

Debilitated Planets and that “Great Parashara Exception”



Demi Moore

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Introduction

I once heard my *jyotish-guru*, Mr. K.N. Rao, express the opinion that if a man or woman were to study Vedic astrology for 2000 years over many life times, he/she would only be able to absorb a single bucketful compared to the vast ocean that is *Jyotisha*. Though at the time I took comfort in the thought that he was speaking in hyperbole, there are moments when I feel that this is quite literally true. The meanings of the planets, signs, *nakshatras*, and houses are so varied, the permutations and combinations in a birth chart so numerous, that extracting an accurate view of the individual's reality from this morass feels like a Herculean task.

This is particularly so when indications are the *reverse* of what they appear to be, based on the usual principles of interpretation. Probably the most common example of this is the well-known instance of *neecha bhanga raja yoga*. *Neecha* means “debilitated” and *bhanga* means “canceled,” such that *neecha bhanga* refers to the cancellation of a planet's debility. If this planet with a canceled debility is in an angular or trinal house, it is even said to produce *raja yoga*, and can bring status and success in its periods and sub-periods.

Some texts on Vedic astrology seem to suggest that cancellation of debility automatically turn a planet from Clark Kent into Superman. However, Hart

deFouw, in his recent book *Light on Life*, provides a different—and I believe more accurate—perspective on cancellation of debility.

“Canceled debility does not become equal to an exaltation or some other desirable placement, however. Debility is debility, and neecha bhanga is no more perfect than a prosthesis applied to a limb less body. Giving a debilitated graha a cane with which to walk will enable the graha to exert some beneficial effects but, even if it excels at its duties, it will still never be normal.”

He goes on to enumerate four of the more important ways in which debility can be canceled:

1. if the lord of the *rashi* occupied by the debilitated *graha* is in a *kendra* position from the Moon or the *Lagna*;
2. if the lord of the *rashi* where the debilitated *graha* is exalted is in a *kendra* position from the Moon or *Lagna*;
3. if the lord of the *rashi* occupied by the debilitated *graha* aspects that *graha*;
4. if the planet who would be exalted in the *rashi* occupied by the debilitated *graha* is in a *kendra* from the Moon or the *Lagna*.

Dr. K. S. Charak in his *Elements of Vedic Astrology* mentions two additional ways that are also important to note:

5. if the debilitated planet is associated with or aspected by its exaltation lord;
6. if the debilitated planet exchanges houses with its debilitation lord.

Though I have no textual authority for this view, in my experience the debilitation of a planet also seems to get cancelled when it is with an exalted planet.

Before anticipating any dire effects from a debilitated planet, a Vedic astrologer needs to check carefully to see if *bhanga*, or cancellation, is also occurring. In which case, the effect need not be that unfavorable, and potentially even very favorable should this planet also be in an angle or a trine, giving a *neecha bhanga raja yoga*.

However, this is not the only instance in which a debilitated planet can give good or even exceptional results. Very early in my association with Mr. Rao, I heard him remark once when presenting a case that a particular debilitated planet fell under “that great Parashara exception.” On the basis of this, he had predicted a spectacular rise for the person when all other astrologers were seeing great difficulty. Naturally, I was intrigued.

The exception can be stated as follows:

Debilitated planets either ruling or posited in houses 3 and 6 can give raja-yoga in their periods and sub-periods.

Later, when browsing Chapter 39 of the *Brihat Parashara Hora Shastra*, which enumerates different types of *raja-yogas*, I chanced across what appears to be the classical basis for this principle. According to the translator, *shlokas* 19 and 20 of this chapter state:

- If the 6th, the 8th, and the 3rd houses are occupied by debilitated planets, and the ascendant lord is exalted or in its own house or aspects the ascendant, there is *raja yoga*.
- Again, *raja yoga* is formed if the 6th, 8th, and the 12th lords are in fall or in inimical signs or in combustion and the ascendant lord is placed in its own sign or in its exaltation sign, or aspects the ascendant.

One will notice that the principle, as enunciated by Mr. Rao, is similar but not identical to the quoted *shlokas* from Parashara. The *shlokas* include the additional stipulation that the ascendant lord be either exalted or in its own sign, or aspecting the ascendant. In other words, the *lagna* needs to be strong. They also bring other houses into play, and in *shloka* 20, conditions other than debilitation are referenced.

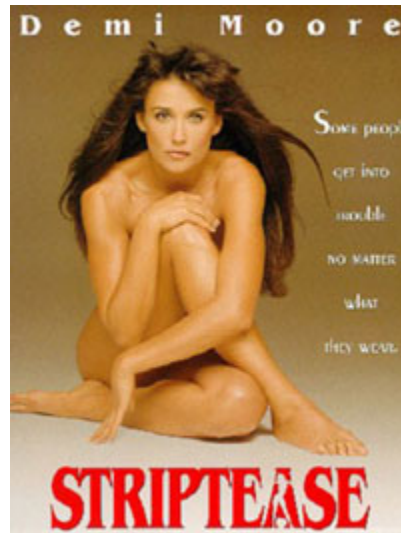
However, both suggest that a debilitated planet in the 6th house can give rise to raja-yoga.

To illustrate, it can be seen how this “great Parashara exception” provides the key to understanding the birth chart of Hollywood actress Demi Moore and her rise to fame in the *dashas* of Mars and Rahu.

Sweating With the Stars

At the health club where I make infrequent, half-hearted attempts to stave off the physical effects of advancing age, there is always a pile of ragged, well-thumbed magazines next to the high-tech exercise bikes. I’ve never been sure whether these are provided by the management to prevent patrons from realizing just how boring it is to cycle indoors, or whether they are “leave behinds” of clientele who have already discovered this and feel compassionate towards their successors. In any event, as I was pawing through some of these recently, looking for something with which to fortify myself for the upcoming half hour of tedium, my attention was arrested by a cover photo and headline clearly intended to do so. “*NAKED AMBITION*” screamed the cover in bold red ink, followed by:

“Shrewd, nude and loaded with attitude, the ultra-buff mother of three puts her career on the line in Striptease.”



The accompanying photo was of the actress, Demi Moore—au naturel. With her arm discreetly folded across her breasts (suggesting as it were, that it would cost me \$7.50 at the box office if I wanted to see more), she gazed out from this cover of *People* magazine with a look half winsome, half challenging, and wholly unabashed. There was also something in this look that implied that she was not a woman to be kept waiting, so I discarded all other options and proceeded to the exercise bikes.

Before you jump to the conclusion that my selection stemmed from any particular fondness for this type of journalistic confection—or worse yet—from some prurient interest, let me reassure you that I choose this article *solely* in the interests of astrological research.

Yes, it's true. For some time now I have been in possession of the birth data of Ms. Moore and have wanted to make a study of her chart in relation to her life experiences. But I hardly knew anything about her, other than that she is an actress and married to another actor, Bruce Willis. The one additional thing I had picked up from the media was that she now commanded the highest salary ever paid an actress—\$12.5 million! (This was in 1996.) As an astrologer, I thought it would be interesting to discover the planetary configuration that produced such unique *karma*, but I also wanted to know more about the person. I had thought of contacting her publicist, but never got around to it. Here—by way of *People* magazine—was some of the biographical data I was looking for. Blessings come to us in the strangest ways.

Appearances Can Be Deceiving

One piece of information I wanted to know was when her acting career began, so I could see what planetary combination gave rise to her stardom and tremendous commercial success as an actress. The article states that:

“The seed of Moore’s acting ambitions was planted about the time of her (first) marriage when she took to reading scripts with a young German neighbor and aspiring actress named Nastassja Kinski. Moore enrolled in some drama classes, and in 1982, though she had little experience, beat out 1,000 other actresses for a role in General Hospital.”

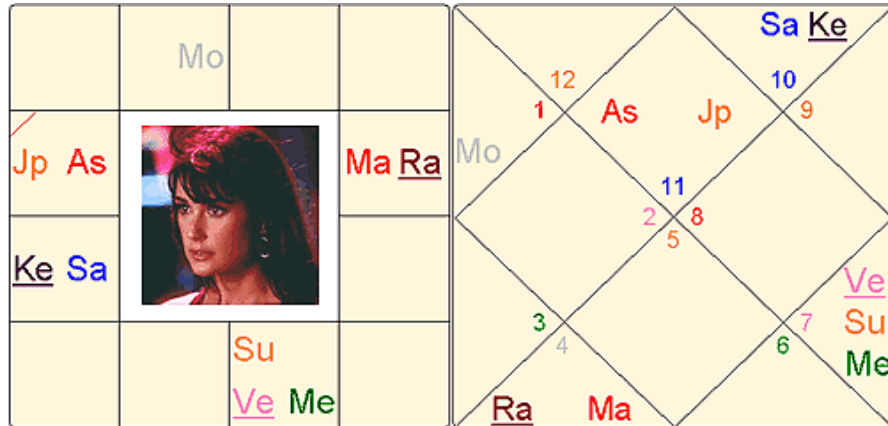
These developments in her life coincided *exactly* with the beginning of the 7 years of her Mars dasha.

Now see the birth chart.

Demi Moore

Date 11/11/1962 Sunday
Time 14:16:00
Place Roswell, NM
Longitude 104°31'21"W
Latitude 33°23'39"N

Asc 29° 4' Aqu
Sun 25° 40' Lib DebXd
Moon 25° 12' Ari Friend
Mar 21° 16' Can DebXd
Mer 17° 41' Lib Neutr
Jup 9° 47' Aqu Friend
Ven 27° 12' Lib R Own
Sat 12° 20' Cap Own
Rah 9° 18' Can R Enemy
Ket 9° 18' Cap R Friend



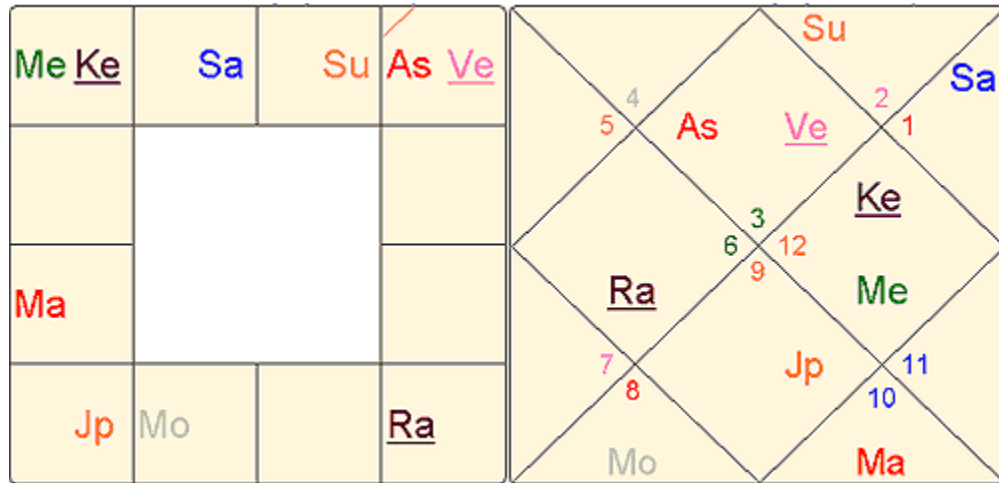
At first glance, Demi’s Mars does not appear well positioned to produce very good results. It falls into the “evil” 6th house and is in its debilitation sign, Cancer, fewer than 7 degrees away from the extreme point. It falls along the Rahu-Ketu axis, and is aspected by another malefic, Saturn, from the 12th house. This configuration is unrelieved by any benefic aspect. Yet it is in precisely this Mars period, and the subsequent period of Rahu, that she rose to the status of highest paid actress in history. Clearly, there is more going on here than meets the superficial eye. Let’s take a closer look.

Referring back to our list of six important ways that the debilitation of a planet is canceled, we see that two of them apply here. First and foremost, is the exchange (*parivarthana yoga*) between the Mars and the Moon. Mars is in the Moon’s sign, Cancer, and the Moon is in the sign of Mars, Aries. This produces *neecha bhanga*, or cancellation of the debility. Saturn, the ruler of Mars’s exaltation sign Capricorn, falls in a *kendra* from the Moon, again giving *neecha bhanga*.

But see that the above-mentioned “great Parashara exception” also applies. Mars, a debilitated planet, falls into the 6th house. It may even apply in two ways according to Mr. Rao since it rules the 3rd house as well. The additional stipulation from the *shlokas* is also fulfilled. The *lagna* lord Saturn is in its own sign.

If we take into account the *neecha bhangas*, and apply the exception, her Mars *dasha* begins to hint at very different possibilities. Yet there is a third important reason why the appearance of this Mars is deceiving.

Now see the *navamsha*.



Demi Moore's Navamsha Chart

Here Mars becomes exalted. The apparent reality of the birth chart shows a weakling Mars, but the underlying reality reveals that this Mars is actually a powerhouse.

Finally, we must also see that Mars, for an Aquarius ascendant, rules the 10th house of career, and the 3rd house of the performing arts. This is a perfect astrological picture of why she immediately gravitates towards a career as an actress when the Mars *dasha* begins.

But her success and subsequent rise to fame is reflected in the *condition* of this Mars, owing to the two *neecha bhangas*, its exaltation in the *navamsha*, as well as the two *raja yogas* in which it participates. *Raja yoga* because:

1. It is a debilitated planet in the 6th house (“that great Parashara exception”);
2. It is the 10th lord (*kendra*) in mutual aspect with the lagna lord (*trikona*) creating a powerful success and fame-giving combination based on house rulerships.

Chandra and Surya Lagna

For a complete view, the classics tell us that we must see the chart from the additional perspectives of *Chandra and Surya Lagna*. From the Moon sign, Aries, Mars again forms a *raja yoga* combination with Saturn involving the *lagna* lord and the 10th lord, only this time their roles are reversed. Mars becomes the *lagna* lord, and Saturn becomes the 10th lord in its own sign. This *raja yoga* is even stronger for career success because not only does it involve a well-placed 10th lord, but also falls along the 4/10 axis.

Then see that the conjunction of Rahu and Mars by itself forms *raja yoga* from the Moon because Mars becomes a trinal lord with Rahu in a *kendra*.

From the Sun sign, Libra, the picture remains consistent. Now Mars goes into the 10th house and again forms a powerful *raja yoga* with the *yogakaraka* Saturn, again along the 4/10 axis.

From all three perspectives, Mars is connected to the 10th house of career and is involved in significant raja yogas.

Of equal importance is the fact that Mars and Saturn remain strong and connected to each other in the *navamsha*. In fact, their relationship in the *navamsha* mirrors the condition of Mars in the birth chart in an intriguing way. In the birth chart we saw how Saturn assists in canceling the debility of Mars. See that in the *navamsha*, this exalted Mars returns the favor by canceling the debility of Saturn through an exchange of signs (*parivarthana yoga*). They are also in mutual aspect with each other.

For the reasons outlined above, dramatic career success beginning in the Mars *dasha* had to occur. Continued success in the subsequent *dasha* of Rahu is also a given since these two are conjoined, and form a *raja yoga* from the *Chandra lagna*.

The 3rd House and the Dramatic Arts

Mars's lordship of both the 10th and the 3rd was mentioned earlier as reflective of her career direction as an *actress*. Since I came to the Vedic system after 20 years of Western astrology, some of the different meanings attributed to the houses were surprising. The association of dramatic arts with the 3rd house made no logical sense to me, and I questioned it at first. But I've learned not to doubt the *rishis*, and this chart supports this meaning. Notice how emphasized and "energized" this house is in Ms. Moore's chart.

- At contains an incredibly bright Moon, which is applying to within thirty-two minutes of complete fullness. This Moon is rendered artistic by falling in the

Venus-ruled *nakshatra*, *Bharani*, and through the aspect of Venus in its own sign.

- Additionally, it receives two more aspects from the planets in the 9th house. Note that these planets are not just any planets, but the lord of the 5th, and the lord of the 7th.
- Along with Venus these comprise two *trikona-kendra raja yogas* and *Lakshmi yoga*. The debilitated Sun here forms *neecha bhangra raja yoga* since it is with the lord of the sign it is in, and falls in a *trikona*.

Needless to say, the planets in the 9th form one very potent combination for fame and fortune and all pouring into the 3rd house of the dramatic arts.

However, it is the powerful exchange of this fullest of Moons with the 10th lord Mars, and all that we have diagnosed about it, that gives this 3rd house its special potency to bring such career success as an actress—at least commercially. Why? It goes back to that old astrological dictum about how “character is destiny.”

A Closer Look At That Exchange

This exchange, as noted previously, is between the 3rd lord and the 6th lord, and is one of the conditions that cancel the debility of Mars. The 3rd house and the 3rd lord, aside from their more secondary association with the dramatic arts, represent one’s capacity for courageous action and intense effort. The 6th house and the 6th lord, on the other hand, represent the capacity to fight, and to struggle against obstacles and competitors. This is why malefics in houses 3, 6, and 11 have been viewed as favorable. They give the capacity for sustained, concentrated effort, the ability to struggle against and overcome obstacles, and to assert oneself. This becomes even more pronounced when the malefic involved is Mars, signifier of aggression.

In this case, the 3rd lord of intense efforts—who also just happens to be Mars—falling into the 6th house of competitiveness, speaks volumes about a certain quality of character and ambitiousness. *Note also that this 3rd lord Mars in the 6th aspects both the lagna and the lagna lord. Recall that these signify the basic nature and character of the individual.*

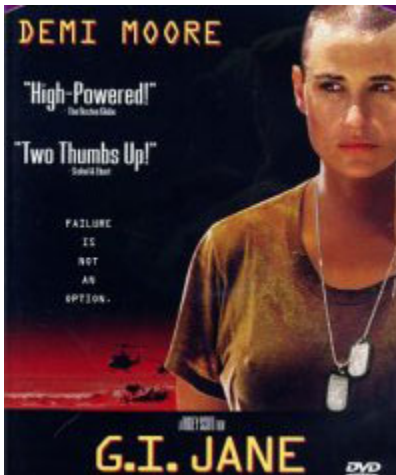
Comments in the *People* article substantiate these qualities reflected in her birth chart to a remarkable degree. Witness the following:

Her entire career has been marked by a determination to succeed rivaling anything by Drieser—or at least Judith Krantz

“She works harder than anyone I know”, says “Striptease” director Andrew Bergman. “She wants to be in control of her life.”

Even moguls who like Moore describe her in terms more commonly applied to the Dallas Cowboys on the eve of the Super Bowl. “She’s extremely focused, really committed,” says Barry Levison, who directed her in “Disclosure.”

Her Mars—her apparently weak Mars—also gives her a capacity for intense physical efforts. For her recent role in *Striptease*, she worked out up to four hours per day, and I read in another article that she biked 25 miles the day before she gave birth to her third child! *Now that’s a strong Mars!*



Fame and Fortune

What fascinates me about Jyotish is the way it so accurately reflects the reality of a person’s life. The annals of Hollywood are full of examples of actresses who have received great critical acclaim for their performances, but never became stars commanding huge salaries. Not to disparage her performances—I’ve greatly enjoyed some of her films—but her reputation to date is more that of a *highly successful* actress than of an Oscar-winning one.

The *People* article mentioned that her critics point to a willingness to bare her form on screen (not to mention magazine covers) as a contributing factor to her box office appeal. However, regardless of what anyone might think about the artistic merit of her performances, the fact remains that she is the highest paid actress in Hollywood history.

How can this be seen astrologically?

In other articles I’ve shown how in cases of spectacular wealth, strong *dhana* yogas are present in the birth chart. In instances of this wealth coming from professional activities, these wealth-giving combinations would need to connect with the 10th house or the 10th lord. Such is the case in the chart of Demi

Moore.

For an Aquarius lagna, the planet Jupiter—itsself the significator of wealth—has special wealth-giving ability since it rules the money houses 2 and 11. When well placed by sign, and connected to the *trikona* houses and their lords, its wealth-giving ability becomes Midas-like.

Here Jupiter is in the trikona 1st house, where it aspects the two other trikona houses 5 and 9, and aspects the two trikona lords in the 9th, who themselves form a wealth-giving Lakshmi Yoga.

From the Moon, Jupiter continues to be a wealth-giver. As the 9th lord in the 11th house it forms another significant dhana yoga.

According to at least one classical authority, sage Vahamihira, it is also well placed by sign. He praises Jupiter in Aquarius and its opposite sign, Leo, as giving results nearly akin to its exaltation sign, Cancer. Moreover, it remains very strong in the *navamsha*, where it is in its own sign in a *kendra*, and is in mutual aspect with another benefic, Venus, who for this *navamsha* is the lord of the 5th in the 1st, in a friend's sign.

But where can the connection of Jupiter to the 10th house and the 10th lord be seen? This happens in three ways. Can you see them?

- The most obvious is the aspect of the 10th lord, Mars, onto this Jupiter.
- The other two connections are subtler and occur through its sign and *nakshatra* lord. Its sign lord is Saturn who is in mutual aspect with the 10th lord Mars. Its *nakshatra* lord is Rahu, who is conjunct the 10th lord Mars.

Substantial earning through career activities began in the Mars *dasha*, but it wasn't until the Rahu *mahadasha* that the really big paydays manifested. As the People article states: *"Moore made her name in 1990's 'Ghost'—a film that earned \$450 million worldwide."*



Demi Moore in "Ghost"

In the early part of 1990, she was running Rahu/Rahu, but in the later half she moved into Rahu/Jupiter. *Now recall that her fabulous wealth-giving Jupiter is in Satabhisha, the nakshatra of Rahu, who is conjunct the 10th lord of professional activities.* What is even more interesting is that Rahu is the *karaka* of ghosts!

The Vimshottari *dasha* shows with astonishing clarity a great fortune accruing from the career at this time.

Verification of A Birth Chart

One of the many things I have grown to appreciate about my *gyotish-guru*, Mr. K.N. Rao, is his insistence on verifying a birth chart through life events—*before accepting it as valid and before giving predictions about the future.* Given the imprecision with which most birth times are recorded (not to mention the unreliability of mother's memory), it is irresponsible to do otherwise. This ability—and the habit of doing it—must become a part of every astrologer's repertoire and routine. Before discussing a very interesting and unique feature in Demi Moore's chart, I propose to illustrate this technique using events from her life mentioned in the *People* magazine article.

The best ones to use are concrete life events that occur at a specific time. These include things like marriage, the birth of a child, promotion or the landing a job, a medical operation, a relocation, death of a family member, and so forth. Fortunately, the article in *People* magazine provided information on many of these, though for the most part precise dates were not given. They are as follows:

- *The family moved 30 times before Moore was a teen-ager.*
- *At age 12, she developed a crossed right eye that required two operations.*
- *In 1980, her father committed suicide by breathing carbon monoxide from his car exhaust.*
- *Her mother is a severe alcoholic with whom she eventually broke off all contact.*
- *At 18, she married a rock musician 12 years her senior.*
- *She landed her first acting job in 1982 with a role on "General Hospital," and was cast in a supporting role in "Blame It on Rio" in 1983."*
- *She divorced in 1984. Cast in "St. Elmo's Fire," she became addicted during this period to drugs and alcohol, but was able to break her addiction after two weeks in a rehab program.*

- *From 1984 to 1987, she was in an on-again, off-again engagement with Elmo co-star Emilio Estevez.*
- *She met Bruce Willis in August of 1987, and they married 3 months later.*
- *She co-starred in huge box office success, "Ghost," released in 1990.*
- *She gave birth to three daughters, born in 1989, 1992, and 1994.*
- *She was paid \$12.5 million for her performance in "Striptease," working out 4 hours per day to prepare herself physically for the role.*

Let's see if the chart and the *dasha* sequence accurately reflect this life pattern. Of particular importance here is whether or not the time-sensitive divisional charts seem to be giving correct results.

The family moved 30 times before Moore was a teen-ager.

Based on the brief biographical sketch in the *People* article, Demi grew up in trailer parks. The family had to move frequently due to the job instability of her stepfather.

She began her Moon *dasha* when she was eight years old and this is consistent with such an unstable home-life. Note that:

- The Moon, the natural karaka of the home, is in the 3rd house of movement and migration, in mutual aspect with the 8th lord Mercury.
- From the birth *lagna* the 4th lord Venus goes into the 9th house of long-distance movement, in mutual aspect with the *dasha* lord Moon during this time. See the extreme affliction to this 4th lord. It is combust and receives the aspect of the two worst natural malefics, Saturn and Mars; it conjunct the 8th lord, and is in mutual aspect with the 6th lord.
- More significantly, the Moon is the ruler of the 4th house from itself, and using Aries as the *lagna*, the 4th lord again gets aspect from the 3rd and 6th lord Mercury.
- From this *Chandra lagna*, the afflictions by natural malefics to the 4th house are again extreme. The 4th house has the conjunction of Mars-Rahu and the aspect of Saturn.

The *neecha bhanga raja yoga* formed by the debilitated Mars in the 4th house from the Moon has operated in a typical way. Demi goes from living in trailer park hovels to Hollywood mansions. From a "down" position, her status in this area of life gets elevated.

At age 12, she developed a crossed right eye that required two operations.

In Jyotish, the 2nd house rules the right eye. Demi has no planets in the 2nd house, but Saturn aspects the 2nd as the lord of the 1st and the 12th. More significantly, the 2nd lord, Jupiter, receives the aspect of Mars from the 6th house.

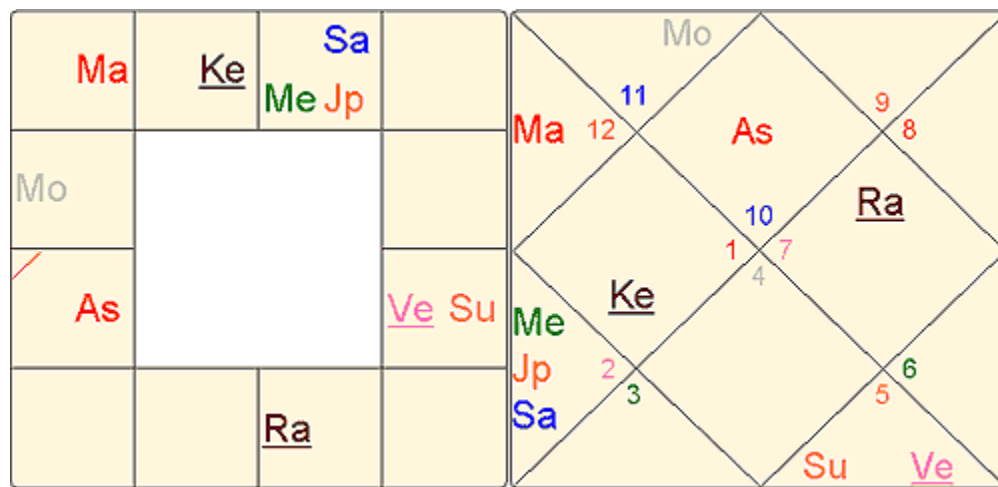
See also the condition of the sign and *nakshatra* dispositor of this 2nd lord Jupiter. The sign dispositor Saturn goes into the 12th house with the RKA and receives the aspect of Mars. The *nakshatra* dispositor Rahu is in the 6th house of disease and operations with Mars, the planet of surgery. At age twelve she was running the period Moon-Jupiter. The *antardasha* lord is the Mars afflicted Jupiter, the 2nd lord of the right eye.

In 1980, her stepfather committed suicide by breathing carbon monoxide from his car exhaust.

This would have occurred in Moon-Venus or Moon-Sun and seems to provide good confirmation for an accurate birth time since the event is clearly indicated in the *dwadashamsha*, or 1/12 division, having to do with parents.

But looking first at the birth chart, the Moon is a *maraka* for the father since it falls in the 7th house from the 9th house of father, and it also falls 7th from the Sun, *karaka* of father. The *antardasha* lord, either the Sun or Venus, is in the 9th, in mutual aspects with the Moon.

In the *dwadashamsha*, the Moon is twice a *maraka* since it is the lord of the 7th in the 2nd. Venus and the Sun fall in the 8th house of this division and again fall in the *maraka* 7th from the *dasha* lord Moon.



Demi Moore's Dwadashamsha Chart

Using the 9th house of the *dwadashamsha*, Virgo, as a *lagna*, the Moon goes into the 6th house in mutual aspect with the Sun-Venus conjunction, with Venus becoming the \square araca 2nd lord.

Death of her stepfather in Moon-Venus or Moon-Sun correlates well in both the *rashi* and that divisional chart having to do with parents.

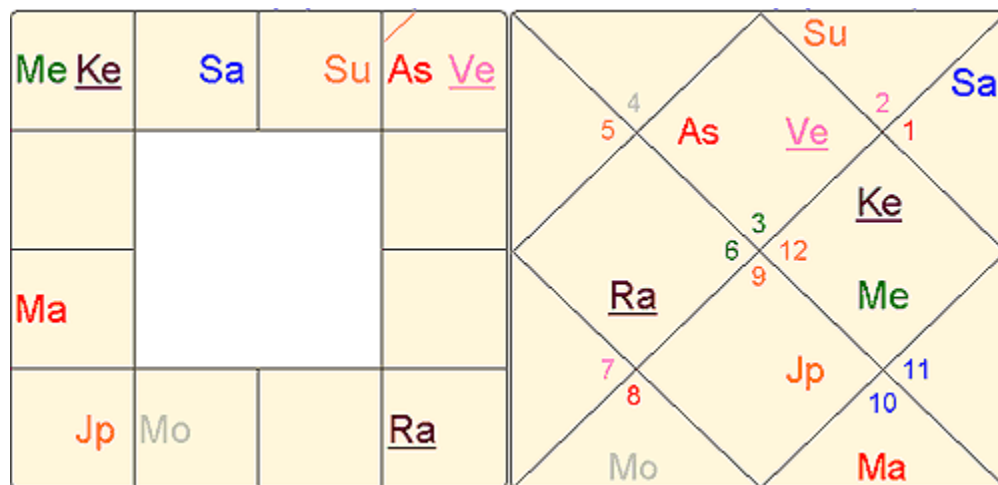
Her mother is a severe alcoholic with whom she eventually broke off all contact.

The classics tell us Rahu is the indicator of poisons and intoxicants. It oftentimes plays a dominant role in cases of alcoholism. Note that the 4th house from the Moon has the conjunction of Rahu with Mars, aspected by Saturn. This alone is good testimony but is not that helpful in establishing the accuracy of the birth time.

However, we see that using this time and degree of *lagna* puts Rahu in the 4th house of the *navamsha* with the 4th lord Mercury debilitated and conjunct the RKA. It also gives a *dwadashamsha* *lagna* that puts the RKA along the 4-10 axis. This is good testimony for the accuracy of the birth time.

At 18, she married a rock musician 12 years her senior.

This first marriage would have taken place in Moon-Sun and makes perfect sense. The Sun is the 7th lord from the birth *lagna* and in the 7th house from the Moon. The Moon and Sun remain in 1-7 relationship in the *navamsha*, or marriage chart.



Demi Moore's Navamsha Chart

The aspect of Saturn on the 7th lord from the *lagna* and the 7th house/7th lord from the Moon shows the marriage to a much older man.

She landed her first acting job in 1982 with a role on *General Hospital*, and was cast in a supporting role in *Blame It on Rio* in 1983.

Her acting career begins in Mars-Rahu, and begins to blossom in Mars-Saturn. As discussed earlier, Mars is the 10th lord of career, as well as the 3rd lord of the dramatic arts. Rahu and Saturn are the two planets with which it forms *raja yoga* combinations.

This timing is strong verification for the correctness of the *lagna* and also a perfect illustration of the primary principle for interpreting the *Vimshottari dasha*. Planets will give their results in the sub-period of those planets most strongly associated with them. If these planets combine in *raja yoga* combinations, the person is successful and rises up in life.

She divorced in 1984. Cast in the film *St. Elmo's Fire*, she became addicted during this period to drugs and alcohol, but was able to break her addiction after two weeks in a rehab program.

This period would equate to Mars-Saturn, and even though her career takes off, she becomes addicted to drugs and alcohol, as shown by the strong connection of the RKA to both of these planets.

But with her drive and strong will power she is able to get herself into a rehab program and overcome her addiction. Note the position of Saturn in the 12th house of hospitals, ashrams, spas, and places like rehabilitation centers.

From 1984 to 1987, she was in an on-again, off-again engagement with Elmo co-star Emilio Estevez.

Much of this period equates to Mars-Venus and Mars-Sun. As with the Moon *dasha*, the sub-periods of Venus and the Sun bring relationship, given their strong connection to the 7th house from both the birth *lagna* and the Moon.

She met Bruce Willis in August of 1987 and they married 3 months later.



Demi Moore and Bruce Willis

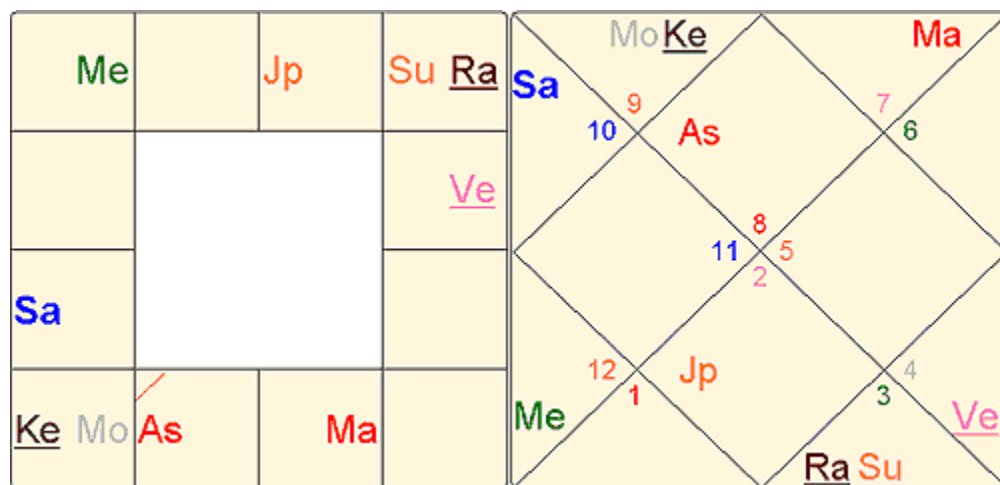
Though the People article gives only this approximate date for her 10-year marriage to Bruce Willis, it would have occurred in Mars-Moon-Venus. We saw how the Moon-Venus combination in her *dasha* sequence brought marriage when they were the *dasha* and *antardasha* lords. Here they are operating as the *antar* and *pratyantar* *dasha* lords.

Because of the exchange between Mars and the Moon in the birth chart, this *dasha-antardasha* sequence would have been highly significant in her life, with each of these planets empowered to give the result of the other.

She co-starred in huge box office success, *Ghost*, released in 1990.

This coincides with the advent of her *dasha* of Rahu, the fame-giver. To reiterate why this Rahu can bring great fame:

- It is with the 10th lord Mars, who with Saturn forms a 1-10 raja yoga from the birth lagna.
- From the Moon, the Rahu-Mars conjunction is a *raja yoga* because, per Parashara, the Moon's Nodes give *raja yoga* when they are in a *kendra* with a trinal lord. Mars rules the trinal 1st house from *Chandra lagna*.
- Rahu will also give the results of the planets it most associates with, and the mutual aspect between Mars and Saturn is again a 1-10 raja yoga from the Moon.
- In the *dashamsha*, Rahu is connected to a powerful *Dharma-Karma Raja Yoga* formed by a mutual aspect between the 10th lord Sun and the 9th lord Moon



Demi Moore's Dashamsha Chart

As mentioned earlier, what is fascinating about her box office success with this movie, coincident with the Rahu *dasha* is that Rahu is the natural *karaka* or indicator of ghosts. See also that in the *dashamsha*, Rahu is with the 10th lord Sun in the 8th house of the spirits of the dead. It is uncanny the way *Jyotisha* shows not only this success but also the vehicle.

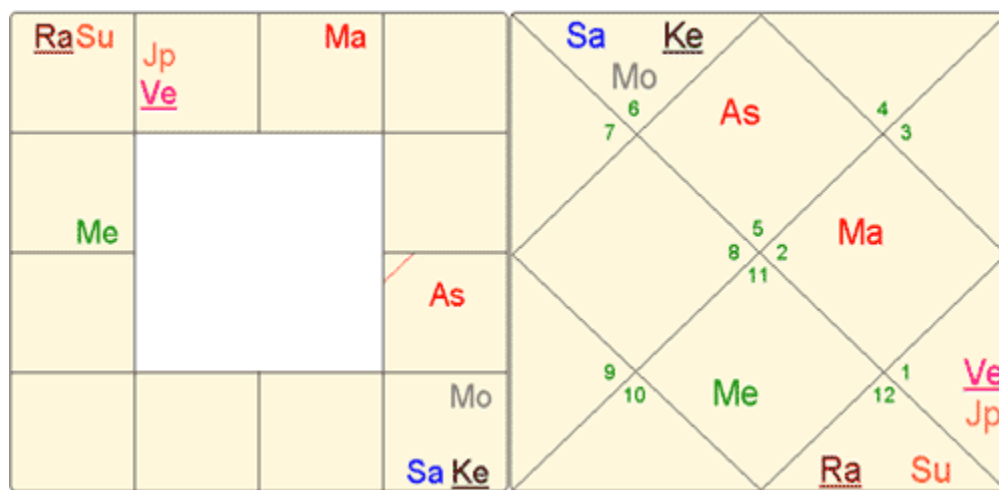
Her earning power that resulted from the success of *Ghost* occurred in the sub-period of Jupiter. Why Jupiter? Recall that Jupiter rules the two money houses, 2 and 11, for her Aquarius *lagna*, and if you look closely at the degrees of Jupiter you will see that it is placed in Rahu's *nakshatra*, showing the connection between the *dasha* and *antardasha* lords. It also forms a strong *dhana yoga* from the Moon, since Jupiter becomes the 9th lord in the 11th house from this standpoint. Now see that it is also the 9th lord fortune in the 8th house of suddenness from the *dasha* lord Rahu.

She gave birth to three daughters, born in 1989, 1992, and 1994.

The Rahu *dasha* has brought three children as well. They were born respectively in the *dasha* and *antardashas* of Rahu-Rahu, Rahu-Jupiter, and Rahu-Saturn.

Rahu's ability to give children comes primarily through the principle of dispositorship. Rahu will bring the results of its dispositor the Moon, who is in mutual aspect with both the 5th lord Mercury, and the 9th lord Venus. Being the 5th house from the 5th house, the 9th house and its lord become an alternative child-giving house.

Also see that in the *saptamsha*, Rahu is in Jupiter's sign Pisces, and that Jupiter is the 5th lord of this divisional chart. Both in the *rashi* and the *saptamsha*, Rahu is closely connected to Saturn.



Demi Moore's Saptamsha Chart

She was paid \$12.5 million for her performance in *Striptease*, working out 4 hours per day to prepare herself physically for the role.

This took place in the Rahu-Mercury period. The Mercury sub-period activates the *Lakshmi yoga* formed by Mercury as the 5th lord with Venus as the 9th lord in its own sign in the 9th. As indicated earlier, this is a very special wealth-giving *dhana yoga* combination, and it has made her one of the highest paid actress in the history of Hollywood.

The birth chart, along with the divisional charts that get created by this degree of the *lagna*, would appear to be working very well and suggests that her given birth time is, indeed, accurate.

The procedure of verification that was just demonstrated should always be done before a birth chart is accepted as accurate and future predictions attempted. To proceed otherwise is to invite disaster.

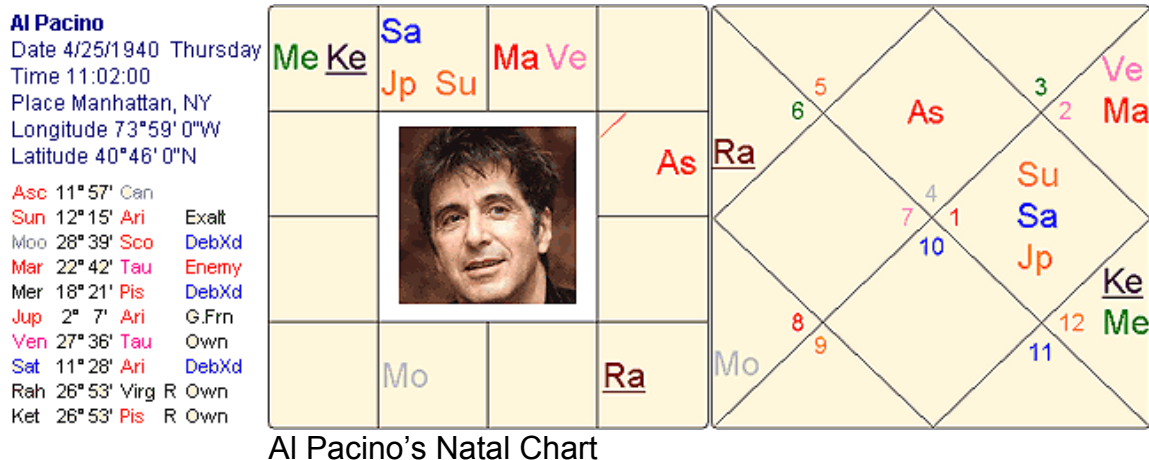
The events of Demi Moore's life and their timing are well reflected in both the birth chart and relevant divisional charts. Her birth chart reveals her destiny to become... *The \$12 Million Actress*.

Some Other Examples

I would like to look now at other instances where debilitated planets gave very good results in keeping with the exceptions outlined at the beginning of this article.

Al Pacino's Debilitated Planets

The chart of Oscar-winning actor, Al Pacino, is a testament to the fact that one can have a number of debilitated planets and still be hugely successful.



As you can see, the Moon, Mercury and Saturn all fall in their debilitation signs. But the question then becomes, “Does their debilitation get cancelled? Does it get cancelled in an angle or a trine, giving rise to *neecha bhanga raja yoga*? Are they placed in or rule a *dussthana* house, falling under “that great Parashara exception?”

Pacino’s *lagna* lord Moon is debilitated in the sign Scorpio. Yet it is in mutual aspect with Mars, the lord of Scorpio, which is one of the conditions given earlier for cancellation of the debility. Moreover, Mars as the dispositor of the debilitated planet is *kendra* from the Moon, another condition that gives cancellation. In addition, the exaltation lord of the Moon (Venus, since the Moon is exalted in Taurus) is also in a *kendra* from the Moon, which gives a third cancellation. And then see that this debilitated Moon falls in a trine house, the additional stipulation for giving *neecha bhanga raja yoga*.

Note also that as the *lagna* lord in the 5th, in mutual aspect with the *yogakaraka* planet, Mars, this Moon is configured in normal and very powerful *raja yogas*. This holds true from *Chandra lagna* as well. And the fact is that throughout the Moon period, which ran from 1975 to 1985, he was huge star. His Moon did not give the “weak and unfavorable” results of a debilitated planet at all.

Nor did his Saturn. Al Pacino first rose to mega-stardom for his role in *The Godfather*. It was the period of Sun-Saturn. The Sun is at its highest point of exaltation in the 10th house of career where it also gets directional strength. It is with Saturn in its debilitation sign, Aries. But again, Mars, the ruler of Aries, is in an angle from the Moon, giving cancellation. The exaltation lord of Saturn is Venus, since Saturn is exalted in Libra, and we see that Venus is also in an angle from the Moon. I also believe that a third cancellation occurs by virtue of the fact that this Saturn is with an exalted planet.

And then see that it falls in the 10th, an angle house, fulfilling the additional condition to give *neecha bhanga raja yoga*. As the 7th lord conjunct with Jupiter, the 9th lord, Saturn also participates in a normal *raja yoga*. Far from giving “weak” results, Saturn elevated him considerably.

His debilitated Mercury gets cancelled as well. Jupiter, the ruler of Pisces, falls in an angle from the birth *lagna*. Note that it also rules the 3rd house, thus falling under Parashara’s exception.

The debilitated planets in Al Pacino chart do not behave like debilitated planets. The reason is *neecha bhanga raja yoga*.

Ronald Reagan

Date 2/6/1911 Monday

Time 4:16:00

Place Tampico, IL

Longitude 89°47'10"W

Latitude 41°37'49"N

Asc 4° 38' Sag

Sun 23° 54' Cap Neutr

Moo 21° 6' Ari

Enemy

Mar 11° 22' Sag G.Frn

Mer 28° 55' Sag Friend

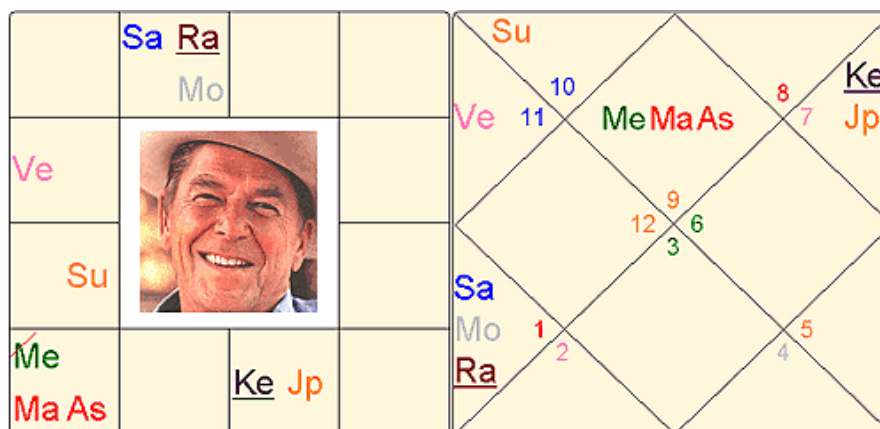
Jup 21° 7' Libr G.En'y

Ven 11° 2' Aqu G.Frn

Sat 8° 12' Ari DebXd

Rah 21° 49' Ari R Neutr

Ket 21° 49' Libr R Friend



Ronald Reagan's Natal Chart

Ronald Reagan's Debilitated Saturn

Ronald Reagan exact birth time is controversial, but the consensus opinion (including that of KN Rao) is that the *lagna* is Sagittarius.

It can be seen that Reagan's Saturn is in its debilitation sign Aries. Yet he became President in the *mahadasha* of this planet. Note that Mars, the ruler of Aries, is in an angle from the *lagna*, bringing about cancellation. Since Saturn is in a trine, this then becomes *neecha bhanga raja yoga*. What is more, it rules the 3rd house of his chart and may also come under Parashara's exception.

Pablo Picasso's Debilitated Venus

Every beginning student of *Jyotisha* learns that Venus is the planet that indicates the arts. One would expect then to find Venus strong in the charts of artists. Yet on the day Pablo Picasso was born, Venus was in its debilitation sign, Virgo. See his chart below.

Pablo Picasso

Date 10/25/1881 Tuesday

Time 23:15:00

Place Malaga, SPAIN

Longitude 4°25' 0"W

Latitude 36°43' 0"N

Asc 6° 13' Can

Sun 10° 28' Libr DebXd

Moo 15° 40' Sco DebXd

Mar 20° 8' Gem G.En'y

Mer 2° 1' Sco Enemy

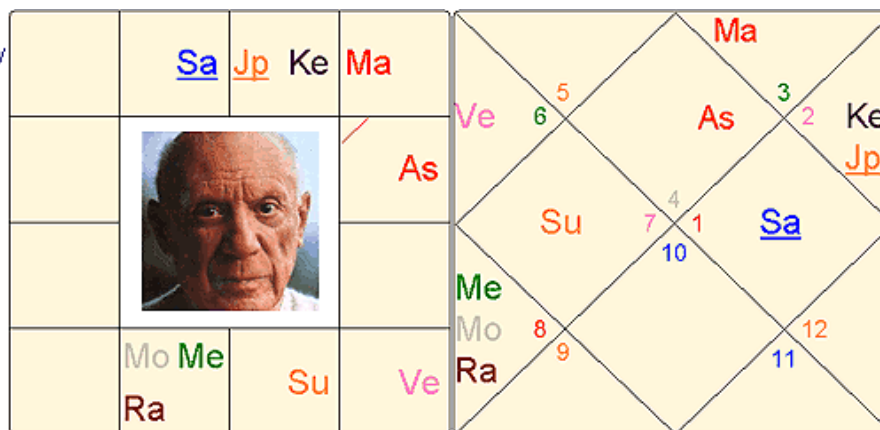
Jup 1° 21' Tau R G.En'y

Ven 12° 17' Virg DebXd

Sat 17° 14' Ari R DebRx

Rah 17° 16' Sco D DebXd

Ket 17° 16' Tau D DebXd

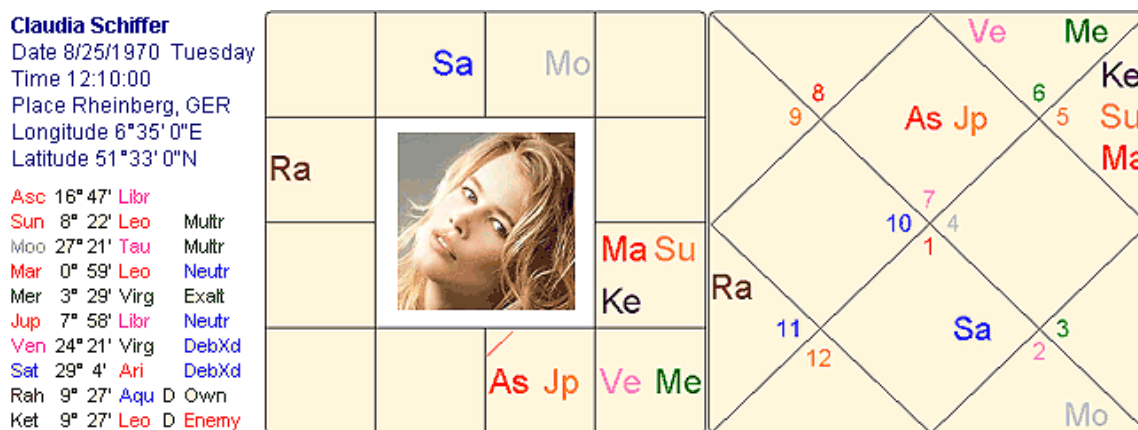


Pablo Picasso's Natal Chart

Picasso's chart is a veritable cornucopia of debilitated planets. The Sun, Moon, Venus, Saturn, and the Moon's Nodes are all in their debilitation sign. Yet here is one of the foremost and famous artists of the 20th century, and he initially came to fame in the major period of Venus. Note that its dispositor, Mercury, is in an angle from the Moon. *But more importantly see that it goes in the 3rd house of the fine arts, where it comes under that Parashara exception.* As a debilitated planet in the 3rd house it gave *raja yoga*.

Claudia Schiffer's Debilitated Venus

Supermodel Claudia Schiffer was also born with a debilitated Venus and it is not what you might expect from the planet of beauty in her chart, particularly since it rules the *lagna*, which pertains to appearance.



However, it can be seen that this debilitated Venus is with an exalted Mercury, which in my experience gives cancellation. These two planets form a significant *raja yoga* in the 12th house of foreign countries. See also that Venus *rules the 8th house*, and therefore may come under the exception once again. And it was exactly in Rahu-Venus that she first came to prominence as a professional beauty in a foreign country.

Claudia Schiffer was actually considered quite ugly as child and even when she blossomed into a beauty as a teen, she could not make it as a model in her own country, Germany. It was only when she went abroad that her career took off. This is the meaning of *neecha bhanga raja yoga*. From a "down" or "losing" position, you become elevated. As my teacher says, "The *neecha* will be there, but in the end one triumphs."

Examples like these have taught me to never jump to quick conclusions about the results of debilitated planets and what they will bring when active in the *dasha* sequence. Rather, I always carefully examine whether cancellation occurs and to what degree, and the placement of the debilitated planet in the

navamsha and other divisional charts. I also look to see if they are placed or rule the *dussthana* houses 3, 6, 8, or 12 and entertain the possibility that they may actually give *raja yoga* based on “that great Parashara exception.”

Technical Summary

- In birth charts, as in life, appearances can be deceiving. Apparently debilitated planets in “bad” houses can actually give extraordinary results under certain circumstances.
- Before pronouncing bad results in their periods and sub-periods see if their debility gets cancelled and check their placement in the *navamsha*. Also see their placement from the *Chandra lagna* and any significant *yogas* in which they participate.
- In the chart of actress Demi Moore, her debilitated Mars gets exalted in the *navamsha*, and participates in significant 1-10 *raja yogas* from both the *lagna* and the Moon, with whom it also participates in a significant exchange as the third lord of acting.
- The debilitation of this Mars as the 3rd lord in the 6th house, with the *lagna* lord well placed in its own sign, also comes under “that great Parashara exception.” In which case, this debilitated condition of Mars actually gives an unusual *raja yoga*.
- But we also saw how it meant that she had to struggle hard to overcome nearly impossible odds, including an unstable and impoverished childhood and her own drug addiction to achieve her ambitions. Mars as the 3rd lord of efforts in the 6th house of struggles aspecting her *lagna* and *lagna* lord, gave her this will to succeed.
- The *Vimshottari dasha* sequence shows the advent of her rise to fame and fortune as an actress, beginning with the Mars period followed by that of Rahu. We saw that her Mars ruling her 10th house of career and the 3rd house of the dramatic arts is in an exchange with a perfectly Full Moon.
- In keeping with this timing, it is interesting to note that she got into acting as a result of a neighbor, “neighbors” coming under the province of the 3rd lord also!
- The significant *dhana yogas* in her chart, particularly the *Lakshmi yoga* formed by the placement of Venus in its own sign as the lord of the 9th in the 9th house with the 5th lord Mercury and aspected by Jupiter as the 2nd and 11th lords, show her great wealth.

- Since the period of Rahu is then followed by that of Jupiter, she is likely to get even wealthier!

All Praise to the Rishis and their Divine Science of Light

Jai Guru Dev