

Narayana Dasha

Hitherto we have really only discussed the very popular dasha system known as “vimsotarri”, which is a nakshatra based dasha. Now we will take a look at the most popular ***rasi dasha*** in vedic astrology, called the Narayana Dasha. This dasha is often favored over the vimsotarri dasha for predicting smaller windows of time. Due to the somewhat complex mathematical calculations involved in the vimsotarri it is sometimes difficult to get accurate results in the pratyantar and prana dashas. Because the Narayana dasha has a very easy method of arranging the sub-dashas of each zodiac sign it is often used with more success when predicting smaller windows of time such as a few months or even a few weeks.

Calculation Method

Primary Rule #1: The number of years allotted to a zodiac sign in the narayana dasha equals the number of signs passed from the sign to its lord. Do NOT start count from the sign itself as number 1. This means that if a planet is in it's own sign it will naturall result in a count of 12, and hence all planets in their own signs give that sign a 12 year long dasha.

Primary Rule #2: The direction to count the signs from the starting sign is determined by whether the sign is odd-footed or even-footed (vimsopada and sampada). Odd-footed/vimsopada signs are counted zodiac-wise (clockwise) and even-footed/sampada signs are reckoned by counting counterclockwise.

Primary Rule #3: Determine which is stronger between the ascendant and the 7th house and that will be the commencing dasha for Narayana Dasha. The dasha begins on the day of birth.

Primary Rule #4: Determine the direction of the 9th sign from the commencing sign. If the 9th sign is vimsopada then the Narayana Dasha will commence from the 1st/7th house clockwise. If it is sampada then it will commence counterclockwise

Vimsopada Signs: Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius

Sampada Signs: Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Capricorn, Aquarius, Pisces

Example #1:

Sun is in Scorpio, so how long will the Leo dasha be? First we recognize that Leo is a sampada sign so we will be counting backwards against the zodiac. We count counterclockwise to Scorpio and see the 9 signs have passed (not counting Leo), thus the dasha of Leo will be 9 years long

Example #2: Mars is in Leo, so how long will the Aries dasha be? Aries is a vimsopada sign so we count with the zodiac to Leo and count four (not counting Aries), hence the Aries dasha is four years long.

Example #3: Aries is the ascendant with no planets in it, while Libra the 7th house has Jupiter in it. Thus Libra is stronger than the ascendant and becomes the starting dasha. If Venus is in Gemini then we count 8 signs to Gemini and thus the first dasha is Libra dasha lasting for 8 years from date of birth.

Now determine the order that the subsequent dashas will follow. Will they be clockwise or counterclockwise? We find the 9th from the commencing dasha sign, which is Gemini (for this you count like we normally do in astrology, beginning with the sign itself). Gemini is a

vimsopada sign, so the dashas will proceed regularly/zodiacally. Thus the next dasha after Libra will be Scorpio, followed by Sagittarius, Capricorn, etc.

Secondary Rule #1: Exalted planets add 1 year to the dasha of the signs they rule. Debilitated planets subtract a year from the dasha of the signs they rule.

Secondary Rule #2 The stronger of Ketu or Mars will be the lord of Scorpio, the stronger of Rahu and Saturn will be the lord of Aquarius. If both are in the sign then the sign gets 12 years. If one is in the sign and the other is not then the dashas are reckoned using the lord that is not in the sign. For example, if Rahu is in Aquarius and Saturn is in Aries then the count is made to Aries.

Super Complicated Rule: If the commencing sign is a moveable sign then the dashas proceed one sign at a time in the direction indicated by the 9th house. If the commencing sign is a fixed sign then the dashas proceed jumping to every 6th house. If the commencing sign is a dual sign then the dashas proceed jumping to the 5th house, 9th house, then forward one sign to the 10th, and then the 5th from there, 5th from there, and forward one sign, then 5th from there, 5th from there, then forward one sign, etc.

Examples!

#1) A native is born with Taurus lagna and it is stronger than Scorpio so it commences. The 9th from Taurus is Capricorn, a sampada sign indicating that the zodiac dashas will proceed counterclockwise. Taurus is a moveable sign, so it jumps to every 6th house in its procession. Thus the first dasha is Taurus, the second dasha will be 6 houses **counterclockwise** to Sagittarius, then 6 over to Cancer, etc.

#2) A native is born in Sagittarius lagna and it is stronger than Gemini so it becomes the commencing sign. It is a dual sign, so it will proceed in trines (over 5, over 5, over 1). It's ninth house is Leo, a sampada sign so the trines will proceed in a counterclockwise direction. Thus the first dasha will be Sagittarius, the second will be Leo, the third will be Aries, the 4th will be **Pisces**(remember 5+5+1!!). The 5th will then be 5 from pisces, thus Scorpio, followed by Cancer and then add one sign to go to Leo, and continue following the 5-5-1 pattern.

How to understand the narayana dasha

Now that we are all thoroughly confused about how it's calculated and have only found solace in the fact that our computer programs will calculate it for us, let's try to understand how to read it!

The general principle of reading the narayana dasha is to read the chart from the sign of the dasha as though it was the ascendant, and to do the same with the lord of the dasha sign or at least take a strong note of how the lord is placed and aspected. It is also a great idea to read the AL of the dasha sign. For example, if a person was born as a Cancer ascendant and was currently in their Aries dasha we would look to their rasi chart and read it from Aries as though Aries was the ascendant. It would then be a good idea to take note of the pada of Aries (it's Arudha Lagna) as well as the dignity of the lord of the sign. There are a few basic principles I

can give you to help interpret the narayana dashas, but like most of astrology you will need to rely upon a great deal of experience and empirical evidence gathered over time.

Guidelines for reading Narayana Dasha

- 1) Note the house that the zodiac sign occupies, as it will determine the main area of life affected by the dasha. Determine the strength of the house and take note of any aspects upon it.
- 2) Note the relation between the dasha sign and the native's actual ascendant/ascendant lord/Moon. The stronger the relation between the dasha sign and the ascendant the more impact the dasha period will have on the native.
- 3) Look to where the lord of the sign is placed. This is called the sign's "paka" and is where it's activities will be directed towards.
- 4) Look to the Arudha Lagna of the dasha sign. This is called it's "Bhoga" and is the fruit reaped from the activities of the paka. If the paka and bhoga are well aspected then it will be a successful dasha.
- 5) Dashas of the ascendant, the sign the ascendant lord is placed in, and the dasha of the sign the atmakaraka is placed in will all be important dashas in the life of the native.

Sub-Dashas

Generally speaking most authorities agree that the sub-dashas should be calculated by starting the first sub-dasha as the sign occupied by the lord of the dasha (paka), and then proceeding orderly one sign at a time (regardless of whether the sign is moveable, fixed or dual) in either a clockwise or counterclockwise direction depending on whether lord of the mahadasha is placed in a vimsopada or sampada sign. The duration of each sub-dasha is determined by simply dividing the length of the maha-dasha into twelve equal segments. If you are using the Jagganath Hora software there seems to be a problem with calculating the entire Narayana dasha at times. The program is excellent at calculating strengths of houses and so is very reliable to determining whether the narayana dasha begins with the 1st or 7th house, and it calculates the length of the dashas just fine, but seems to occasionally mess up in determining the order of the signs for both some maha dashas and many subdashas. Thus it is best to check the narayana dasha for yourself and determine if it seems inaccurate.

Example: Cancer ascendant with strong ascendant, so Cancer initiates the Narayana Dasha. The 9th from Cancer is Pisces, a sampada sign and so the dashas will proceed counter-clockwise. Cancer is a moveable sign so the dashas proceed one at a time in regular order, though counter-clockwise. Now we need to calculate the length of the Cancer dasha. Let us say that the Moon is in Capricorn. Since Cancer is an even-footed sign we count counterclockwise to the Moon and get 6 years (7 signs). Thus the first dasha of Cancer will last for 6 years. 6 years divided by 12 gives 12 subdashas of 6 months each. Since the lord of the mahadasha (the Moon) is in Capricorn the first sub-dasha of Cancer is Capricorn. Since Capricorn is an even-footed sign the next subdasha will be Sagittarius, followed by Scorpio, Libra, etc, each 6 months long. In this way the sub-dashas should be calculated.

Example Chart #1: Barack Obama

	GL	Md	Gk	
		Mo		Ve
A7		A9		A8
Ke	Natal Chart			Me ^{PP}
UL	Rasi			Su
A11 A10				A5
(Ju) (Sa)				Ra ^{HL}
SL				Ma
				A6
BB		AL		
A4 A2	A3			

Maha Dasas:

Cn:	1961-08-04	(7:23:24 pm)	-	1964-08-04	(1:49:31 pm)
Ge:	1964-08-04	(1:49:31 pm)	-	1965-08-04	(7:59:11 pm)
Ta:	1965-08-04	(7:59:11 pm)	-	1966-08-05	(2:01:13 am)
Ar:	1966-08-05	(2:01:13 am)	-	1970-08-05	(2:39:44 am)
Pi:	1970-08-05	(2:39:44 am)	-	1971-08-05	(8:45:39 am)
Aq:	1971-08-05	(8:45:39 am)	-	1972-08-04	(3:03:42 pm)
Cp:	1972-08-04	(3:03:42 pm)	-	1984-08-04	(4:51:06 pm)
Sg:	1984-08-04	(4:51:06 pm)	-	1984-08-04	(4:51:06 pm)
Sc:	1984-08-04	(4:51:06 pm)	-	1993-08-05	(12:10:05 am)
Li:	1993-08-05	(12:10:05 am)	-	2001-08-05	(1:17:16 am)
Vi:	2001-08-05	(1:17:16 am)	-	2003-08-05	(1:34:42 pm)
Le:	2003-08-05	(1:34:42 pm)	-	2004-08-04	(7:54:36 pm)
Cn:	2004-08-04	(7:54:36 pm)	-	2013-08-05	(3:09:34 am)
Ge:	2013-08-05	(3:09:34 am)	-	2024-08-04	(10:46:07 pm)
Ta:	2024-08-04	(10:46:07 pm)	-	2035-08-05	(6:21:32 pm)
Ar:	2035-08-05	(6:21:32 pm)	-	2043-08-05	(7:38:17 pm)
Pi:	2043-08-05	(7:38:17 pm)	-	2054-08-05	(3:10:39 pm)
Aq:	2054-08-05	(3:10:39 pm)	-	2065-08-05	(10:50:18 am)
Cp:	2065-08-05	(10:50:18 am)	-	2065-08-05	(10:50:18 am)
Sg:	2065-08-05	(10:50:18 am)	-	2077-08-05	(12:47:34 pm)
Sc:	2077-08-05	(12:47:34 pm)	-	2080-08-05	(7:09:17 am)
Li:	2080-08-05	(7:09:17 am)	-	2084-08-05	(7:34:40 am)

Regardless what you may think about a president's or prime-minister's politics, they always make great astrological studies because their lives become very well documented and you can examine huge moments in their life such as a presidential inauguration. Let's look at

Obama's first inauguration in January of 2009. Both his winning of the election and his inauguration itself took place in his Cancer mahadasha. Any activation of the 1st/7th house will have a strong effect on the native's life. Let's follow the principles given above and see what we can find:

- 1) The 7th house is the dasha sign. This house related to relationships of course, but also deals with partnerships, business and accomplishments and represents the direction the karma of the person is taking. The sign is very strong, having two planets in it and being aspected graha drishti by a mahapurusha Saturn, Jupiter, and via sign sight by an exalted Moon which is also it's lord. The Sun aspects the dasha sign and indicates status and fame, Mercury indicates litigation and legal matters.
- 2) All affairs of the 7th house reflect upon the 1st, thus this was a very important and life changing dasha for the native.
- 3) The paka is an exalted Moon in a trine forming raja yoga as lord of 7th in 5th. The nakshatra of the Moon is Kritika, the god of War, which is a theme he had to deal with constantly in his presidency having inherited a War with the presidency. The strength of paka indicates a very powerful time in his life.
- 4) The Bhoga is Cancer again, showing litigation, elevation of status, etc.

It is worth noting that his second inauguration also took place in this same dasha. Now if we take a look at his sub-dashas we can have a more specific look at the few months of his election and inauguration. Here at least with my version of Jagganath Hora I find that the calculations are faulty and have the sub-dashas of Cancer beginning with Taurus(which is accurate) and then proceeding counterclockwise (which is not accurate because Taurus is vimsopada) giving the subdasha for his inauguration as Sagittarius. Such a weak house and being the 12th house of loss and debt doesn't make any sense and is clearly wrong. However if we count the sub-dashas properly from Taurus and proceed clockwise we come to the sub-dasha of Libra. This is a much more fitting sub-dasha. Libra is the sign of laws and legislation, it is his 10th house and thus indicates career, and it is also his AL and so strongly impacts his sense of self. The paka for Libra is Venus in Gemini in the 9th house from Libra which helps activate the dasha and give it strength. Venus deals with politics and Gemini with communication. Venus is the only planet in the chart completely devoid of any aspect upon it, hence he has to work by himself or feel isolated on many political issues. The bhoga of Libra is Aquarius with Ketu, Rahu and Mars afflicting it. This would forbode difficulties in the administration with lies, deceit, being pinned down or immobilized (in this case by a held majority of the opposite party) and general difficulties and drama.