

Medieval Natal Study Guide

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This guide will help students compare the natal teachings of the five astrologers in *Persian Nativities I-III*, among a few others. References list chapters based on their main content, so not every possible reference is listed here. The division of questions for each topic is based mainly on that in *BA*.

Book Abbreviations

Abū Bakr	Abū Bakr, <i>On Nativities</i> (PN2)
<i>BA</i>	Māshā'allāh bin Atharī, <i>The Book of Aristotle</i> (PN1)
<i>JN</i>	Al-Khayyāt, Abū 'Alī, <i>The Judgments of Nativities</i> (PN1)
<i>Nativities</i>	Māshā'allāh bin Atharī, <i>On Nativities</i> (in <i>Works of Saḥl & Māshā'allāh</i>)
<i>On Rev. Nat.</i>	Abū Ma'shar al-Balḥi, <i>On Revolutions of the Years of Nativities</i> (PN3)
<i>TBN</i>	Al-Tabarī, 'Umar, <i>Three Books on Nativities</i> (PN2)
Al-Qabīsī	Al-Qabīsī, <i>The Introduction to Astrology</i>

A. Overview of questions and methods: Abū Bakr I.1

B. Rectification/namūdārs

	<i>BA</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Ptolemaic		I.2	
2. Hermetic	III.1.10		I.4.1-2
3. Other			I.4.3

C. Conception, gestation and birth

	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Conception		I.2
2. Gestation	I.1	I.2-3, I.5
3. Birth		I.7
4. "Monsters"	I.3.1	I.8

D. Rearing/nourishment

	<i>BA</i>	<i>Nativities</i>	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Survival	III.1.2	§1	Ch. 1		I.12.0, I.14
2. No survival	III.1.3	§1	Ch. 1		I.12.0
3. Exposure	III.1.4				I.13
4. Birth type 1				I.3.1	I.12.1
5. Birth type 2				I.3.2	I.12.2
6. Birth type 3				I.3.3	I.12.3
7. Birth type 4				I.3.4	I.12.4
8. Prediction		§1	Ch. 1	I.3.1-3	I.12.2, 12.5-6

E. Longevity

	<i>BA</i>	<i>Nativities</i>	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. <i>Hilāj</i>	III.1.5	§2	Ch. 2	I.4.1	I.15
2. <i>Kadukhudhāh</i>	III.1.6	§3-4	Ch. 3	I.4.2-4	I.15
3. Prediction	III.1.7-10.	§4	Ch. 4	I.4.5-8	I.15

F. Character

	<i>Nativities</i>	<i>JN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Overview			II.1
2. Lord 1 st /Mercury	§5	Ch. 5	
3. Fear			II.1.1
4. Aggression		Ch. 34	II.1.2-3
5. Shame/modesty			II.1.4-5
6. Happy/sad			II.1.6, 1.25-27
7. Truthfulness			II.1.7-8, 1.17
8. Intellect/knowledge			II.1.12-16
9. Faithfulness			II.1.18-19
10. Taking/giving			II.1.20-24
11. Greed			II.1.28
12. Discord			II.1.29-30
13. Beauty			II.1.31
14. Calm/quick			II.1.32-33

G. Body/physiognomy

	Abū Bakr
1. Face	I.9-10
2. Body type	I.10
3. Family resemblance	I.11

H. Prosperity

	<i>BA</i>	<i>Nativities</i>	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Always high	III.2.1	§6	Chs. 6-7, 30-32	III.1.1, III.9	II.2.0-2
2. Always middle	III.2.3		Ch. 7		II.2.3
3. Always low	III.2.6	§6	Ch. 7	III.1.1	II.2.4-7
4. Rising	III.2.4	§6	Ch. 7	III.1.1	II.2.9
5. Sinking	III.2.2		Ch. 7	III.1.1	II.2.8
6. When	III.2.6	§6	Ch. 8	III.1.2	
7. Other			Chs. 10, 30-32		II.2.10

I. Wealth

	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Source	Chs. 9, 11	III.2	II.3.2-11
2. Abundance	Ch. 11	III.2	II.3.1
3. Scarcity	Ch. 11	III.2	
4. When	Ch. 11	III.2	

J. Siblings

	<i>BA</i>	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Older/younger	III.3.3	Ch. 13	III.3	II.4.1
2. Number	III.3.2-3	Ch. 12	III.3	II.4.1-2
3. Sex	III.3.2	Ch. 13	III.3	II.4.1
4. Half-siblings		Ch. 12		II.4.5
5. Concord	III.3.5-6	Chs. 13, 15-16	III.3	II.4.1, 4.3-4
6. Status		Chs. 12, 14	III.3	II.4.5
7. Death	III.3.4, 3.7			

K. Parents

	<i>BA</i>	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Legitimacy	III.4.2		III.4.1	I.6, II.5.10
2. Lineage	III.4.3-4			II.2.10, II.5.1
3. Status/when	III.4.1	Ch. 16	III.4	II.5.1-2, 5.6-7, 5.10-11
4. Love between			III.4	
5. Love with native	III.1.4, 4.5, 12.7		III.4, III.9	II.5.3-4
6. Death	III.4.6-4.7, 4.9	Chs. 17-19	III.4	II.5.8-13
7. Inherit?	III.4.8	Ch. 16		II.5.5

L. Children

	<i>BA</i>	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Fertility	III.5.2	Ch. 20	III.6	II.6.1-3
2. Number	III.5.3-4	Ch. 20	III.6	II.6.1-2, 6.4
3. Sex	III.5.5			II.6.1
4. Death	III.5.3	Ch. 20		II.6.10
5. Status				II.6.8-9
6. Love for native		Ch. 21	III.6	II.6.1, 6.6-7
7. When	III.5.3, 5.5	Ch. 21	III.6	II.6.1, 6.5

M. Illness

	<i>BA</i>	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Signs of illness				II.7.1-2
2. Eyes	III.6.2	Ch. 24	III.7	II.7.3-8
3. Various	III.6.3	Ch. 24	III.7	II.7.9-13, 7.15-22, 7.24, 7.28, 7.31-36, 7.38
4. Mind	III.6.4	Ch. 24		II.7.14
5. Sociality	III.6.5			
6. Sexual	III.6.6		III.5, III.7	II.7.23, 7.25-27
7. Height	III.6.7			II.7.11, 7.29-30
8. When	III.6.8	Ch. 24		II.7.37

N. Slaves/servants

	<i>BA</i>	<i>JN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Concord	III.11.1	Ch. 22	II.8
2. Benefit/harm		Ch. 22	II.8

O. Animals

	<i>JN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Benefit/abundance	Ch. 23	II.3.6
2. Loss/scarcity	Ch. 23	

P. Marriage

	<i>BA</i>	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Marry?	III.7.2	Chs. 25-26	III.5	II.9.2-3
2. Spouse age	III.7.4-5	Ch. 26		II.9.6
3. Appropriate/type	III.7.4, 7.6, 7.11	Chs. 25-26	III.5	II.9.0, 9.4-8
4. Benefit/harm	III.7.3	Ch. 25		II.9.13-14
5. Incest	III.7.7			II.9.6
6. Sexual misbehavior	III.7.8	Ch. 25	III.5	II.9.1, 9.5, 9.8-9, 9.15
7. Number	III.7.9	Ch. 25		II.9.17
8. Death	III.7.12	Ch. 25		II.9.16
9. Homosexuality	III.7.13	Ch. 25	III.5	II.9.1, 9.10-12
10. When	III.7.2, 7.10	Chs. 25-26	III.5	II.9.18

Q. Death

	<i>BA</i>	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Cause	III.8.1	Ch. 37	III.13	II.10.2-12, 10.14
2. Suicide	III.8.1			II.10.13
3. Where		Ch. 37		II.10.15-17
4. Easy		Ch. 37		II.10.2
5. Violent	III.8.1	Ch. 37	III.13	II.10.3, 10.5, 10.8-12

Q. Faith/Law

	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Type of law	Ch. 29		II.1.9, 1.11
2. Changes	Ch. 29	III.12	
3. Honesty	Ch. 29	III.8, III.12	II.1.10
4. When	Ch. 29	III.12	

R. Travel

	<i>BA</i>	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Travel?	III.9.2	Ch. 27	III.8	II.11 <i>passim</i>
2. Benefit	III.9.2	Chs. 27-28	III.8	II.11.1
3. Harm	III.9.2	Chs. 27-28	III.8	II.11.2, 11.4

S. Profession/trades¹

	<i>BA</i>	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Unskilled?	III.10.2, 10.6		III.9	
2. Three sigs.	III.10.2	Ch. 33	III.9	II.12.2, 12.5, 12.46
3. Moon's application	III.10.3-4	Ch. 33		II.12.7
4. Lot of Work	III.10.4, 10.7			
5. Success	III.10.5	Ch. 33	III.9	II.12.1, 12.3, 12.6, 12.8
6. Misc. indications	III.10.8	Ch. 33	III.9	II.12.4, 12.9-45

¹ In the Persian method, one should determine first the level of prosperity, and thus whether the native will actually practice a trade.

T. Friends

	<i>BA</i>	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Synastry	III.12.1, 12.4, 12.8		III.10	
2. Prediction	III.12.3, 12.6			
3. Types	III.12.2	Ch. 35	III.10	II.13.1-2
4. Strength	III.12.3, 12.5	Ch. 35	III.10	II.13.3-5
5. Election	III.12.9			

U. Enemies

	<i>JN</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr
1. Have enemies?	Ch. 36	III.11	II.14.1
2. Status	Ch. 36	III.11	II.14.1
3. Who prevails	Ch. 36	III.11	II.14.2

V. Annual Methods

	<i>BA</i>	<i>TBN</i>	Abū Bakr	<i>On Rev. Nat.</i>	<i>Al-Qabīṣī</i>
1. Ages of Man				I.7-8	
2. Profection	IV.1-7	II.4-6		II.1-22, II.24	IV.8
3. Distributor-partner	III.1.10, IV.8-13	II.2	I.17	III.1-8	IV.14
4. Solar revolution	IV.14-15			I.6, II.23	
5. <i>Firdāriyyāt</i>	III.17-25		I.16	IV.1-8	IV.20
6. Ingresses, returns	<i>IV passim</i>			V.1-9	IV.21
7. Moon	IV.1			II.22, III.8, V.10	
8. Directions in the revolution		II.3, II.5-6		II.1, III.1	IV.13
9. Ninth-parts				III.9-10	IV.16-17
10. Monthly, daily, hourly rulers	IV.16			IX.7	
11. Natal directions	II.17, III.1.10	I.4, II.1, II.5-6	I.15		IV.11-12