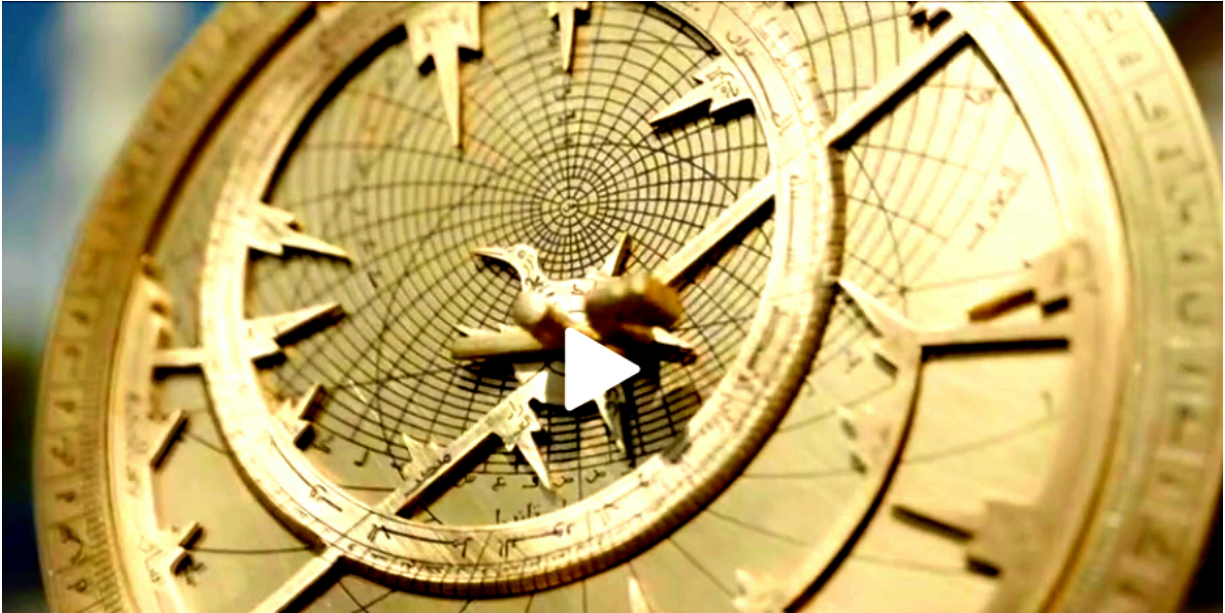


The Astrolabe Likes The SmartPhone

By Jürgen Hilmer February, 2023



Look at some of the functions of an old Astrolabe and some of the uses of our modern SmartPhones. The Astrolabe could be used for spiritual reasons to pray five times a day. The SmartPhones might be used in predicting the sunshine and shadow during the day.

The Astrolabe needed the Sun's angle and actual location of that Astrolabe to give the time of day. The SmartPhone Apps also need the location and the angle of the Sun to produce the time of day. Note: for this article and for fun, the \$8 educational device helps us to find the Sun's angle during the day at our location.

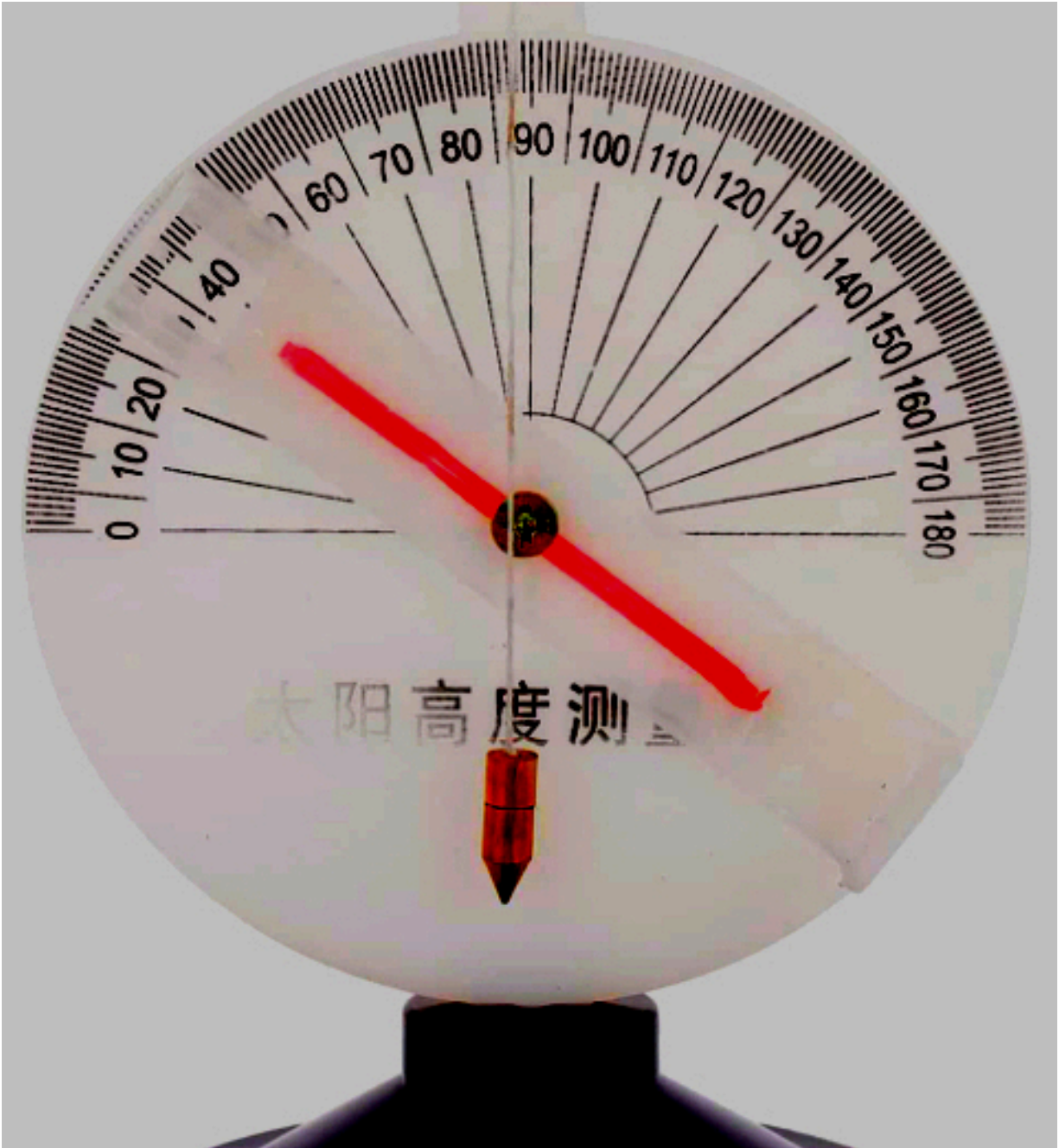
With the proper Apps, one can position solar panels, architectural exterior and interior light and shadow location, crop location on one's land, only to mention a few. (By the way the \$8 device happens to run on solar cells)

The Astrolabe and now the SmartPhones still are linked even though a thousand or more years of science have passed. The angle the Sun shines on us and the time of day it does is important to us. Even if not always for the same reasons.

Astrolabes came in various shapes and only the well to do could own one. The SmartPhones have certainly now changed all of that. Millions can own a simulation of what the Astrolabe was once used for.



Circular disks and a sighting stick on one side aligning it with the Sun and turning the interacting disks gave the observer the time of day.



Device to locate the Sun angle, fun for the young and inquisitive minded. (Actually the SmartPhone uses existing data for the Sun angle)