

AstroBaqir

Monthly Magazine

Jun 2026



Syed Mohammad Baqir
www.astrobaqir.com



Solar Surface

****Sunspots and Solar Surface Observation****

The Sun's visible surface, known as the ****photosphere****, is a dynamic region where fascinating features such as sunspots, granules, and faculae can be observed. ****Sunspots**** are relatively cooler, darker areas formed by intense magnetic fields that inhibit the flow of heat from the Sun's interior. Their size can range from smaller than Earth to many times larger than our planet, and they often appear in groups as part of active regions. Monitoring sunspots helps astronomers understand the Sun's magnetic activity and predict space weather events such as solar flares and coronal mass ejections, which can affect satellites, communication systems, and power grids on Earth. Regular observation of the solar surface using ****proper solar filters**** provides valuable scientific data while offering a fascinating glimpse into the ever-changing nature of our nearest star.

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Solar Surface

Celestron 130
10 mm eyepiece
Infinix 40 Pro
5 PM, 6 June 2026
Mohammad Baqir
Quetta, Pakistan



Venus-Jupiter Conjunction with Mercury

The recent close approach of **Venus** and **Jupiter** created one of the most beautiful celestial events visible to the naked eye. Although the two planets appeared very close together in the sky, they remained separated by hundreds of millions of kilometers in space. **Mercury** also joined the evening sky, completing a striking planetary gathering shortly after sunset. Such conjunctions occur because the planets orbit the Sun in nearly the same plane and occasionally appear close together from Earth's perspective. These events provide excellent opportunities for both visual observation and astrophotography, inspiring skywatchers to explore the wonders of our Solar System.

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Trifid Nebula

The **Trifid Nebula (Messier 20)** is one of the most spectacular deep-sky objects in the constellation **Sagittarius**, located about **5,200 light-years** from Earth. It is famous for its striking appearance, where dark lanes of interstellar dust divide the glowing nebula into three distinct lobes, giving it the name "Trifid," meaning "divided into three parts." The Trifid Nebula is a unique combination of an **emission nebula**, **reflection nebula**, and **dark nebula**, making it an excellent laboratory for studying star formation. Its brilliant red hydrogen clouds, blue reflection regions, and dense dust lanes make it a favorite target for both visual observers and astrophotographers during the Northern Hemisphere's summer months.

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Trifid Nebula

32 imges stack, 7.8 sec
ISO 6400
Celestron 130
10 mm eyepiece
Infinix Hot 40 Pro
2:43 AM, 13 Jun 2026
Mohammad Baqir
Quetta, Pakistan



Lagoon Nebula

The **Lagoon Nebula (Messier 8)** is a magnificent **emission nebula** located in the constellation **Sagittarius**, approximately **4,000–5,000 light-years** from Earth. Spanning about **110 light-years** across, it is one of the largest and brightest star-forming regions visible in our galaxy. The nebula glows with a vivid reddish hue due to ionized hydrogen gas energized by the intense radiation of young, massive stars within it. Dark lanes of interstellar dust weave through the glowing clouds, creating the distinctive "lagoon" appearance that gives the nebula its name. Easily visible through binoculars and small telescopes under dark skies, the Lagoon Nebula is a favorite target for astronomers and astrophotographers, offering a spectacular view of the ongoing birth of new stars in the Milky Way.

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Lagoon Nebula

45 images stack, 5 sec
ISO 19200
Celestron 130
10 mm eyepiece
Infinix Hot 40 Pro
2:50 AM, 13 Jun 2026
Mohammad Baqir
Quetta, Pakistan



Swan Nebula

The **Swan Nebula (Messier 17)**, also known as the **Omega Nebula** or **Horseshoe Nebula**, is a bright **emission nebula** located in the constellation **Sagittarius**, about **5,000–6,000 light-years** from Earth. Stretching nearly **40 light-years** across, it is one of the Milky Way's most active star-forming regions. Its graceful, swan-like shape is created by glowing clouds of ionized hydrogen gas illuminated by the intense ultraviolet radiation from young, massive stars embedded within the nebula. Rich in gas, dust, and newly formed stars, the Swan Nebula provides astronomers with valuable insights into the process of stellar birth. It is a spectacular target for both visual observers and astrophotographers, especially during the summer months when Sagittarius is prominent in the night sky.

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Omega Nebula (Swan Nebula)

20 imges stack, 5 sec
Celestron 130
10 mm eyepiece
Infinix Hot 40 Pro
3:23 AM, 13 Jun 2026
Mohammad Baqir
Quetta, Pakistan



Little Gem Planetary Nebula

The **Little Gem Nebula (NGC 6818)** is a beautiful **planetary nebula** located in the constellation **Sagittarius**, approximately **6,000 light-years** from Earth. It was formed when a Sun-like star reached the end of its life and expelled its outer layers into space, leaving behind a hot white dwarf at its center. The intense ultraviolet radiation from the central star causes the surrounding gas to glow in brilliant shades of blue-green and red, creating the nebula's jewel-like appearance that inspired its nickname, the "Little Gem." Measuring about **0.5 light-years** across, this compact nebula is a rewarding target for medium to large telescopes, revealing intricate shells of glowing gas and offering astronomers valuable insights into the final stages of stellar evolution.

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Little Gem Planetary Nebula

20 imges stack, 4.9 sec
ISO 19200
Celestron 130
10 mm eyepiece
Infinix Hot 40 Pro
4:36 AM, 13 Jun 2026
Mohammad Baqir
Quetta, Pakistan



Eagle Nebula

Pillars of creation

The **Eagle Nebula (Messier 16)** is a spectacular **star-forming region** located in the constellation **Serpens**, approximately **5,700 light-years** from Earth. It is best known for the iconic **Pillars of Creation**—towering columns of cold gas and dust made famous by the Hubble Space Telescope. These immense structures, several light-years long, are stellar nurseries where new stars are actively forming as gravity causes dense pockets of gas to collapse. Intense ultraviolet radiation and powerful stellar winds from nearby young, massive stars gradually erode the pillars, sculpting their dramatic appearance. The Eagle Nebula is one of the most fascinating deep-sky objects, providing astronomers with valuable insights into the processes of star birth and the evolution of interstellar clouds.

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Eagle Nebula

17 images stack, 10 sec
ISO 19200
Celestron 130
10 mm eyepiece
Infinix Hot 40 Pro
3:50 AM, 24 Jun 2026
Mohammad Baqir
Quetta, Pakistan



Venus

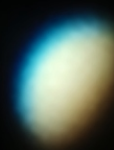
Venus is the second planet from the Sun and the brightest natural object in the night sky after the Moon, often earning the titles **"Morning Star"** or **"Evening Star."** Nearly the same size as Earth, Venus is sometimes called Earth's sister planet, but its environment is drastically different. It is enveloped by a thick atmosphere composed mainly of carbon dioxide, with clouds of sulfuric acid that trap heat through an extreme greenhouse effect, making it the hottest planet in the Solar System with surface temperatures around **465°C**. Venus rotates very slowly and in the opposite direction to most planets, causing the Sun to appear to rise in the west and set in the east. Through a telescope, Venus displays phases similar to those of the Moon, making it one of the most fascinating and rewarding objects for amateur astronomers to observe.

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Planet Venus



15 imges stack, 1/44 sec
ISO 400
Celestron 130
10 mm, 5X, 2X Barlow
Infinix Hot 40 Pro
8:00 PM, 27 Jun 2026
Mohammad Baqir
Quetta, Pakistan



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