

LAGNA AND ITS IMPLICATIONS

By Dr.E.S Neelakantan

THE pendulum of luck always oscillates between success and failure, fortune and misfortune, joys and sorrows throughout the life of human beings. From a higher standpoint, this has one major significance – man is essential born to conquer destiny, become a master of stars rather than one subject to the unerring course of destiny, which is harsh and merciless at times but benign and educative in its nature and spirit. Adversity changes to prosperity in a fraction of a second and the converse is also true under the planetary rulership. A scientific explanation for this phenomenon was sought to be provided by the sages of yore and Vedic astrology is their bequest, not only to the current generation but also for ages to come.

Determination of lagna

The first house in any horoscope is termed as lagna. If the Sun were to be in Virgo and a person is born exactly at sunrise, his lagna changes with the Sun's movement across the horizon. At sunset, the lagna will be in the 7th from the Sun. In the above example of Virgo lagna, if the person were to be born about two hours from sunrise, the lagna would have by then moved to Libra. Each sign becomes the lagna for about two hours and in a span of 24 hours, the lagna covers the twelve signs. It must be mentioned here that Scorpio and Aquarius are examples of signs of shorter duration and Gemini and Libra are longer duration. Fixing the lagna is of enormous significance, because a

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planet, say in the 11th is highly beneficial, while the same in the 12th is not only powerless, but also a malefic. If doubt exists whether a person is born in Leo lagna, then unless a clear answer is found it is not possible to determine the status of planets – for instance, Mars is a yogakaraka for Leo ascendant and a strong malefic for its adjacent sign, Virgo.

Significations of lagna

The lagna denotes the physical feature of a person such as height, weight and complexion and also the region of the head, with reference to body. The strength of lagna will have a major bearing on the native's success, fame and also longevity. The lagna is comparable to a wall without which there cannot be a portrait. The potential of a horoscope can either be enhanced or suppressed by the strength or weaknesses in the lagna bhava.

Lagna lord and its role in natal charts

The best position for the lagna lord to occupy in the chart would be the lagna itself. This arises out of the dictum that a bhava flourishes when its own lord. In such a position, the native will be blessed with physical strength and longevity. Health of a person is affected, if the lagna lord occupies 6, 8 or 12, bereft of benefic influences. The lagna lord in any one of the four kendras is conducive for

longevity. The lagna lord in the 8th by itself is good for longevity, but when conjunct or aspected by a malefic, the effect is reversed and there is a threat for of the accidental death. The 11th house stands for speedy fulfillment of wishes and the presence of the lagna lord in the 11th house is welcome feature of any horoscope, especially from the native's financial standpoint. The exchange of houses between the lagna lord and the 11th or the 2th can lead to substantial monetary gains. Exchange between the lagna lord and the 9th house is generally an auspicious one termed as "lakshmi yoga". From the viewpoint of acquiring conveyances and immovable property, the presence of the lagna lord in the 4th is a desirable one

Lagna lord in evil houses

When the lagna lord occupies an evil house i.e. 6, 8 or 12, the foremost question that arises is whether it is good or bad? It is not possible to give a categorical reply. It is here the importance of "bhava vichar" or analysis of bhava comes into play. When the lagna lords occupies 8th house, the lagna bhava gets affected, while the 8th bhava is benefited. Any bhava for that matter which plays host to the lagna lord stands to gain. The lagna lord, in the 6th is undesirable from the lagna bhava viewpoint, whereas

all about lagna

from the 6th house point of view, a favourable planet in the 6th does not spoil the bhava. When the lagna lord is in the 12th, we can say that expenditure will be only for good purposes and all other potentialities of that bhava are benefited. But the lagna bhava, which is stand for physique, vitality and appearance stands affected, when the lagna lord is in the 12th. When either the 8th lord occupies the lagna or when the lagna lord occupies 8th longevity is assured. Longevity is a function of two dependent bhavas – lagna and the 8th. Between the two, the strength of the lord is considered more important than 8th longevity is assured only if both the lagna lord as well as the 8th lord are rendered strong. An important rule in this context is that the lagna lord in order to ensure long life should be stronger than the 8th lord. Longevity is curtailed, if the 8th lord is stronger than the lagna lord.

Malefics as lagna lords

For Aquarius lagna, Saturn as the lagna lord is a natural malefic, but a functional benefic in view of lagna lordship. Presence of a natural malefic in the 6th is considered as a welcome feature in the horoscope. However when Saturn occupies Cancer for a person with Aquarius lagna, the presence of the lagna lord in the 6th must be considered a detrimental feature of the horoscope. This establishes the dictum that the functional lordship of a planet is more important than its natural qualities in predictive astrology. Here we are confronted with two conflicting rules:

- 1) Lagna lord in the 6th is unfavourable.
- 2) Saturn in the 6th is favourable.

Though both the above views are

When the lagna lord occupies the 7th, it becomes beneficial to the native in more than oneways. Since the 7th house is the house of spouse, it leads to harmony in married life. It also activates the other potentialities of the 7th house like overseas travel, overseas employment and birth of children. By aspecting the lagna from the 7th, the lagna bhava gets fortified.

correct, one has to take the view that the lagna lord in the 6th acts as a detriment to the chart as a whole and the benefits arising out of Saturn in the 6th is insufficient to neutralize the deficiency. For Pisces lagna, if Saturn occupies Leo, it is wholly welcome as Saturn becomes the lord of the 12th in the 6th. Similarly for Leo lagna, Saturn in the 6th becomes the lord of the 6th in the 6th and this is also a favourable disposition. The presence of Saturn in the lagna is undesirable but for Aquarius lagna this principle gets reversed, as Saturn in Aquarius for Aquarius lagna is wholly favourable as the lagna lord in the lagna. Just as a thief does not steal from his own house but only from others' houses, Saturn does no harm to its own house as lagna lord in lagna or as bhava lord in bhava. To sum up, lagna lord in the 6th is favourable from the 6th house standpoint; unfavourable from the lagna viewpoint. Further a strong lagna lord in the 6th aspected by benefics can also give freedom from diseases.

Issues connected to lagna lord

There are two debatable issues concerning the lagna lord and lagna.

- 1) Whether the lagna is a Kendra or a kendra-cum-trikona?
- 2) Whether the lagna lord can be subject to kendradipatya dosha?

Lagna is generally considered as a Kendra and the trines usually refer to 5 and 9 only. Some opine that

lagna is both a Kendra as well as a trikona. As a corollary, only lords of quadrants become subject to Kendradipatya dosha and since the lagna lord is a trinal lord as well, it can never become subject to Kendradipatya dosha. There is merit in this view and consequently it has also widespread acceptance.

Lagna lord in 7th

When the lagna lord occupies the 7th, it becomes beneficial to the native in more than oneways. Since the 7th house is the house of spouse, it leads to harmony in married life. It also activates the other potentialities of the 7th house like overseas travel, overseas employment and birth of children. By aspecting the lagna from the 7th, the lagna bhava gets fortified. When examining a chart for studying kalatra sthana, it is important to note that the best planet to occupy the 7th would be the 7th lord itself. The second best planet would be the lagna lord and finally the lord of luck, 9th in the 7th is also looked upon as a blessing. As discussed earlier in the case of benefics, 7th lord in the 7th can also give rise to Kendradipatya dosha, especially in the case of Venus, which gets further vitiated when the dictum "karako bhava nasaya" (karaka in bhava spoils the bhava) is invoked.

Effects of lagna lord in the twelve bhavas

The presence of lagna lord in lagna not only ensures long life, but also freedom from diseases and a strong

all about lagna

The most crucial bhava in any chart is the lagna bhava. To have a strong lagna lord is the foremost blessing in any chart. Weaknesses in the lagna bhava are compensated to some extent by a strong 9th bhava. Basically minor doshas in the natal chart are offset by a strong lagna lord and benefics in or aspecting the lagna. A strong lagna lord ensures that a person overcomes hurdles however strong they be, while a person with a weak lagna lord feels diffident even at the outset.

personality. In the 2nd, it confers wealth. In the third, it gives good friends and makes one charitable in outlook. In the fourth, lagna lord gives happiness as also reverence to parents. In the 5th, it gives children and spirituality. In the 6th, it gives freedom from diseases as also victory over enemies. In the 7th, it gives one a good appearance and a beautiful wife. In the 8th, it confers longevity. In the 9th, it gives good conduct and fame. In the 10th, it gives favours from kings, reverence to preceptors and makes one a scholar. In the 11th, it gives freedom from sorrows and good life. In the 12th, it gives wisdom and livelihood in an alien country.

Predominance of lagna

When a planet owns two houses, one of which happens to be the lagna and the other an evil house, emphasis should be laid on lagna lordship and the other has only secondary importance. In other words, the planet concerned is deemed to be the lagna lord primarily and its ownership of the other house has only residual significance.

यन्नावेषशुभोऽपि वोदयपतिस्तद्भाववृद्धिं दिशेद्-

दुःस्थानाधिपतिः स चेद्यदि तनोः प्राबल्यमन्यस्य न ।

अत्रोदाहरणं कुजे सुतगते सिंहे क्षेपे वा स्थिते

पुत्राप्तिं शुभवीक्षिते झटिति तत्प्राप्तिं वदन्त्युत्तमाः

(Phaladeepika XV/10)

The lord of the ascendant (even though it may be an inauspicious planet) will only promote the growth of the house occupied by it. Even though it may be a Dustana lord, its lagna lordship will gain precedence over Dustana lordship. When Mars as lagna lord occupies Meena or Simha coming under benefic aspect, astrologers say that the native will be blessed with sons soon.

Lagna lords as dustana lords

For Taurus Lagna, Venus in the 12th cannot be considered a drawback, because the 6th lord in the 12th generates a partial Raja yoga, which is enough to neutralize the drawback of the lagna lord being in a Dustana. Thus for Taurus as well as Scorpio Lagna, the presence of the lagna lord in a Dustana may even turn out to be a blessing in disguise, since the lagna lord has simultaneous ownership over an evil house.

Effects of the nine planets when occupying the lagna

Sun: The person will be tall, short tempered, impatient, cruel, inactive, has little hair, courageous.

Moon: (Waxing) strong body, long life, wealthy and powerful.

(Note: When Waning moon occupies the lagna, the above effects are reversed.)

Mars: The person is adventurous, short lived and cruel.

Mercury: Sharp witted, learned in scriptures, soft spoken, long lived.

Jupiter: The person is handsome, fortunate, brave, blessed with children and longevity.

Venus: The person is happy, elegantly dressed, healthy, has a charming body and long life.

Saturn: In Libra, Capricorn and Aquarius as ascendants, the person concerned is a king or some Chief.

In other signs: Suffers from poverty, Untidy, sorrow and misery.

Rahu: Short-lived, diseases in upper part of the body, wealthy.

Ketu: Suffers from ingratitude, is unhappy, tale-bearer, keeps company with wicked people.

Planetary aspects on lagna

Sun: The person gets paternal wealth.

Moon: Dealer in marine products (products obtained from ocean), has a tender physique.

Mars: Endowed with courage.

Mercury: Educated, famous.

Venus: Blessed with all kinds of enjoyments, prosperous, is handsome, has all comforts.

Jupiter: Spiritual in outlook, respectable.

Saturn: Service mentality, lives without happiness.

Planetary conjunctions in lagna

The conjunction of Moon with

all about lagna

Jupiter in lagna is considered as a Raja Yoga. This is a case of Gajakesari yoga occurring in Lagna bhava. One will be well dressed, if Moon and Venus occupy lagna. One becomes skilful and has expertise in some branch of learning, if Moon and Mercury are in lagna. If the lagna is aspected by several planets, then it is considered as Raja yoga. We might as well draw one main inference from the many rules applicable to planetary conjunctions in lagna i.e., if the planets in conjunction in lagna are benefics and also lords of Ishtasthanas (*auspicious houses*), the indications will be favourable; if Dustana lords or malefics conjoin in lagna, the result will be unfavourable. If one planet is a benefic and the other a malefic by nature, the effects vary – for instance Mars with Mercury in lagna is considered a favourable combination, whereas Mercury with Saturn is considered unfavourable.

Lagna and the Yogas

Let us now briefly summarise some of the yogas involving lagna.

Chapa Yoga: When the lagna lord is exalted and there is an interchange of houses between 4 and 10, this yoga is caused. The person becomes wealthy, and becomes a member of the king's council.

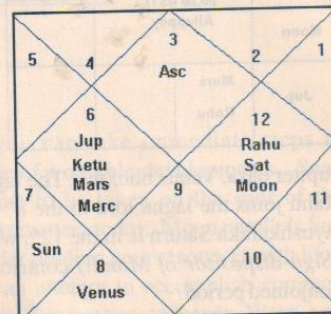
Bheri yoga: If Venus, Jupiter and the lagna lord are in mutual kendras and the 9th lord is strong, this yoga is given rise to and it makes a person long lived, generous, happy and give various sources of income.

Dhana Yoga (In Middle Age)

The 2nd lord possessing Kalabala (*or temporal strength*) joins the lord of lagna and the 11th lord in a quadrant or trine and gets aspected by benefics, in this particular yoga.

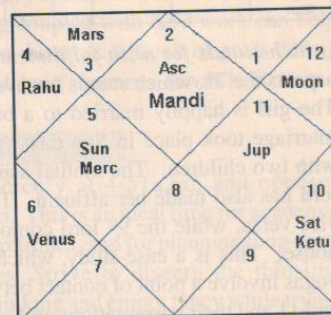
The effect is that the native acquires self-earned wealth in middle age. A perusal of astrological literature bearing upon wealth reveals clearly that in order to become rich, one should have in his horoscope combinations which comprehend a point of contact between lords of lagna, 2nd, 11th, 5th and 9th. Permutations and combinations of these lords give rise to a stupendous number of Dhana yogas.

Rahu Sat Moon			Asc
Case-study 1 01 Nov. 1968 20.55 (IST) Ludhiana			
Venus	Sun	Jup Ketu Mars Merc	



Practical illustrations: Now, let us turn our attention to charts which feature some of the concepts discussed earlier. For Chapa yoga to occur, lagna lord should be exalted and there should be an interchange of houses between 4 and 10. In **Case-study 1**, there is a slight variation from the above rule in the sense that instead of interchange, there is a conjunction between the lords of 4 and 10, while the lagna lord is not only exalted but also Vargottama. A powerful wealth yoga is given rise to by the mutual aspect between Moon and Mars. The native who started his career as a banker is now holding a senior position in a multinational banking corporation.

		Asc Mandi	Mars
Moon			
Jup	Case-study 2 19 Aug. 1962 00.15 (IST) Madras		Rahu
Sat Ketu			Sun Merc
			Venus

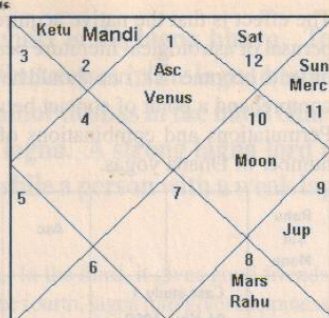


As discussed earlier, lagna lord should not only be strong but also should have more strength than the 8th lord to confer long life. In **Case-study 2**, the lagna lord is debilitated while the 8th lord is strongly placed in the 10th. From Chandra lagna, the lagna lord is in the 12th, while the 8th lord is debilitated in the 7th. The Ayushkaraka Saturn is afflicted by Ketu. The native was killed in a car accident in Venus dasa, Saturn bhukthi, both planets becoming strong indicators of his untimely demise.

The other concept regarding longevity as discussed earlier is that if the lagna lord is in the 8th, longevity is assured; but when afflicted by a malefic, longevity gets curtailed, as the above dictum gets reversed. This is illustrated in **Case-study 3**, where the native, a lady, was killed in a car accident in

all about lagna

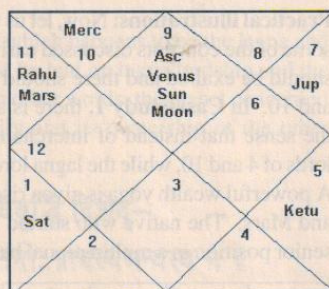
Sat	Venus Asc	Ketu Mandi	
Sun Merc	Case-study - 3 10 March 1937 09.20 (IST) Alleppey		
Moon			
Jup	Mars Rahu		



Jupiter dasa, Venus bhukthi. The lagna lord is also the 8th lord in the 8th but Rahu joins the lagna lord in the 8th thereby curtailing longevity. Further, Ayushkaraka Saturn is in the 12th, whose sign-dispositor Jupiter and Venus (*Sign-dispositor of Mandi*) contributed to her untimely demise in their conjoined period.

In **Case-study 4**, the lagna lord has interchanged houses with the 11th lord

	Sat		
Mars Rahu	Case-study - 4 07 Jan. 1970 06.30 (IST) Bombay		
Merc			Ketu
Asc Venus Moon Sun		Jup	



(which stands for wish-fulfillment) and also in own Navamsa. Saturn aspects the 7th, which stands for overseas residence, as also the lagna lord. The girl is happily married to a boy who is well placed overseas. The marriage took place in Sun dasa (*lord of 9 in lagna*) and she is blessed with two children. The mutual aspect between the lagna lord and the 2nd lord has also made her affluent. The lagna lord aspects the 2nd lord and vice versa, while the 9th lord conjoins the 11th lord. 2nd lord is in the 5th house. This is a case-study, which conforms to the view that all dhana yogas involve a point of contact between lagna lord and the lords of 2, 5, 9 and 11 and their permutations and combinations.

A Raja yoga arises, when the lagna lord conjoins the 5th lord. If an exalted

	Ketu	Asc	
	Case-study - 5 31 Aug. 1957 00.10 (IST) Chidambaram		
			Sun Mars
Sat	Moon Rahu	Venus Merc Jup	



planet conjoins a debilitated planet, the “*neecha*” planet obtains “*neechabhanga*” or “*cancellation*” of debility. When both the above rules are simultaneously satisfied, the resulting yoga is termed as “*Neechabhanga Raja yoga*”. The above Raja yoga can be formed in a variety of ways. Case-study 5 is an illustration of Neechabhanga Raja yoga involving the lagna lord Venus and 5th lord Mercury. Saturn as bhagyadipathi (9th lord) aspects the lagna and is placed in the Watery sign, Scorpio. The native, who is a Chartered Accountant, had a long stint abroad and is now happily placed having returned to India after his overseas tenure. Neechabhanga Raja yoga involving lagna lord as also Saturn’s placement in a Watery sign as the 9th lord aspecting lagna from the 7th have all contributed to his successful overseas tenure.

The most crucial bhava in any chart is the lagna bhava. To have a strong lagna lord is the foremost blessing in any chart. Weaknesses in the lagna bhava are compensated to some extent by a strong 9th bhava. Basically minor doshas in the natal chart are offset by a strong lagna lord and benefics in or aspecting the lagna. A strong lagna lord ensures that a person overcomes hurdles however strong they be, while a person with a weak lagna lord feels diffident even at the outset. In conclusion, it may be said that the pride of place in any chart goes to the lagna, thereby making the lagna lord, the foremost functional benefit in the chart.

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