**Matching or balancing?**

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The theme decided for 7 Aug. , 2022 JYSA forum meeting is about marriage and horoscope matching. Our faculty and guest speakers have come up with presentation on different methods of horoscope matching applying different concepts of stellar astrology. This article is about how different aspects of married life are linked to astrology in the present day life.

Marriage as an institution is showing signs of breaking up. Parents anxious to get their sons and daughters married with suitable matches ,are a worried lot as they see marriages breaking down at alarming speed .A lawyer friend was confiding that the earnings on account of divorce cases, are increasing beyond expectations. Lawyers talk in terms of percentage compensation based on the financial settlement wangled by them from both boy and girl sides at the time of divorce..

There is another social problems relating to marriage that is an offshoot of women getting liberated on account of better educational and job opportunities. Women have developed hither to unknown ambitions of making their marks in the corporate world and earning huge salaries and benefits. If marriage as an institution is coming in the way of realising their ambitions, they are not at all hesitant about chucking the marriage, husbands and children. Multi cultural work place has enabled ladies to rub shoulders with people of different faith, culture, lifestyles and practices.so love marriages , intercaste marriages, multi religious affliations have added to the woes of parents

Further, the globalisation, urbanisation and technology have exposed women to different cultures, faiths, life styles and new trends .saris , bindus, mangal sutras have gone for a toss and new India women is portrayed in western clothes, jeans, bob cut head, a glass of wine in one hand and cell phone in the other..

So current day parents with sons and daughters of marriageable age are on tenterhooks and have no clue about ensuring a harmonious marriage for their children.so in desperation they are looking up to astrologers to get a quick fix by putting their faith in astrologers who they believe can ensure long lasting and harmonious marriage for their wards by a systematic matching of birth charts for compatibility. Even though well matched marriages are also running into rocks,Hindu faith is so strong that astrologers are still in business.

The traditional Mangalya dharana mantram uttered at the time of tying the knot around the girls neck is very clear about the objectives of marriage.

There is a clearly defined reason for marriage. The word s mama jeevana hetu and sarad shatam in the mangalyam tantnaamena --- slokam, should be understood by all astrologers before they indulge in match making. In olden days a well settled married life meant economic stability/ improvement, healthy progeny. The man depended on his wife to help him attain a wellbeing that is economically sound and beget children to ensure continuity of his kulam and to carry forward the family’s traditional profession/trade. A girl coming of age was also expecting her partner to be in a position to provide a life that would be better than what her parents could give her.

The second set of keywords sarad shatam, a longevity of marriage to see hundred sharad rutus/season. That is really a joke

So where does the astrologer begin?

So he does not match. He is looking for weakness in one horoscope while looking for strength in the other. He follows the law of magnets. Like poles repel.so matched horoscope repel.so look for strong mars in boys chart and weak mars in girl or vice versa. But for god sake , do not match two strong mars. That will surely undo the marriage quickly.

Similarly look for strong Jupiter and Mercury in boys chart and look for debilitated guru in girl or vice versa. Two people of equal intelligence will never see eye to eye. If they ever do, it is in the form of confrontation and not compassion.

Putraprapti was an important factor in the olden days. Today that is like a red flag to the fighting bull. These are the days of foster mothers and fathers. The couple will bless you if you have ignored this point altogether. Stay far away from fifth house and Jupiter connection. That will be unnecessary heart burn, more alimony and high cost and severe punishment for getting married in the first place.

Do look for emotional stability, weakness in speech and martial propensity. This will come very useful during shouting matches and swinging /slugging fests that have become too frequent in recent days.

About longevity of marriage less said the better. Forget hundred sharad rutus. if marriage lasts for 10 sharads, you as astrologer have done a splendid job.

So change or bend astrological guidelines for ensuring marriage to last. The idea of matching is a balancing act and not equalising. Advice the parents to get their priorities right.

Should such an article find a place in a magazine produced by an institution that prides in giving quality education in astrology, upholding tradition? Our astrology must serve a cause of making people aware of changes in societies. Astrologers must understand priorities of parents and mind-sets of candidates for marriages. Today boys and girls are fully aware of sex and finance. They are not enamoured by prospects of married life as they are too busy chasing a dream of riding a BMW, sun bathing in sandy beaches behind posh hotels IN EXOTIC resorts and contemplating purchase of a Hussain or Picasso artpiece.so astrologers have to be on guard and ready to deliver what is asked for, not what is good.