

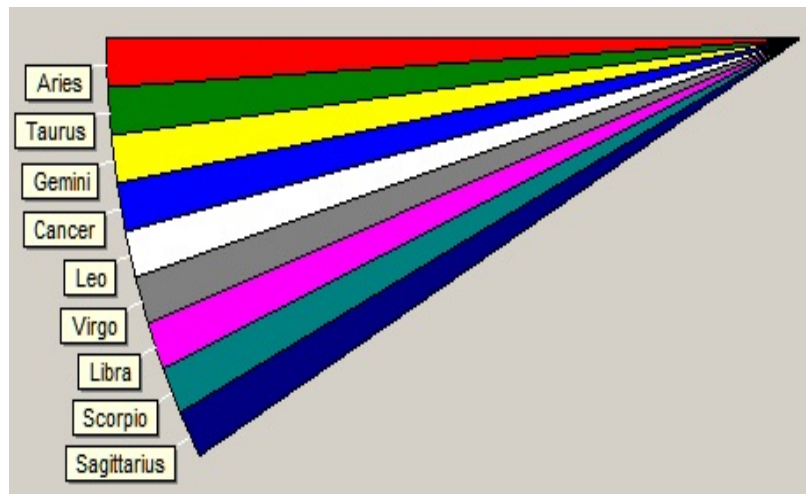
Divisional Charts

by Hank Friedman

Part One: What Are Divisional Charts?

Divisional charts are charts that are created by dividing each sign into a number of sections, and then assigning a sign to each slice, and then placing planets into a new chart based upon which sign they occupy in the section.

For example, the most important and most widely used divisional chart is called the Navamsha. Nava means nine, and so each sign is divided into nine sections.



In the above diagram, the 30° of Aries is divided into 9 sections, starting with the sign Aries itself. Each wedge is $30^\circ \div 9 = 3^\circ 20'$ of arc. For example, if any planet in a birth chart is at 4° of Aries, it will be in the Taurus slice of the 9 sections, and that planet will be placed in Taurus in the Navamsha chart.

In Vedic astrology, many divisions are used, each to indicate specific themes in a person's life.

Divisional charts are also called Varga charts, Amsha charts, sub-charts, and D-charts.

Part Two: The Most Commonly Used Divisional Charts.

1. The Navamsha D9 (9 sections) has many uses, but is most often used to indicate the events and tone of one's partner and their relationship with them.

[Reminder on the Vedic approach: if a planet is poorly placed in a divisional chart, then during its dasa, something becomes amiss. For the Navamsha, it could be that there are conflicts with the spouse, or it might mean that there is not enough time spent with the spouse, or that the

spouse is wrestling with difficulties of some sort in their own lives. In any case, the problems seldom continue during the whole dasa because once the issues are confronted and dealt with, the pattern can change.]

2. The Drekkana D3 (3 sections) is the second most important divisional chart. Its main themes are siblings and general happiness.

3. There are four divisional chart that deal with money and career. The Hora (2 sections) is not very commonly used, and we will not discuss it here.

The Chaturamsha D4 (4 sections) is used both for assessing the buying and selling of major assets (like a home) and for issues around major sums of money (e.g. inheritances, big investments, etc.)

The Dasamsha D10 (10 sections) represents the themes around career and work.

The Ekadasamsha D11 (11 sections) is a special case. It is a Tajika divisional chart (meaning it came to Vedic astrology late in the game, probably from the West) and there are very different methods of calculating it, and interpreting it, depending upon what school of astrology you subscribe to.

I was taught to use the Iyer method of calculation, and to use the D11 for two purposes:

A. To assess the flow of income in a person's life.

B. To see when and if a person is likely to receive an honor, and if so, for what. This is the only time in divisional chart analysis where each house's themes are emphasized. E.g. if a person is running the dasa of a planet in its own sign in the 5th house of the D11, they will receive honors for their discernment, mentoring, or creativity (5th house themes) **or** their child will receive an honor.

4. There are three divisional chart concerned with health. If a person is running the dasa of a planet poorly placed in all three of these charts, they should pay special heed to their health.

The Shashtamsha D6 (6 sections) and the Ashtamsha (8 sections) are both Tajika divisional charts, like the D11 mentioned above.

The Shashtamsha indicates health issues specifically, more than other divisional charts.

The Ashtamsha D8 (8 sections) indicates major challenges and crises in a person's chart, including the deaths of those close to them.

The Bhamsha D27 (27 sections) indicates general vitality, and the ability to rise to the occasion.

Note: as the number of sections increases, the need for a precise birth time does too. A D27 chart can often change if the birth time is off by a few minutes.

5. There are four "family" divisional charts: the Navamsha and Drekkana, already mentioned, and these:

The Saptamsha D7 (7 sections) indicates matters with ones children (or in the absence of progeny, the prosperity of the spouse).

The Dwadashamsha D12 (12 sections) indicates parental themes.

6. There are two "spiritual" divisional charts.

The Panchamsha D5 (5 sections) shows the inner spiritual nature and ethics.

The Vimshamsha D20 (20 sections) shows spiritual practices and affiliations.

7. The Siddhamsha D24 (24 sections) covers themes of education and training.

Part Three: Methods of Evaluating Divisional Charts.

Many Vedic astrologers interpret divisional charts using the same methods as they use in evaluating birth charts. I have been taught to evaluate divisional charts using the method introduced by Sheshadri Iyer and explicated by Hart de Fouw.

In this method, the primary emphasis is upon **dynamic analysis**, i.e. evaluating the placement of the dasa lord in each of the D-charts, and thereby determining how the theme of each D-chart will go during the planet's dasa. There are a few **static analysis** principles used in this approach too.

Part Four: Static Analysis Methods.

1. **Karaka Bhava Nashya** in D-charts. The placement of the significator of a person in the First House of the D-chart that represents the person. This is only relevant for the family divisional charts mentioned above.

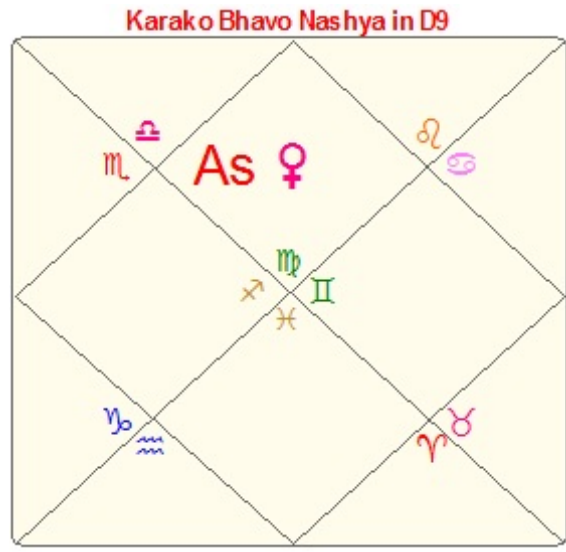
Venus in the First House in the D9 (Spouse)

Jupiter in the First House in the D7 (Child)

Either Mars or Jupiter in the First House of the D3 (Younger or older sibling, respectively)

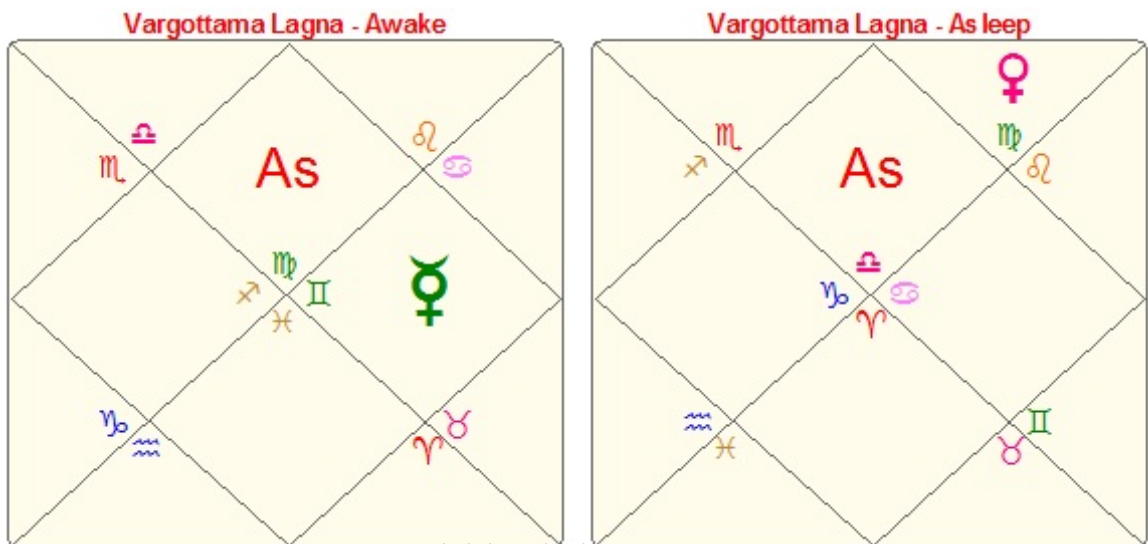
Either the Sun or the Moon in the First House of the D12 (Dad or Mom, respectively)

The principle is: if any of the above situations occur, then there will be an increased level of difficulties for the person indicated in general (although even more so during that planet's dasa). **The weaker the planet is in the relevant D-chart, the more accentuated the difficulties will be.**



2. **The D-charts First House.** The more planets that occupy or aspect a divisional chart's First House, the more active and alive the theme is. This is generally valuable.

3. **Vargottama Lagnas and the strength of the D-charts Lagnesa.** If the Ascendant in a divisional chart is in the same sign as the Ascendant of the birth chart, this is very positive for the themes of that D-chart. If the ruler of that sign is strong and in a positive house in the D-chart, much will manifest positively, while if that chart ruler is weak and in a negative, very little will result.



Part Five: Dynamic Analysis, Section One: Placement

Whether the themes of a D-chart will go well or poorly depends primarily on *the placement of the Dasa Lord in each D-chart*.

The 1st, 4th, 5th, 7th, 9th, and 10th houses are positive.

The 2nd and 11th houses are neutral (mildly positive).

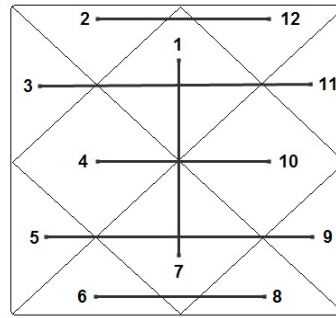
The 3rd, 6th, 8th, and 12th houses are negative.

The Moon, Mercury, Venus and Jupiter are benefics.

The Sun, Mars, Saturn, Rahu and Ketu are malefics.

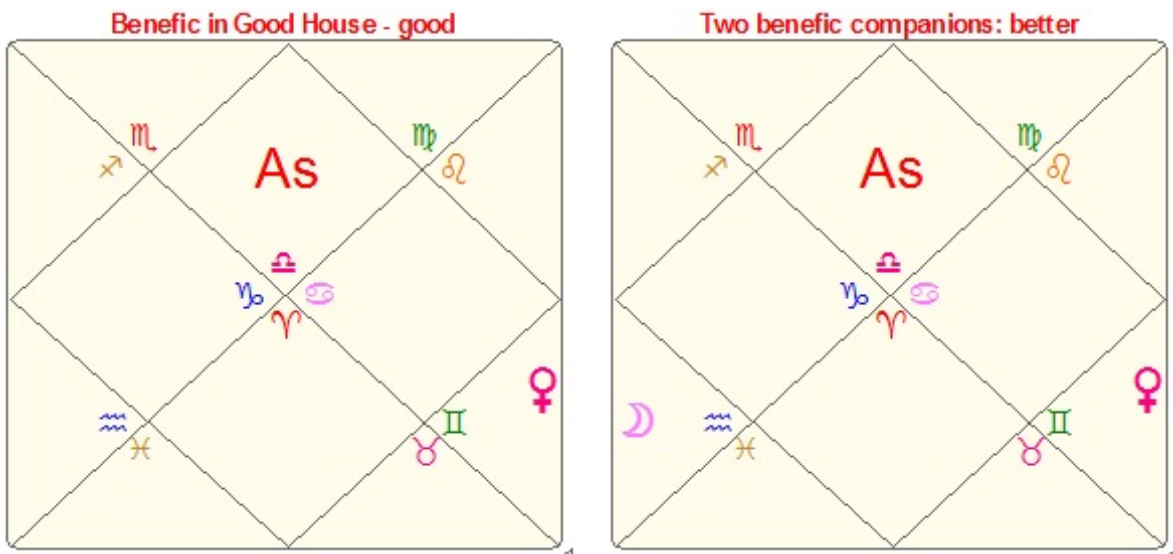
There are six pair of **companion houses**:

- 1 + 7
- 2 + 12
- 3 + 11
- 4 + 10
- 5 + 9
- 6 + 8



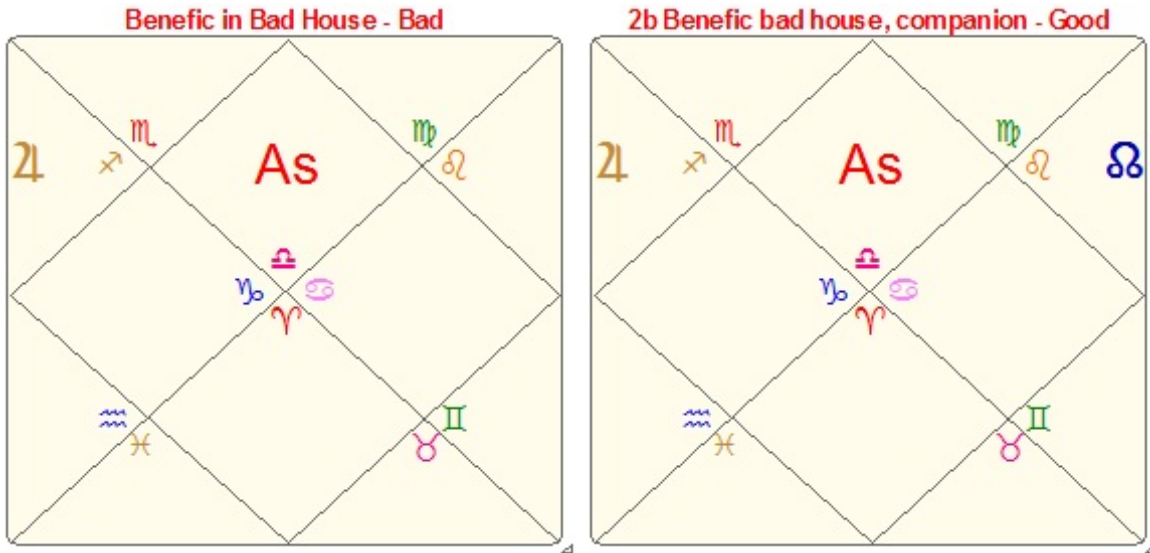
The four primary rules for assessing placement in each D-chart:

1. **If a benefic is in a positive house**, its dasa **goes well**. (If there is any planet in its companion house, it goes even better.)

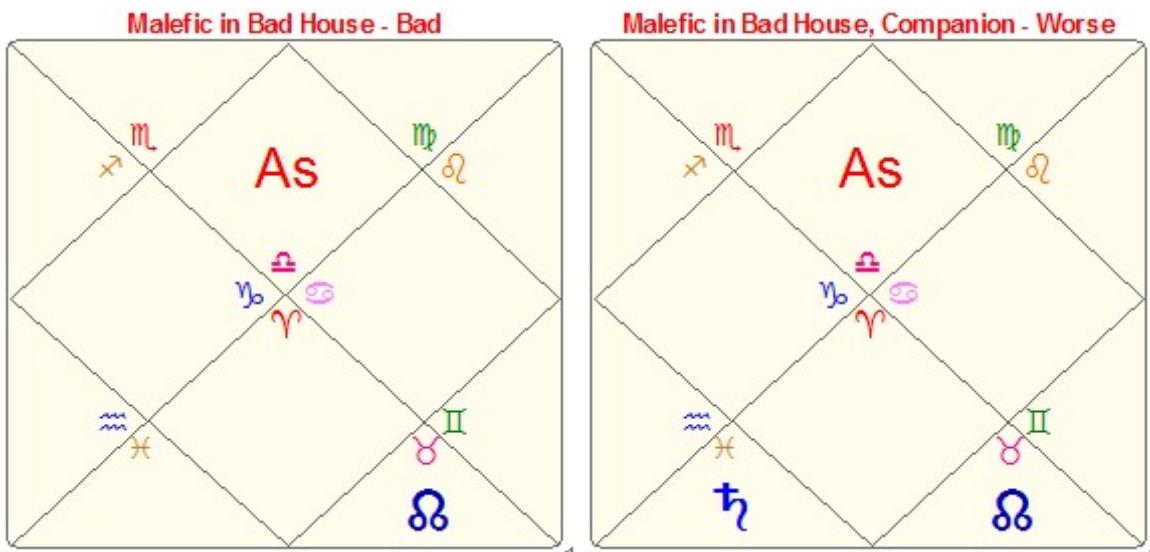


2. If a benefic is in a negative house, its dasa goes poorly

2b -- unless there is a planet in its companion house, in which case it goes well.

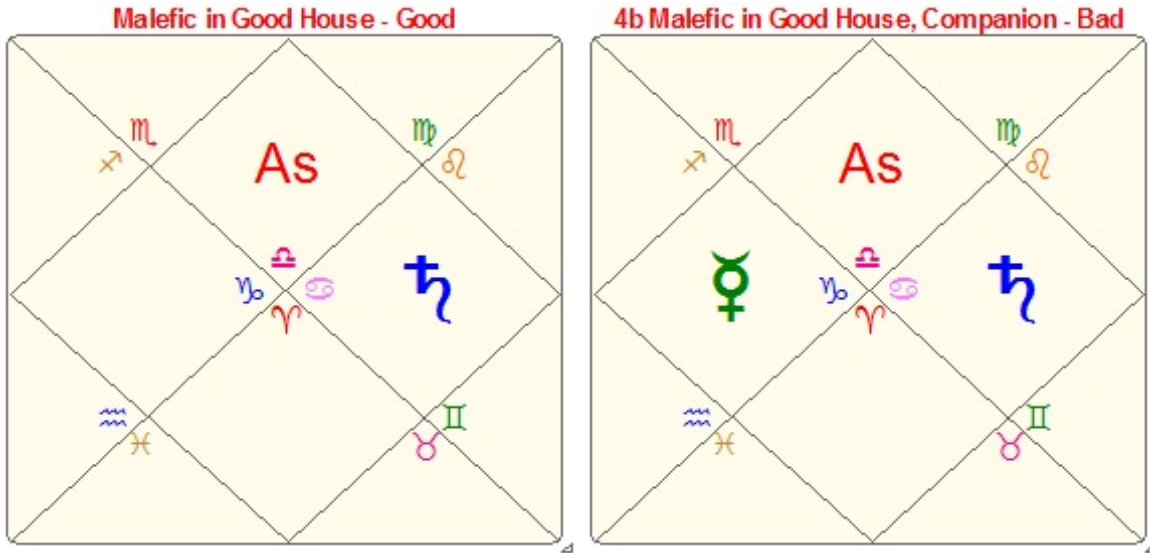


3. If a malefic is in a negative house, its dasa goes poorly. (If there is any planet in its companion house, it goes even worse.)

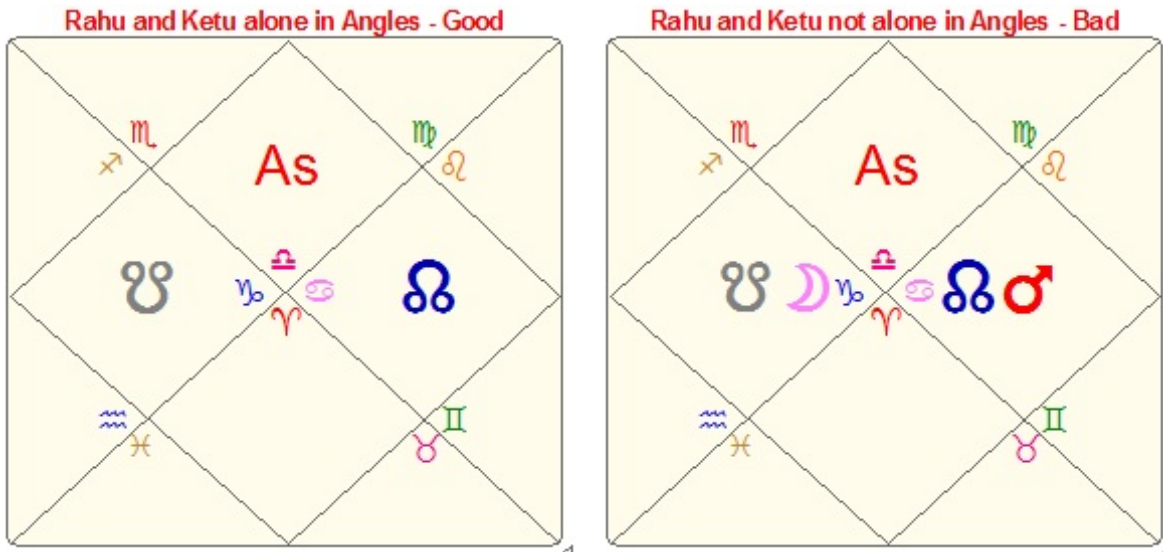


4. If a malefic is in a positive house, its dasa goes well

4b -- unless there is a planet in its companion house, in which case it goes poorly.



Note: if Rahu is in one angle opposite to Ketu, and no other planets are in either house, then both Rahu and Ketu dasas go well for the themes of the D-chart.

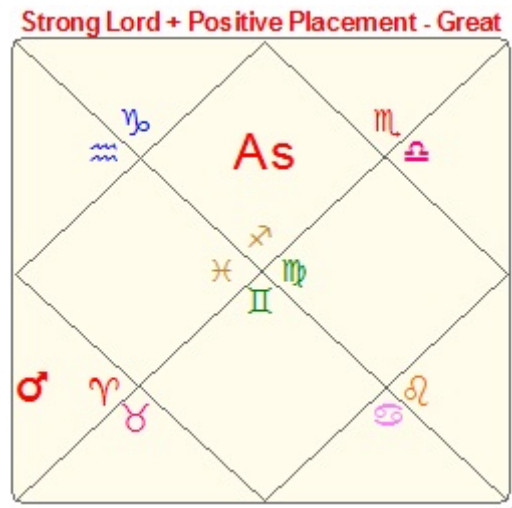


Part Five: Dynamic Analysis, Section Two: Strength

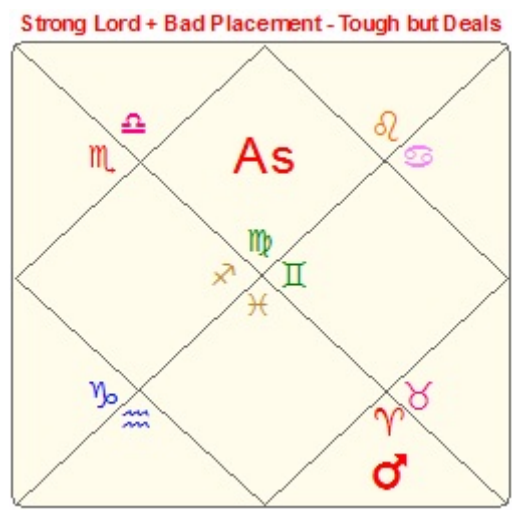
How well one deals with the themes that arise depends upon *the strength of the Dasa Lord*.

There are four possible extremes:

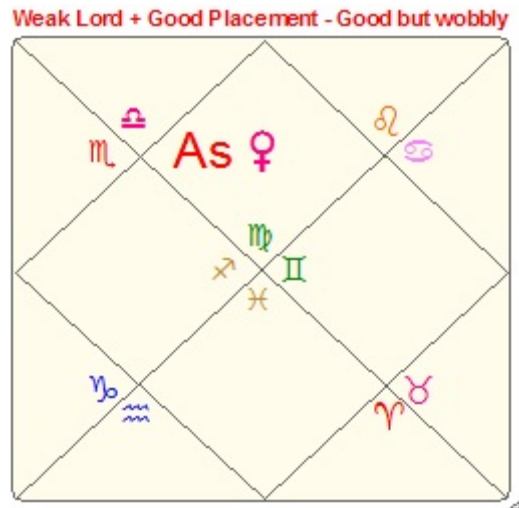
1. **Strong Lord + Positive Placement:** *Themes thrive and are made the most of.*



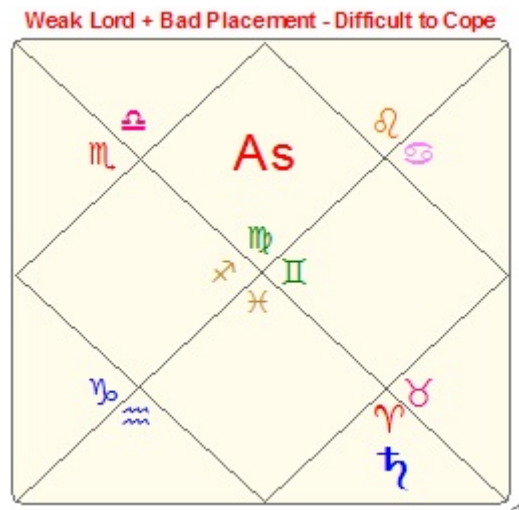
2. **Strong Lord + Negative Placement:** *Challenges arise but are well met.*



3. **Weak Lord + Positive Placement:** *Themes are good but it's hard to make the most of them.*



4. **Weak Lord + Negative Placement:** *Challenges arise and are difficult to handle.*



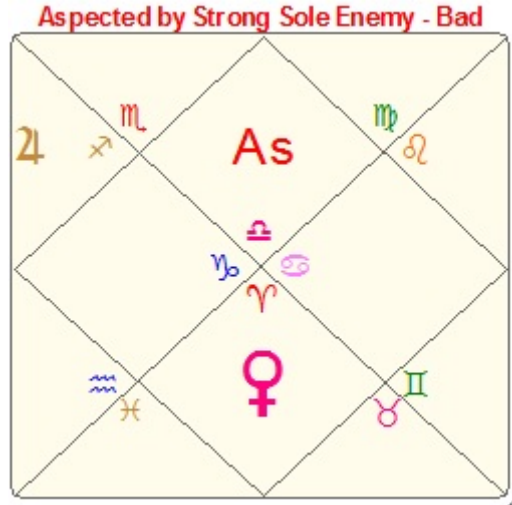
Part Six: Exceptions Modifying Good and Bad Placements

There are many exceptions that modify the assessment of positive or negative placement. It is wise to learn them gradually. We will review the most important exceptions and modifying influences.

A. Frequent Exceptions:

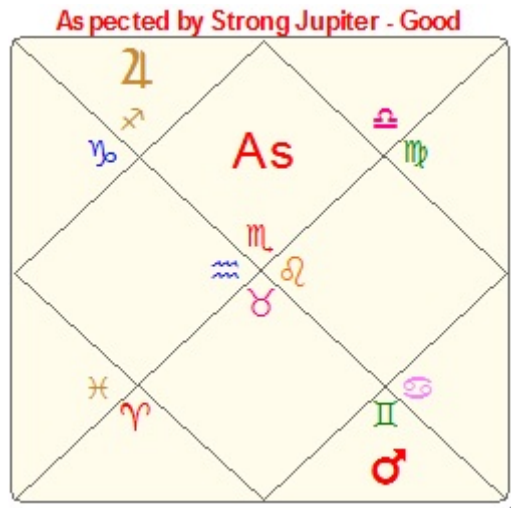
1. **Sole Enemies.** If a planet is in the same house as, or aspected by, its sole enemy, *and if that sole enemy is strong*, then during the planet's dasa the themes indicated will be detrimented.

- ♃ Jupiter is the sole enemy of Venus ♀
- ♄ Saturn is the sole enemy of the Sun ☉
- ♿ Mercury is the sole enemy of the Moon ☾
- ♁ Ketu is the sole enemy of Mars ♂
- ♀ Venus is the sole enemy of Rahu ♃
- ☉ The Sun is the sole enemy of Jupiter ♃
- ☾ The Moon is the sole enemy of Saturn ♄



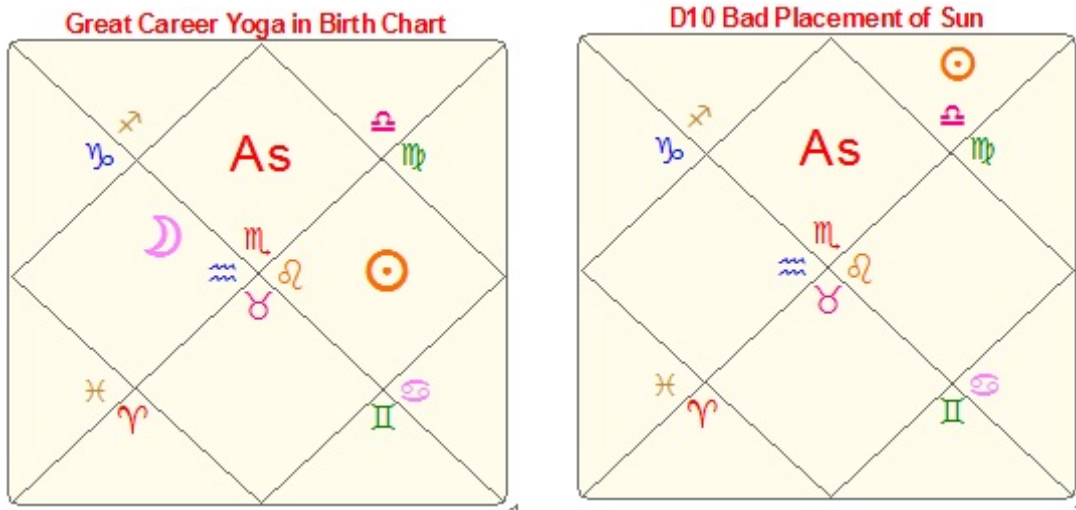
A way to remember: the enemy of a planet is always the one five planets down in the dasa listing.

2. **The redeemer.** For all planets except Venus, if Jupiter is strong and is in the same house as or aspects the dasa lord, it helps greatly to ameliorate its bad placement. If a strong Venus and strong Mercury **or** strong Venus and strong Moon aspect the dasa lord, they can also ameliorate its bad placement.



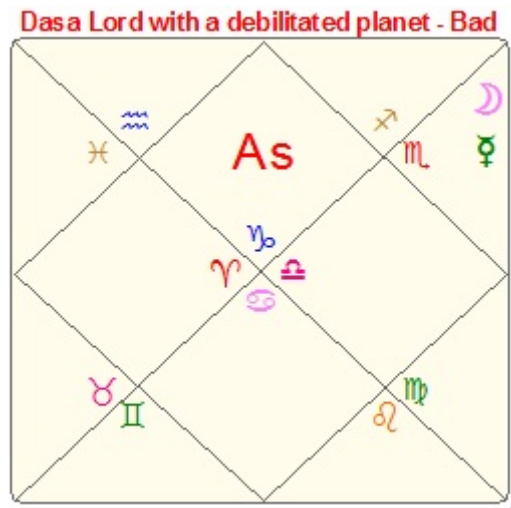
3. **Yogas in the Birth Chart.** When one or more yogas, representing a specific area of life or life theme (e.g. success in career) are present in the birth chart and are formed by one or more strong planets then the yogas can supercede divisional chart evaluations for that theme.

E.g. If someone has one or more strong yogas in the 10th house, then even when they run the dasa of a planet poorly placed in their D10 chart, the career may in fact prosper.



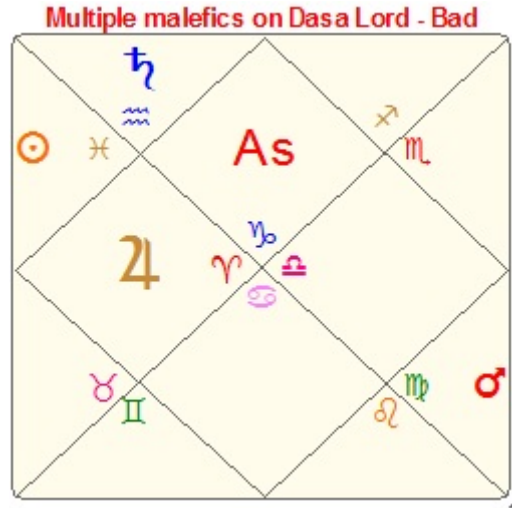
In the above example, the Sun dasa goes well for career. Note: in the birth chart, the Sun is in its own sign and with dig bala and Moon is Full and has dig bala, and together they form a great Raja Yoga of the lord of the 9th house with the lord of the 10th house, and the Sun is in the 10th house and also a karaka of success in career.

4. **The influence of a debilitated planet upon the dasa lord.** If the dasa lord is in the same house or aspected by a planet in its sign of debilitation, then the themes of the D-chart during that dasa become disrupted, especially during the bhukti of the debilitated planet.



5. The influence of multiple malefics on the dasa lord.

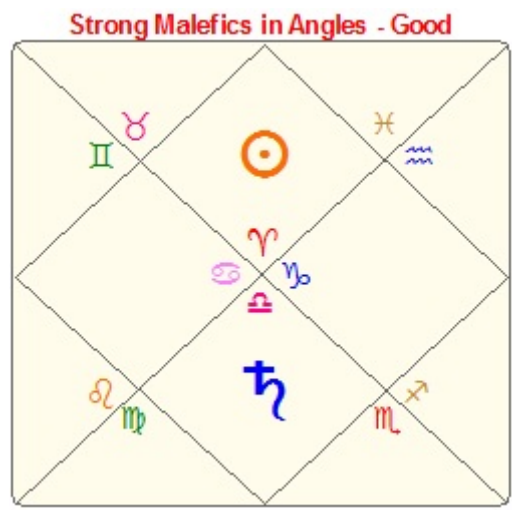
If two or more strong malefics aspect the dasa lord, the themes of the D-chart become more challenged. If the sole enemy also participates, even more difficulties occur.



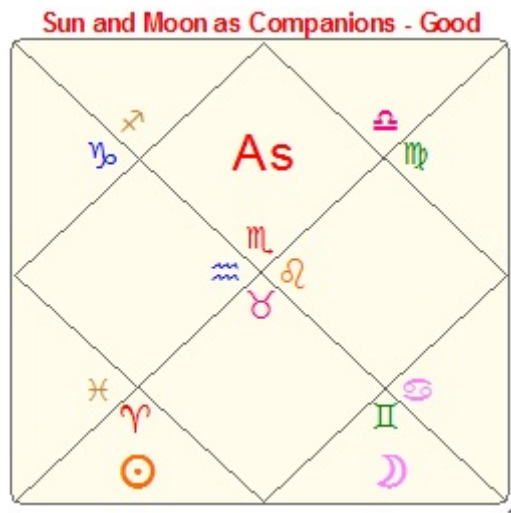
Note: in the above example, Mars is retrograde and aspect Jupiter with its 8th aspect.

B. Less Common Exceptions:

1. **Strong Malefics in Opposite Angles.** If Saturn in Libra is opposite Mars in Aries, or if Saturn in Libra is opposite the Sun in Aries, or if Saturn in Aquarius is opposite the Sun in Leo, *and the pair is occupying either the First and Seventh houses, or the Fourth and Tenth houses*, the dasas of both planets go well for the themes of the D-chart.

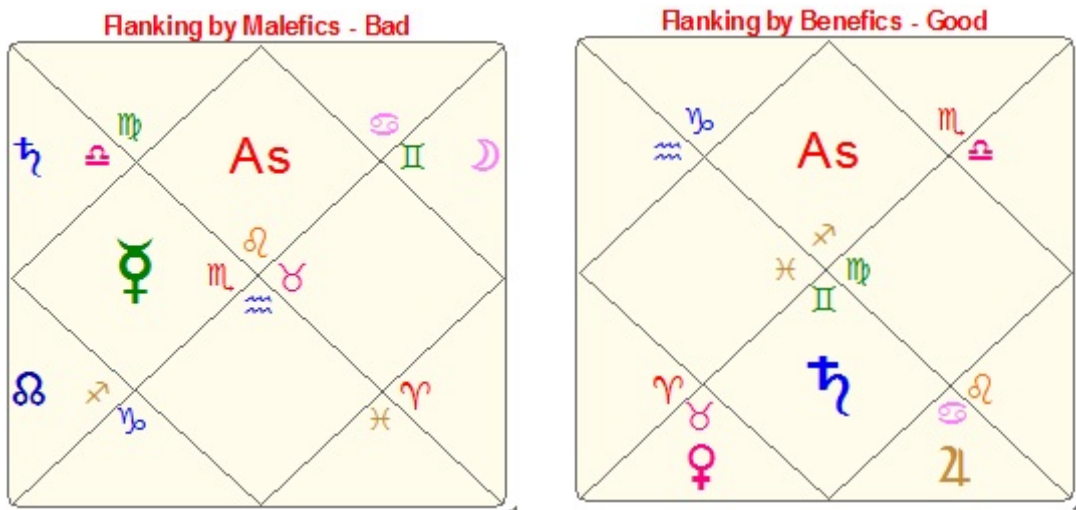


2. **The Sun and Moon.** If the Sun occupies the companion house of the Moon and no other planets are in either house, both dasas go well for the themes of the D-chart.

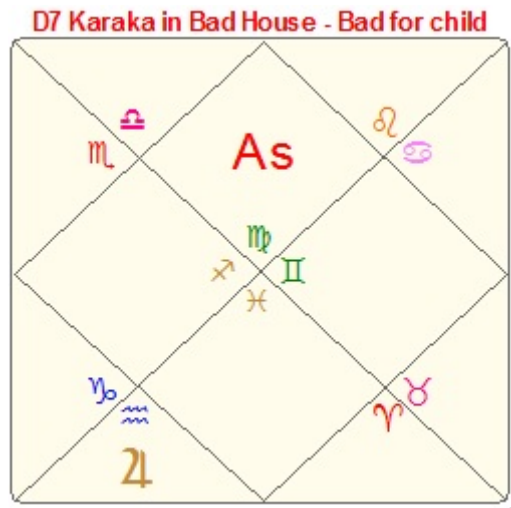


3. **Strong Mars in the 6th house.** If Mars is in its own sign or exalted and in the 6th house of a D-chart (and there are no planets in the 8th house), then the Mars dasa goes well (because Mars aspects the Ascendant from the 6th house).

4. **Flanking by Malefics or Benefics.** If the house occupied by the dasa lord is flanked on both sides **only** by malefics, the themes of the D-chart for that dasa are detrimented. On the other hand, if the house occupied by the dasa lord is flanked on both sides **only** by benefics, the themes of the D-chart for that dasa are enhanced.

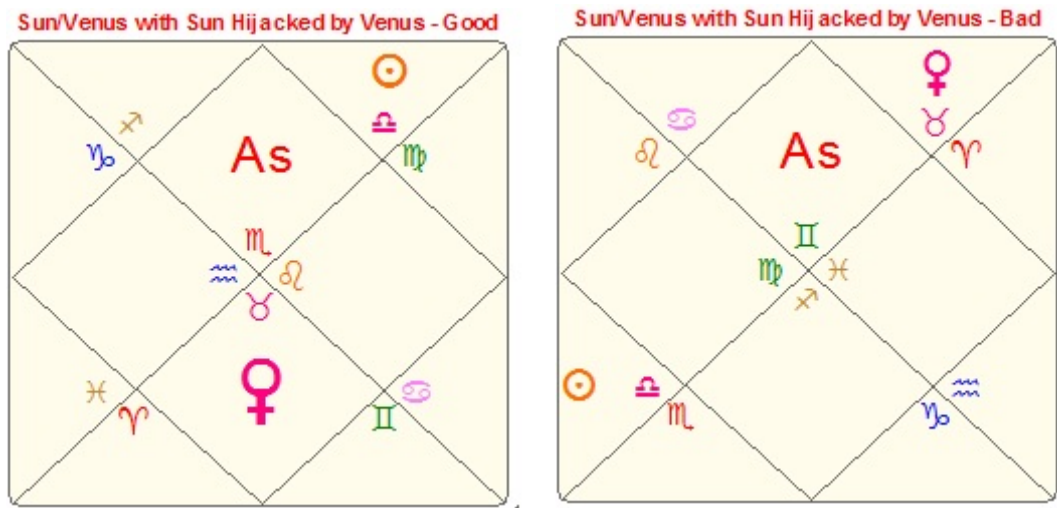


5. **Karakas in Bhavas.** If the significator of a person is in a bad house in a relevant D-chart, this detracts the themes for that person during the planet's dasa. E.g. in the D9 when running the Venus dasa, if Venus is in the 3rd or 8th house (the two houses of endings) *and there is no planet in the companion house*, the end of a relationship is more likely because Venus is the significator (karaka) of relationship. If Jupiter is in a bad house (3, 6, 8, or 12) in the D3 chart *and there is no planet in the companion house*, then there will be serious problems in the lives of one or more older siblings, especially during the Jupiter dasa.



If the Moon is in the 3rd or 8th house in the D8, one's mother or a significant female might die, and similarly with the Sun for the father or important men, in either of these houses in the D8.

6. **Hijacking.** In general, the dasa lord's placement counts for much more than the bhukti lord's placement. However, if the dasa lord occupies the sign or nakshatra ruled by the bhukti lord or is unilaterally aspected by the bhukti lord, then the bhukti lord's placement can take precedence over the dasa lord's placement. This is especially true if the bhukti lord is stronger than the dasa lord.



7. Weaknesses and Strengths that Travel from Natal to D-Charts.

If: 1. The Moon is Dark (within 72 degrees of the Sun) or

2. If a true planet is the loser of a planetary war or

3. If a planet is combust (within 6 degrees of the Sun, but especially within 3 degrees of the Sun),

Then that planet's weakness affects its performance negatively in all D-charts.

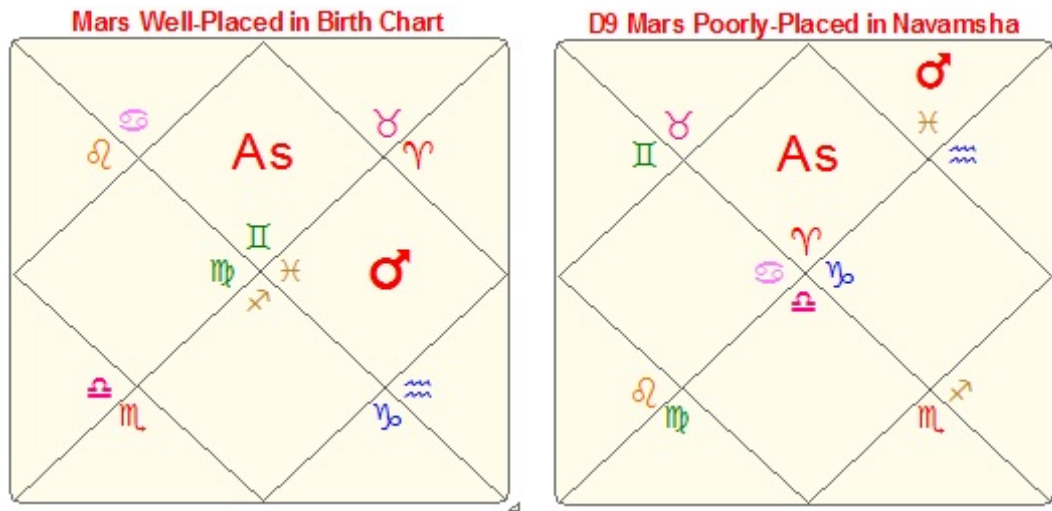
If a planet is in the same sign (except its debilitation sign) in the birth chart **and** in the D-chart, it becomes very strong (vargottama).

If a planet is retrograde or the Moon is Bright (within one sign of opposite to the Sun in the natal chart), during its dasa, its strength carries through to all of the D-charts.

As mentioned earlier, a strong planet copes better and a weak planet copes worse.

Part Seven: Synthesizing birth chart and divisional charts placements

In general, **for the themes specified by each D-chart, the D-chart placement takes precedence over the birth chart positions.** E.g. if a dasa lord is nicely placed in the birth chart, but poorly placed in the D9, then relationship will be problematic during its dasa. **See charts below.**



Remember, if the dasa lord is strong in the natal chart **and** participates in yogas therein related to the theme of a D-chart, things will go well even if placed poorly in the D-chart.

If a dasa lord is well placed in both charts, themes go very well, and if poorly placed in both charts, themes go very poorly.

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