



Sun, Planets and Transitions

The Sun will be in Taurus, the Bull (*Vrushabha*) on 1 June, with an angular diameter of. 31'33". On 21 June it will move to Gemini, the Twins (*Mithuna*). On 30 June its angular diameter will be 31'28".

The summer solstice (terminology applicable to the northern hemisphere) will be on 21 June at 08:12 hours IST. On this day, the Sun will be in the plane of the Tropic of Cancer. From this day on, the days will start getting shorter in the northern hemisphere, but days will still be longer than nights.

Mercury will be in Taurus on 1 June. It will move to Gemini on 9 June, and then to Cancer, the Crab (*Karka*) on 25 June.

Mercury can be spotted, although with some effort, by June 10, above the western horizon after sunset. From 19–21 June it travels through the Gateway of Heaven, an asterism in the shape of a parallelogram made by the stars Castor and Pollux (in Gemini) and Procyon and Gomeiza (in Canis Minor).

Ephemeris of Mercury:

Date	Alt*	Mag	Diam''	El°
10 Jun	+07°53'	-1.0	5.48	13.4 E
20 Jun	+16°25'	-0.2	6.32	21.6 E
30 Jun	+20°14'	0.3	7.54	25.6 E

Venus moves from Pisces, the Fishes (*Meena*) to Cetus, the Whale (*Timingila*) on 9 June. The next day it will be in Aries, the Ram (*Mesha*). It moves to Taurus, the Bull (*Vrushabha*) on 28 June.

Ephemeris of Venus:

Date	Alt*	Mag	Diam''	El°
01 Jun	+35°54'	-4.3	23.9	45.9 W
10 Jun	+36°24'	-4.2	21.6	45.6 W
20 Jun	+36°16'	-4.2	19.6	44.8 W
30 Jun	+35°26'	-4.1	18.0	43.6 W

List of Events in June 2025 (Time in IST)

Dt	Dy	Time	Event
01	Su	07:29	Venus elongation: 45.9° W
01	Su	15:19	Moon-Mars: 1.5° S
02	Mo	07:00	Moon-Regulus: 1.9° S
03	Tu	09:11	First quarter
04	We	07:03	Moon descending node
06	Fr	19:45	Moon-Spica: 0.6° N
07	Sa	16:12	Moon apogee: 405600 km
09	Mo	00:37	Mercury 2.0° N of Jupiter
10	Tu	15:55	Moon-Antares: 0.3° N
11	We	13:14	Full Moon
12	Th	05:24	Moon south declination: 28.4° S
17	Tu	07:35	Mars-Regulus: 0.7° N
18	We	15:11	Moon ascending node
19	Th	00:49	Last quarter
19	Th	09:17	Moon-Saturn: 3.4° S
21	Sa	08:12	Summer/June solstice
22	Su	01:21	Mercury-Pollux: 5° S
23	Mo	08:29	Moon-Pleiades: 0.6° S
23	Mo	10:13	Moon perigee: 363200 km
24	Tu	20:36	Jupiter conjunction
25	We	07:13	Moon north declination: 28.4° N
25	We	15:12	Jupiter 5.0° S of Moon
25	We	16:01	New Moon
27	Fr	11:32	Moon-Mercury: 2.9° S
27	Fr	23:12	Moon-Beehive: 2.1° S
29	Su	15:56	Moon-Regulus: 1.6° S
30	Mo	06:35	Moon-Mars: 0.2° S

Mars remains in Leo, the Lion (*Simha*) in June. On 17 June, it can be seen less than 1° north of Regulus (*Magha*). One should begin to look for the conjunction around 14 June. The magnitudes of both objects are 1.4, but Mars exhibits a strong red hue, whereas Regulus is a blue star.

Ephemeris of Mars:

Date	Alt*	Mag	Diam''	El°
01 Jun	+63°46'	1.3	5.51	70.1 W
10 Jun	+60°07'	1.4	5.28	66.3 W
20 Jun	+55°53'	1.4	5.06	62.3 W
30 Jun	+51°30'	1.5	4.87	58.5 W

Jupiter will be in Taurus on 1 June, then will move to Gemini on 12 June. Its appearance in the night sky is almost over. Until June 10, it can be observed very close to the western horizon soon after sunset. It will be in conjunction with the Sun on 24 June. By the middle of the next month, it will reappear above the eastern horizon at the break of civil twilight before sunrise.

Since Jupiter is too close to the Sun, it will be difficult to observe the eclipses, transits and occultations of its moons.

Ephemeris of Jupiter:

Date	Alt*	Mag	Diam''	El°
01 Jun	+10°39'	-1.9	32.29	16.8 E
10 Jun	+04°39'	-1.9	32.1	10.2 E

Saturn remains in Pisces in June. It is about 1.5° away from Neptune. This makes sighting Neptune, the farthest planet from the Sun, relatively easy.

Ephemeris of Saturn:

Date	Alt*	Mag	Diam''	El°
01 Jun	+56°28'	1.1	16.75	70.3 W
10 Jun	+64°22'	1.1	17.00	78.4 W
20 Jun	+72°43'	1.0	17.29	87.5 W
30 Jun	+79°12'	1.0	17.60	96.7 W

(Disclaimer: We categorically mention here that we do not believe in astrology and believe that the only influence a planet has on us is to give us the viewing pleasure of its beauty. The sole purpose of giving the transition of planets and the Sun is to acquaint the reader with the Indian nomenclature of planets and constellations and also to show that the actual positions of the Sun and planets, which are based on modern computing, are very different from those given in astrology tables.)

March of the Moon

On 1 June, the approximately 35% illuminated lunar disk can be seen above Mars. On 2 June, the Moon, Regulus (*Magha*) and Mars will be aligned, with Regulus nearly equidistant from both the others. On 3 June, δ Leonis, θ Leonis and the Moon will also be aligned, with δ and θ Leonis forming the Indian *nakshatra Purva Phalguni*.

On 10 June the almost Full Moon rises just after Antares (*Jyeshtha*). On 19 June, the Moon will be less than 3° from Saturn. Then on 22 June, it can be seen about 7° north of Venus. On 23 June, the thin lunar crescent will be right above the Pleiades (*Krutika*). This will be an incredible sight to capture on camera.

After New Moon on 25 June, the Moon reappears above the western horizon after sunset. On 27 June, the thin lunar crescent can be seen above Mercury. On 29 June, the Moon passes within 1.6° north of Regulus.

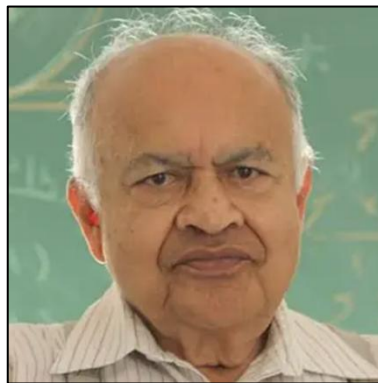
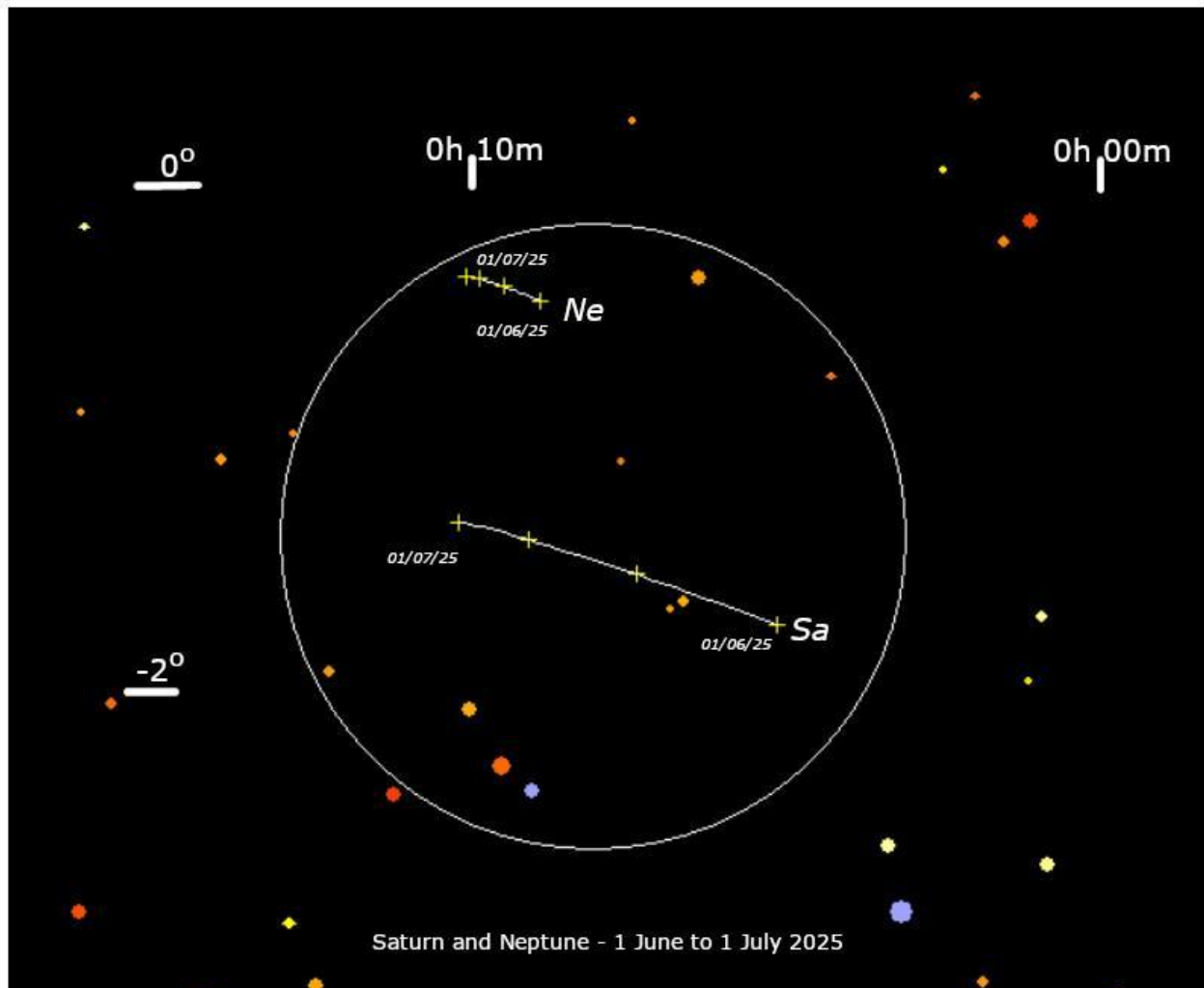
Saturn's Close Approach to Neptune

Saturn is less than 2° from Neptune this month, and the angular distance between them is decreasing. On 30 June it will be 1° south of Neptune. The closest approach of the two planets will take place on 6 July.

It should be possible to find Neptune with a pair of binoculars. Saturn and Neptune will be 1.0 and 7.8 magnitude objects respectively. The map on the next page shows the positions of Saturn (Sa) and Neptune (Ne). The + marks are 10-day intervals. The circle has a diameter of 2.5". The faintest star on the map is 8.5 magnitude.

For notes on stargazing [click here](#).

Or visit <https://skytonight.wordpress.com/monthly-sky-notes-and-links/>

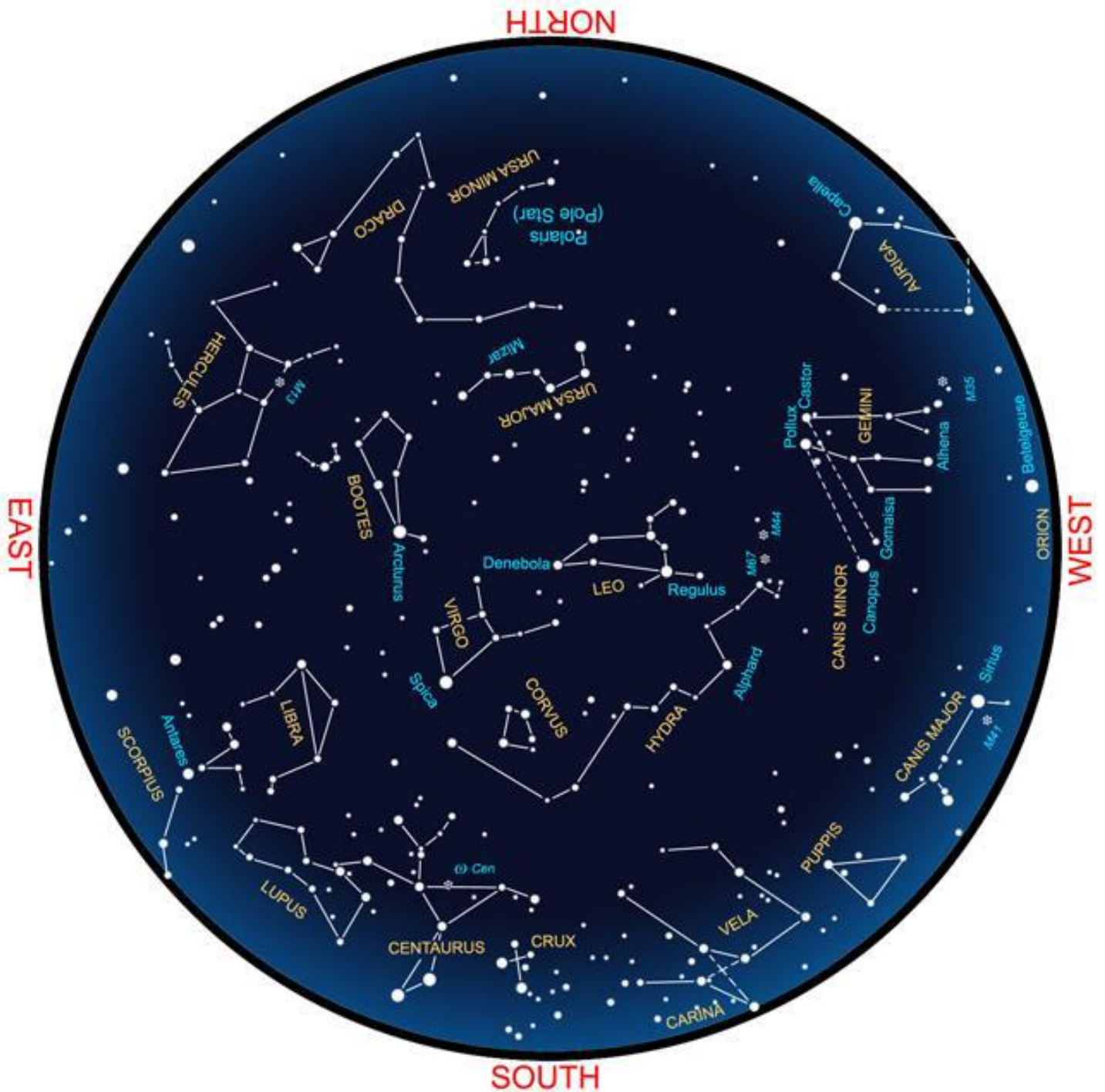


Dr Jayant Narlikar (1938 – 2025)

Indian astronomy has lost a great visionary, a pioneer and honest man of science. His tireless dedication to bring the complexities of science to common people has earned him a place in the heart of every Indian. This issue of SkyNews is dedicated to the memory of this great statesman.

-- Editors

This sky map for May is drawn for mid-northern latitudes,
to be used around 9:30 p.m. local time



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