

Adding up the Śaka Era

- 3 Vinsatiya (inner circle, right)
  - 20 years' duration each
- 12 Yuga (outer circle, right)
  - 5 years each, 4 per Vinsatiya
- 5 Sequent annual names per Yuga (smaller circle below)
- A 60-year cycle in total

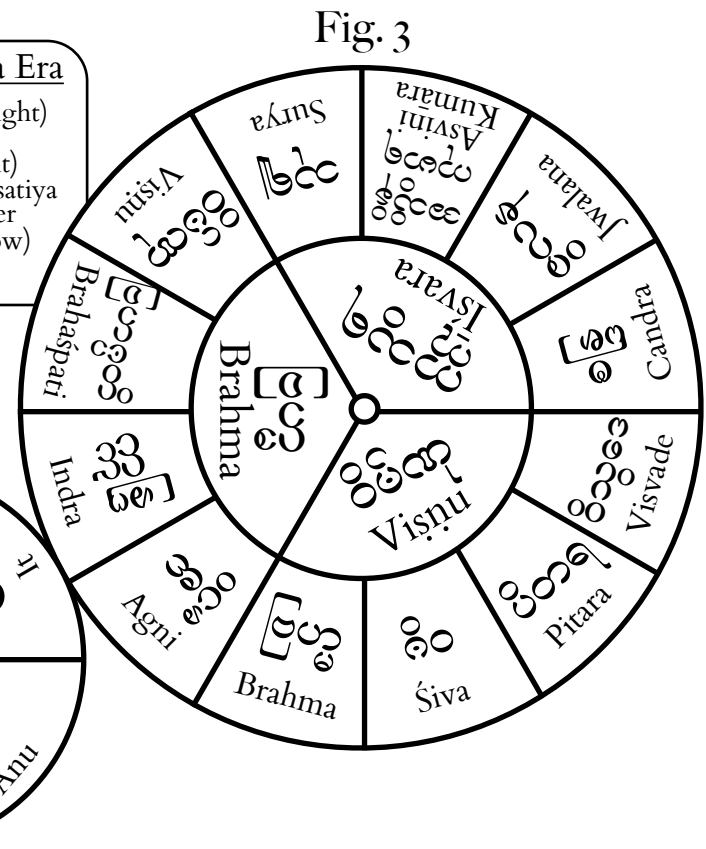


Fig. 1, top, is a timeline comparing “The Year Zero” for various eras. Fig. 2, above left, displays the months of the Lunar Calendar (as found in Pali sources) on the outer ring in a clockwise rotation, with the inner rings showing the hierarchy of the seasons. Fig. 3, above right, shows the Śaka Era (counter-clockwise), with the Vinsatiya and Yuga as concentric circles relative to the five part (annual) rotation shown on the smaller wheel. Fig. 4, below, relates the names of the Pali months (in Fig. 2) to the Roman and Rāsi Calendars.

Fig. 4

Pāli (Lunar) Calendar	Citta	Vesākha	Jeṭṭha	Āsāḷha	Sāvana	Poṭṭhapāda	Assayuja	Kattika	Māgasira	Phussa	Māgha	Phagguṇa
Roman (Solar) Calendar	Mar-Apr	Apr-May	May-Jun	Jun-Jul	Jul-Aug	Aug-Sept	Sept-Oct	Oct-Nov	Nov-Dec	Dec-Jan	Jan-Feb	Feb-Mar
Rāsi (Solar) Calendar	Mēsa	Vraśabha	Mithuna	Kaṭaka	Siṃha	Kanyā	Tulā	Vruścika	Dhanu	Makara	Kumbhi	Mīna