1. Hora, The Least Understood Divisional Chart

Hora is the divisional chart in Vedic Astrology, used for assessing the financial standing of the subject. The first half of odd signs and second half of the even signs, have the Hora of the Sun, whereas the second half of odd signs and first half of even signs have the Hora of the Moon.

Currently Hora chart being made by the astrologers or computer programs, displays planets in Cancer and Leo signs only, leaving other signs blank. This is not correct way of making this chart and therefore does not help in interpreting it properly.

Parashar in chapter 6 verse 6, has clearly stated that Horas are 24 in number with the 12 signs Aries to Pisces making two rounds to occupy these 24 Horas. To explain it, divide each sign in two parts and place Hora signs in Romans underlined as I, II, III, make them look distinguished in the diagram attached.

Hora Table, Signs and Horas

Aries and Libra
1. 00 00 - 15 00 Aries
2. 15 00 - 30 00 Taurus

Taurus and Scorpio
3. 00 00 - 15 00 Gemini
4. 15 00 - 30 00 Cancer

Gemini and Sagittarius
5. 00 00 - 15 00 Leo
6. 15 00 - 30 00 Virgo

Cancer and Capricorn
7. 00 00 - 15 00 Libra
8. 15 00 - 30 00 Scorpio

Leo and Aquarius
9. 00 00 - 15 00 Sagittarius
10. 15 00 - 30 00 Capricorn
Virgo and Pisces
11. 00 00 - 15 00 Aquarius
12. 15 00 - 30 00 Pisces

Aries will have two Horas 1 and 2, Taurus will have 3 and 4, Gemini will have 5 and 6 and so on for the rest of the signs. We find that two rounds of 12 signs have two signs of Mars, two signs of Jupiter, one sign of the Moon and one sign of the Sun appearing two times each, clearly indicating that the signs of Mars, Jupiter, the Moon and the Sun are in solar Hora only and rest of the signs of Venus, Saturn and Mercury appearing as 2, 7, 10, 11, 3, 6 are in lunar Hora only. In other words the Hora chart as interpreted by me to be made, will not be showing just two signs 4 and 5 i.e. Cancer and Leo but 12 signs in 12 houses and to discern which planet is in which Hora, you will have to remember that planets in signs of Mars, Jupiter, the Moon and the Sun in this chart, are in solar Hora and the planets in signs of Venus, Saturn and Mercury are in lunar Hora.

To illustrate the point suppose, a person is born with 21. of Libra ascendant, this degree is in the second half of an odd sign i.e. the Hora of the Moon but the ascendant sign of Hora chart will be Taurus, as Libra sign has two Hora signs of Aries and Taurus. If this person has Jupiter in first half of Leo sign, in Hora chart, Jupiter will be in Sagittarius sign in the 8th house.

This brings out another interesting aspect of the Hora chart and that is whenever Mars, Jupiter, the Moon and the Sun, which are friendly to each other are in each other’s sign i.e. in friendly signs or in own signs in the basic chart i.e. the main chart, they are only in solar Hora.

On similar lines, Venus, Saturn and Mercury, mutually friendly planets (exception to this is that for Saturn, Mercury is a friend but for Mercury, Saturn is a neutral), whenever in their friend’s or own signs, they are in the lunar Hora. Mercury enjoys the privilege of being strong in both lunar and solar Hora. Mercury, interestingly being exalted at 15. of Virgo is at the mutual border of lunar and solar Hora. This brings to fore another aspect of dual character of Mercury.

Parashar has given names Dev and Pitar to solar and lunar Horas, respectively. Some astrologers have interpreted it to mean that if most of the planets are in solar Hora, the subject has descended from Devlok and if they are in lunar Hora, the subject has come from Pitrlok. How far this is correct only a sage with super vision and wisdom would tell. I am trying to find any reference to this effect in scriptures or Shashtra written by any of the great 18 sages, linked to astrology (Refer to the preface to the book ‘Significators in Astrology, written by me). When we make Hora chart the way it has just been described, it resolves another inconsistency. In verse 47 of chapter 6, Parashar has said that if a planet is in its own sign in all the ten divisions of Dasvargas (ten-fold division of sign, Hora, Drekkan, Navansh, Dwadasansh, Trishansh, Saptansh, Dasansh, Shodashansh, Shashtyansh), he is said to be in Shridhamansh and very auspicious. If we take
only Cancer and Leo signs for making Hora chart, a planet, other than the Moon and the Sun, can never be in Shridhamansh.

In Hora chart a planet will be stronger if his Hora dispositor is strong in the main chart. In the example we took above Jupiter is in Sagittarius sign in Hora, a solar Hora; that way its good; it is also good because the Sun is in Leo in the 11th house in the main chart, indicating, it to be a case of day birth and the Sun is strong during day. But Hora dispositor of Jupiter, which is Jupiter himself is not in an angle or trine in the main chart but at the same time not in bad house of 6th, 8th or the 12th house, making Jupiter moderately strong in this respect in the Hora chart.

For seeing strength of planets in Muhurta a very interesting principle is given in Narada Samhita. "In the chart, in every case first see the strength of the ascendant then the strength of the Moon. If the Moon in any sign other than Virgo is strong, all the planets can be deemed strong. The Moon is the basis of strength of all the planets. The strength of other planets is dependent upon the Moon’s strength. If the foundation (the Moon) is strong other dependants (the planets) will be automatically strong. If the Moon is auspicious, other planets will follow suit, if not other planet too cannot be very auspicious. But the Sun does not come in this arrangement i.e. the Sun’s strength is independent of the strength of the Moon". (ns14/19-21). This should be able to bring out importance of Hora in all branches of astrology.

The weakness of these two in the chart can mar the promise of all the other planets. As the tradition and the legend goes, initially the whole zodiac was divided among these two only. Six signs - Leo to Capricorn belonged to the Sun and Aquarius to Cancer to the Moon. At a later stage, it was agreed that these two should share the zodiac with other planets to reduce burden of work and then the two luminaries decided to give signs adjacent to their own Leo and Cancer to Mercury, the prince (Gemini and Virgo), next adjacent signs Taurus and Libra to Venus, the Minister, and still next 2 signs Aries and Scorpio to Mars, the chief of forces, the next 2 signs Pisces and Sagittarius to Jupiter, the minister and remaining 2 signs Aquarius and Capricorn to Saturn, the servant. Horas probably, represent this aspect of the fact that the zodiac belongs to the luminaries originally and assignment of signs to other 5 planets is result of their magnanimity and discretion.

Suggested Principles for interpreting the Hora Chart:

1. Benefic planets are preferred to be in the Moon’s Hora while the malefic planets are preferred in the solar Hora.

2. But ascendant is preferred to be in the lunar Hora for longevity and other temperament considerations.

3. Ascendant lord of Hora chart, is good being placed in the ascendant or angles, trines of the Hora chart but not in the 3rd, 6th, 8th, 12th houses. There is no need to pay attention to lords of other houses.
4. Position of planets in houses is more important than the signs they are in. A planet in debilitation sign in an angle or trine is preferable to his position in exaltation sign in a bad house of the Hora chart.

These principle will stand out in these two combinations taken from Sarvarth Chintamani.

(1) Ascendant second half of Gemini while Mars occupies the first half: lives for full life span. (sc12/46a)

(2) Ascendant second half of Gemini with Jupiter while Mars occupies the first half, Mercury with Venus being in an angle: lives for more than 100 years and is pious. (sc12/50)

There are many principles for interpreting divisional charts, not known commonly, having bearing on Dasha results, on which I am working and hope to be able to bring them out for the benefit of our astrological fraternity. Then there are wrong translations of our various classics which need to be redone.

Hora chart for Wealth: We take the example of poverty, given by Late Shri B V Raman in his book Notable Horoscopes (Chart No. 73) Birth details: - born on 31st October 1910 at 1-37 p.m. IST at 13 (N, 77 E 35', Planetary Positions - the Sun 196(2', the Moon 175(31', Mars 184(48', Mercury 186(26', Jupiter 186(42', Venus 189(33', Saturn 9(55', Rahu 28(33'; ascendant 299 (Ayanansh 21 9, note, I am still open on the vexed issue of Ayanansh and have not finally accepted any one.). In Hora chart as many as six planets have gone to the 6th house, their dispositor, Mars is not in angle or trine but in the 6th house itself.

Significators for poverty are Saturn and 12th house (page 108 of Significators in Astrology). Researchers may probe for their alignment in such horoscopes.
2. Nadi Jyotish

By Shiv Kumar Chadha

Many times we find, planets in exaltation, own or Mooltrikona signs not giving good results or Dasha of a Yogakaraka planet placed in good houses again giving unexpected problems. This cannot be explained on the basis of rules given by Parashar. Parashar has said lord of 3rd, 6th and 11th house give bad results but still we could find placement of these lords in houses giving good results. Parashar could not be wrong. This only indicates, there is some misunderstanding in the interpretation and proper use of his rules.

This anomaly is explained in a book ‘Nadi Jyotish’ written by Gopal Krisdhna Rao in three volumes and published sometime in early 50s. Mr K N Rao in his book ‘Ups and Downs in Career’, in the article ‘The Vein of A Prediction’ has mentioned this book and has high praise for the book. I have been working on the principles given in this book and giving few pages from it, to highlight principles given there.

Page 71, Vol 1:
Person born in Vrischika Lagna (Scorpio ascendant). Jupiter is in 2nd house in own sign. Yet native’s finances are not satisfactory.

Reason for this is that Jupiter has gone in Poorvashad, Venus’s constellation. Venus to this Lagna is not a Yogakaraka, and he is lord of the 12th house. Therefore the unsatisfactory state of finance.

Person born in Vrischika Lagna (Scorpio ascendant).
Lord of 2, Jupiter is in Aries In Krittika, Sun’s constellation. The Sun is Yogakaraka for this ascendant, being lord of the 10th house. Besides The Sun is Jupiter’s friend. Therefore, the finance house is good. (Notice that the 2nd lord is placed in the 6th house)

Ascendant of two different persons chart 1 and 2, below are the same, Libra. Lord of 2nd house in both is in the 2nd, own sign.

The finance of 1 is bad, and that of 2 is good. Reason:- In 1 lord of finance, Mars has gone in Visakha, Jupiter’s constellation. Jupiter is not a Yogakaraka to this ascendant and moreover, Jupiter is lord of 3rd and 6th houses.

In 2, lord of finance, Mars is in Jyestha, Mercury’s constellation. Mercury is Yogakaraka (lord of 9th) for Libra ascendant and so good finances of the native.

Page 24, Vol. 2:
Gunas and their effect on Phala (Results affected by Gunas). Differentiation should be made in the characteristics of the planets when they occupy the same house in the D9 diagram, though they remain in different constellations. For
example, when the Sun is in Ketu’s (Ashwini, Makha and Mula) in the Moon’s (Rohini, Hasta, and Shravan), in Jupiter’s (Punarvasu, Visakha, Poorvabhadra) constellation, in the first quarter, he gets Uchchamsa (D9 of exaltation sign Aries), or in other words becomes Uchchamsa of the same planet. In Ketu’s constel, he becomes Tamas-Rajas, in Jupiter’s becomes Satvik-Rajas, and in the Moon’s, becomes Rajas-Rajas. To give best results, the Sun should be Rajas-Rajas and next is Satvik-Rajas, and the last is Tamas-Rajas.

Lordship and its effect on Results
To completely determine the effects, the lordship of the planets should be considered.

In the first case, the Sun, no doubt gets the character of Rajas-Rajas by remaining in Hasta but the lords of Hasta, the Moon becomes owner of the 8th house which affects the good effects of the Sun.

In the second case, the Sun is in Punarvasu getting Satvik-Rajas. As Jupiter is the lord of 3rd and 6th house, the good results of the Sun are affected. And therefore, in this case the native will have good results only when the Sun is in the Moon’s constel because the Moon owns the 10th house.

Friendship, enmity and its effect on Results.
Further the nature of relationship of the planet occupying the constellation towards the lord of that constellation should be considered in forecasting the results. As an example, if Saturn was to occupy Shravan, he will get Tamas amsa which is good to him but there is enmity of Saturn with the Moon. In such a case, the native will enjoy both good and bad results in Saturn’s period. If Saturn were to be in Mula whose lord Ketu is his friend, his period will be extremely good.

When a planet has more than one friend, distinction should be drawn on the basis of nature of friends. When Venus is in Ashlesh (Mercury’s constel), he gets Uchchamsa i.e. Navansh of exaltation sign (D9-12) and also he is friend of Mercury. In another case, Venus is in Swati, getting Uchchamsa in a friend Rahu’s constel. But the two results will differ, although both Mercury and Rahu are friends of Venus. Rahu’s friendship is Tamas whereas Mercury’s is Satvik. In Rahu’s case, the results will be delayed by difficulties, and tempt and induce native to have bad company and enter into bad enterprises. Mercury will give opposite results.

A planet may possess all the good characteristics as enumerated above, yet the results might vary due to placement, character and association of lord of the constel in which he is placed. To illustrate it, are given two examples.

In both the cases, Mars is in Jyestha in Scorpio sign, but position of Mercury, the lord of Jyestha varies. In first case he is in the ascendant where he has directional strength. In the second case, Mercury is in the 11th house in Leo sign. The native of first chart was having more wealth than the second one.
Modified Dasha effects, due to stellar lords Combinations.
The Moon’s position in Ketu’s constellation is considered bad. We have generally said so. But here are given cases where the Moon in Ashwini has given good effects.

Taurus ascendant person. The Moon is in Ashwini, Ketu’s constellation. Further, the Moon is the lord of 3rd placed in the 12th house, yet the person rose in rank as an officer in the Moon’s Dasha.

Reason:- Ketu is in association with Saturn who is lord of 9th and 10th houses. Dharma Karma Yoga (combination) effect has taken place. This was the bright and good side of such a Moon. We should not forget the dark side of Ashwini Moon. Although he rose in rank in his period, he was bed ridden also for some time. He was also not successful in his attempts to go abroad for bettering his prospects.

18. This native married a widow.
Reason: Here the lord of the 7th, Saturn is with the Sun, lord of the 2nd. Whenever the Sun and Saturn combine or aspect each other or one is in the constellation of another, the 7th house is influenced by such effects of the Sun and Saturn, the married life is not good.

19. The native was separated from his wife for sometime.