

## Strength of Planets

by Sandhya and Aashima

Indian Vedic Astrology is based on planetary system. Modern astronomy and Vedic astrology have been able to calculate the movement and direction of a planet very precisely and accurately. One important factor which normally is not taken into account at the time of delineation of horoscope is strength of planets and houses. At any given time, planets are in a particular sign, in a particular house and also forming angles with other planets gives them a certain amount of strength or weakness.

Here we discuss the strength of a planet whether it is strong or weak in a natal chart. Strength of a planet depends upon various factors.

1. *Lagna* Lord: *Lagna* Lord is always auspicious for a horoscope. If *Lagna* Lord is in *bhava madhya* or exalted or in own sign or a benefic planet, it becomes strong for the horoscope. The *lagna* lord by virtue of it being both a *kendra* and *trikona* lord imparts auspiciousness to the house it is placed.
2. *Kendra* Houses : *Kendra* houses are 1,4,7 and 10. *Kendra* houses are neutral. The benefics as *kendra* lord, do not give good results and likewise, malefics being *kendra* lord will not give inauspicious results. A benefic being a *kendrapati* gets imbued with somewhat unfavourable nature and similarly, a malefic planet by getting ownership of *kendra* houses do not get an element of goodness. Strength of 10<sup>th</sup> lord is more than of 7<sup>th</sup>, whose strength is more than of 4<sup>th</sup> respectively.

3. Trikonas: The 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> houses are always most auspicious and are also called *trikona* houses or the *dharmasthanas*. The 9<sup>th</sup> lord is more powerful than the 5<sup>th</sup> lord and the 5<sup>th</sup> lord over the *lagna* lord.
4. Benefic planets: Benefic planets are always good for natal chart. Benefics or being conjoined to a benefic imparts strength.
5. Exalted planets: A planet in exaltation has strength and auspiciousness.
6. A planet placed in directional strength also imparts auspiciousness.
7. Planet placed in a *shubh kartari yoga* is always auspicious.
8. Being a *Yogakarka* imparts strength to a planet.
9. *Paap kartari yoga* deducts positive energies of the planet and the house in which it is placed. So does a planet's position in debilitation or enemy sign.
10. A planet in *gandmoola* has negative energy, so does it being a *badhaka* or it being placed in *mrityubhaaga*.
11. The 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> house lords have negativity associated with them.
12. In the event of *nakshatra* dispositor being good, the planets give positive results
13. Malefic planets in retrogression are negative while benefic planets in retrogradation give positive results.
14. Planets with benefic dispositors give good results and vice-versa.
15. Degree and placement are more important than aspect in assessing strength.
16. The house from which a planet is aspecting is important for the strength of a planet.
17. Combustion reduces planetary strength.
18. Exchange of planets in house or *nakshatra* imparts strength to a planet.

19. A planet is positive when it is situated in a good house from its *mooltrikona* sign.

20. *Karaka* positioning is very significant as well.

21. *Rashi sandhi* makes a planet weak.