

## Week 6: Remedies pt.1

### **Remedy Theory**

Jyotish is distinct as an astrological system largely due to its emphasis on the ability of the native to remedy their negative aspects of the chart and enhance the positive. There are several ways to approach remedies, and most astrologers will use a combination of them that suits the native in question.

In Hindu tradition the world is influenced by three archetypal qualities; Tamas, Rajas and Sattwa. Tamas indicates heaviness, density, slowness, laziness, mundane subjects, and evil deeds. Rajas indicates activity and motion, such as sports, fighting, struggling, growth, expansion, etc. Sattwa indicates goodness and divinity, such as meditation, worship, peace and quiet. In traditional remedial astrology the remedies are likewise arranged into tamasic, rajasic and sattvic methods.

### **Sattvic Remedies**

Any remedy that pertains to worship, meditation and austerity is considered sattvic. Such remedies are also considered to be perfectly harmless due to their good nature. One common sattvic remedy is the use of mantras to worship a deity or planet. For example, Om Namo Gurave repeated hundreds of thousands of times while meditating on the form of Brihaspati is a remedy for Jupiter. Do not think that all mantras are a sattvic remedy. There are sattvic, rajasic and tamasic mantras and only a skilled mantrika knows the science of mantras well enough to prescribe rajasic and tamasic mantras in a beneficial way for remedies. Any astrologer not intimately familiar with the science of mantras should stick to sattvic mantra remedies, almost all of which either begin with “Om Namah” or “Om Namo” and are directed towards a specific deity. Such mantras are said to be harmless and bring about auspicious results. The downside is that they are less powerful than rajasic mantras.

Worship is another common sattvic remedy. The astrologer may prescribe that a certain deity be worshipped regularly in a prescribed manner with prescribed mantras. Such worship is generally seen to be harmless and only gives auspicious results. Thus a person with a weak or malefic Moon may be encouraged to worship Chandrama on Mondays, or on Full Moon nights. Such worship is usually quite simple and involves offering flowers/cloths of certain colors, a flame, some incense, and chanting a mantra.

Austerity is a less common remedy than worship or mantras, but is sattvic and gives auspicious results. The basic rule of fasting is that if a person fasts on a day ruled by a malefic planet then they absorb less of its influence that day. Though this can be applied to the weekdays and planets accordingly, it is often only applied according to lunar days of the month.

For example the New Moon is a common fasting date for avoiding the influences of Rahu and Ketu.

### Rajasic Remedies

Rajasic remedies tend to be more magic-oriented and less involved with worship and various deities. By their rajasic nature most of them are very action oriented. A typical example would be that you should feed a cow on a certain lunar day, or take care of a dog (a common cure for Rahu), or pilgrimage to a certain holy place or series of holy places. Feeding priests/brahmins is also a common rajasic remedy. Other examples include selecting auspicious days for certain activities such as getting married, starting a business, etc as an attempt to remedy a bad astrological situation.

Probably the most common rajasic remedy is to wear an astrological gemstone. I don't consider this to be sattvic because no worship is necessary for it and the character of the person doesn't have to evolve at all in the process of wearing the ring, though it is very common to apply sattvic remedies towards the ring (such as offering to it). We will cover this subject in much greater detail at the end of this lecture.

### Tamasic Remedies

Tamasic remedies use sorcery as their main mechanism. For example a person might fill a clay pot with water from a certain river and throw specific flowers or animal parts into it and store it in a corner of the house for a few days. This is not high magic or remotely related to theurgy, it is simple folk-magic or sorcery. It is not inherently bad most of the time, it just has no bearing upon the person in any kind of evolutionary way. It usually involves sympathetic magic and requires a pretty skilled shaman or sorcerer to successfully apply it for remedial purposes. Keeping a magical charm or trinket for example would be a tamasic remedy. Such trinkets and fetishes are not the same as astrological yantras and talismans which derive their power from purely sattvic rites and deities.

In modern astrology it is the norm to aim towards sattvic remedies with a rajasic remedy or two to accentuate it and give it some kick. Tamasic remedies are usually only applied in more severe cases where the native really needs all of the help they can possibly get.

### People as Remedies

One of the first remedial methods I want to introduce to you is how the relationships in your life may enhance or impair your astrology. This is a rajasic method because it employs actions that aren't inherently concerned with the divine. The people in your life represent each of the planets in your horoscope, and we will take a brief look at each of the planets with this in mind.

The Sun is the natural indicator of the father in the natal chart. Your relationship with your father or any male authority figures in your life will not only be affected by the Sun but will also affect the Sun itself. Thus if there is distance between yourself and the solar figure in your life, and you see that your Sun is badly influenced or weak, then making a sincere effort to

spend quality time together and heal old wounds is actually a remedy for the Sun itself and will improve its power in the natal chart.

The Moon indicates the mother or any motherly figures in the chart. Mars indicates siblings in a male's chart and the husband/boyfriend in a female's chart. Mercury indicates cousins and extended relatives. Jupiter indicates teachers, gurus, employers and maternal grandparents. Venus indicates siblings in a female's chart and the wife/girlfriend in a male's chart. Saturn indicates elders and older siblings. Rahu and Ketu can indicate any step-relative such as a step mother, step father, step-brother, etc. It can also indicate adopted children. If no such relations exist then rahu and ketu will depict enemies. Your relationship with any of these people can influence the planet itself quite drastically. When the planet is weak then the relationship is weak and you have little effect on each others lives. When the planet is strong then the relationship should be strong. If the planet is aspected by malefics or is placed in a bad house then the relationship often gets destroyed due to death or abuse. Working to strengthen and be closer to the people who represent weak planets, and healing rifts in a relationship indicating a malefic planets, is a very natural and psychologically beneficial method of remedy, especially when applied alongside other remedial methods.

### **Astrological Rings**

The elements, planets, zodiacs and nakshatras are all said to have their physical manifestation on Earth in the form of various gemstones and metals. The most common method employed in astrology is the use of the planetary gemstones called the "Navaratna" or "9-gems" arrangement. We will cover this and a few other gemstone arrangements for the sake of education.

#### Navaratna

Sun	Moon	Mars	Mercury	Jupiter	Venus	Saturn	Rahu	Ketu
Ruby	Pearl	Coral	Emerald	Yellow Sapphire	Diamond	Blue Sapphire	Hessonite	Chrysoberyl

#### Pancharatna

Fire	Water	Air	Aethyr	Earth
Ruby	Pearl	Diamond	Blue Sapphire	Emerald

### Zodiacal Sun Sign

Aries	Blood Stone
Taurus	Diamond
Gemini	Emerald
Cancer	Pearl
Leo	Ruby
Virgo	Sardonyx, Peridot
Libra	Blue Sapphire
Scorpio	Opal, Tourmaline
Sagittarius	Yellow Sapphire
Capricorn	Turquoise
Aquarius	Garnet
Pisces	Amethyst

### Nakshatras

Though some authors give specific gemstones for each nakshatra it is not common to do so. The most common method of remedying the nakshatras is to prescribe the gemstone of the nakshatra lord.

### Rules for Choosing a Gemstone

- 1) The gemstone of the ascendant lord is almost always the preferred gemstone for general use where nothing else requires urgent attention. It is called the “life stone” and always worn on the ring finger.
- 2) The gemstone of the 9th lord is a very common remedy and gives good luck.
- 3) Planets in malefic houses should not have their gemstones prescribed unless to be worn on the left hand.
- 4) Gemstones on the left hand diminish the power of the planet, on the right hand they enhance the power of the planet.
- 5) The index finger rules the 3rd, 7th and 11th houses, the middle finger rules the 2nd, 6th and 10th houses, the ring finger rules the 1st, 5th and 9th houses, and the little finger rules the 4th, 8th and 12th houses.

- 6) The index finger is considered inauspicious by some systems of astrology, while others say that only a Jupiter stone can be placed there.
- 7) The Index finger is ruled by Jupiter, the middle finger by the Sun, the ring finger by Saturn and the little finger by Mercury. The thumb is ruled by Venus. Rule #5 is more scientific and should take precedence over this rule, but if both rules can be made to agree then that is the best, For example if either a Saturn gemstone or that of a planet friendly to Saturn is prescribed for the middle finger then it will give very good effects.
- 8) NEVER wear two gemstones on the same hand that are inimical towards each other.
- 9) NEVER prescribe a gemstone that is inimical to the ascendant lord or it will destroy health.
- 10) Astrological rings should be blessed by making offerings and chanting mantras associated with the planet that rules them before they are put on for the first time.
- 11) Put on the ring for the first time at sunrise on a day ruled by the planet.

### Quality of Gemstone

Gemstones are graded according to several factors, the most important being “inclusions”. Inclusions are any flaw in the stone itself that distorts its play of color. Subtle cracks and haziness are examples of common inclusions. Traditional astrological texts condemn the use of gemstones with any visible inclusions (visible to the naked eye) and even go as far as to say that such stones will make the effect of the planet even worse than before! Thus it is usually recommended that the native resort to a cheaper gemstone with the same planetary properties but with no flaws if they can not afford a flawless navaratna gem.

### Set of the Gemstone

As a general rule, all masculine planets are set in gold, all feminine planets are set in silver, while Mercury is set in gold and Saturn in silver or platinum.

### Cheaper replacement stones for 7 planets

Sun	Corundum, Red Garnet
Moon	Moon Stone
Jupiter	Citrine, Yellow Garnet, Yellow Beryl
Mercury	Aquamarine, Green Tourmaline, Beryl
Venus	Zircon, Quartz, White Coral
Saturn	Amethyst, Lapis Lazuli
Mars	Corundum, Red Garnet (same as Sun)