

Combinations for Power and Position

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Forms of Government

MONARCHY is a form of government in which supreme power is lodged in an individual often for life or until abdication. During ancient and medieval times it was a common form of government. In an absolute monarchy, the king rules as an autocrat, while in a constitutional monarchy, the monarch is largely a ceremonial figurehead.

Democracy is a form of government in which power is held by citizens under a free electoral system. Democracy has its origins in ancient Rome. It is important that we take an overview of ancient literature on this subject before we discuss planetary combinations for kingship or political power in present times.

On Kingship

A perusal of literature in various languages would reveal pearls of wisdom of eternal relevance. The noted Tamil poet, Tiruvalluvar has devoted one entire chapter in his work **Tirukkural** to kingship. According to Tiruvalluvar,

Armies, Citizenry, Economic Resources, Ministers, Allies and Fortress.

All six make for a Lion among Kings.
— (Verse 381)

To become great (in other words a lion) among kings one requires six attributes:-

a) **A Strong Army** - Even today the budget gives top priority to defence outlays. Without a strong army, a country becomes susceptible

to foreign invasions. Plato in his **Republic**, Kautilya in his **Arthasastra**, and Machiavelli in his **Prince**, all lay considerable emphasis on a strong army.

b) **Citizenry** - Valluvar gives only secondary importance to citizens, whereas in a democratic country it is the citizens who are given priority.

b) **Economic Resources** - Kings used to generate three types of income.

i) Taxes - From its citizens

ii) Customs - on goods

iii) Attachment of assets of defeated kings.

Seizure of assets of the vanquished king was considered to be a legitimate asset of the victorious king.

c) **Ministers** - Valluvar outlines five major characteristics of a good minister (*Ibid*, Verse 632). They are

(i) Resoluteness in action; (ii) Good character due to lineage; (iii) Interest in people's welfare; (iv) Systematic study of statecraft; and (v) Energetic drive in working for people's benefit.

d) **Allies** - The significance of strategic alliances was recognized even in ancient times.

"There is nothing so rare as a good Friendship; and no better armour against the enemy". (*Ibid*, Verse 781)

e) **Fortress** - A classic example of good fortification is the Great Wall of China. It was completed by the Chang dynasty (1368 - 1644 AD) and was built to prevent incursions into the fertile plains of China. There are three types of action as a result of which a fort can fall.

These are (i) by a siege, (ii) by direct assault and (iii) by betrayal by traitors.

In the Battle of Plassey (1757), Robert Clive with an army of just 12000 soldiers defeated Siraj-ud-daulah who had one lakh soldiers. He was able to do it by purchasing the loyalty of Siraj-ud-daulah's commander-in-chief Mir Jaffar by an offer of 14 Parganas.

Raja Yogas

The term "Raja" generally refers to a king. How many kings can a kingdom have? Only One. If there are hundred people born in a kingdom with some Raja Yoga or the other, can all of them become kings? Certainly not. The answer to this query would be positive, if only we know what is their field of work. If a person endowed with Raja Yoga becomes a scientist, then at an appropriate planetary phase, he would become a "king among scientists". So, all Raja Yogas do not elevate the native to the level of a king but instead bless one with the "numero uno" status in one's field of activity.

How Raja Yogas Occur

Raja Yogas occur in many ways. Some of them are:-

- (1) By the general rules of Parasara
- (2) By special combinations
- (3) By the rules propounded by Jaimini
- (4) By rules pertaining to "mitigation of evil lordship"
- (5) By cancellation of debility
- (6) By conjunctions of quadrant lords with trinal lords.

An important point needs to be placed before the discerning students of astrology at this juncture. Only strong planets can promote Raja Yoga. Weak planets merely show promise but do not deliver. The promise of Raja Yoga shown in any chart can become functional only if the benefit gets transferred to the Ascendant or the Ascendant lord. When both the Sun and Moon are weak in any chart, the Raja Yoga present will not operate.

Mahabhagya Yoga

Mahabhagya Yoga arise in male natives when the birth occurs during daytime and the Sun, Moon and the Ascendant are in odd signs. In female natives, this Yoga occurs when the Sun, Moon and the Ascendant are in even signs provided that the native is born at night. In the case of male natives, the Yoga is enough to elevate him to the status of a ruler while a female born in this sign will be blessed with children and wealth. When books on astrology were written, rulership was the prerogative of men. But while interpreting this Yoga in the present day context, this Yoga can be taken to confer on female natives the status of a queen.

Single Planet Raja Yoga

According to Mantreswara, even a single planet which is exalted can elevate a native to the status of a king provided that planet comes under the benign aspect of another friendly planet. This principle conforms to the general rules of Parasara which state that exalted planets coming under benefic aspect would prove highly auspicious.

Special Combinations

Many of the Raja Yogas discussed by Varahamihira in his **Brihat Jataka** are due to special rules of astrology.

For instance, "If Kuja is in Makara, Ravi and Chandra in Dhanus, Lagna rises in Makara with Sani in it, the native rises to the level of king" (Chap. XI, Stanza 5).

This Raja Yoga comes under a special rule because the Sun and Moon in the 12th is generally not a fortunate combination, but in the case of one born in Capricorn Ascendant with both Mars and Saturn in the Ascendant, it elevates the native to the level of a king.

Mitigation of Evil Lordship

The lords of the 6th, 8th and 12th are considered as evil lords. What happens if they occupy their own houses, namely, the 6th, 8th

and 12th. What happens if the lords of 6th, 8th and 12th occupy one of these three houses. Lord of the 6th in the 6th is known as Harsha Yoga, lord of the 8th in 8th forms Sarala Yoga and lord of 12th in 12th forms Vimala Yoga. If all the three Yogas are simultaneously present or alternatively all these three Dustana lords simultaneously occupy Dustana houses, the Yoga is termed Vipareeta Raja Yoga.

Cancellation of Debility

Let us consider the case of a person born in Taurus Ascendant with Mercury and Venus in Virgo. As lords of the 1st and 5th in conjunction they generate a normal Parasari Raja Yoga. But as Venus in Virgo is debilitated but joins an exalted Mercury, the debilitated planet effectively becomes the causative factor for the occurrence of Neecha Bhanga Raja Yoga. It is usual for competent astrologers to pronounce the existence of this Yoga only if the horoscope also has Gaja Kesari Yoga.

Lords of Angles with Trines

The lord of a Kendra (angle) with a Trikona (trine) lord is generally very auspicious and such a Yoga is a Raja Yoga. For one born in Taurus Ascendant, the conjunction of the Sun with Saturn (who are natural enemies) is termed Raja Yoga since they both become functional benefics for this particular Ascendant. The most powerful trine is the 9th and the most powerful quadrant is the 10th and therefore the conjunction of the 9th lord with the 10th is termed as "Dharma Karmadhipati" Yoga. The quadrants are considered as houses of Vishnu and trines as houses of Lakshmi and the union of these lords is as auspicious as the union of Lord Vishnu with Goddess Lakshmi.

Jaimini Raja Yogas

Maharshi Jaimini was a very brilliant scholar in astrology with a system of his own. It is said that the Jaimini school of astrology is not the output of a single sage by name "Jaimini" but

a group of sages who all wrote under the name "Jaimini".

According to Jaimini "If a single planet aspects the Hora Lagna, Ghatika Lagna and Janma Lagna, the person becomes a ruler or one equal to him".

The real greatness of Jaimini lies in the fact that in brief sentences (*sutras*) great truths are laid open to students of astrology. The above verse is clear proof of this statement. Jaimini's method is also very simple since it is merely in the nature of applying rules as if they were mathematical formulae and then pronouncing the results.

Miscellaneous Yogas

We will now try and understand a few other Raja Yogas. Under the conditions stated below, Raja Yogas are deemed to occur:-

- 1) When Venus occupies Aswini Nakshatra and is aspected by three or more planets,
- 2) When a person is born at the time of Full Moon, who is also Vargottama.
- 3) When a person is born at the time of Full Moon when the Moon occupies his house of exaltation.
- 4) When three or more planets occupy their own houses (or are exalted) and are placed in Kendras.
- 5) A person who is the scion of a royal family becomes a king if in his chart Venus is aspected by Jupiter.

Kemadruma Yoga

The most malefic Yoga in astrology is the Kemadruma Yoga which occurs when the 2nd and the 12th houses from the Moon remain vacant. This Yoga can also function as a Raja Yogabhanga Yoga or a Yoga which deprives one of royalty. There are certain exceptions to this Yoga. If Raja Yoga occurs along with Kemadruma Yoga, one must carefully assess whether the Raja Yoga is functional or not, by

finding out whether Kemadruma Bhangā Yogas are present.

With this background, we will now turn our attention to charts which are illustrative of the principles discussed so far in this article.

Chart 1: Arun Nehru: Born May 25, 1944 at 18h. 30m at 26 N 50, 80 E 54 with a balance of 15 years 17 days of Jupiter Dasa at birth.

Chart 1 Rasi

| | | | |
|------|---------------------|------------|---------------------|
| | MERC | VEN SUN | MOON SAT |
| | Chart 1 Rasi | | JUP MARS RAHU |
| KETU | | | |
| | | ASCDT | |

Navamsa

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------|-------|--------------|
| | MOON SUN | ASCDT | |
| KETU JUP | Navamsa | | |
| VEN | | | RAHU |
| | SAT | | MARS MERC |

Chart 1 is of Arun Nehru who rose to the level of a cabinet minister. There are different ways in which a Raja Yoga can occur and we find two of the above rules finding a place here. The conjunction of the 10th lord Moon with the 5th lord Saturn (who is a Yogakaraka for Libra Ascendant) is a Raja Yoga. Add to this the Mars - Jupiter conjunction in the 10th which is a case of a debilitated planet joining an exalted planet leading to cancellation of debility.

Chart 2: Narayan Dutt Tewari: Born October 18, 1925 at 16h. 00m at 20 N 23, 70 E 27 with a balance of 13 years 3 months 28 days of Rahu Dasa at birth.

The diagram illustrates the layout of the Navamsa chart, which is a 3x3 grid of houses. The houses are labeled with planetary names: KETU, SAT, ASCDT, MAAS, RAHU, MOON, JUP, VEN, SUN, MERC, MOON, MAAS, and RAHU. The layout is as follows:

| | | | |
|-------|---------------------|---------------------|------|
| | | | |
| ASCDT | Chart 2 Rasi | RAHU | |
| KETU | | | |
| JUP | VEN | SUN MERC MOON | MAAS |

| | | | |
|------|-----|----------------|---------------|
| KETU | SAT | | ASCDT MAAS |
| | | Navamsa | |
| MOON | | | |
| MERC | VEN | SUN JUP | RAHU |

Chart 2 belongs to Narayan Dutt Tewari, a former Union cabinet minister who was also the chief minister of Uttar Pradesh. The

conjunction of 5th lord Mercury with the 7th lord Sun in the 9th is a Parasari Raja Yoga. The Sun - Saturn conjunction adds to the weight of this horoscope being a Yoga leading to cancellation of debility.

Chart 3: Ram Jethmalani: Born September 14, 1923 at 16h. 40m at 17 N 22, 78 E 26 with a balance of 3 years 8 months 14 days of Rahu Dasa at birth.

| | | |
|-------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | |
| KETU | Chart 3 Rasi | RAHU VEN SUN MARS |
| ASCDT | | |
| | JUP MOON | MERC SAT |

Chart 3 belongs to Ram Jethmalani, a legal luminary, who was also a former Union Cabinet Minister. The Ascendant lord joins the 9th lord leading to a Raja Yoga. From the Moon-sign, union of Mercury (as lord of the 9) with Saturn (as lord of the 4th and 5th) is a Raja Yoga.

Chart 4: Abraham Lincoln: Born February 12, 1809 at 7h. 32m at 35 N 00, 89 E 00 with a balance of 4 years 9 months of Sun Dasa at birth.

The diagram illustrates the Navamsa chart, which is a secondary chart used in Vedic astrology. It is represented as a 3x3 grid. The top-left cell contains 'JUP VEN', the top-middle cell contains 'KETU', and the top-right cell is empty. The middle-left cell contains 'ASC/DT SUN MERC', the middle-middle cell contains 'Chart 4 Rasi', and the middle-right cell is empty. The bottom-left cell contains 'MOON', the bottom-middle cell contains 'SAT', and the bottom-right cell contains 'MARS RAHU'. To the right of this grid is another 3x3 grid representing the Navamsa chart. Its top-left cell contains 'MERC', its top-middle cell is empty, and its top-right cell is empty. Its middle-left cell contains 'ASC/DT RAHU', its middle-middle cell contains 'Navamsa', and its middle-right cell contains 'JUP'. Its bottom-left cell is empty, its bottom-middle cell contains 'KETU', and its bottom-right cell is empty. The bottom row of the Navamsa chart contains 'MOON' in the bottom-left cell, 'VEN MERC' in the bottom-middle cell, and 'SUN SAT' in the bottom-right cell.

Chart 4 belongs to Abraham Lincoln who was President of United State. A powerful Raja Yoga is formed by the Sun - Mercury conjunction in the Ascendant.

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