

# SHATCHALANA NAVAMSAS

## [Part II]

Dr. Revathi Vee Kumar

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Dr. Revathi Vee Kumar is Hon. National Secretary of ICAS. He contributed several articles for leading Astrological Magazines. He also authored books on Astrology and Vāstu.



### Is Shatchalana hypothetical?

One of the key features of Shatchalana is that all 6 nakshatras padas in any chain are to be occupied by at least one planet in each Navamsa in order to complete the chain and to ensure that it gets looped back into the sign from which the chain started. But, practically such a possibility appears to be very less due to the fact that the three Planets i.e., Sun, Mercury and Venus are always close to each other within the vicinity of 2/3 signs and most often, in a given horoscope at least one or two conjunctive combinations of planets are also seen. This factual observation gave rise to two doubts as to whether Shatchalana is actually possible in horoscopes and if so, as to what extent it is practically relevant to prediction.

In order to verify and confirm the actual possibilities, a detailed study of more than 500 horoscopes of persons belonging to different walks of life was undertaken. But to our dismay, despite a thorough search in them not even a single horoscope wherein a complete chain of Shatchalana was in operation could be found. This testifies to the fact that practically Shatchalana is a remote possibility and its use in prediction is limited to only those very few horoscopes in which it may be available. This finding provided a valid reason for Shatchalana being neglected by other scholars. Probably, it was not given much importance by them due to its rare usage in prediction.

However, we are compelled to believe that a complete chain is certainly possible at least in the rarest of rare cases because two-thirds portion of the total number of Navamsas (72 out of 108) are forming the 12 chains in Shatchalana. But, due to my failure to find at least one complete active chain in a practical case, I am constrained to say that Shatchalana appears to be only a hypothetical possibility. (Incidentally, I would be very glad if any reader comes across a horoscope in which a complete chain of Shatchalana is in operation and the details of the same are shared with me.)

## **Partial Shatchalana**

During the above-mentioned study, it was observed that in many actual cases, partial chains did operate almost on similar lines to Shatchalana. As the formation of complete chains of Shatchalana is rare in horoscopes, shorter chains with all its features (excepting the mandatory six steps of movements) which are generally formed in many horoscopes may also be given due recognition practically as even such shorter chains without the six levels of movements would be acceptable and useful in prediction if they abide by all other features of Shatchalana. Based on my personal explorations on the subject, I am convinced that its principles can be extended mutatis mutandis to such partial chains also.

## **Role of the 'Final dispositor'**

When a chain of movements in Shatchalana gets broken in the middle for want of planets in all 6 nakshatra padas, the partial chain so formed may either end abruptly without any further continuity or may still return back to the starting sign in the birth chart through the last Navamsa dispositor as in Shatchalana. In the latter case, as already explained, the Rasi dispositor of the leading term and the last Navamsa dispositor in the partial chain being the same planet, it exercises control over the other planets linked with it in the chain. But, when the chain breaks abruptly, then the final Navamsa dispositor becomes a key planet in the chart to decide the strength of the planets occupying the previous links in the partial chain as per the dispositor theory as the final Navamsa dispositor would still be exerting its influence on the other planets involved previously in the chain. Obviously, if a final dispositor gets posited in its own sign or Navamsa, its influence becomes stronger than before. Also, if we get multiple final dispositors from 2 or 3 such chains in a single chart, the strongest planet may also be known through other methods such as Shadbala, Vargabala, etc if required and their overall influence can be judged and predicted accordingly.

## **Guidelines for using Shatchalana**

The following guidelines are suggested for judging the influence of Shatchalana Navamsas in practical horoscopes keeping in view the general possibility of partial chains also. These may be applied judiciously depending on whether the chain of shatchalana is partial or complete:

1. The dignity of Planets in the Rasi chart (especially occupancy in own/exaltation/debilitation signs) changes according to their dignity in Navamsa.
2. The last Navamsa dispositor in the chain indicates the strength/weakness of all planets previously linked to it in a particular chain of Shatchalana. Consequently, planets weakened by their dispositors may not operate as expected from them based on their influences in the Rasi chart. On the contrary, planets strengthened by their dispositors may cause unexpected results too.
3. Although Navamsa dispositors are primarily involved in Shatchalana, sometimes in actual cases even the Rasi and Stellar dispositors play key roles in continuing the chain

and enabling the final dispositor to offer the results. As long as the beginning and ending Rasis in the chain (complete or partial) happen to be the same, the continuity provided by Rasi and Stellar dispositors may also be given due credit in judging the results of Planets in accordance with the dispositors' theory.

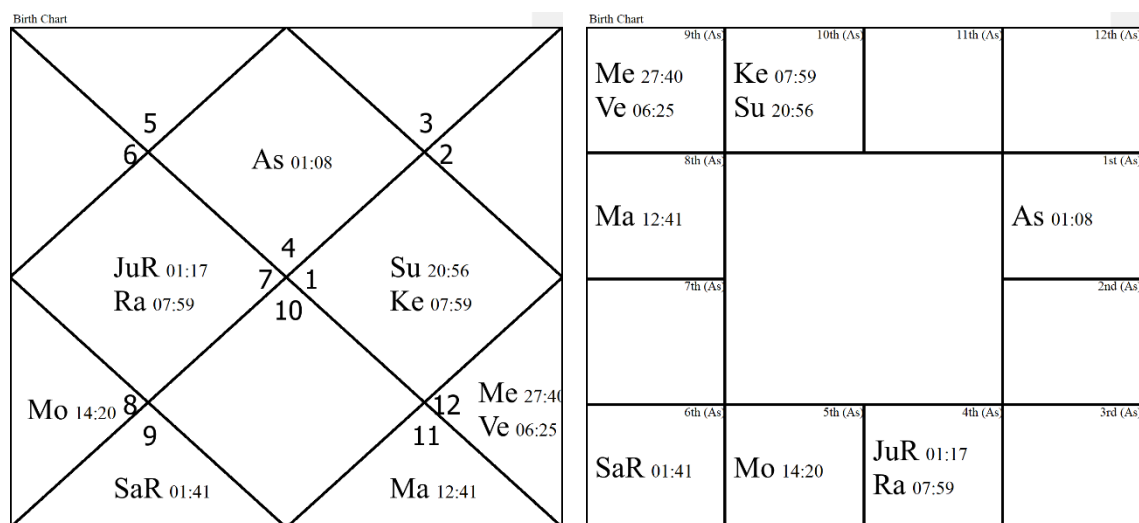
4. The favourability or otherwise of the results due from the planets is to be seen from the Rasi chart based on the occupancy of the dispositors in benefic houses or dussthanas respectively and the effective strength of Planets may be decided to taking into account their dignity in the Navamsa chart.
5. As found by experience, the Rasi-Navamsa nexus established in partial chains through the Navamsa dispositors of planets by their occupancy in nakshatra padas other than those listed in the Shatchalana chains also works effectively if they abide by the other features of Shatchalana.
6. The total control of a horoscope by one planet through Shatchalana appears to be a hypothetical possibility as it is difficult to get a horoscope in which any of the 12 chains of Shatchalana operate with all 6 steps of movements. However, a planet control of the whole horoscope or a particular key area of life is certainly possible and we have to invariably look for such possibilities for improved accuracy in prediction.
7. Practically, we often find only partial chains of Shatchalana in operation. As such, in such shorter chains, either the final disposition (if the chain ends abruptly) or the Rasi dispositor of the leading term (if the chain gets looped back to the Rasi chart) only becomes more relevant and useful in prediction.

Finally, it is also noticed in practical cases that mutually exclusive chains are also formed by the Rasi and Navamsa dispositors of a particular set of Planets in Rasi and Navamsa charts respectively. They may be examined individually based on dispositors' theory without mixing them up with the chains of Shatchalana. Only in case an interlink exists between the two chains through the last Navamsa or Rasi dispositors, the most influential Planet between the two needs to be found out by judging thoroughly the relationship between them, their dignities and roles.

Let us now take up a few case studies.

Chart-1: Male.

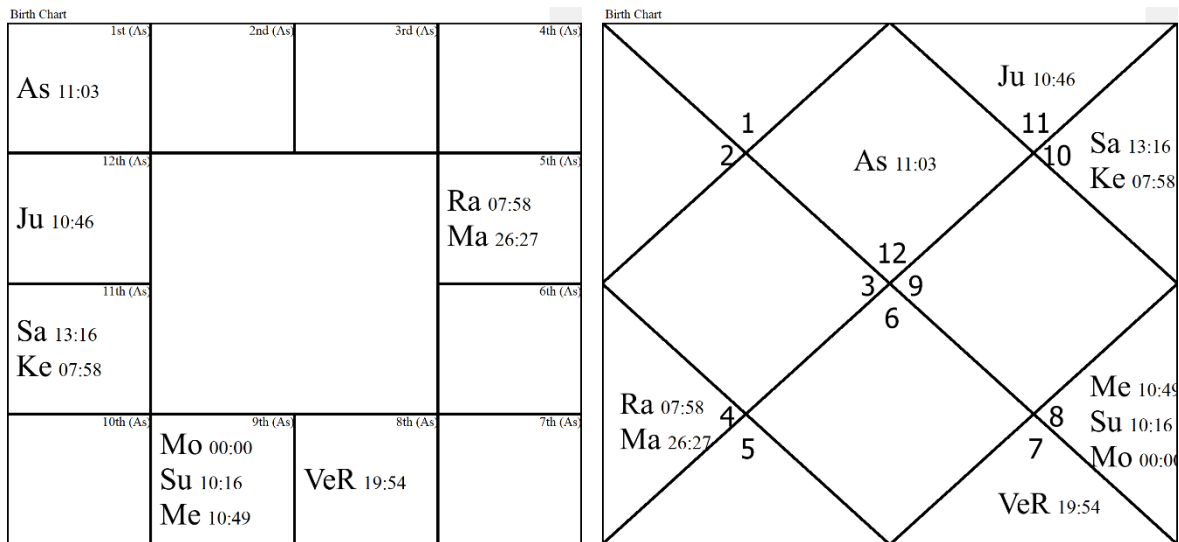
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In chart 1, Lagna lord Moon is Vargottama in the 5th house. 2nd lord Sun is exalted in the 10th house; the 4th and 11th lord Venus is exalted in the 9th house and the 9th lord Jupiter is Vargottama in the 4th house and forms parivarthana yoga with Venus. The conjunction of Mercury and Venus in the 9th house causes a neechabhanga Rajayoga. Despite all these, the native is actually suffering in life from all sorts of difficulties basically for want of a stable recurring income from any source and is also childless. The partial Shatchalana chains operating in the chart appear to be one of the main reasons for this plight. A careful analysis of the chart reveals the following:

1. The Lagna lord Moon is debilitated in the 5th house. Its Rasi dispositor Mars is posited in dussthana (8th house). Mars (lord of 5th & 10th) is also the Rasi dispositor of the Sun (2nd lord). The Rasi dispositor of Mars is Saturn. It is posited in the 6th house in the Rasi chart and also debilitated in Navamsa. Therefore, this spoils Lagna, 2nd, 5th and 10th houses affecting his family, finance, children, profession and overall well-being.
2. Sun in Mesha in Bharani 3rd pada goes to Thula Navamsa. Rahu in Thula in Swathi 1st pada goes to Dhanus Navamsa. Saturn in Dhanus in Moola 1st pada goes back to the Mesha Navamsa. In this partial chain, Mars is both the sign lord of the leading term and the last Navamsa dispositor of the chain in which the planets Sun, Rahu and Saturn are involved. As such, their potential in the chart gets directly modified by Mars. Despite being Yogakaraka, the occupancy of Mars in the 8th house in the birth chart empowers it to hurt the native. Although its exaltation in Navamsa appears to give him enough strength, its Rasi dispositor Saturn withdraws the same due to its occupancy in dussthana in the Rasi chart and debilitation in Navamsa. Besides, Sun which is exalted in Rasi gets debilitated in Navamsa and finally becomes weak.
3. Ketu afflicts the 10th house by its occupancy there and Rasi dispositor of Ketu is also Mars.
4. Ketu occupying Ashwini 3rd pada goes to Mithuna Navamsa. Its lord Mercury attains neechabhanga in Meena (Jupiter's sign) with Jupiter occupying Venus' sign and Navamsa. Thus, Venus becomes the final dispositor for this chain involving Ketu, Mercury and Jupiter. Despite its exaltation in Rasi, Venus gets weakened by its Navamsa dispositor Sun due to its debilitation in Navamsa. Also, Sun is under the control of Mars with Mars in the 8th house in the birth chart. This spoils the results due from all these three planets as well.

- Aspect of two retrograde planets (Saturn and Jupiter) on Mars worsens the situation. Saturn being the Rasi dispositor of Mars with Mars as the Navamsa dispositor of Saturn, they get intimately connected in the chart. This link between the two first-rate malefics is also bad for the native's livelihood. Adding to his woes, Lagna lord Moon loses its benefic influence in the 5th house being neecha vargottama.
- At the dispositor level, Mars and Saturn become the most influential planets in the chart. The exaltation of Mars in Navamsa makes it very strong, but its occupancy in the 8th house makes it inauspicious. Saturn as lord of the 7th & 8th houses its retrogression in the 6th house in the Rasi chart and debilitation in Navamsa makes it more adverse. Mars as lord of the 5th and 10th houses in the chart has predominantly affected both these houses severely causing Childlessness and problems in livelihood. But, their multiple interlinks with almost all other planets through the Rasi, Navamsa and stellar dispositors have made all of them inauspicious in the horoscope spoiling the chart and causing all sorts of problems in almost all areas of life due to their sway on them.
- The native was running Sani Dasa at birth followed by Dasas of Mercury, Ketu, Venus and Sun till 09.07.2011. Moon's dasa will be ending on 09.07.2021. Due to the adverse influences of the dispositors of these Planets in the horoscope, the native is still struggling to make ends meet.



In chart 2, Moon (5th lord) and Mars (2nd & 9th lord) are in neecha parivarthana. Mercury (4th & 7th lord) is in deep combustion. Sun (6th lord) and Jupiter (Lagna & 10th lord) are debilitated in Navamsa. Saturn is in its own house in the 11th and Venus is retrograde in its own house in the 8th. Rahu in 5th is afflicting Mars and Ketu in 11th is afflicting Saturn. Thus, all these planets in the chart are basically inauspicious in one or the other way. The adverse influences of their dispositors add to his woes. The following points are noteworthy:

- Moon in Vrischika in Visaka 4th pada goes to Karkataka Navamsa. Mars in Karkataka in Aslesha 3rd pada goes to Kumbha Navamsa. Jupiter in Kumbha in Satabisha 2nd pada goes to Makara Navamsa. Ketu in Makara in Uttarashada 4th pada goes to Meena Navamsa and the chain ends there without further continuity making Jupiter the final Navamsa dispositor of this chain. Jupiter is debilitated in Navamsa and occupies a dussthana (12th) in the birth chart which not only weakens Moon, Mars, Jupiter and Ketu but also makes them unfavourable to the native.

2. The lagna & 10th lord Jupiter is in Makara Navamsa. Its dispositor Saturn is occupying Vrishaba Navamsa whose lord Venus is retrograde in the 8th house in his own house. Also, both Sun and Mercury are posited in the Navamsa of Venus who in turn is posited in the Navamsa of Mars. Mars is posited in the Navamsa of Saturn which returns back to the Navamsa of Venus. As such, Venus, as the 3rd & 8th lord in the 8th house in retrogression has clearly disoriented his efforts in life. Its adverse influence on Jupiter (lagnalord) and Saturn (11th) goaded the native to take wrong decisions and commit mistakes like choosing to remain a bachelor to take care of his elder sister (11th), opting for voluntary retirement during his 45 years of age itself (10th), etc which ultimately affected his wellbeing in life.
3. The neecha parivarthana between Moon and Mars makes them mutual Rasi dispositors. Their debilitations have spoiled the material areas of the 2nd, 5th & 9th houses (acquisition of a family, childbirth, etc). But, the native's spiritual appetite is kindled by the occupancy of Moon in swaNavamsa in the 9th house. Consequently, he has chosen to be a spiritual seeker right from the early part of his life and to live like a mendicant performing yoga, meditation, etc sacrificing the comforts of marriage and family life. But, badhaka Mercury's adverse influence on both Sun and Moon in the 9th house, Jupiter's affliction by Venus and neecha parivarthana of 5th & 9th lords in the chart have not supported him even in his spiritual path and he still remains a spiritual aspirant spending his time mainly with religious pursuits on his own without any proper guidance from a Guru.
4. The native was appointed in Government in March 1982 in Saturn Dasa/Rahu Bhukti Saturn being the dispositor of his 10th lord Jupiter. He suddenly took voluntary retirement in Ketu Dasa/Mercury Bhukti as Ketu afflicts Saturn and Mercury is combust in the 9th house. Presently, he is running Jupiter Bhukti up to August 2022 in Venus Dasa which will end in October 2029 without giving him any significant change in life.