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*Lord Ganesha*  
*Patron Deity of Astrology*

This Picture is drawn by Mrs. Srishti Wilhelm and kindly taken from the book Vault of the Heavens by Ernst Wilhelm

**LOKI**  
MOKSHA AND BHAKTI

ZUMRUTD  
SIGN LANGUAGE OF LIFE

- **Moksha (Liberation) and Bhakti (Devotion)**

According to the Jaimini Upadesa Sutras there is the mention of the specific deities which are expected to be helpful to the native along 1) the path in life and for spiritual growth, and 2) which aspect of God is going to be the most willing to help in times of sickness, financial troubles, career troubles, etc. during dealing with daily issues and concerns.

A lot of people grab the first thing they find spiritually and it is not always going to be the one and easiest for them. Jaimini lets us know what type of spiritual practices a person really has, the most innate capacity for. The birth chart will show which aspect of God is going to be the most willing to help in difficult times.

According to the technique 3 varga charts are analyzed for each issue. 1) Rasi (birth chart), Navamsa (varga for ones path) and Chaturvimsamsa (Siddhamsa) varga for understanding which the spiritual growth depends on. 2) Rasi (birth chart), Navamsa and Trimsamsa, varga chart for fatalities.

## 1) In Vishnu

*The first chapter of Brihat Parashara Hora Sastra (foundational compilation book of astrology, BPHS) is about creation.*

*“Sri Vishnu, who is the Lord, who has undefiled spirit, who is endowed with the three Gunas, although he transcends the grip of Gunas, who is the Author of this Universe, who is glorious, who is the Cause and who is endowed with valour, has no beginning. He authored the Universe and administers it with a quarter of his power. The other three quarters of Him, filled with nectar, are knowable only to the philosophers.*

*(BPHS Chapter 1, Sutra 9-12)”*

*Here, Parashara tells us Sri Vishnu who is the Lord with all these amazing qualities has no beginning, therefore, has no ending. Vishnu is the force that just simply is, always has been, always will be. Authored the Universe and administers it with a quarter of his power. 25% of him is knowable through our experiences. Hearing, seeing, tasting, smelling, etc. something. When a Guru talks to us and tells us a Truth, we are hearing that through our senses. The most we can hear is 25% of Vishnu, if we are very wise. The other three quarters of Vishnu are knowable to the philosophers who are the perfected beings, the masters. The ones who can go to Samadhi (enlightenment) at will, are in a constant state of Samadhi in their daily activities.*

Vishnu is the absolute aspect of God who has manifested himself as everything in the world. Everything that we experience through our 5 senses is Vishnu. Everything that is done, is done by Vishnu. Everything given, is given by Vishnu. Everyone who is given something is Vishnu according to the Vaishnava philosophy. (Related to Krishna and Krishna is an Avatara of Vishnu). Vaishnava philosophy is Vishnu doing Vishnu. There is nothing else. He is the aspect of God that pervades everything, all things, within or without creation.

**Devotion to Vishnu means a path of complete and true detachment.** What is detachment? The person cuts their arm off in an accident, and they realize that there is no difference between having an arm and not having an arm. Because whether he has an arm or not, it is Vishnu having or not having an arm. Complete detachment comes when seeing there is no difference between winning and losing, having and not having, life and death, the big cookie and the little cookie, this person or that person, whether you marry that person or somebody else marries, what is the difference? It is just Vishnu marrying Vishnu. When the idea of separation, ego, is destroyed, Moksha, liberation follows. It is consciousness that is observed by Vishnu. Here, the idea is the person develops that detachment mentality.

The two practices for developing the path of Vishnu are; One is “Vishnu Sahasranamam”, that is the 1000 names of Lord Vishnu. Adi Shankara (Adi Shankaracharya) an Indian philosopher, says reciting “Vishnu Sahasranamam” every day, is one of the techniques that guarantee liberation. It is an extremely powerful practice. 1000 names of Vishnu, it takes about an hour to say all of them, you say with “Om Namaha” after each name or you can read the names beginning with Om and Namaha at the end, which then it takes about 25 minutes. It is a powerful technique that really spiritualizes a person’s consciousness. The Second way is to study “Srimad Bhagavatam”, a large book of different Avatars of Vishnu, Rama, Krishna, Nrisimha, etc. and all the other planets related to Vishnu.

*A person may find comfort and benefit from the Vishnu energy, through **devotion**. Prayer to and worship of Vishnu (and/or to his Avatars; Rama, Krishna, Narasimha) assists in seeing the truth of things, whether mundane or spiritual, while also alleviating any difficulties brought about. Chanting Vishnu Sahasranamam is particularly effective and recommended by Brihat Parashara Hora Shastra for remedy purposes.*

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## **2) In Gauri, Siva’s consort**

Siva is the Lord of the Yogis. One of his names is Yogasivar, meaning “the Lord of the Yogis.” It is Siva who developed Hatha Yoga, yoga process of any exercises that are designed to raise the energy up through the spine and into the brain. In doing so, awakening and liberate the brain. The spiritual progress is made through some type of Yoga. This requires effort to do these types of exercises. Hatha Yoga, Pranamaya, Kriya Yoga, etc. These may help purifying the spine, the Nadis, the brain and creates liberation.

Gauri, is Siva’s consort. The gentle and loving aspect of the Divine Mother waiting to give us the energy as long as we are receptive to having it. The consort is no different than God himself. They are always a pair. The male side which is Siva, requires effort, focused activity of sitting down and meditating, bringing the energy in and up, consciously working hard. The female side which is Gauri, doesn’t require that effort. You just need to be able to **be receptive** to what comes when it comes. Gauri represents the Shakti (power) of Siva as being his consort. Doing mantras, prayers all will help you to become receptive. You don’t have to meditate more than you can, you don’t have to do any one thing more than the other. The

spiritual blessings are coming on any accordance, you just need to be receptive to those when they come.

Every religion or spiritual practice has their own Divine Mother, gentle, loving, divine mother aspect. In Hinduism it is Gauri.

### **In Taamasi and Durga**

**Taamasi** is the feminine form of the God of destruction of the world. When Taamasi is the case, you need to develop a spiritual philosophy that makes a sacrifice of life. Which lets you realize that just living on Earth is making progress spiritually whether abused, killed, unloved, poor, ridiculed or famous and wealthy. That there is no difference in whatever happens good or bad, it all is for the purpose of your spiritual growth. What life is bringing you is all I need to do and to live it. You all need to do is “live”. Your being on Earth is already a spiritual karmic path, by living you are realizing your path. You just need to be here. By developing faith in Taamasi you could develop a happier attitude that you are not suffering, that you realize consciously “everything I go through is helping me spiritually. That is the only purpose of it, it has no other purpose”. That is a Taamasi attitude. The whole world is going to get destroyed, not just you or me, but the entire cosmos is going to get destroyed eventually. Taamasi is going to take care of it all. So, why worry for what we are going through? Obviously, it is the end that is important. That is a Taamasi devotee attitude.

**Durga**, is the fierce demon fighting form of Parvati. Fearlessness and patience, self-sufficiency. “The inaccessible, the invincible, the one who can redeem in situations of utmost distress.” Again, Siva’s consort. She is the fierce, demon fighting version, the one that comes out when all hell is breaking loose and you really need to get something done. When crisis ensued, Durga is the one who is going to get you out of it. You could go through unimaginable things, but Durga always get through it with fearlessness, patience and self-sufficiency.

The rubber will meet the road, you just have to fight to survive on Earth, **exist, be, be receptive and just live.**

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*Venus is your Atma Karaka, soul producer. I would like to share a story given in the “Graha Sutras” book, written by Ernst Wilhelm.*

### **Parashurama “Rama with the Axe” – Avatara of Venus**

Parashurama was the son of Jamadagni. Due to some misbehavior of his grandmother, Parashurama, though born in a Brahmin (priest caste) family, had the qualities of a Kshatriya (warrior).

Once upon a time in the early life of Parashurama, Kartavirya, a powerful and arrogant king, came to the ashram of Parashurama’s father. So impressed was he of Jamadagni's divine cow of plenty that he stole her. When Parashurama found this out, he pursued Kartavirya and killed him and his entire army single-handedly, returning the cow to his father.

His father was disappointed in him and scolded him for his impatience and for the sin of killing a king. He requested Parashurama to go on a one-year pilgrimage to the sacred rivers in order to purify himself of the sin.

A year passed and Parashurama returned home. Shortly thereafter, his mother, while fetching water on the banks of the river, saw a demigod playing in the water and thought how handsome he was. When she returned, Jamadagni saw with his mind's eye the thought she had. The thought that a man, other than her husband, was handsome was a sin. Jamadagni called his sons

and commanded they kill her. They were hesitant to kill their mother at their father's angry command. Jamadagni then called Parashurama, who was his youngest son, and commanded that he should kill his mother and brothers. Without hesitation, Parashurama did so. Jamadagni was pleased with him and told Parashurama to ask for any boon. Parashurama asked that his mother and brothers be returned to life and that they not remember what had happened.

In the meantime, Kartavirya's sons were nursing their hatred against Parashurama for killing their father. During a time when Parashurama was out hunting, they came to his father's ashram and murdered his saintly father. When Parashurama heard the cries of his mother and saw his dead father he left everything in the hands of his brothers, grabbed his huge ax and ran from the ashram. At that moment he had decided to kill all Kshatriyas. Parashurama killed all the 10,000 sons of Kartavirya, but this did nothing to appease his anger. His pride rampant, he would not brook any insult, not resting until he had punished the offender. With his pride as an excuse he went around the world twenty-one times killing Kshatriyas. He performed sacrificial rites to purify himself of the sins of killing so many kings. It is said that his purpose was to rid the world of evil Kshatriyas. A Brahmin by birth, he punished Kshatriyas that disrespected Brahmins.

Parashurama was very loyal and devoted to his father. Venus is the planet of loyalty and devotion. If Venus is well situated in the horoscope a person is capable of great loyalty and devotion. Parashurama instigated many a fight due to his pride, the pride that is a characteristic of Venus, the proudest amongst the Grahas. The pride of Venus is the pride that knows that all people are created equal and should thus receive equal treatment. Upon receiving insulting treatment from the evil kings of his day, Parashurama would instigate a fight. If Venus is well disposed in the horoscope an individual has a proper sense of self-worth, of inherent pride. Individuals with an afflicted Venus suffer from a lack of self-worth and thus often find themselves in insulting or degrading circumstances.

It is hard to imagine the gentle Venus being associated with the very ruthless Parashurama. Venus, however, rules the Water element which is responsible for providing growth. Death of one thing naturally leads to growth of another, for that reason Saturn, who is death, is exalted in Venus ruled Libra sign. The many deaths caused by Parashurama allowed for the upward mobility and growth of others, others in fact, who were more deserving than the evil Kshatriyas that Parashurama was born to kill. The highest use of death is growth – Saturn exalted in the Rasi of Venus. Likewise, in nature, the dead make the best fertilizer.

Parashurama spent much of his time performing rites that would free him from the sin of killing so many kings. Venus is the planet that rules such cleansing and all those rituals and rites with which we may cleanse the stain of our actions.

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*-End of Moksha and Bhakti-*