

## Searching for the horoscope of Portugal

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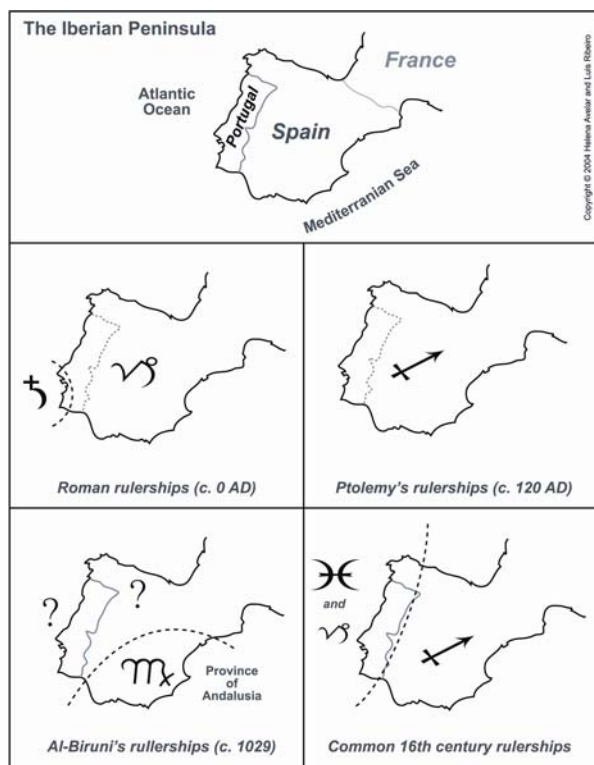
Portugal is one of the oldest nations in Europe. With nearly 900 years of history, it has maintained its territory and its cultural identity since achieving independence from the Iberian kingdom of Leon in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The independence of Portugal did not arise from a single event, but from a process lasting several years. As there is no specific date for Portugal's beginning, there are obvious difficulties for those attempting to establish a chart for the country.

The purpose of this article is to present a primary overview of possible charts for the foundation of Portugal. We will explore the astrological associations of Portugal and examine some of the resulting charts. The results presented here are drawn from an original study, made by the authors, of the astrology of Portugal's historical events in the context of research into the horoscopes of the Portuguese monarchy (1).

### Astrological correlations to Portugal

Portugal is located on the west coast of the Iberian Peninsula, so it is here that we begin our search. We find references to the Iberian Peninsula on very ancient maps; it was a trading place for Phoenicians, Greeks and Egyptians as well as a rich land, full of precious metals. The earliest astrological reference to Portuguese territory that we have found so far is from the Roman period. (2)

The west coast of the Peninsula was considered then to be the "end of the world" and so it was attributed to Saturn (the outermost planet in the known solar system) and thus Capricorn which Saturn rules (3). Manilius follows this attribution giving Capricorn to the whole of the Peninsula. Ptolemy's system of rulership seems to have been the most commonly accepted and most frequently used (4). This author gives the rulership of Sagittarius to Iberia as a whole, which in more recent times has been attributed to Spain alone. In the later Arab astrologers the only reference to the Peninsula comes from Al-Biruni, who attributes the sign of Virgo to Andalusia located in the south of Spain.



In modern times, the most commonly used astrological association for Portugal is neither Capricorn nor Sagittarius, but the sign of Pisces. Almost all astrologers and students use this attribution. Although the attributes of Pisces seem to fit very well with the characteristics of the Portuguese, the origin of this association is unknown to us. In our research, the earliest reference to Pisces we could find appears in astrological works of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries (5). Furthermore, a study of the works published by Portuguese and Spanish astrologers of the 16<sup>th</sup> century reveals that most often they used the Capricorn rulership for Portugal; the sign of Pisces was also used, but only as a secondary rulership (6).

Figure 1: Sign attributions for the Iberian Peninsula

If one accepts the attribution of Pisces to Portugal, an interesting situation appears in the Iberian Peninsula. On one side we have Spain ruled by Sagittarius, and on the other Portugal ruled by Pisces (7). This emphasizes and maintains Jupiter's rulership over the whole area. (8) Traditionally, Jupiter is the ruler of Christianity (9) and even today both countries maintain a deep Catholic root. Religion is very much embedded in both cultures but, sadly, the Inquisition (10) can be seen as the other side of this Jupiterean overtone.

The Iberian countries began the maritime expansion of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, discovering new lands and expanding the common perception of the World. These qualities can easily be associated with Jupiter of religion and increase. Portugal and Spain were the first countries to divide the World into two parts: the Treaty of Tordesilhas of 1491 traced a line 370 leagues west of the Cape Verde Islands (11). All undiscovered lands located west of that line belonged to Spain, the lands to the east belonged to Portugal (12).

Despite the similarities, there are also clear differences between these two countries and their peoples. Generally, the typical Spanish behaviour tends to be assertive, open and confident, clear attributes of Fire and thus Sagittarius. On the other hand, the Portuguese tend to display (again in general terms) a more sentimental, reserved and passive attitude, which we can relate to the Water element and thus Pisces. This difference can also be seen in the "colonizing style" of both countries. Spain's attitude was one of conquest, and the image of the conqueror (El Conquistador) remains a part of that culture. Portugal had its share of conquest, of course, but the general attitude was more that of a trading nation. Racial mingling through inter-racial marriage was actively encouraged as a means of achieving that end, a strategy that other colonial nations seldom considered, or actively avoided (13).

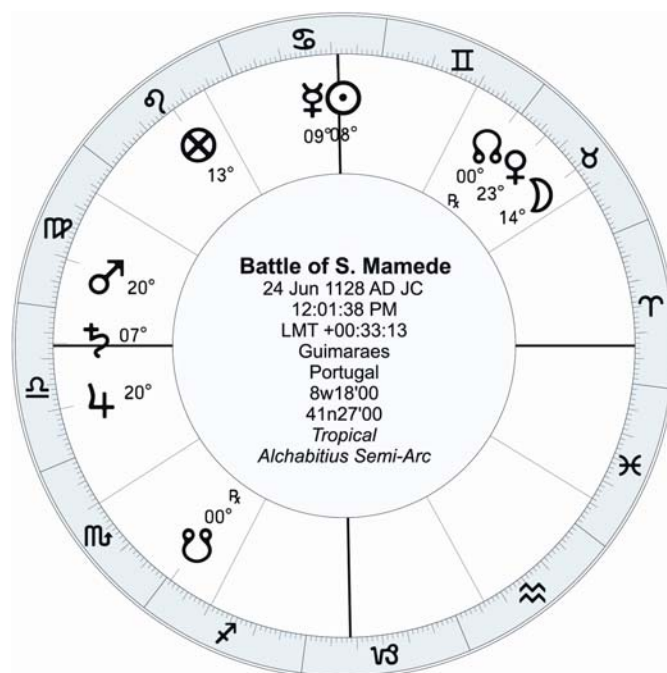
Nevertheless, the choice of Capricorn and Saturn to signify Portugal – as used by 16<sup>th</sup> century astrologers – is not to be dismissed lightly. Portugal is in many ways a Saturnine country; there is a pessimistic and subversive element in the Portuguese mentality. In astrological terms, this can be related to a mixture of the Phlegmatic and Melancholic temperaments (Pisces / Capricorn). We can see evidence of this in traditional Portuguese songs like Fado, a lament full of longing and feelings of loss. The Capricorn/Saturn rulership also brings an interesting correspondence: ships and seaman. In the tradition, this sign and its ruler are often associated with shipping and various activities related to the sea, (14), and reflects Portuguese maritime ventures.

## **A horoscope for the country: when did it all begin?**

Portugal was initially a province of the kingdom of Leon on the central-west coast of the Iberian Peninsula. In 1128, with the rise to power of Count Afonso Henriques, the process of independence began. It culminated around 1143 with the recognition by the Pope and the Emperor of Leon-Castile of Dom Afonso as king. However, official recognition by the Holy Church would come much later, in 1179.

Although full independence took several years to achieve, an important and significant moment for the foundation of Portugal is the young Count Afonso's overthrow of his mother (Dona Teresa, daughter of Afonso VI of Leon) as ruler, and his becoming the head of the province, proclaiming himself king (15). This occurred following his victory at the Battle of São Mamede, on 24<sup>th</sup> June 1128. In our view, this is a key moment since it represents the first move towards independence, and therefore forms the basis of Portugal as a nation.

The chart presented here is calculated for midday since there is no record of the exact time of the commencement of the battle. It is the belief of some historical investigators (16) that the battle began during the morning and ended around midday, and some even call this event "the first Portuguese afternoon" (17), also emphasizing that from this moment on there was truly a Portuguese government. Therefore, for our purposes here, we will use local noon as a speculative time.



While a detailed interpretation is beyond the scope of this article, the strong emphasis of Saturn in this chart, both rising and exalted, is worthy of note. On the other hand, both Venus, ruler of the Ascendant, and the Moon, ruler of the MC, are dignified in Taurus. This strong Venus-Saturn emphasis might support the characterization of Portugal as a non-aggressive and conservative nation.

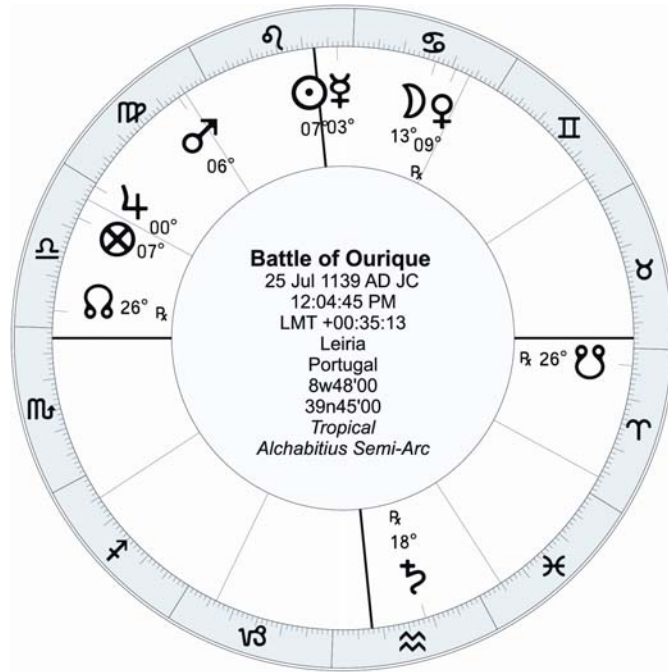
This chart seems to reflect the major events throughout Portugal's history. The Sun, Mercury, Saturn, Ascendant and MC are on degrees that respond to transits and other planetary directions. For example, transits of Saturn and Mars over these angles usually denote political shifts (18).

Our research has also exposed particular degree areas that are emphasized in important moments: the first half of each of the cardinal signs is most obvious, particularly around 8° and 13°, together with the last degrees of both Pisces and Sagittarius. Other important points occur in the second decanate of Taurus from 10° to 19°. The São Mamede chart accommodates most of these points. In fact most of the charts of major historical events in Portugal have planetary positions in these areas. (Refer to the diagram at the end of this article: *Sensitive Degrees*)

### **The Battle of Ourique**

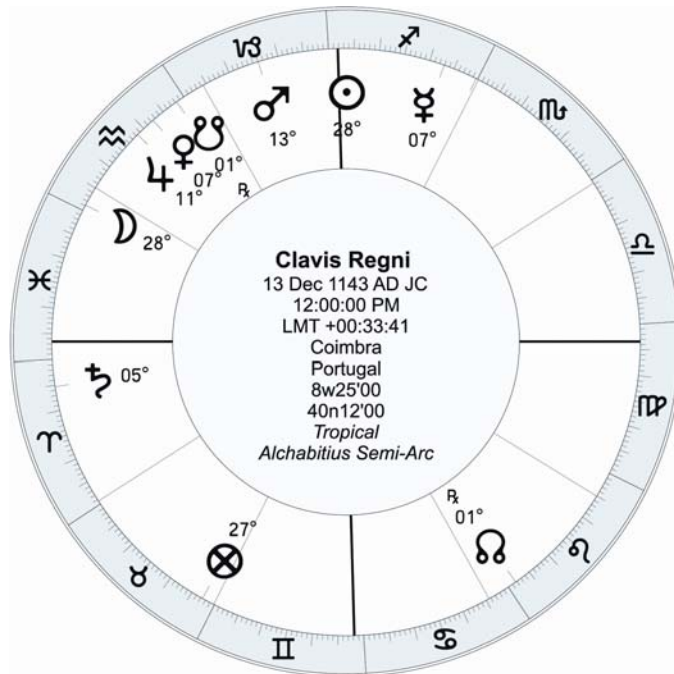
There are other significant moments in Portugal's early history. One such is the Battle of Ourique where, according to legend, Afonso Henriques was proclaimed king. The battle took place on 25<sup>th</sup> July 1139 and marked the victory of Afonso over the Moorish kings of the south of the Peninsula. The legend says that Christ appeared to Dom Afonso before dawn and urged him to victory. (The details of the battle are not known so the chart is once more calculated for local noon.)

A preliminary examination of this chart reveals that it does not respond to the same historical events (18a) as often as does the chart of the Battle of São Mamede. The exception to this is the Venus-Moon conjunction because it coincides with the sensitive points of the earlier chart. This conjunction seems to relate to one curious point regarding the "Miracle of Ourique". The exact moment of this conjunction (around 4:45 a.m. on that day) coincides with the moment of the vision. According to the chronicles, Afonso Henrique's vision of Christ occurred half an hour before morning (19). This vision while apparently leading him to victory, perhaps more importantly, gave him credibility as a Christian king.



**The Clavis Regni letter**

*Clavis Regni* (literally: “the keys of the kingdom”) is the letter sent by King Afonso to Pope Innocent II, in which he presents himself as King of Portugal and vassal of the Holy Church. In this letter the king puts the kingdom into the Pope’s hands. It is dated 13<sup>th</sup> December 1143 (20), and again no hour is known for this event, so local noon is used.



Subsequently, Portugal’s independence achieved papal recognition, crucial for any newborn Christian kingdom. In this chart the emphasis is found in Sagittarius (MC and Sun) and Pisces (Ascendant). Early study demonstrates that the degrees of the MC and Ascendant highlight two important degree areas for Portuguese mundane events (Refer to the diagram at the end of the article: Sensitive Degrees).

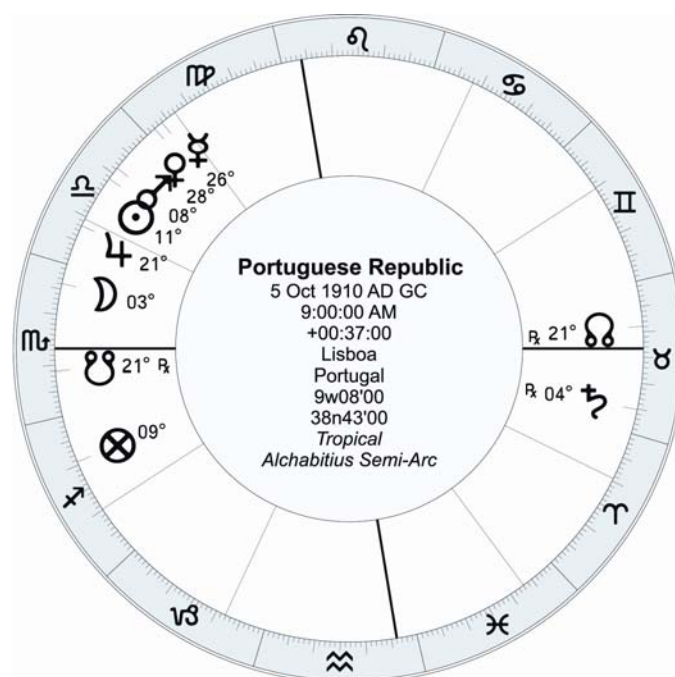
## Other Significant Moments

As with any other nation, there are a number of significant moments in various historical periods which might be used as a basis for national charts. Examples in Portuguese history are the Crisis of 1383, which started the second dynasty (21), the Restoration of Independence (22), and the Liberal Revolution in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (23).

## Modern Portugal

### Proclamation of the Portuguese Republic

A new period in Portugal's history began in 1910 with the proclamation of the Republic, ending 782 years of monarchy. The Republic was proclaimed in Lisbon on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1910 at 9.00 a.m. In astrological terms, it was a bad choice of moment because both the ruler of the Ascendant (Mars) and the ruler of the MC (Sun) are debilitated in Libra. This configuration suggests the weak governments (MC) and the people's continuous struggle (Ascendant) that marked the following decades. There was never the capability of forming a firm enough government to stabilize the country. It was a time of unusual agitation, with riots, counter-revolutions and political assassinations.

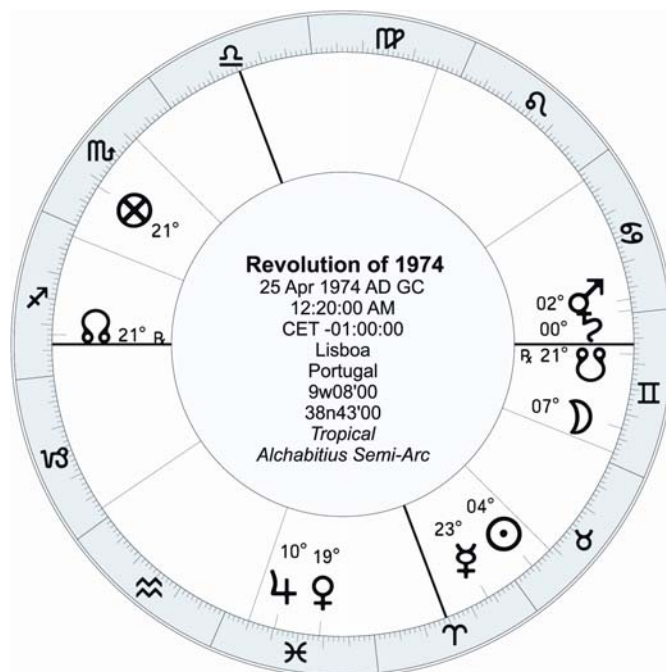


The chart presents hard configurations. Besides the debilitated Sun-Mars conjunction (both essentially weak in Libra), there is also a debilitated Moon in the 12<sup>th</sup> house opposing Saturn. Mars (ruler of the Ascendant) and Moon (natural signifier of the common people) emphasizes the poor condition of the Portuguese people. The South Node rising is also a sign of debility, for it suggests damage and loss and speaks of betrayal.

The general weakness of the chart, either by lack of essential dignity or cadency, describes the chaos and ineffectiveness which characterized the Republic. Order was restored only in 1926, when a military government took control, precipitating the country into a dictatorship (24). This could be referred to the Sun-Mars conjunction in the Republic's chart. The Sun is the ruler of the MC and natural signifier of leadership, Mars is the natural ruler of the military and soldiers.

## The Revolution of 1974

In 1974 a major revolution occurred in Portugal. A decade of colonial war and 48 years of oppression resulted in a military coupe. In the early hours of the 25<sup>th</sup> April 1974 the censored revolutionary song “Grândola Vila Morena” was broadcast on the radio. This was the signal that the revolution was underway. During that morning the military revolutionaries took over the national television and radio stations and all government buildings. Popular support was immediate and enthusiastic. By the end of the day the dictatorship had been replaced by a provisional democratic government. The revolution was peaceful, there having been very little resistance. The revolutionaries killed no-one, not even the dictator; the only death occurred when the secret police fired against the people surrounding their headquarters; even so, very few people were killed; there were no riots, no looting and no reprisal.



The chart is cast for the 25<sup>th</sup> April 1974 at 12.20 a.m. in Lisbon, the time of the broadcasting of the song.

The angularity of the Mars-Saturn conjunction, so apt for a revolution, is overshadowed by both benefics, which rule the angles, being strong in Pisces and in trine to the malefics. This represents the moderate and peaceful nature that characterized the revolution. Jupiter, a superior and weighty planet, rules the Ascendant and therefore represents the Portuguese people, its benevolence and fortitude demonstrates their success. Venus, an inferior and light planet and ruler of the MC, represents the government, its peaceful nature denies armed resistance.

We have found this chart to be a clear reflection of the current political condition of Portugal. A study of the transits, progressions and directions of this chart has revealed it to be an excellent indicator of economic and political changes. For example, in recent studies (25), the Jupiter cycle and the progressed lunations have proved to be excellent indicators of economic growth or recession.

At the present, we suggest the use of three charts for the astrological study of Portugal:

1. the chart of São Mamede, which can be considered as a foundation chart and gives the historical context as well as the timing for the birth of Portugal as an independent state;
2. the chart of the Republic, because it indicates the birth of modern Portugal;
3. the chart of the Revolution of 1974, because it describes the current political setting.

Our research to date has proved these charts to be reliable tools when used in combination with ingresses, eclipses and other mundane techniques. It is our opinion that something as complex as a nation cannot be reduced to a single horoscope. Certainly in the case of Portugal, its long life-span and its distinct historical phases suggest that a combination of charts must be used to achieve a deeper understanding of the nation's events and transformations.

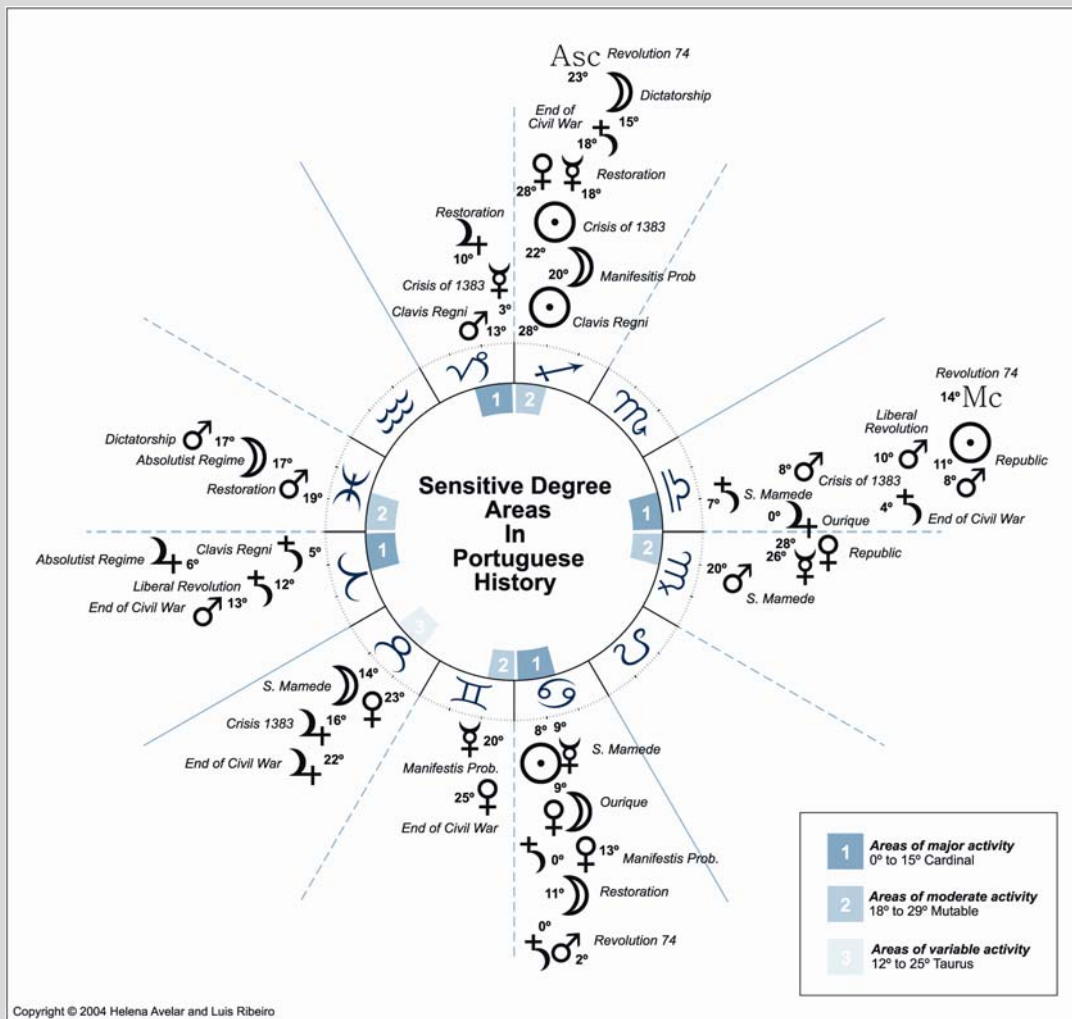
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### Sensitive Degrees

The main events of Portuguese history seem to form a pattern of planetary placements in the Zodiac. Certain areas, like the first half of cardinal signs are usually prominent. More research is required to discover whether these areas are particular to Portugal, or common to mundane events. The fact that the cardinal areas are very close to the angles of the São Mamede chart reinforces, in our view, its position as the possible foundation chart for Portugal.

The following diagram represents these sensitive areas and the planetary placements at the time of some most notable events in the history of the Portuguese nation (26).

**Note:** charts of political events tend to have Mars, Jupiter or Saturn either in the cardinal signs or in the late degrees of mutable signs.



## The Symbolic Horoscope of Portugal

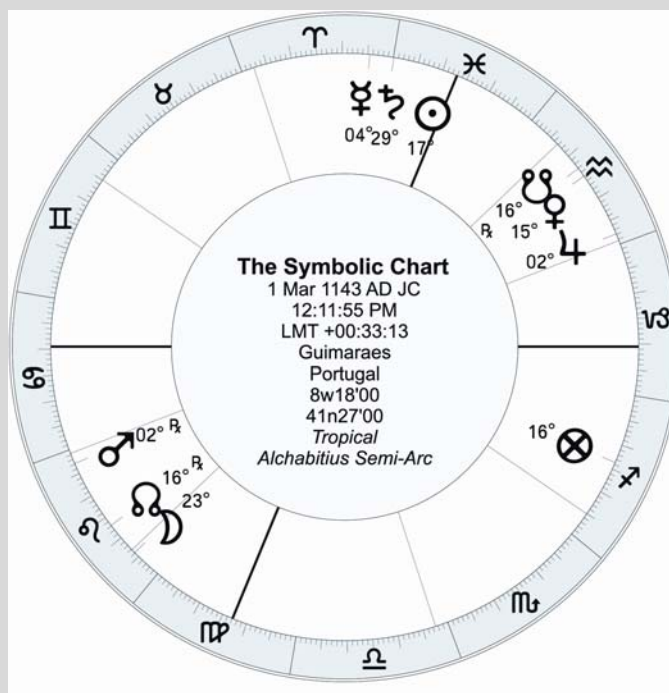
Besides the charts presented in this article there is still another one, known as the “Symbolic Chart of Portugal” which is widely used by Portuguese astrological students. The origin of this chart is obscure. It started to circulate in the astrological groups of the 1970s. Contrary to the others, this chart is not based on a specific event or date. It is a construct wholly based upon the following assumptions:

1. that Portugal is ruled by Pisces;
2. that there is a direct correlation between the number 17 and the cycles of Portugal;
3. that the year for the foundation of Portugal is 1143.

Result: that by taking the year 1143 and the day when the Sun is at 17° of Pisces, the symbolic chart of Portugal discovered.

The sign rulership of Portugal has been discussed in the main text of this article. As to the second assumption, there are few consistent explanations about the 17-year cycles as it relates to Portugal. Some try to relate the number 17 to the tarot card XVII, the Star, but a complete debate about these correlations is outside of the scope of the present article. The third point takes the year of the Treaty of Zamora as the beginning of our nationhood. This treaty was signed by Afonso Henriques and the Spanish Emperor Afonso VII on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1143 in Samora, Spain. The treaty is ambiguous however because the Spanish emperor accepts Dom Afonso as King, but at the same time treats him as one of his vassals. So, the treaty is not clear as a turning point. Besides that, Afonso Henriques had begun to style himself king in documents dated long before this treaty.

Regardless of all these considerations, most astrological students use these data to build the chart that we present below. The chart is calculated for 1<sup>st</sup> March 1143, local noon, and has a Cancer Ascendant.





It should be remembered that there is no known historical evidence for this date. In our opinion, the horoscope of a country needs more than symbolic correlations; it needs to be substantiated by a known event to become representative of a nation.

Some students and astrologers attribute the creation of the symbolic chart to the famous Portuguese poet and astrologer, Fernando Pessoa (27). Research shows that, although we find some astrological notes in Pessoa's private papers regarding the possible chart of Portugal, none of them includes a chart based on any of the above-mentioned criteria. What we actually find in his notes is a study of the possible Ascendant and MC for Portugal. He designed some diagrams with house cusps, but did not place the planets therein. One of the diagrams presents a Cancer Ascendant with Pisces on the MC; another has Pisces on the Ascendant and Sagittarius on the MC. The similarity between the cusps represented in the first diagram and the symbolic chart has led some students to the mistaken idea that Pessoa was its author.

### Footnotes:

- (1) Helena Avelar & Luis Ribeiro, *Astrologia Real (Royal Astrology)*, Editora Pergaminho, Lisbon 2004.
- (2) Marcus Manilius, *Astronomica*, Loeb Classical Library, 1977.
- (3) According to the historian Avienus, in *Ora Maritima*, (4<sup>th</sup> century). Most of his works are based on earlier writings from the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC. Referring to the west coast of Algarve (Cape of St. Vincent) the author says "it is dedicated to Saturn and its cliffs are frightening".
- (4) This is probably due to the logical structure of Ptolemy's system and to the fact that his works became the foundation of Renaissance Astrology.
- (5) For example: William Lilly, *Christian Astrology*, 1647.
- (6) Bartholome Balentin, *Repertorio del Mundo Particular*, 1584 Madrid; is the oldest source we encountered. Later 17<sup>th</sup> century authors give the same attribution either in manuals or almanacs. Only much later in works of the 18<sup>th</sup> century does the reference to Capricorn seem to disappear.
- (7) Actually, according to Bartholome Balentin in *Repertorio del Mundo*, the original Pisces attribution encompassed the whole west coast of the Peninsula, including both Portugal and the Spanish province of Galicia. Refer to Figure 1.
- (8) The very name of the country seems to emphasize the Water correlation of this region. Some authors relate the name "Portucale" (the original designation for the province which later became the kingdom of Portugal) with the term "Porto-Calem", meaning "Port of the Calyx" or "Port of the Cup". The concept of a port is in itself related to water – Pisces and Capricorn, the sea-goat. Needless to say, the cup is another Water symbol. Legend says that the Calyx was none other than the Holy Grail, given shelter by the Portuguese when Joseph of Arimathea brought it there on his journey to the British Isles.
- (9) Al-Biruni in *The Book of Instruction in the Elements of the Art of Astrology* states that Jupiter rules "Christians and those dressed in white"
- (10) The Inquisition was a religious institution created to maintain the purity of the Christian Faith against all kinds of heresies. It became especially active under Pope Paulus III (1542) and henceforth. In the Iberian Peninsula the Inquisition reached terrible peaks of cruelty and violence. Furthermore, while other countries maintained the Inquisition's original purpose of fighting heresy and witchcraft, in the Peninsula the Inquisition soon became a powerful tool directed against the Jewish and Moorish communities. Its influence was particularly damaging for the practice of Astrology in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. The censorship imposed by the inquisitors severely reduced the richness of the astrological works. This can be seen by comparing the almanacs of William Lilly, for instance, with those of the Portuguese astrologers of the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century. The latter lack any direct references or predictions regarding kings, princes and government. Judicial astrology was regarded as heresy and such kind of predictions would have put the astrologer's freedom (or even life) in danger.
- (11) Cape Verde: group of Atlantic islands located in the north-west coast of Africa, a few miles to the west of Senegal.

(12) The line traced by the Treatise of Tordesilhas puts a large part of present day Brazil into Portuguese domain; this suggests that the Portuguese may already have known of the existence of a new continent before its official discovery.

(13) Luís de Albuquerque, *Dicionário de História dos Descobrimentos Portugueses*, Vol. 2, 1994.

(14) Ptolemy in *Tetrabiblos* (P.375, 385 and 387) refers to Saturn as producing “riches (...) through shipping ventures” (page 375), “seamen” (page 385) and “pirates” (page 387). William Lilly in *Christian Astrology*, page 324 refers to Capricorn as signifying “a place of ships”.

(15) From this moment on Afonso Henriques signed the official documents as “Rex Portucalensis” (King of the Portuguese).

(16) General Luiz M. da Câmara Pina, *A Batalha de São Mamede (24 de Junho de 1128). Subsídios para a sua história militar*, 1979.

(17) José Mattoso, *Portugal Medieval – Novas interpretações*, Imprensa Nacional – Casa da Moeda, Lisbon, 1995

(18), (18a) The list of events is too large to be presented here, but the following are some examples of Mars and Saturn transits to the Ascendant and MC of the São Mamede chart.

Crisis of Succession (1383)	– Mars conjunct ASC
Death of Henrique I (1580)	– Mars opposing MC
Liberal Revolution (1820)	– Saturn opposing ASC; Mars conjunct ASC
End of the Civil War (1834)	– Saturn conjunct ASC; Mars opposing ASC
Failed Republic rebellion (1891)	– Mars opposing ASC
Republic (1910)	– Mars conjunct ASC
Monarchical rebellion (1918)	– Mars conjunct ASC
Colonial War (1961)	– Mars conjunct MC
Democratic Revolution (1974)	– Mars and Saturn conjunct MC
Suspected murder of P. Minister (1980)	– Saturn conjunct ASC; Mars opposing MC

**Note:** In some cases (not presented here) the exact transit of Mars occurs within a two week orb of the event and not on the same date. The same thing happens with Saturn.

(19) Duarte Galvão, *Crónica*, pages 57-59.

(20) Diogo Freitas do Amaral, *Em que momento se tornou Portugal um país independente*, Tenacitas, 2001.

(21) The 6<sup>th</sup> of December of 1383, “in the morning”, Lisbon, Portugal.

When King Fernando died leaving no male heir, the country faced a serious crisis of succession. It was then that Dom João, the bastard son of King Pedro I (and Fernando’s half-brother), was acclaimed “Defender of the Realm” (6<sup>th</sup> December 1383) and claimed the throne. This situation initiated a crisis that would last for two years. It ended with his coronation and the beginning of the second dynasty. On 28<sup>th</sup> February 1387, he married Phillipa of Lancaster, the first-born child of John of Gaunt. They had eight children, one of whom was Henry the Navigator.

(22) 1<sup>st</sup> December 1640, 9:00 am, Lisbon, Portugal.

After 80 years of Spanish occupation the Portuguese overthrew the foreign domination and regained sovereignty. With the Restoration, the Count of Braganza (also a descendent of the royal line) ascended to the throne as King João IV, starting the 4<sup>th</sup> Portuguese dynasty.

The independence had been lost in 1581 following the death of the Cardinal-King Dom Henrique. The Cardinal had been crowned after his grand-nephew, King Sebastião, disappeared in the Battle of Alcácer-Quibir (North Africa). His advanced age precluded his leaving any heirs and the Portuguese crown passed to Philip II of Spain, one of the legitimate heirs (he began the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dynasty – the Spanish Kings).

The Astrology of these kings is researched more deeply in the book, *Astrologia Real (Royal Astrology)*, Helena Avelar and Luis Ribeiro, Pergaminho, Lisbon 2004.

(23) 24<sup>th</sup> August 1820, “in the morning”, Porto, Portugal.

This revolution instituted the constitutional monarchy which replaced the former regime, and was a direct consequence of the Napoleonic invasions.

(24) 28<sup>th</sup> May 1926, starting at 6.00 a.m., Lisbon.

After 16 years of political and economic chaos brought about by a series of unsuccessful governments, a military force took power. This coup began a period of dictatorship that lasted until the democratic revolution of 1974.

(25) João Medeiros, *Oceano Ascendente*, Pergaminho 2004

(26) The notable events presented in the table are:

**Battle of S. Mamede** – 24<sup>th</sup> June 1128, time unknown, probably Guimarães, Portugal.

**Battle of Ourique** – 25<sup>th</sup> July 1139, time unknown, probably Leiria, Portugal.

**Letter “Clavis Regni”** – 13<sup>th</sup> December 1143, time unknown, Coimbra, Portugal.

**“Manifestis Probatum”** – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1179, time unknown, Coimbra, Portugal.

Official document from Pope Alexander III to Dom Afonso, consecrating Portugal as a Christian kingdom. It is the explicit recognition by the Holy Church of the existence of Portugal as an independent country.

**Political crisis of 1383/85; Second Dynasty** – 6<sup>th</sup> December 1383, “in the morning”, Lisbon, Portugal.  
*Refer to footnote 21.*

**Restoration of Independence; Fourth Dynasty** – 1<sup>st</sup> December 1640, 9:00 am, Lisbon, Portugal.  
*Refer to footnote 22.*

**Liberal Revolution** – 24<sup>th</sup> August 1820, “in the morning”, Porto, Portugal.  
*Refer to footnote 23.*

**Absolutist Regime** – 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1828, time unknown, Lisbon, Portugal.  
Rise to the throne of Dom Miguel, restorer of the Absolutist regime. His policy opposed the Liberal Revolution of 1820. This event led to a Civil War (1832-34).

**End of the Civil War** – 26<sup>th</sup> May 1834, time unknown, Évora-Monte, Portugal.  
Defeat of the absolutist king Dom Miguel by the forces of his brother, the liberalist Dom Pedro, former emperor of Brazil. This restored a constitutional monarchy and placed Maria II (daughter of Dom Pedro) on the throne.

**Proclamation of the Republic** – 5<sup>th</sup> October 1910, 9:00 am, Lisbon, Portugal.

**Dictatorial Regime** – 28<sup>th</sup> May 1926, 6:00 am, Lisbon, Portugal.  
*Refer to footnote 24.*

**Democratic Revolution of 74** – 25<sup>th</sup> April 1974, 12:20 a.m., Lisbon, Portugal.

(27) Fernando Pessoa (1888 – 1935): famous Portuguese writer and poet. He was a student of various esoteric disciplines, including Astrology.

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