

The Mathematics of Yogas: *Chandra-Mangala Yoga*



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As *gyotishis*, we routinely scan horoscopes for yogas. Some turn up frequently, while others are rare. Even for those which are relatively common, there are distinctions. Although the technical definition of the yoga may be fulfilled, the yoga may not deliver its promise unless its participants are robust. And therein lies the rarity...

With that in mind, let's examine one of the simplest two-*graha* yogas. *Chandra-Mangala* yoga is formed when the Moon and Mars are either associated (in the same sign) or in mutual aspect (from opposite signs). What are the odds?

If we treat Mars as stationary, and allow the Moon to circle the zodiac, we'll see that association and mutual aspect can happen only twice out of 12 signs. Therefore, the odds of finding a *Chandra-Mangala* yoga in any horoscope are $2/12 = 1/6$, or 16.67%. In other words, one out of six people will have one.

But what if we required, in order to make a prediction, that the yoga be robust, such as having Mars and/or the Moon strong by sign? Assessing the *graha avasthas* can reveal a world of difference among a variety of combinations. There are 24 distinct sign combinations for *Chandra-Mangala* yoga. Are they all equal? Let's first consider the possibilities for association:

1. Moon/Mars associated in Aries (Moon ordinary, Mars in its own)
2. Moon/Mars associated in Taurus (Moon exalted, Mars ordinary)
3. Moon/Mars associated in Cancer (Moon in its own, Mars debilitated)
4. Moon/Mars associated in Scorpio (Moon debilitated, Mars in its own)
5. Moon/Mars associated in Capricorn (Moon ordinary, Mars exalted)
6. Moon/Mars associated in all other signs (Moon and Mars both ordinary)

Of the above, #1, 2, and 5 are strongest because their combination exhibits strength without weakness. Meanwhile, #3 and 4 are intermediate because their combination exhibits both strength and weakness. The other seven combinations included in #6 are lackluster because they exhibit no strength.

But what if we wanted to find a *Chandra-Mangala* yoga wherein both *grahas* are strong? Our best prospects then lie in considering combinations involving a mutual aspect. Not all of the following combinations pass the strength test, but it's instructive to see how many do so. For example, consider these combinations:

7. Moon in Taurus, Mars in Scorpio (Moon exalted, Mars in its own)
8. Moon in Cancer, Mars in Capricorn (Moon in its own, Mars exalted)
9. Moon in Libra, Mars in Aries (Moon ordinary, Mars in its own)
10. Moon in Scorpio, Mars in Taurus (Moon debilitated, Mars ordinary)
11. Moon in Capricorn, Mars in Cancer (Moon ordinary, Mars debilitated)
12. Moon/Mars in mutual aspect between all other signs (Moon and Mars both ordinary)

Of the above, #7 and 8 are strongest because their combination exhibits dual strength. Meanwhile, #9 is moderately robust with one *graha* in strength, while #10 and 11 are weak because their combination exhibits both debilitation and ordinary condition. The other seven combinations included in #12 are simply lackluster because they exhibit neither strength nor weakness.

Via this logic, we can now determine the odds of having a powerful *Chandra-Mangala* yoga wherein both *grahas* mutually aspect each other from signs in which they are strong:

- Moon in Taurus (1/12) and Mars in Scorpio (1/12) = 1/144, or 0.69%
- Moon in Cancer (1/12) and Mars in Capricorn (1/12) = 1/144, or 0.69%

From this, we can see that, whereas the formation of a rudimentary *Chandra-Mangala* yoga is relatively common (16.67%), the appearance of one in which both planets are strong by sign is quite rare ($2 \times 0.69\%$), or 1.39%.

For an example of a powerful *Chandra-Mangala* yoga, see the horoscope of Queen Elizabeth II below, wherein the Moon is *swa-rashi* while in mutual aspect with an exalted Mars:

Me 11:50	Su 07:22		Ra 27:39
Ve 21:07	Queen Elizabeth II		Mo 19:17
Ju 29:41 Ma 28:02			
As 28:37 Ke 27:39	SaR 01:37		

Ma 28:02		SaR 01:37
Ju 29:41 10	Ke 27:39 As 28:37	8 7
Ve 21:07 11	Me 11:50	9 12 6 3
Su 07:22 1 2	Ra 27:39	5 4
	Mo 19:17	

In conclusion it's worth noting that, aside from dwelling on sign position only, the odds of finding a strong *Chandra-Mangala* yoga in any horoscope would be modified by considering more variables. For example, positive and negative *avasthas* also arise under other situations, eg, new moon, full moon, lunar eclipse, combustion, planetary war, *dig bala*, and the retrogression of Mars.

The point of this exercise was simply to demonstrate the difference between the basic formation of a yoga versus one that is strong. Thus, we can see that *yoga vichara* has the capacity to make great distinctions between yogas of the same class.

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