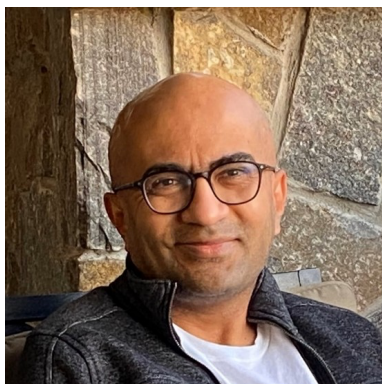


ACVA Newsletter 2025-08 – Technical article



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Sherlock of the Skies discovers Ed Sheeran (Part 1)

Picture this. You're thoroughly enjoying your hard-earned, low-key weekend, chilling in your lounge chair, meditating Gen Z style by swiping through Instagram reels. You stumble onto this new song that's going viral, we're talking 120+ million views in less than a month kind of viral, sung by this equally viral English songwriter dude named Ed Sheeran. You hear the song, watch the video and, before you know it, this peppy little number is growing on you, not just because of the music but because its creator is beaming with joy in the multitude of clips that have been stitched together into this mosaic style video.

The next thing to cross your mind is, what *dasā* is this dude currently running? You google him to find that he's one of those mystery charts whose place and date are known but the birth time is anybody's guess. Bummer. But wait, the universe then whispers in your ears, *Hey you! Why don't you use your powers of deduction and knowledge of Jyotiṣa to see if you can narrow down Ed's rising sign! If you can manage to do that, you can call yourself Sherlock of the Skies.*

Funky title for a Jyotiṣi but inspiring enough to give it a whole-hearted shot. So, here goes nothing.

Canvassing the crime scene

Learning from scores of Sherlock adventures, the first thing to do is inspect the crime scene. In this case that would entail getting to know key facts and figures about Mr. Sheeran's life thus far. Thankfully there is this little technique called Googling that helps speed up that process.

Here are some noteworthy facts to consider:

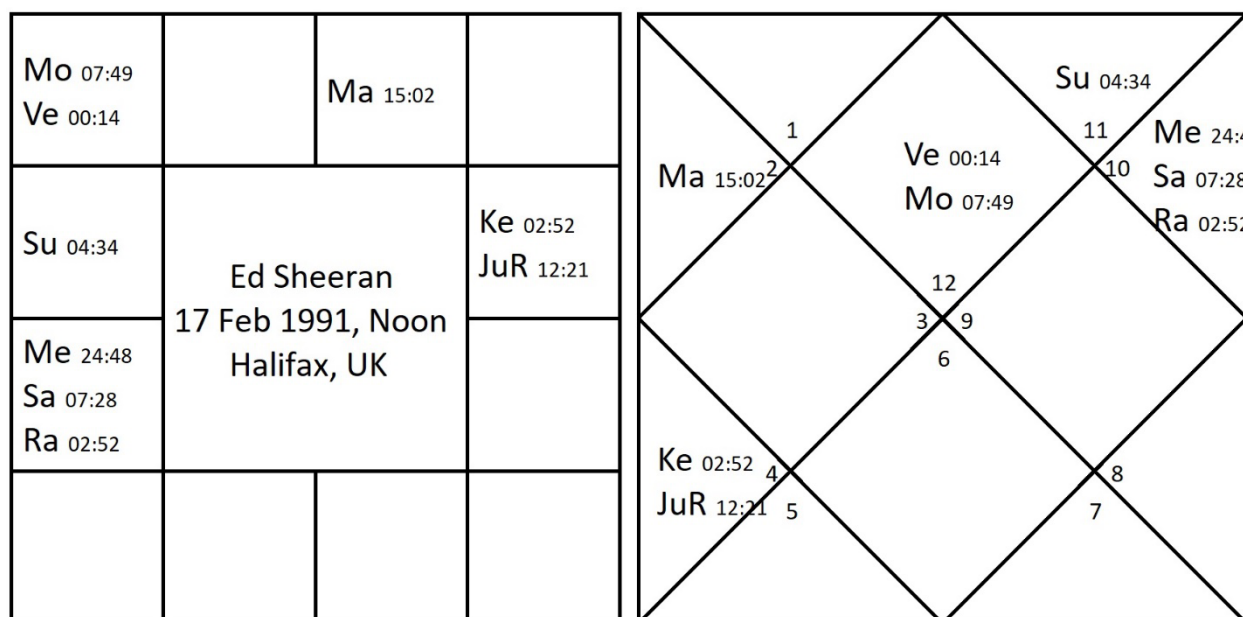
- Ed Sheeran's current estimated net worth is \$200 million.
- He occupies the #3 spot in the all-time music hall-of-fame with 14 number # 1 singles in the UK which puts him just behind the King of Pop himself, Elvis Presley (21 hits), and the legendary heartthrob boyband The Beatles (18 hits). And let's not forget that he's only 34 years old as we speak, so he might just make it to the top before he hangs up his hat.
- He has multiple songs with streaming counts in the billions, with "Shape of You" leading the way. Released 6th January 2017, it has roughly 6.5 billion views on YouTube.
- Mr. Sheeran got married in January 2019 and is blessed with two daughters Lyra and Jupiter born August 2020 and May 2022, respectively. Yes, you read that right. The younger one is called Jupiter. What are the odds, Sherlock of the Skies, running into a girl named Jupiter on his first cast?

Jotting down the clues

The next logical step would be noting down the glaring cues that would in turn help answer the million-dollar question, "Who Dunnit?". In this instance, that would mean uncovering the obvious cosmic patterns formed in the sky on the day of Ed Sheeran's birth.

Jyotiṣa Śāstra classics extol the powers that the *Candra Lagna* wields with regards to helping the *Jyotiṣi* unravel the karmic patterns encoded in a given birth chart. So, that's always a good place start for TNK (Time Not Known) charts. It is also common practice to draw up the chart for noon time. Noon is the time of the day that always falls within the perpetually blessed *Abhijeet Muhurta*, and is therefore believed to be carrying the Divine Grace that is undoubtedly needed for the otherwise humanly impossible endeavor of determining the *Lagna*.

Here's Ed Sheeran's *Candra Lagna* chart.



Clue # 1

The first unmistakable clue in this case is the Moon-Venus combo in the 10th *Bhāva*. Now remember, we don't know if this combo is really in the 10th *Bhāva* or not because we don't know what the *Lagna* is, but prominent Jaimini scholar and prolific author, Mr. Marc Boney, wrote a 50-pager on how this combo has time and again been proven to bestow fame and fortune. So, this combo configured in the 1st or 10th *Bhāva* or somehow linked to the 1st and 10th *Bhāveśas* can help us narrow down the list of ascendants.

Clue #2

The infamous *Kāla Sarpa Yoga*. Probably one of the most debated and equally misunderstood and misinterpreted Graha Yogas in *Jyotiṣa*, is formed when all the visible Grahas fall within one half of the Rahu-Ketu axis. Multi-faceted (author, teacher, practicing astrologer and palmist) Western and Vedic astrology savant, Mr. Alan Annand has a whole book, yes, a whole book just on this Yoga. So, for the those of you who are on the fence about using this clue, think again. It definitely is a force to be reckoned with. Among the multitude of concepts that he elucidates in the book, Alan also categorizes this Yoga into four broad types. According to that classification, Ed Sheeran's would be a Type 4 wherein there are *Grahas* that are conjunct Rahu and/or Ketu and at least one of those *Grahas* isn't within the Rahu-Ketu axis (RKA). In that case, Jupiter is conjunct Ketu and Saturn/Mercury are conjunct Rahu. However, only Jupiter is outside the axis. Remember, the Nodes move counter-clockwise in the Zodiac and therefore Jupiter has moved past Ketu and thereby escaped the realm of the RKA. In a contrary scenario, Rahu has moved past Saturn and Mercury, thereby engulfing them in the RKA.

Clue # 3

The *Parivartana Yoga* between Moon and Jupiter. Once again, Mr. Annand comes to our rescue. This other popular *Jyotiṣa* book penned by him provides details of any and all *Parivartana Yogas* between various *Bhāvas* and will therefore be an indispensable tool once we embark on our quest of deciphering this mystery. The *Parivartana* fortifies the *Bhāvas* involved, thereby giving extra juice to the areas of life indicated by those same *Bhāvas*.

Clue #4

Grahas with extraordinary strength. This one actually has sub-clues since there are three such *Grahas* in this case. Exalted Jupiter. Exalted Venus. *Svagrahī* (in its own sign) Saturn. The *Bhāvas* that the *Grahas* end up owning, or positioning themselves in, attain a class above the rest just by virtue of raw power that the *Grahas* bring to the table.

The CSI (Crime Scene Investigation) toolkit

Even the most brilliant of detectives, Sherlock included, need their tools to get to the bottom of the mystery. Fortunately for us *Jyotiṣis* there is a plethora of tools at our disposal, but the art is

to be able to pick the right ones to apply to the case in question. For our case in hand, here are some of the tools that will help accelerate the unfolding of the mystery.

Tool #1

Just like Sherlock and his magnifying glass, the ubiquitous tools that *Jyotiṣa* gives us are the *Lagna* and *Lagneśa*, more specifically any *Graha* placed in the *Lagna* and aspects on it as well as the strength, placement and *Graha* associations of the *Lagneśa*. Nothing noteworthy, let alone remarkable, can happen without a strong *Lagna* and *Lagneśa*. Period. The *Lagna* and *Lagneśa* are the primary beacons of the inherent potential that destiny has bestowed on the native to become “somebody” during their lifetime.

Tool #2

Next in line, but in no way less powerful, are the *Graha Yogas*. A sprinkling of a few juicy *Graha Yogas*, especially *Rāja* and *Dhana Yogas*, and presto, you have a chart with nitro booster(s) that will more likely than not fire during the *Dāsa* periods of the *Grahas* forming those Yogas, in turn launching the native into the stratospheric levels of fame and fortune.

Tool #3

Bhāvas and *Bhāveśas* that govern the skills and competencies needed to be successful in a particular field and their association with the *Lagna/Lagneśa* and/or the 10th *Bhāva* and *Bhāveśa*. The *Lagna/Lagneśa* signifies the innate aptitude that the individual is born with and the 10th *Bhava/Bhāveśa* indicates the most likely interface/framework that the individual is destined to use when interacting with the outside world.

For any singer/songwriter of Ed’s caliber and repute, the *Bhāvas* and *Bhāveśas* that would come into play are,

- 3rd *Bhāva* and *Bhāveśa*: The realm and ruler of performing arts, especially singing, with the 3rd being the 2nd from the 2nd (*Bhāvat Bhavam* principle) and the 2nd being the *Bhāva* of one’s voice and the ability to use it to express oneself.
- 5th *Bhāva* and *Bhāveśa*: This is where creativity blossoms. Creative talent, songwriting being one, would not be a possibility without a prominent 5th *Bhāva* and/or lord.

The Investigation

Crime scene inspection logs? Check. Evidences that were bagged and tagged? Check. Tools from the *Jyotiṣa* repertoire? Check. Time to put it all together in a methodical way so that we can solve the mystery we set out to decipher.

In the “Ascendant hunt” type of mystery, it entails going through each of the Zodiac signs as a potential rising sign and using deduction and elimination as a means to weed out the ones that don’t hold water until there’s only one left.

That said, what’s a mystery without a cliffhanger, the disappointment caused by the penultimate episode that eventually transforms into the build-up and craving for the nail-biting climax in the season finale. In all seriousness though, the plan wasn’t to make this a two-part

mini-series but, as the plot kept building, it only made sense not to rush the big reveal for it would have been short, abrupt and disappointing at best.

So don't forget to tune into the September episode of the ACVA newsletter. Until then, listen to the song that was the genesis of this exciting mystery, called *Sapphire*.

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Pratik Mehta is an IT professional by day but a Jyotiṣi at heart. Drawn to Jyotiṣa since his teenage years, he has always relied on it for Divine guidance and grace. He never considered studying Jyotiṣa till he got immersed into learning it by sheer happenstance at age 41, when he had his Lagneśa (Jupiter) and Saturn transiting his ascendant, which he believes brought about this destined transformation. Since then, he has been ardently pursuing the magical science with the sole intent of using it to better his life, the lives of his loved ones and anyone else that the Universe sends his way. To him, Jyotiṣa is a sadhana that brings him mental peace and emotional bliss. He can be reached at jyotishforgood2020@gmail.com.