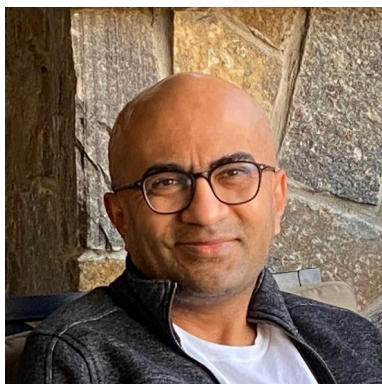


ACVA Newsletter 2025-09 – Technical article



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Sherlock of the Skies discovers Ed Sheeran (Part 2)

In Part 1 of this mini-series, we made a note of the Graha configurations (clues) in Ed Sheeran's chart that pop out at us as soon we look at it. We also made a note of his major life events and, last but not least, identified the specific tools from the otherwise formidable Jyotiṣa toolkit that would be most effective in discovering his rising sign/Lagna. In this second and concluding part, we'll try and do just that.

However, this undoubtedly naïve attempt at condensing a Harry Porter multi-volume saga into an Edgar Allan Poe short story can be bit of a freefall, so hold onto your Jyotiṣa hats! In the interest of brevity and practicality, the various charts used in the following analysis (especially in Step # 1) haven't been reproduced here, but you need only use your favorite software to generate the required charts.

The following process for Ed Sheeran's chart can be used as a template for resolving other time-unknown charts. But since this template is not exhaustive, ideally it should be augmented with additional steps for a more thorough analysis and conclusion.

Step 1: Sleigh ride around the Zodiac

Starting with the Lagna (rising sign) at 12.00 am on his DOB (17th Feb 1991) and progressing through each rising sign till we reach 11.59 pm, we examine the condition of the Lagneśa (ruler of the ascendant) for each Lagna. The condition of the Lagneśa for each Lagna is in turn evaluated based on its strength/weakness and Bhāva placement.

The Lagneśa is strong when exalted, in its own sign and/or retrograde, and/or with Digbala. A Graha is considered weak when debilitated, combust, or in planetary war. In all other conditions it's considered ordinary i.e. neither strong nor weak.

The Lagneśa is unfavorably placed when in the 3rd, 6th, 8th or 12th Bhāvas. All other Bhāva placements are favorable.

A strong and well-placed Lagneśa in turn puts its respective Lagna (rising sign) at the top of the heap for further analysis.

<i>Time</i>	<i>Lagna</i>	<i>Lagneśa position</i>	<i>Lagneśa condition</i>	<i>Analyze further?</i>
12.00 am	Libra	Favorable	Ordinary	No
2.00 am	Scorpio	Favorable	Ordinary	No
5.00 am	Sagittarius	Unfavorable	Exalted	No
7.00 am	Capricorn	Favorable	Own sign	Yes
8.00 am	Aquarius	Unfavorable	Own sign	No
8.30 am	Pisces	Favorable	Exalted	Yes
9.00 am	Aries	Favorable	Ordinary	No
10.00 am	Taurus	Favorable	Exalted	Yes
12.00 pm	Gemini	Unfavorable	Ordinary	No
2:00 pm	Cancer	Favorable	Ordinary	No
5:00 pm	Leo	Favorable	Ordinary	No
8:00 pm	Virgo	Favorable	Ordinary	No

The above analysis puts Capricorn, Pisces and Taurus as the top contenders for Lagna. The “also runs” shouldn’t be discarded right off the bat. If, during the course of further analysis, the top contenders get disqualified for one reason or another, the other Lagnas would need to be examined.

Step 2: Matching up key life events

As a next step we can use key life events to further narrow down potential Lagnas. In Part 1, we had made note of the following life events in Ed. Sheeran’s life:

- Married in January 2019.
- First daughter (Lyra) born in August 2020.
- Second daughter (Jupiter) born in May 2022.

Marriage is a potential event when the Daśā and/or Bhukti lord,

- Own the 7th Bhāva,
- Are placed in the 7th Bhāva

- Are linked (via association, mutual aspect or sign exchange) with the 7th Bhāveśa
- Aspect the 7th Bhāva
- Is the Naisargika Karaka (natural significator) for marriage i.e. Venus

That said, let's examine our top contenders to see how they fare in terms of the respective Daśā-Bhukti lord being indicative of Sheeran tying the knot in January of 2019. The table below summarizes the findings.

<i>Ascendant</i>	<i>Dasha-Bhukti</i>	<i>Owns 7th</i>	<i>Occupies 7th</i>	<i>Linked with 7th Lord</i>	<i>Aspects the 7th</i>	<i>Karaka?</i>
Capricorn	Me-Ra	No	No	No	Yes	No
Pisces	Me-Ju	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Taurus	Me-Ju	No	No	No	Yes	No

A similar analysis can be applied to the birth of his first daughter Lyra (Aug 2020):

<i>Ascendant</i>	<i>Dasha-Bhukti</i>	<i>Owns 5th</i>	<i>Occupies 5th</i>	<i>Linked with 5th lord</i>	<i>Aspects the 5th</i>	<i>Karaka?</i>
Capricorn	Me-Ju	No	No	No	No	Yes
Pisces	Me-Ju	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Taurus	Me-Sa	Yes	No	Yes	No	No

Likewise, the birth of his second daughter Jupiter (May 2022)

<i>Ascendant</i>	<i>Dasha-Bhukti</i>	<i>Owns 5th</i>	<i>Occupies 5th</i>	<i>Linked with 5th lord</i>	<i>Aspects the 5th</i>	<i>Karaka?</i>
Capricorn	Me-Sa	No	No	No	No	No
Pisces	Me-Sa	No	No	No	Yes	No
Taurus	Ke-Ke	N/A	No	Yes	N/A	Yes

The positives vs negatives shown above clearly put Capricorn out of the running, leaving Pisces and Taurus in the race.

Step 3: Screening for career markers

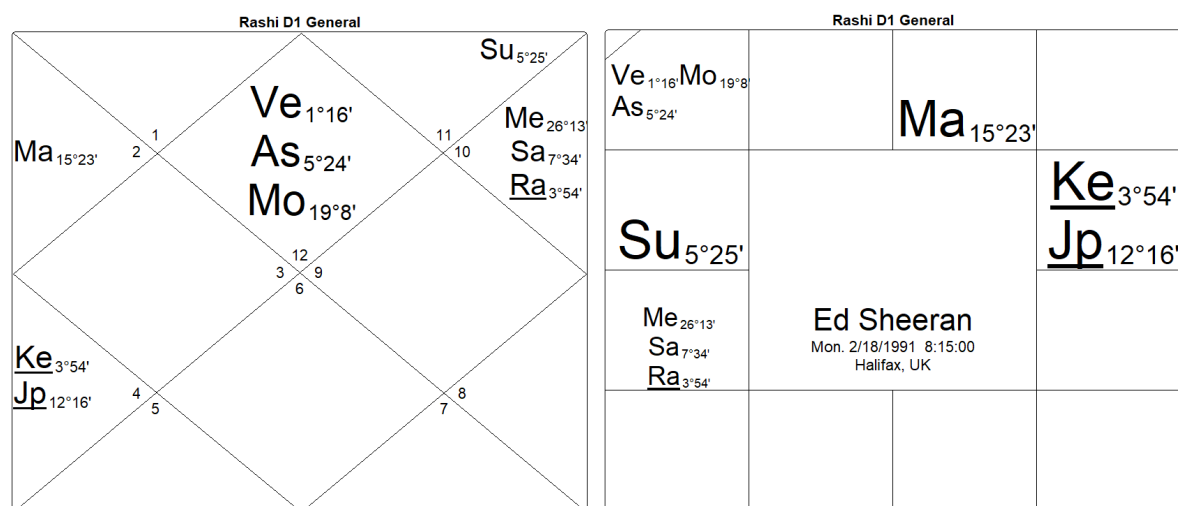
Careers are primarily driven by one's innate inclination and abilities (1st Bhāva and Bhāveśa) and the way one brings those abilities to bear in their worldly interactions (10th Bhāva and Bhāveśa). The intermingling of these two drivers with the other Bhāvas and Bhāveśas is what shapes and colors one's career for a given lifetime.

Therefore, our next step is to run the relevant career markers through a filter to see which of the remaining contenders remains viable. In this case, the “pop-star filter” would consist of the following:

1. Activation of the 2nd Bhāva for singing.
2. Activation of the 3rd Bhāva for performing arts (3rd also is indicative of singing by way of the Bhāvat Bhāvam principle since it is 2nd from the 2nd).
3. Activation of the 11th Bhāva for fame and recognition.

Additionally, since Sheeran composes his own songs, we should also add the 5th Bhāva of creativity.

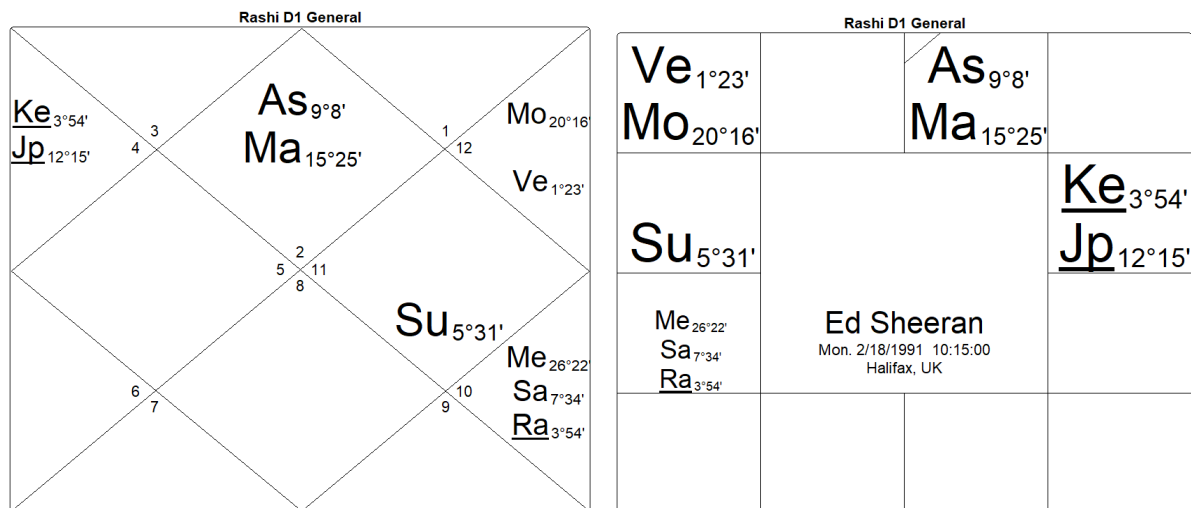
Now consider his horoscope with a Pisces Lagna:



- The 3rd lord Venus is exalted in the Lagna and is with the 5th lord Moon. Also, there’s a Parivartana (exchange) Yoga between the 1st and 5th Bhāvas.
- The 1st and 10th lord Jupiter forms an association with Venus and Moon by way its 9th aspect on its own sign. Normally a one-way aspect wouldn’t be considered a link but in this case the Grahas in Pisces (Moon and Venus) are aspected by their sign-lord thereby forming *sambandha*, a special bond.
- Additionally, Jupiter is in mutual aspect with a strong 11th lord Saturn.

The Pisces Lagna thus fulfills all the criteria of the “pop-star” paradigm, albeit without the involvement of the 2nd Bhāva and lord. However, the strong and well-placed 2nd lord Mars carries the day by way of the Bhāvat Bhāvam principle.

And then we must assess his horoscope with a Pisces Lagna:



- The exalted 1st lord Venus is with the Moon, the lord of the 3rd.
- The 11th lord Jupiter forms *sambandha* with the 1st and 3rd lords by its 9th aspect.
- The 2nd and 5th lord Mercury is with a strong 10th lord Saturn.

The Taurus Lagna is thus missing the quintessential link between the 3rd and the 10th, as well as the 1st and 10th. Therefore, we might speculate that if Sheeran were a Taurus rising, he could have had all the talent in the world but not seen it pay off in a spectacular career. Consequently, we now have our proverbial last man standing – Pisces rising.

Step 4: Yogas that produce adrenaline for the final burst

The Pisces Lagna also has the following qualifications by way of Yogas, those patterns that indicate a level of karmic fruition above the baseline of average achievement.

- The Dharma Karma Adhipati (Raja Yogas) formed by Jupiter and Mercury. Jupiter as Trikoṇa (1st) lord and Mercury as Kendras (4th and 10th) lord gives rise to two Raja Yoga i.e. 1-4 and 1-10.
- The strong Dhana Yoga formed by exalted Lagneśa (Jupiter) and a Sva Rāśi 11th lord (Saturn).
- Kāhala Yoga formed by way of the dispositor (Jupiter) of the dispositor (Moon) of the Lagneśa (Jupiter) being in its own or exalted sign in a Kendra or Kona. This Yoga among other things bestows unparalleled fame and success on the native.
- Sarasvati Yoga by way of Jupiter, Venus and Mercury being in Kendras or Koṇas or the 2nd or 11th Bhāva. In this case, not only is the condition met but Jupiter and Venus are exalted giving the Yoga lots of juice. Goddess Sarasvati is revered as the supreme Mother of the arts and intellect. (In many ways, this is the outstanding yoga that elevates the Pisces Lagna horoscope over the Taurus Lagna).

In conclusion, however brief and over-simplified this process might seem, the intent was not to produce a bullet-proof rectification. Rather, the goal was to stimulate some interest among

budding Jyotiṣis in applying a similar process to their favorite celebrities, thus making their practice of astrology both instructive and fun.

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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.