rīmadbhagavadgītā (श्रीमद्भगवद्गीता) November 22, 3067 BCE.

4. ***Śrī Kṛṣṇa*** (श्रीकृष्ण) departed from this world 3031 BCE.

ABOUT THE DATES (IN THIS ARTICLE)

The dates of the events in *Mahābhāratayuddha*, war (महाभारतयुद्ध) were determined using computer skymap program as mentioned before in detail. The question still remains about the authenticity of dating using the current Christian calendar. If this question remains in the minds of the seekers of Truth, the dates could be considered arbitary, yet how many days (thousands of years) back in time is accurate. The position of stars and planets is recorded on the computer skymap programs by interpolation back in time determined by computer astronomical calculations.

In *Ṛgveda* (ऋग् वेद) there is an elaborate description about the worship and celebration of the planets, *grahāḥ* (ग्रहाः) and of the twelve lunar months in a year. There is an extra lunar month called *adhikamāsa* (अधिकमास) every four years to syncronize with solar year or revolution of the earth around the sun and seasons *ṛtavaḥ* (ऋतवः). In the following tables are given the main twelve constellations or *rāśayaḥ* (राशयः) and twenty seven important stars called *nakṣatrāṇi* (नक्षत्राणि) according to Vedic *jyotiṣa śāstra* (ज्योतिष शास्त्र).

***rāśayaḥ* (राशयः), Constellations (Zodiac)**

meṣa (मेष) = Ram, *vṛṣabha* (वृषभ) = Bull, *midunam* (मिदुनम्) Gemini, *karkaṭa* (कर्कट) = Crab, *siṁha* (सिंह)= lion, *kanyā* (कन्या) = Virgo, *tulā* (तुला) = Weighing scale, *vṛścika* (वृश्चिक) = Capricorn, *dhanu*s (धनुस्) = Sagittarius, *makara* (मकर) = Crocodile, *kumbha* (कुंभ) = Pot, *mīnam* (मीनम्) = Pisces,

saptaviṁśat nakṣatrāṇi (सप्तविंशत् नक्षत्राणि) **= 27 Stars**

aśvini **(अश्विनि),** *bharaṇī* (भरणी) , *kṛtikā* (कृतिका), *rohiṇī* (रोहिणी), *mṛgaśīrṣā* (मृगशीर्षा), *ārdra* (आर्द्र), *punarvasu* (पुनर्वसु), *puṣya* (पुष्य), *āśleṣā* (आश्लेषा), *maghā* (मघा), *pūrva phālguṇī* (पूर्व फाल्गुणी), *uttara phālguṇī* (उत्तर फाल्गुणी), *hasta* (हस्त), *citrā* (चित्रा), *svāt*i (स्वाति), *viśākhā* (विशाखा), *anurādhā* (अनुराधा), *jyeṣṭhā* (ज्येष्ठा), *mūlā* (मूला), *pūrvāṣāḍhā* **(पूर्वाषाढा),** *uttarāṣāḍhā* **(उत्तराषाढा),** *śravaṇa* (श्रवण), *dhaniṣṭhā* (धनिष्ठा), *śatabhiṣā* (शतभिषा), *pūrvabhādra* (पूर्वभाद्र), *uttarabhādra* (उत्तरभाद्र), *revat*ī (रेवती)

Above listed twelve ***rāśayaḥ*** **(राशयः)** constellations are from the *jyotiṣya vedāṅga* (ज्योतिष्य). The twenty-seven stars**,** *nakṣtrāṇi* **(नक्षत्राणि)** are mentioned in the epic historical document *Mahābhārata* (महाभारत). According to *jyotiṣya vedāṅga* (ज्योतिष्य), Vedic astronomy, these twenty seven *nakṣatrāṇi* (नक्षत्राणि) or stars are located in *rāśayaḥ* (राशयः) or constellations. In Vedic astronomy there are twelve lunar months and thirty days in every month. The month has two parts, bright half and dark half. These two are called *śukla pakṣa* (शुक्ल पक्ष) and *kṛṣṇa pakṣa* (कृष्ण पक्ष).

As the moon revolves around the earth, the side (face) of the moon seen during full moon is always (ever) pointing towards the earth. Durung the full moon, this side is seen during night and new moon at new moon during the day time. Other times partially seen.

Twelve constellations *rāśayaḥ* (राशयः) and twenty seven stars

nakṣatrāṇi (नक्षत्राणि) are located around the solar system like numbers on a clock dial. As the moon revolves around the earth, it visits all the constellations and 27 stars every lunar month. At any momnt that moon is pointing out towards a particular star, *nakṣatra* (नक्षत्र) is the name of the *nakṣatra* (नक्षत्र) at that time.
Vedic astronomers and yearly published in a almnac called *pañcāṅga* (पञ्चाङ्ग). For example, the nakṣatra (नक्षत्र) on the day *Śrīkṛṣṇa* (श्रीकृष्ण) departed from *Upalavyanagara* (उपलव्यनगर) on a diplomatic mission was *revatinakṣatra* (रेवतिनक्षत्र), September 26, 3067 BCE and arrived in *Hastināpura* (हस्तिनापुर) two days later on *Bharaṇīnakṣatra* (भरणीनक्षत्र) day, September 28, 3067 BCE.Computer skymap programs confirm the astronomical observations of ancient Masters of India.

Vedic revelations are dated older than 7,000 BCE., and Vedic astronomy called *jyotiṣa śāstra* (ज्योतिष शास्त्र) is very ancient in India. Vedic astronomy and mathematics were studied and taken to Greece, *Hunān* (हुनान्) around 300 BCE after expedition of Alexander to India. There is ample evidence that the astronomy used in European culture is related to mathematics *jyotiṣa śāstra ca gaṇita śāstra* (ज्योतिष शास्त्र च गणित शास्त्र). The zodiac names are the names of the constellations called *rāśayaḥ* (राशयः) in *Sanskrit*. Many names of constellations are translations from Sanskrit to Greek.

The following chart shows the relation between the months of the Christian calendar and numbers in Sanskrit. At the Christian Council of Nicaea in 325 AD., the Christian or Julian calendar was adopted.

From the table below, there is a consistant difference of two between the names of the months of the Christian calendar and Sanskrit numbers. Prior to Christian or Julian calendar, it seems there was no sufficient knowledge of astronomy relating to yearly cycle of sun and calendar keeping in Europe. Gregorian calendar was adopted in England in 1752 AD. Julian calendar was predecessor to Gregorian calendar.

ṣaṭ (षट्) is six 6+2= 8	eighth month is August
sapta (सप्त) is seven, 7+2= 9	ninth month is September
aṣṭa (अष्ट) is eight 8+2= 10	tenth month is October.
nava (नव) is nine, 9+2= 11 `	eleventh month is November
daśa (दश)10+2= 12	twelfth month is December

APPENDIX

शृणुष्वावहितो राजन्-शुचिर्भूत्वा समाहितः भीष्मस्य कुरुशार्दूल देहोत्सर्गं महात्मनः ।

Listen O king, with concentration and pure mind how magnanimous Bhishma the great soul, the tiger among the Kurus, has left his body. 12 47-2

श्रुणुष्व śruṇuṣva = please listen, अवहितो avahito = carefully, सावधानेन sāvadhānena = with concentration, राजन् rājan = O king, शुचिर्भूत्वा śucirbhūtvā = having become pure (with pure mind), समाहितः samāhitaḥ = with all senses gathered together or all senses under control, भीष्मस्य bhīṣmasya = of Bishma, कुरुशार्दूल kuruśārdūla = tiger among the Kurus, देहोत्सर्गं dehotsargaṁ (देहः + उत्सर्गं, dehaḥ = the body + utsargaṁ = left) left the body, महात्मनः mahātmanaḥ = the great soul.

निवृत्तमात्रे त्वयने उत्तरे वै दिवाकरे समावेशयदात्मानमात्मन्येव समाहितः १२-४७- ३

As the sun reversed his course to travel northward abided himself calmly in the highest Self.

निवृत्तमात्रे nivṛtta = return, retreat, mātre = only, त्वयने tvayane (तु अयने tu + ayane) = indeed journey , उत्तरे uttare = in the north, वै vai = indeed, दिवाकरे divākare = sun, समावेश samāveśa = was present or entered, यदा yadā = when, आत्मानम् ātmānam, आत्मनि ātmani, एव eva = self abiding in the Self, by his self will in Supreme Self, समाहितः samāthitaḥ = joined or attained to supreme state or peace.

शुक्लपक्षस्य अष्टम्यां माघमासस्य पार्थिव प्रजापतये च नक्षत्रे मध्यां प्राप्ते दिवाकरे १२-४७-६४

On the eighth day of the bright half of the month of Māgha when the sun reached the zenith in the sky (mid-day), under the constellation ruled by Prajāpati.

शुक्लपक्षस्य śuklapakṣasya = of the bright fortnight, **अष्टम्यां** aṣṭamyāṁ = on the eighth day, **माघमासस्य** māghamāsasya = of the month of Māgha, **पार्थिव** pārthiva = o' king Yudhiṣṭhira, (**यः पृथिवीं पालित इति पार्थिव वा नृपः, पृथायाः अपत्यं पुमान् इति पार्थिव** = O king, Yudhiṣṭhira), **प्रजापतये नक्षत्रे** prajāpataye nakṣatre = in Prajapati star (constellation Taurus), **मध्यां** madhyāṁ = in the middle of the day (mid-day), **प्राप्ते** prāpte = attained, **दिवाकरे** divākare = by sun.

विष्ट्याप्राप्तोसि कौन्तेय सहामात्यो युधिष्ठिरपरिवृत्तो हि भगवान्सहस्त्रांशुदिवाकरः १३-१५३-२६

O son of Kunti by good luck you have come here with all your ministers, as the thousand rayed holy maker of the day has reversed his course.

विष्ट्याप्राप्तोसि viṣṭyāprāptosi = having obtained good luck, with good luck, **कौन्तेय** kaunteya = O son of Kunti, **सहामात्यो** sahāmātyo (saha amaatyah) = with ministers, **युधिष्ठर** yudhiṣṭhara = Yudhiṣṭhara, **परिवृत्तो** parivṛtto = return after completion, **हि** hi = indeed, **भगवान्सहस्त्रांशुदिवाकरः** bhagavānsahasrāṁśudivākaraḥ = Surya **Bhagavan with thousand parts, rays.**

अष्टपञ्चाशतं रात्रयः शयानस्य मे गतः – शरेषु निषिताग्रेषु यथावर्षशतं तथा १३ १५३ २७

I have been lying here in my bed for fifty eight nights stretching on these sharp pointed arrows. I felt this period as long as a hundred years.

अष्टपञ्चाशतं aṣṭapañcāśataṁ = fifty eight, **रात्रयः** rātrayaḥ = nights, **शयानस्याद्य** śayānasyādya = in the bed today, **मे** me = me, **गतः** gataḥ = have passed, **शरेषु निशिताग्रेषु** śareṣu niśitāgreṣu = on the tip of the sharp arrows, **यथावर्षशतं तथा** yathāvarṣaśataṁ tathā = like one is hundred years.

माघोयं समनुप्राप्तो मासः पुण्यो युधिष्ठर – त्रिभागशेषः पक्षोयं शुक्ल भवितुमर्हति १३ १५३ २८

Now the holy month of maga has set in and three parts of the bright fortnight remains and will happen what must.

माघोयं māghoyaṁ = this (month of) **Māgha**, **समनुप्राप्तो** samanupräpto = has come (attained?), **मासः पुण्यो māsaḥ puṇyo** = the holy month, **युधिष्ठर** yudhiṣṭhara = Yudhiṣṭhara, **त्रिभागशेषः tribhāgaśeṣaḥ** (**tribhāga + śeṣaḥ**) = three quarters remaining, **पक्षोयं शुक्ल pakṣoyaṇ śukla** = this bright fortnight, **भवितुमर्हति bhavtimarhati** = will be what must be.

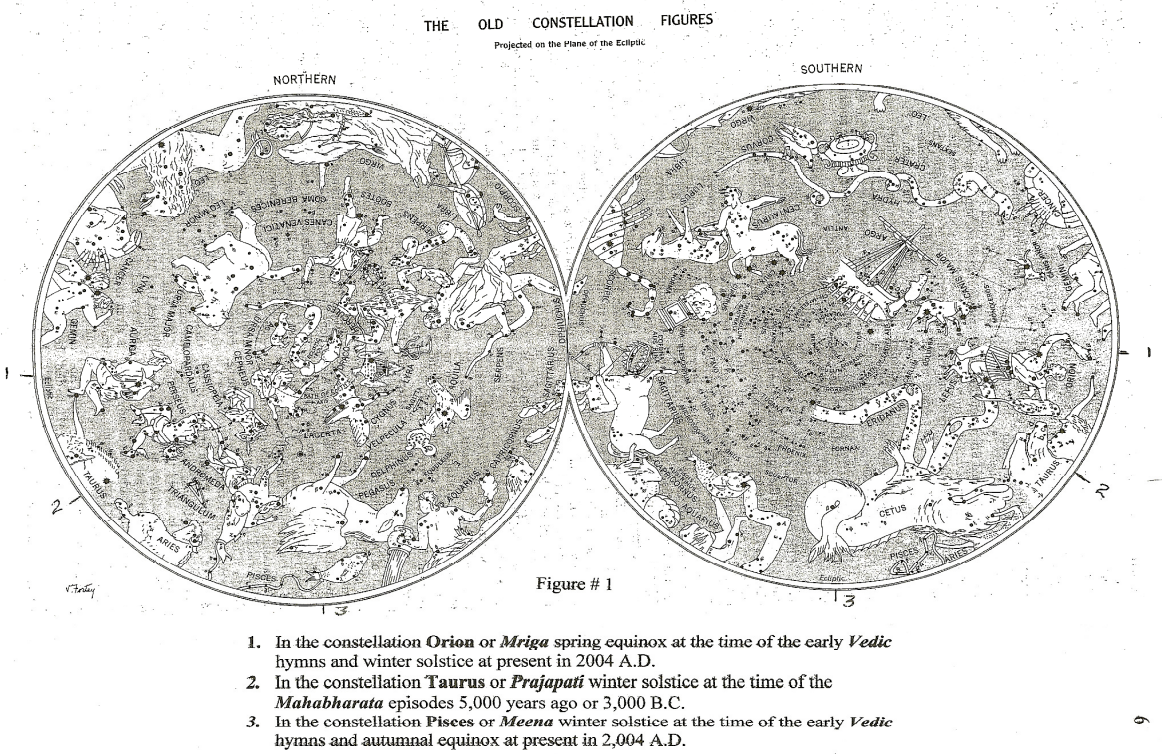

Figure 1: The Old Constellation Figures Projected on the Plane of the Ecliptic

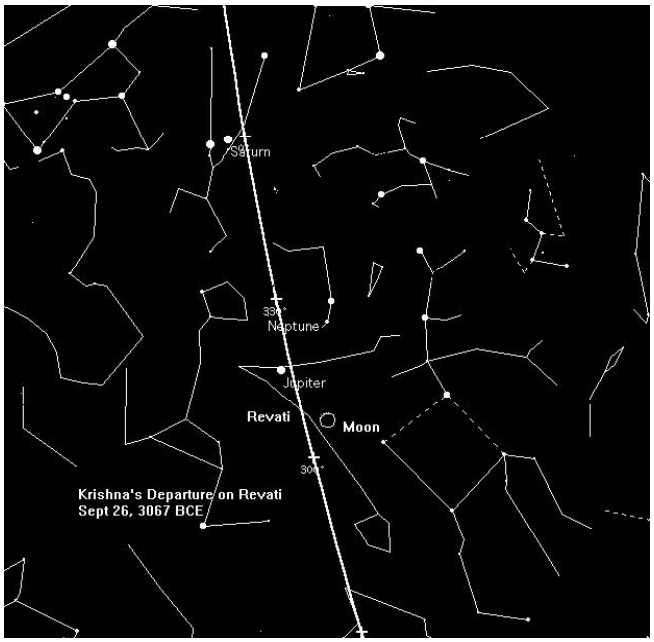

Figure 2: September 26, 3067 B.C. Krishna's departure from Hastinapura from Pandava camp Upalavyanagara on Ravati day.

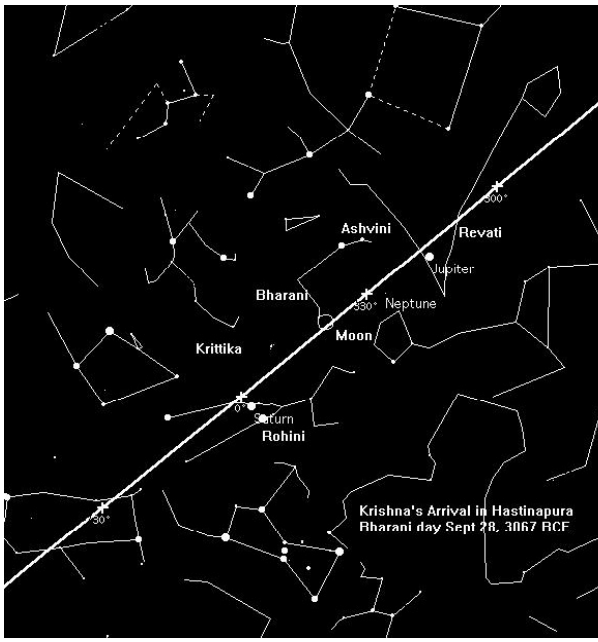

Figure 3: September 28, 3067 B.C. Krishna's arrival in Hanapure on Bharani day on a diplomatic mission.

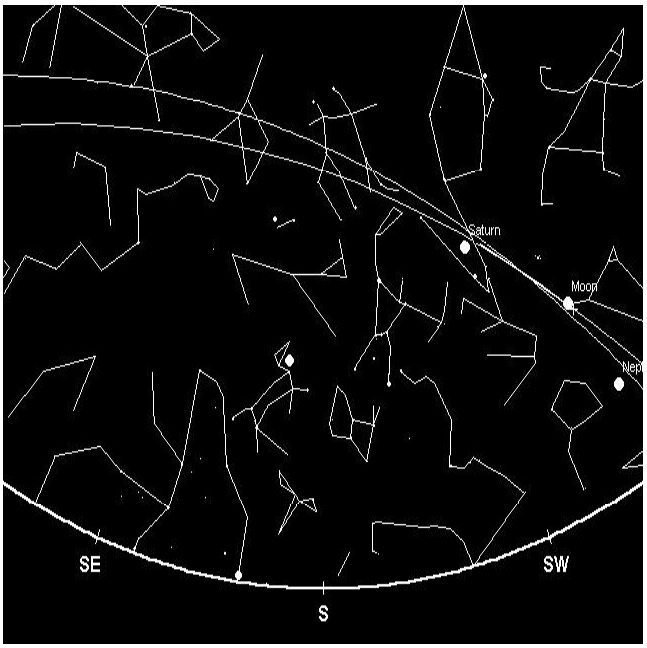

Figure 4: September 29, 3067 B.C.
Krittika full moon, lunar eclipse.

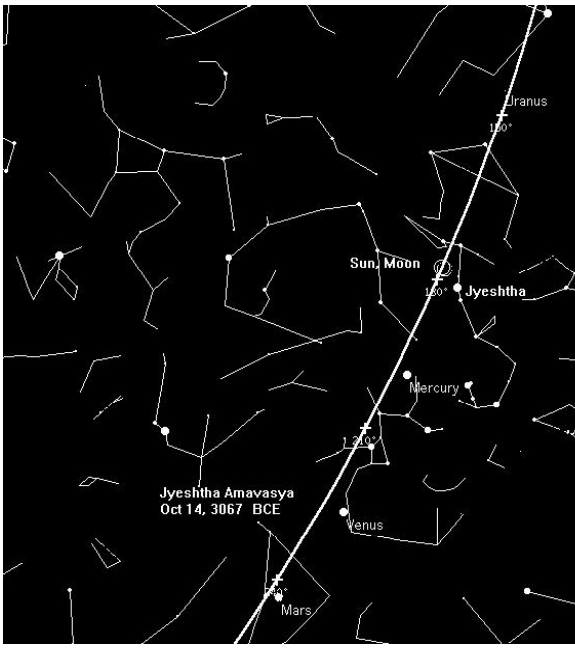

Figure 5: October 14, 3067 B.C.
Jyeshta amavaasya, 13 days later another lunar eclipse.

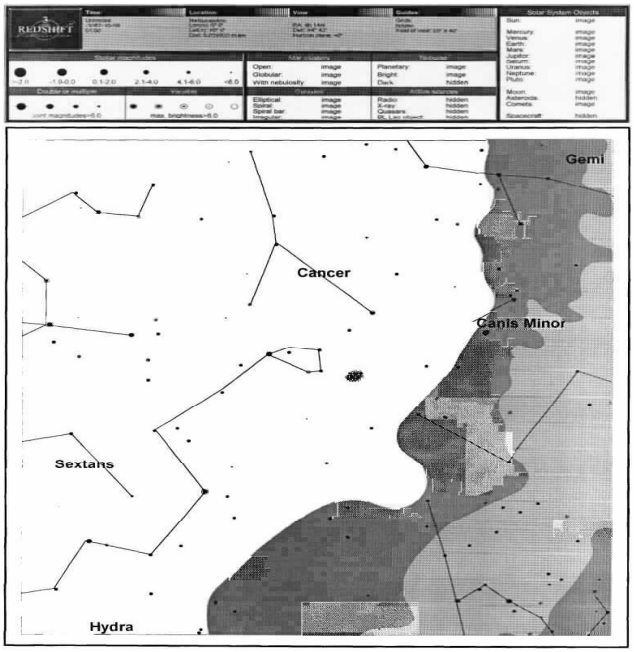

Figure 6: October 3067 B.C.
A fierce comet on Pushya day, nearly a month before Mahabharta war.

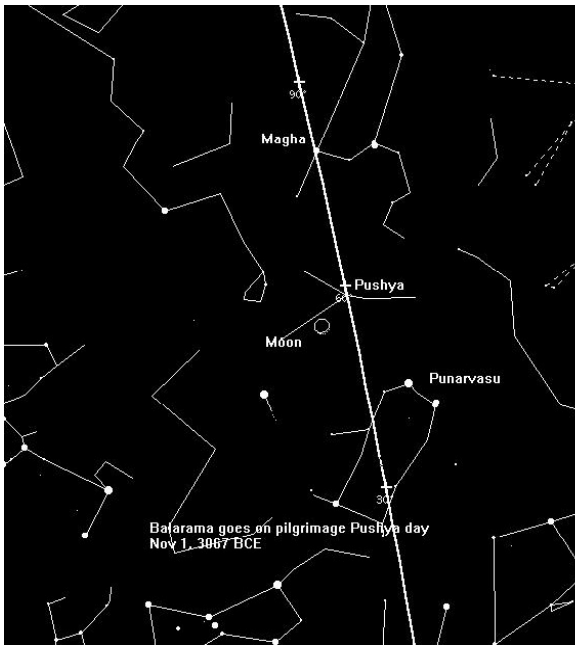

Figure 7: November 1, 3067 B.C.
Pushya day, Balarama goes on pilgrimage
on Saraswati.

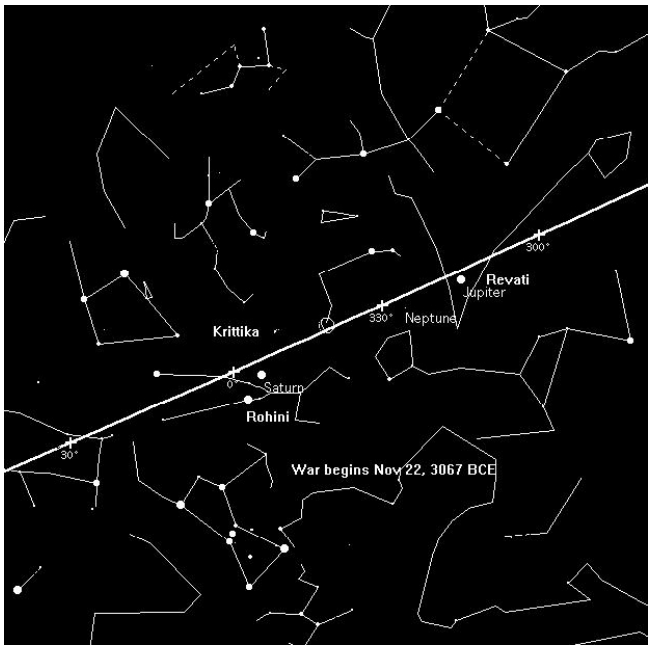

Figure 8: November 22, 3067 B.C.
Saturn in Rohini, Jupiter in Revati.
Mahabharata war begins.

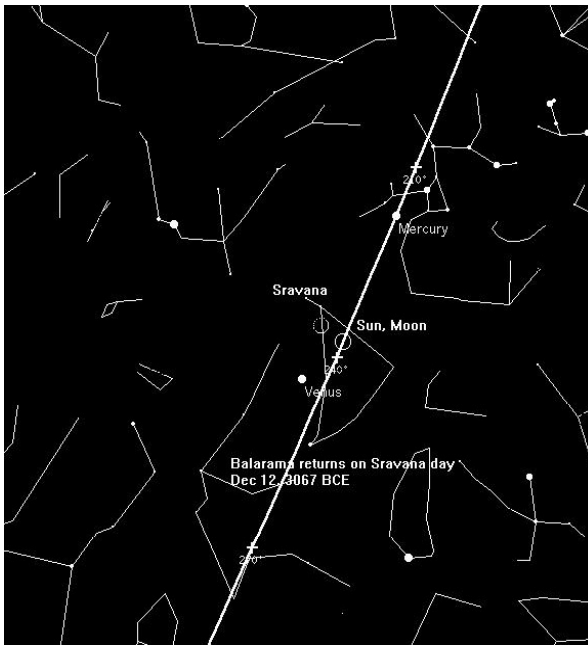

Figure 9: December 12, 3067 B.C.
Sravana day, Balarama returns from the
Saraswati Pilgrimage.

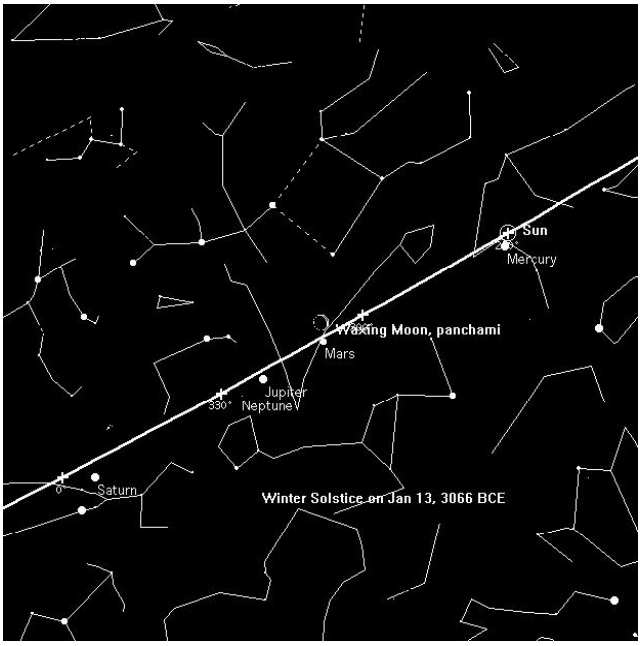

Figure 10: January 13, 3066 B.C.
Maghashukla chaturi, winter solstice.

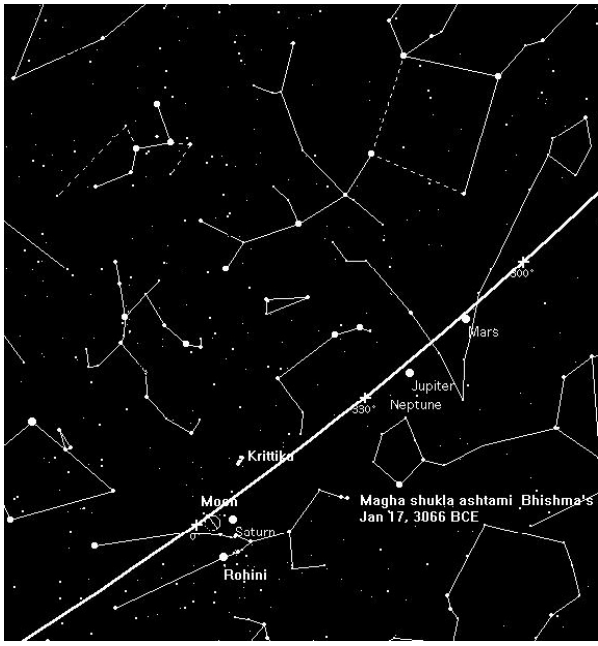

Figure 11: January 17, 3066 B.C.
Maghashukla ashtami, Bhishma expires.

References

1. B. N. Narahari Achar, "Mahabharata as the sheet-anchor of Bharatiya Itihasa", The University of Memphis, Memphis, TN 38152

2. Dr. S. Kalyanaraman, "Date of Mahabharata War"

3. Professor Rahavan, "The Dates of Mahabharata War', published by Srirangam Printers, Srinivasanagar, 1969.

4. Sathe S. Deshmukh V., and Joshi P., "Bhaaratiiya Yuddha" astronomical references published by Shri Baba Saheb Apte Smarak Samiti, (Pune, 1985).

5. Constellations sorted by month, http://www.astro.wise.edu/~dolan/constellations/Constellationmonth_list.html

6. Swami Harshananda, "The Bird's Eye View of the Vedas", Ramakrishna Order, Bangalore, India.