

A brief note on the influence of Rahu and Ketu

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(Topics covered :: Need of the study of rahu and ketu - Influence of their transits around chakras (nerve centers) and endocrine glands -Transits on imaginary Brigu bindu point in birth chart. \ - Transit on their natal their natal points.- References:: articles from old Journals and Websites)

Sun and Moon are supreme in planetary system - yet they do get eclipsed by Rahu or Ketu They are Karmic planets and are points of personal eclipses. Their axis serves twin purposes - both mundane and spiritual life - good and bad. The opposing influences from nodes baffle the astrological findings and demand a specific attention.

Every planet has nodes. Only Moon's Nodes are considered from a long time. The Moon's nodes are generally believed to be points where relationships with other people are influenced. One school of thought is Moon's North Node (Rahu) is a point of destiny while the South Node (Ketu) is a point of karmic obstacles.

It is interesting to study the role of Rahu and Ketu with their natal positions as well as their transits in natal chart.

Earliest use of Rahu -Ketu points were used in Mundane astrology to calculate the time of eclipses. It was, perhaps, prior to the use of these nodes in individual charts.

Satyachareeyams monumental versions on stellar lordship of planets is quoted by eminent authors like Varahamira, Saravali etc., YET many differences cropped up in the use of Moon's Nodes in predictive astrology It is because the Classical astrologers could not relish the Stellar lordship of Rahu and Ketu especially when they are not considered for ..

- (1) In rasi chart - for ownership of signs –
- (2) Not considered in Divisional charts in earlier studies-
- (3) No mention in Shadbala calculations- as they are exempt from Chesta bala, Kala bala , Directional strength etc., ;
- (4) No combustion for Rahu and Ketu -(they have no rays),
- (5)They are not considered for lagna -wise calculation of Marakas / Yoga karakas. They act by virtue of their position.
- (6) Even renowned classical authors differed in the Exaltation and Debilitation positions of Rahu and Ketu.
- (7) In Ashtakavarga system - only Sambhu Hora considered Rahu for Rahu Ashtakavarga - There again the reduction method is not followed.
- (8) Except in Vimshottari dasa system the Rahu and Ketu are not seen. Even in Ashottari dasa Ketu is not considered.
- (9) Seasonal cycles are not attributed to Rahu and Ketu.-

(10) No rulership is allotted to Rahu and Ketu among the five Elements which are ruled by five planets. Sun is representing the Creator and Moon is for fundamental energy.

(11) Three among the Panchanga (Hindu Almanac) details -i.e., Tithi, Yoga and Karana have no planetary lordship. But among Stars we have lordship of Rahu and Ketu for six stars.

(12) In a week Weekdays (vara) are allotted to seven planets only- No Rahu vara and Ketu vara. (13) In a Day and Night - Hora division is only among seven planets - No Rahu Hora and Ketu Hora.

The classical authors, even among themselves differed about the ownership, exaltation, debilitation, moolatrikona, friend's, enemy's and neutral houses, aspects for these Nodes. However, despite of conceptual differences, it is commonly accepted as the NODES do have an influence in causing human life events.

Many oldest books like Satyachareeyam, Manasagari, Jatakaabharanam Sarvardha Chintamani, Phaladeepika, Uttarakalamruta, Laghu Parasari, Brihat parasara Hora Sastra have dealt with the influence of these nodes in the life of human beings.

Revival of Stellar theories in practical astrology, of late, has brought back the importance of this study of role of Nodes. Recent evolution of K.P.System is a refinement of the earliest / earlier stellar theories attuned to understand the way of latest human affairs.

The interpretation of the influence of these nodes is very validly helping to bring out more and more details in the present competitive and complex life situations. With this we find in recent global trends the inclusion of the study of MOON's NODES in by Western astrologers. We also see the use of OUTER planets in India by Vedic astrologers.

In the above context - an attempt is made here to highlight the role of these NODES in TRANSIT astrology. A caution, here, is that transit astrology is essentially to be interpolated with basic influence of any planet / node as per its natal position in individual's birth chart.

Nodes move in the anti- direction to that of planets. Nodes take about 18 and half a year to cover 360 degrees. Following two items from the symptoms of transits are dealt with here.

Emphasis in this study is to consider the transit of nodes in the physical development of the body - irrespective of the house division i.e., lagna and other houses.

Effects of Transit of NODES from Birth time are to be seen in the following aspects.

- A. Rahu- transit on the Chakras and Endocrine gland areas in physical body.
- B. Transit of all planets and nodes on the brigu bindu point in natal chart. i.e., middle point between Rahu and Moon.
- C. Transiting Rahu and Ketu on their natal points.
- D. Transiting rahu and ketu on the natal points of all planets in birth chart. (This is not covered in this article for reasons of brevity)

(A) Rahu- transit on the Chakras and Endocrine gland areas in physical body.

Out of the seven chakras Sahasrasara chakra is considered as connecting the native to divine area and is excluded in this study. Other six chakras viz., Ajna, Visudha, Anahata, Manipura, Swadishtana, Muladhara are considered.

Chakras are nerve centers in physical body. Endocrine glands which contribute to body's health are closer to the nerve centers.

Glands that are closer to chakras are - Pitutary gland to Ajna chakra; Thyroid gland to Visudha chakra; Thymus gland to Anahata chakra; Pancreas gland to Manipura chakra; Gonad gland to Swadishtana chakra and Adrenal gland to Muladhara chakras.

For a broad understanding the endocrine glands are responsible for cell growth in body process while the nervous system (chakras) is responsible for functions like breathing, body movement etc., Both the endocrine system and nervous system functions together to help the body functions. Well known theory is - a sound mind is in a sound body.

Coming to the transit of Rahu-Ketu axis since birth time - Transit rahu period in birth chart is studied in two parts.

- (1) from natal point of Rahu to natal point of Ketu in birth chart; and
- (2) from natal point of Ketu to natal point of Rahu itself in birth chart.

Each transit takes about 9 and odd years in life time. In the first period of this 9 and odd years Transit rahu moves on one side (viz., right side) of the Nervous system in the body. Its commencement is counted from Ajna chakra i.e., Rahu being the head of the axis.

This 9 and odd year's period is sub-divided among the six chakras in nervous system - with each of about 1 and half years. Each of these sub-periods is very important for the study of growth of physical body and its right / wrong functions later on.

Thus, the sub periods are 12 - covering on either side of the nervous system - that is - the right and left sides of the chakras and endocrine glands in the body.

Triggering of transit Rahu on both sides of the nervous system contributes to the good and bad development of physical body.

Triggering symptoms of Transit Rahu, in brief, in each of the sub-periods are :

Note: In this study – (1). Out of the seven chakras - Sahasrasara chakra is excluded - as it is considered as connecting the native to divine area. Only six are considered.(2). The Ajna Chakra location and other chakras thereon is considered to commence from the natal point of Rahu in a birth chart -irrespective of (a) the natural Zodiac- (kalapurusha - commencing from Aries) (b) house division in natal chart i.e., lagna to 12 houses.

- (1) First 1.5 years - on right side of Ajna chakra and Pituitary gland- Child is in the growing stage - understanding surroundings - learning to crawl, stand, walk, understanding body language and words from the surroundings.
- (2) Second 1.5 years - Right side of Visudha Chakra -Thyroid gland- learns words, broken speech etc.,-
- (3) Next 1.5 years -Anahata chakra and Thymus gland- Enjoying and reciprocating mother's love and of other members in the family.
- (4) Next 1.5 years - Manipura chakra and Pancreas gland- understands his own personality - expresses or demands his own likings and desires -try to exercise own choices,
- (5) Next 1.5 years -Swadishtana chakra and Gonad gland- learns about social behavior with friends at home and school.
- (6) Next 1.5 years - Muladhara chakra and Adrenal gland- by now the native is above 9 years and acquires good physical strength - learns to move around - likes games, sports etc.,

By this time native child grow by 9 and odd years

- (7) Next 1.5 years - other side of Muladhara chakra and Adrenal gland -Physical energy is put into practical side - games, sports etc.,
- (8) Next 1.5 years - Other side of Swadishtana and Gonad gland-understands the gender differences. Experiences increasing trends of socialization and moving or mixing with others. Female native experiences commencement of menstrual periods.
- (9) Next 1.5 years - Other side of Manipura and Pancreas gland -individual personality cult develops- teenage problems starts - want to control their own needs- wants authority, likes to take charge of his own destiny.
- (10) Next 1.5 years - other side of Anahata chakra and Thymus gland- feelings of linking others, love feelings etc., starts
- (11) Next 1.5 years -other side of Visudha chakra and Thyroid gland - understands beyond the words, dialogues etc., gains a better image of the surrounding society or social relations.
- (12) Next 1.5 years - on side of Ajna chakra and Pituitary gland - Native by now crossed 18th year - fully grown to understand reality and able to express his own ideas in their actions and reactions.

By the native reaches about 18 and years of age - further happenings on the transit Rahu in these areas depend on the age and socio-economic surroundings of the native.

(B) Transit of all planets and nodes on the Brigu Bindu point in natal chart. i.e., middle point between Rahu to Moon.

Brigu bindu point is derived from Nadi astrology- It is a sensitive point in natal chart. It is an imaginary point at the middle of the distance travelled by Moon from Rahu in birth chart - i.e., in the separating aspect (clock-wise direction) of Moon from Rahu point.

When any transiting planet benefic or malefic - including the nodes - conjoin or aspect this point an event occurs. Conjunctions are more powerful than aspects. When more than one planet triggers this point the results are to be carefully assessed.

(C)Transiting Rahu and Ketu on their natal points.

In the life time - Transit Rahu or Ketu conjoin --

- (a) their natal points in birth chart once in around 18 and odd years.
- (b) Transiting Rahu or Ketu conjoin the natal position of each other once in around 9 and odd years.

Thus once in around 9 and odd years i.e., in multiples of around 9 and odd years of age in the life time EVERY ONE gets this influence. At this transit time native is likely to experience ill-health or mental tensions. These triggering effects are to be studied with a holistic approach of the entire natal chart.

Caution: *No planet acts in isolation at any given time. -All planets works in a concerted manner. - Any package deal from planets to any native may be with a leadership of one or few planets by virtue of transit or natal positions and or their dasa main/sub periods. - Therefore it is highly essential to resort to a holistic approach while decoding any individual chart.*

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