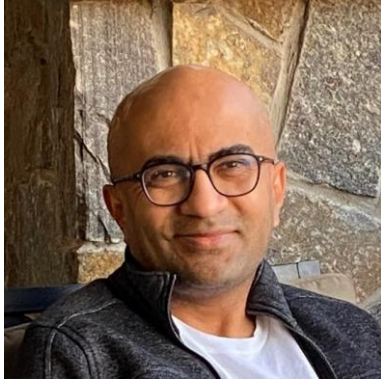


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Navatārā cakra – Part 2

Now that we've seen how the Navatārā Cakra builds on top of the Vimśottarī Dasa and how we can apply it to natal chart interpretation, let's talk about the cherries on top of the Navatārā cake. We briefly touched upon them in the last article by way of listing their names. Over the next couple of months, we'll examine their meanings and significations as well as the interpretative bells and whistles they add to the Navatārā Cakra. As we'll see, the nine Tārās can be used to add additional hues to the interpretation of a chart's static potential and its Daśās as well as be leveraged for Muhūrta, transits and compatibility purposes.

Let's begin with getting to know the Navatārās a little better, numbered here in sequence:

(1) Janma (जन्म) Tārās

Meaning: Janma means birth. By extension, it also indicates initiations, new beginnings and the like.

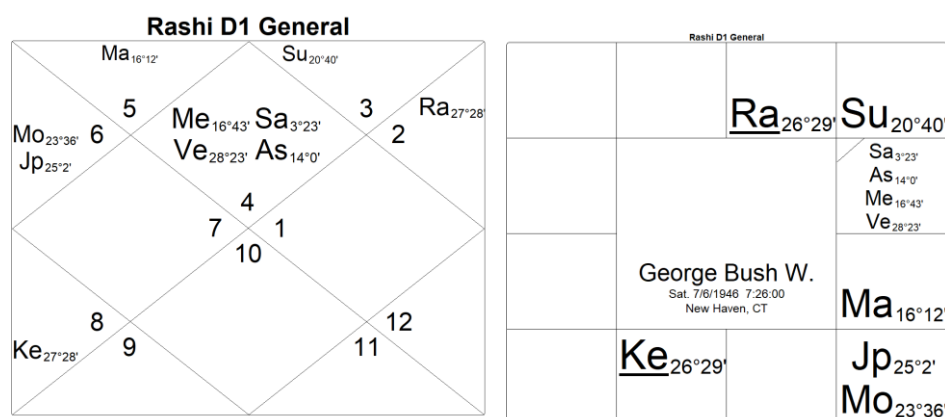
Significance: Janma Tārā is the Nakṣatra wherein the Moon is posited at the time of one's birth and is more commonly referred to as the Janma Nakṣatra. In Jyotiṣa, the Moon's Nakṣatra is the centrifugal force that governs the soul's current incarnation as well as the events and experiences it's meant to undergo in each lifetime. The Moon being representative of the Manas i.e. the innate Self, fully imbues the hues and colors of the Janma Tārā. And as seen previously, it also determines the Vimśottarī Daśā sequence. It's no surprise then that it becomes the starting point of the Navatārā cakra.

You would recall from last month's article, that each of the Tārās are a triad. For all Navatārās other than the Janma Tārās, a given triad is identified by a single name as we shall see starting with the second Navatārā. The Janma Tārās are the exception to the rule where in each of the Tārās within the triad has a different name (Janma, Karma and Ādhāna respectively) but nonetheless are collectively referred to as the Janma Tārās. (Refer Jan'26 newsletter for further details).

Interpretation: The Janma Tārā determines the starting point of the Vimśottarī Dasa and therefore governs the sequence in which the events will unfold in a native's lifetime, as we illustrated with Bruce Springsteen's example last month. What we didn't allude to is that the Mahadaśā period of the Janma Tārā ruler is considered a mixed bag when it comes to benefic and malefic experiences. It's like the storming, forming and norming phase of one's lifetime. As is evidenced by various scientific studies and our own firsthand experiences, childhood impressions greatly shape who we are, and most if not all those impressions last a lifetime.

Additionally, any Graha placed in this Tārā is very likely to have a significant impact on the native since it influences the very impressionable Moon (Manas) in the very formative years.

Let's consider the chart of the 43rd President of the United States, George W. Bush.



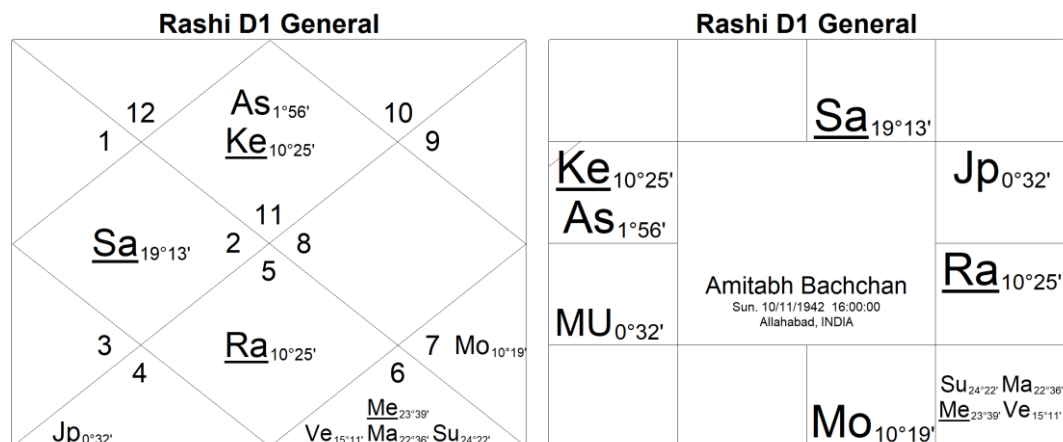
Mr. Bush was born with his in Moon in Citra Nakṣatra. Citra starts at 23°20' of Virgo and ends at 6°40' of Libra. Mr. Bush's Moon at 23°36' of Virgo is almost at the very beginning of Citra which means he experienced almost the full seven years that Mars (Citra's Vimśottarī Daśā ruler) had to offer. Citra is in his 3rd house and contains the 6th and 9th lord Jupiter along with the Moon which in this case is the Lagneśa. During the Mars Mahadaśā period influenced by Citra (i.e. first 3rd of the Mars Dasa), Mr. Bush's father moved the family to Texas to begin his career in the oil industry, clearly showing the influence of 9th lord (9th being the house of the father) on Mr. Bush's life. The fact that the Citra is in the 3rd indicates the shifting of residences for Mr. Bush (Moon being Lagneśa in Citra), the 3rd house being the 12th house of loss / transformation from the 4th house of homes / residences.

(2) Sampad (सम्पद्) Tārās

Meaning: The word Sampad encapsulates anything and everything pertaining to materialistic progress i.e. money, property, assets, success, glory, abundance, etc.

Significance: This is the second set of Nakṣatras from the Moon's Nakṣatra at birth. The Nakṣatra's ruler and Grahas placed in this Nakṣatra are facilitators of material progress and well-being for the native. Unlike the Janma Tārās the Sampad Tārās (i.e. Sampad, Karma Sampad and Ādhāna Sampad) and their ruler are considered fully benefic with regards to the results they deliver during their periods. In addition to favorable time periods, the Sampad Tārās and their placements, especially the Karma Sampad Tārā, can provide valuable insights into favorable career paths for the native.

Interpretation: Let's look at Bollywood superstar Amitabh Bachchan's chart for a moment.



He was born with his Moon in Svāti Nakṣatra, thereby making all of Rahu's Nakṣatras his Janma Tārās. Jupiter follows Rahu in the Vimśottarī Dasa system and hence all of Jupiter's Nakṣatras (Viśākhā, Pūrva Bhādrapada, Purnarvāsu) become Sampad Tārās for Mr. Bachchan. Therefore, the Jupiter Mahadaśā should have played out in his life with an overarching sense of beneficence. Let's validate.

It was towards the end of his Jupiter Mahadaśā (3rd half) when he made his acting debut in the movie *Saat Hindustani* (1969). 1970 is when he won the prestigious National Film Award Best Newcomer award and 1971 saw him deliver his first Bollywood blockbuster movie *Anand* alongside then superstar Rajesh Khanna. All these milestones were just flagbearers to what has since turned out to be a Cinderella story of unrivalled stardom and popularity.

His exalted Jupiter unequivocally delivered results of its three Nakṣatras placed in the 1st/2nd, 5th/6th and 9th/10th houses. In this case, Jupiter as a natural benefic owning two positive Bhāvas (2nd and 11th) also happens to be a Sampad Tārā thereby making it an all-round benefic that delivered results like a fairy tale. We always look for consensus in Jyotiṣa. It seldom looks much better than this.

(3) Vipad (विपद्) Tārās

Meaning: Vipad is just the opposite of Sampad. It encapsulates all that can go wrong from a native's perspective. Adversity, accidents, failures, losses, ill-health and any other misfortune.

Significance: This is the third set of Nakṣatras from the Moon's natal position. As is obvious from the meanings, these Tārās tend to be challenging at best and malefic at worst during their ruler's Mahadaśā period. The Vipad Tārās and their ruler test one's mettle by manifesting a series of hurdles that, once overcome, provide the native with a treasure chest of experiences unique to them and, at the same time, deliver a corresponding boost to their self-confidence. They force us to dig deep on the inside and find the grit to keep making lemonade out of all the lemons thrown our way during the Mahadaśā period, a period of life when Nature administers its stress test specifically calibrated for each native with no option to go around it. The only options are to face the test head on or go through it kicking and screaming.

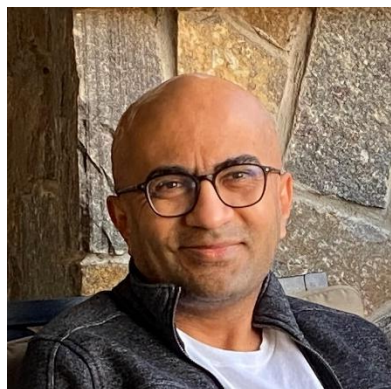
Interpretation: Just like everything else in Jyotiṣa's realm, the Tārās shouldn't be interpreted in isolation, especially the malefic ones like the Vipad Tārā. The results that the Tārās deliver should be calibrated for the innate nature of their ruling Graha, its condition and placement in the chart as well as the placement of the Tārās themselves. Continuing with Mr. Bachchan's case, Saturn is the ruler of his Vipad Tārās (Anurādhā, Uttara Bhādrapada and Puṣya). Saturn is a natural malefic but is also his Lagneśa, strong (retrograde) and well-placed. The Tārās themselves are placed in the positive 10th house, neutral 2nd house and negative 6th house.

To state the obvious, it's quite a mixed bag of positives and negatives. As can be inferred, Mr. Bachchan saw a unique concoction of results during his Saturn Mahadaśā. The first 2/3rds (ruled by the first two Vipad Tārās) went against their grain to confer a multitude of box-office hits making him the superstar that he's been since then. The positive house placement of the Tārās themselves (10th and 2nd respectively) and Saturn acting as the benefic Lagneśa are the factors that probably made that happen.

The last 3rd of the Saturn Daśā delivered the results of the 3rd Vipad Tārā (situated in the 6th) with a Saturnian flavor. He had a serious accident that resulted in a near-death experience in 1982. Soon after that, he decided to retire from cinema (we could chalk that up to the trauma from the incident) and enter politics. His political career was short-lived, and he returned to cinema towards the end of the Saturn Mahadaśā.

We'll continue to explore the rest of the Tārās in the coming months but hopefully this initial set of Tārās with examples have showcased what the Navatārā Cakra can deliver and how well it complements and, to quite an extent, supplements the predictive capabilities of the Vimśottarī Daśā system.

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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* until he became immersed in 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.