

❖ Nakshatra Padas in Ravana ❖ Samhita - Ashwini Nakshatra

By

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*I*t may be assumed that a graha will give varied results for each pada (quarter) of a nakshatra. Certain astrological classics have offered hints about these specific placements, though it is unusual to find this material in any form of systematic detail in available English translations. Such a rare and elaborate scheme of classification can be found in the Ravana Samhita, an ancient grantha purported to have been narrated by Lord Shiva and compiled by Ravana.¹ Ravana Samhita has not been translated into English until the current rendition, which is adapted from a Hindi edition. This issue features Ashwini, the first of the twenty-seven nakshatras.

Ashwini Nakshatra

Sun in Ashwini

*I*f the Sun in Ashwini receives an aspect (drishti) of Mars, the native will have a cruel nature and large, scarlet eyes. Mercury's drishti on the Sun reveals one who lives a peaceful life and experiences public popularity. With Jupiter's drishti, the native will hold a powerful position of authority. Venus's drishti promises a luxurious lifestyle, whereas Saturn's aspect indicates poverty.

First Pada

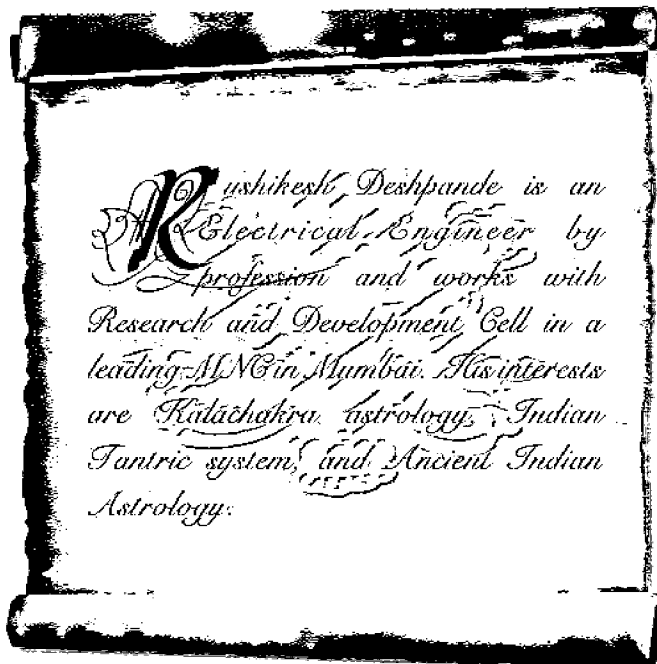
- ❖ The Sun placed in the first pada of Ashwini confers a long life. The native will exhibit sweet speech (madhurbhashi), and will enjoy his² children.
- ❖ However, he will suffer from various diseases due to imbalances of the three doshas—Vata, Pitta, and Kapha.

Second Pada

- ❖ When the Sun is placed in the second pada of Ashwini,

¹ The editors are aware of the controversy surrounding the purported authenticity of certain versions of this rare classic. Sources in Varanasi have indicated that the original Ravana Samhita is available in Ballvija, a small town near Banaras, though such an edition has not been seen or examined by the editors.

² Ed. Note: Though this translation adheres to the traditional form of patriarchal language, as with the predominant use of male pronouns, the editors of this publication in no way condone gender bias and have aimed for gender neutrality as much as possible.



the native will not have a comfortable life and will have to struggle a great deal, especially in his early years until the age of eight years.

- ❖ Though the Sun generally gives good results in Ashwini, its placement in the second pada bestows certain inauspicious results. For example, the native may experience fear of phantoms and spirits.
- ❖ He may experience misery due to the curse of another. Such difficulties may be sufficient to downgrade him in life.
- ❖ A wealthy native may experience a sudden downfall and may even be forced to live life as a beggar or exile.
- ❖ If the Sun is conjoined the Moon, the native lives his life in poverty. However, the drishti of Mars reveals more positive results.

Third Pada

- ❖ The Sun positioned in the third pada of Ashwini indicates a wealthy native whose life will generally flourish.
- ❖ However, he may experience unstable health and an abbreviated lifespan. Additionally, the native may be aggressive or corrupt.

Fourth Pada

- ❖ An individual will be well-respected, astute, wealthy and a leader of his community when the Sun is situated in the fourth pada of Ashwini. He will fulfil his responsibilities in an appropriate manner, and may become internationally famous. Pure at heart, this native will be religious and compassionate.
- ❖ The native may frequently travel and will experience fortune in the latter half of life. When placed at ten or eleven degrees of Ashwini nakshatra, the Sun gives outstanding results.

Moon in Ashwini

- ❖ If the Moon receives the Sun's drishti, the native will be kind but resolute.
- ❖ The aspect of Mars reveals a native who is influenced by explicit social or class customs.
- ❖ Mercury's aspect on the Moon indicates one who achieves material and worldly success.
- ❖ Jupiter's drishti makes the native a learned man and a fine teacher.
- ❖ The aspect of Venus reveals great wealth and an affinity for refined women.
- ❖ Saturn's drishti suggests poor health, reproductive difficulties, and problematic familial relationships.

First Pada

- ❖ When the Moon is found in the first pada of Ashwini, the native will naturally impress and dazzle others. He will achieve a superior career position, perhaps in a government-related field, and may serve as consultant to the rich and famous.
- ❖ With Ascendant (Lagna) also in Ashwini, under Jupiter's aspect, the native's lifespan will extend past 82 years, though he may suffer from injuries or blood-related diseases. In spite of being a capable employee, he will not be admired by his colleagues or his subordinates.
- ❖ When Jupiter aspects the Moon in the first pada of Ashwini, the native will manage hundreds of employees and may achieve high social status.

Second Pada

- ❖ The Moon's position in the second pada of Ashwini signifies one who will be tall in stature. He will be a shrewd individual, fond of liquor and pungent fare. The native will have difficulties with the opposite sex and will face intermittent or temporary financial problems. However, upon enacting specific remedial measures, he may progress in a positive direction in such matters. Highly ambitious, this individual may demonstrate a ruthless nature.
- ❖ If Mars or Rahu are in opposition to the Moon, the spouse may depart prematurely when the native is close to age 30.
- ❖ With the aspect of Venus on the Moon, the native will be fortunate and enjoy sons.
- ❖ Saturn's drishti on the Moon indicates an envious and unhappy native who experiences many lifelong struggles.

Third Pada

- ❖ When the Moon is placed in the third pada of Ashwini, the individual will be educated in the sciences and may become a minister or priest. He has an active professional life, assists many with whom he comes into contact, and proves to be a good friend.
- ❖ When Mars aspects the Moon, the native may suffer from injuries, dental illness, or an ear disorder.

Fourth Pada

- ❖ The Moon's placement in the fourth pada of Ashwini reveals one who is highly capable and erudite.
- ❖ Even better results will be obtained when the Moon

conjoins the Sun. The native will be knowledgeable in a variety of technological or scientific fields. His education will progress by virtue of his talent, perseverance, and application of effort. Such a native will demonstrate a cautious predisposition.

- ❖ If the Moon is located in the final degrees of Ashwini, the native may become a doctor, engineer, or a prominent member of the government (rajdarbar).

Mars in Ashwini

- ❖ If Mars receives the Sun's drishti, the native will be modest, learned, and will respect his parents.
- ❖ If the Moon aspects Mars, the native will enjoy multiple affairs with women. Such a person may be cruel, unethical, and a braggart.
- ❖ Mercury's aspect reveals one who is self-aggrandizing and involved with common women.
- ❖ Jupiter's drishti signifies one who is the powerful and wealthy leader of his family.
- ❖ Venus's aspect will deprive the native of appetizing foods and other material comforts. His family may ban him because of illicit marital affairs. Even so, the native may fulfil a philanthropic role in his community.
- ❖ Saturn's drishti on Mars denies the native parental love and causes him to be cast out from his family of origin.

First Pada

- ❖ Mars placed in the first pada may reveal one who is short in stature. He will become a self-made businessman with a high position in society. This individual will enjoy excellent health and fitness. Others will love and respect him as a father-figure. He may earn advanced educational degrees in science and mathematics, and may excel in a military career or as a community leader. He would be a strong team-player in any field.

Second Pada

- ❖ Mars situated in the second pada indicates a native who lives under some type of oppressed condition. His family will be small, and he may not have any children. Though he may be blessed with one or two daughters, he may not bear the sons that he desires. The native will often experience revengeful feelings. He may suffer accidents or fear related to both fire and water, or may endure a tragic accident or illness. He will bear a special mark on his face

or forehead.

Third Pada

- ❖ Having Mars in the third pada of Ashwini, the native will benefit from working and conducting business away from his birth place.
- ❖ With the Sun's aspect to Mars, the native enjoys good health, wealth, and a happy married life. An aspect of the debilitated Sun to Mars in the third pada of Ashwini will give the results of the Sun's exaltation sign.
- ❖ Jupiter's drishti on Mars indicates that the native loses his mother during childhood. In addition, he will spend excessively on luxury items.

Fourth Pada

- ❖ Mars when placed in the fourth pada reveals a dependable and modest individual who enjoys a comfortable life. However, he may experience inflammatory conditions or a blood disorder.
- ❖ The native will become an engineer if born with Mars at 12-13 degrees of Ashwini. He will have female children.
- ❖ When Jupiter has drishti on Mars, the native will inherit significant paternal property.

Mercury in Ashwini

- ❖ If Mercury receives the Sun's drishti, the subject will be truthful and popular among his relatives and friends. He may receive benefits from the government.
- ❖ With the Moon's aspect on Mercury, the native will be interested in poetry and the arts, and may even earn a living in the arts. He may own a good deal of real property, fine clothing, and vehicles³, and will be fond of well-heeled women.
- ❖ Mercury's drishti on Mars signifies one who is powerful and influential in politics.
- ❖ Jupiter's drishti indicates one born into an upright and affluent family, who will take pleasure in his progeny.
- ❖ Venus's aspect reveals a popular native with a flair for public relations.
- ❖ Saturn's aspect to Mercury indicates one skilled in social service work, though he may also be a controversial figure due to his strong and outspoken personality.

³ Mercury in the sign of his enemy but aspected by the Moon gives results related to 4th house matters of property, clothing and vehicles. This is because the Moon is the natural 4th lord in the natural zodiac chart.

First Pada

- ❖ Mercury placed in the first pada of Ashwini indicates a native who follows an agnostic or atheistic belief system. He may live poorly among society. He may be an alcoholic and enjoy sexual liaisons with a variety of women. Because of his cruel disposition and asocial behavior, he may alienate himself or others.
- ❖ The Moon's aspect reveals one of low character, whereas Jupiter's aspect indicates a much more positive effect. In the latter instance, the native will obtain a high educational degree and produce a handsome income. A philosopher by nature, he will have intuitive and mystical abilities that will earn him honor and respect.

Second Pada

- ❖ With Mercury's placement in the second pada of Ashwini, the native will experience great pleasure from his children. He will explore a wide selection of wisdom traditions, and may become renowned after age 35 to 40.
- ❖ If the Sun is conjoined Mercury, the native will attain the highest level of medical education. He will become a famed, generous, and pure-hearted physician⁴.

Third Pada

- ❖ When Mercury is in the third pada of Ashwini, one will be blessed by God. He will set a good example for others while performing his duties. The native will have sons. He will face health problems and will live to be 60 years old.

Fourth Pada

- ❖ Mercury's location in the fourth pada of Ashwini does not give good results. The native may be of a low and cowardly nature. He will be unsuccessful and will face business losses.
- ❖ With Jupiter's drishti, the native will be an ordinary author, clerk, accountant, or banker.

Jupiter in Ashwini

- ❖ When Jupiter in Ashwini receives an aspect from the Sun, the native will be a strict follower of the law. He will respect religion and serve the common people.
- ❖ One becomes famous if the Moon aspects Jupiter.

⁴ The deities of Ashwini nakshatra (lunar mansion) are the Ashwini Kumaras, the physicians of the Gods as per Vedic lore.

- ❖ With the aspect of Mars, the native has an exacting nature and will dislike egotism in others. He may be involved in some sort of political fund-raising activity.
- ❖ With Mercury's drishti on Jupiter, the native may be morally indecent, creating controversy and enmity in his affairs. He will be demanding and critical of others.
- ❖ When Jupiter receives an aspect from Venus, the native will conduct business in cosmetics, perfumes, or other personal enhancement products. He may be witty and playful, and will enjoy interacting with young people.
- ❖ Saturn's aspect to Jupiter indicates one deprived of pleasure, who works hard and takes little interest in family life.

First Pada

- ❖ Jupiter's placement in the first pada of Ashwini indicates one who is religious and haughty. He studies classics and gains knowledge in philosophy as well as spirituality. His speech will be enchanting and mesmerizing, and a talent in public speaking may allow him to influence the masses. The native will achieve publicity and wealth after the age of 35, and such good fortune may come from friends and admirers.
- ❖ He may become an author even though working at only an ordinary post. He will seek respect and praise from others.
- ❖ At times, the native's financial condition will be poor and he will acquire debt.

Second Pada

Results of the second pada of Jupiter in Ashwini have been omitted in this text⁵.

Third Pada

Jupiter in the third pada of Ashwini will bring a sense of balance to one's intellectual and material wealth. Such a subject will be literate and famous.

Fourth Pada

- ❖ When Jupiter is well-placed and in the fourth pada of Ashwini, one will be fortunate and live comfortably. He may achieve material wealth as a result of his commanding presence and ability to work hard. He could also earn a living through some unusual or

⁵ This section was omitted, most likely inadvertently, in the Hindi version of this translation.

unexpected business opportunity.

- ❖ The native may also be a good administrator with many people working under him. With a soft-spoken nature, he will be a protector of his children and will dutifully fulfil his responsibilities.

Venus in Ashwini

- ❖ If Venus receives the Sun's aspect, the native will receive benefits from the government. His wife will be somewhat of a mystery to him.
- ❖ When the Moon has drishti on Venus, the native will receive a high political post. However, his image will be tarnished because of affairs with low-class women.
- ❖ One doesn't receive anything of value from his family if Venus has the drishti of Mars. He will be poor and his marital life will be full of conflict.
- ❖ With Mercury's aspect, the native may stammer when speaking, and he will tell untruths. However, he will have a long life. The native will be interested in history, and will earn money through writing in the latter half of life.

First Pada

When Venus is in the first pada, the native will have a well-built physique and will be amiable by nature.

Second Pada

When Venus is placed the second pada, one will share warmth and affection with his family. He will provide support and encouragement to his many friends, and will possess many resources in the latter half of life. The native will be an author, artist, and art lover. If the appropriate attention is provided to his education, he may become an engineer or a mediator.

Third Pada

Venus placed in the third pada of Ashwini indicates one who is astute and learned. He will enjoy an active social life. He may be a doctor, politician, or a sculptor. There will be some defect in his body. If there are other benefic combinations in his horoscope, the native may be quite popular and altruistic.

Fourth Pada

- ❖ Venus placed in Ashwini's fourth pada indicates a native who is attractive, well-spoken, and an influential orator. He may be a talented and

renowned actor, writer, or music director.

- ❖ If Venus is conjoined with Sun, the native's married life will be difficult and quarrelsome. His marriage will take place under hasty or unusual conditions.

Saturn in Ashwini

- ❖ If Saturn in Ashwini receives the aspect of the Sun, the native may earn his livelihood from livestock. He may be affiliated with the leather business or agriculture. He is enterprising and succeeds at arduous tasks. However, if the Sun is not favourably placed, the native may not receive love from his father.
- ❖ When Saturn has the Moon's aspect, the native may associate with those of ill-character. He himself may be of a cruel nature, vulgar and living in underprivileged circumstances.
- ❖ With the aspect of Mars on Saturn, the native may be loquacious, deceitful, and uncharitable.
- ❖ When Mercury has drishti on Saturn, the native earns money from illicit business practices.
- ❖ Jupiter's aspect gives one a senior position in government⁶. He enjoys great wealth and a gentle family life.
- ❖ The aspect of Venus indicates one who resides in foreign lands. Even though his behavior may be somewhat dour, he will be influential. He may be loved by women, and will waste money on luxuries.

First Pada

Saturn in the first pada of Ashwini indicates one who will spend his childhood in poverty. As time passes, his life steadily improves.

Second Pada

The native's complexion will be dark if Saturn is placed in the second pada of Ashwini. He will have curly hair; his forehead will be broad, and his body lean. Such a subject will be shrewd at making money, but will act clownishly. He will always worry needlessly about his financial condition. Having a vicious and moody temperament, the native will engage in unethical acts during the first half of life.

Third Pada

- ❖ Saturn placed in the third pada of Ashwini indicates one with exceptional business skills⁷. Such a native will be

⁶ Interestingly, the Sun is considered a karaka for the government. Ravana has mentioned that Saturn in its debilitated sign denotes one who holds a high government position. This curious statement prompts one to ask if perhaps the ancient seers viewed debilitated planets in a different (more positive?) light than in modern interpretations.

well-travelled and highly sociable. He will offer support and act as an advocate for his subordinates in business, and will always be remembered for his philanthropy. Nonetheless, this native may be pushy and irascible.

- ❖ In the birth chart of a woman, when Saturn in Ashwini is under the Sun's aspect, the native may remain single. If marriage does take place, there will likely be a divorce later.
- ❖ If the Moon aspects Saturn, the native may be homely and have a foul body odour.

Fourth Pada

Saturn's placement in the fourth pada of Ashwini suggests a comfortable life for the native. In spite of his religious beliefs, he may at times act immorally.

- ❖ With the Sun's aspect on Saturn, the native may earn his livelihood from agriculture.

Rahu in Ashwini

First Pada

- ❖ When Rahu is placed in the first pada of Ashwini, one will be burly, intelligent, and devoted to his father. He will receive proper support from his guardian. He bears a black mole on the face⁷.
- ❖ If Rahu receives a malefic aspect, the native will have to face many accidents in his life. Nonetheless, he will survive all.

Second Pada

If Rahu is in the second pada, one will be a firm believer in religious rituals and customs. He will travel abroad, and his livelihood may depend on charity. His life will be unstable, and in the latter part especially, he may suffer from psychological disorders.

Third Pada

- ❖ The native will experience financial difficulties with Rahu in the third pada of Ashwini. He may experience a sense of deprivation in life, and will not find any work that interests him. He will be emotional and

⁷ Saturn, the natural 10th lord of profession, is here said to give exceptional business skills in its debilitation sign. Note that the 1st house is also considered the house of profession, as per other classics.

⁸ For those interested in predicting moles, one may wish to refer to the late J. N. Bhasin's translation of *SaptaRishi Nadi*, in which moles are indicated by Rahu. Rahu's placement in Aries, the 1st house of the natural zodiac, seems an accurate indication of moles.

philosophical, and may renounce the world and become a yogi. He experiences difficulty with married life, and hoards the property of others.

- ❖ If Rahu has Jupiter's aspect, the native will possess a large amount of hidden wealth. He will be unscrupulous, though of a cheerful nature. He may be knowledgeable in marine science technology⁹ (*jalvigiyanī ya yantra ka gyata rehṭa hain*).

Fourth Pada

- ❖ When Rahu is located in the fourth pada of Ashwini, the native will be brave, enduring, powerful, and well-spoken. He may suffer from gastro-intestinal disorders.
- ❖ If the Sun aspects Rahu, the native will be conscientious about fulfilling his professional duties and obligations. He will rely on friends to help him solve problems.

Ketu in Ashwini

First Pada

If Ketu is placed in the first pada of Ashwini, one will be highly educated. His many successes will serve as an inspiration to others. The native will be a specialist and may earn his livelihood in a manufacturing enterprise. He may be a mechanical engineer or be involved in technology and business.

Second Pada

Ketu in the second pada reveals one who is poor. Nevertheless, he may have an aptitude for public relations, and will profit from work in the public sector.

Third Pada

Ketu in the third pada of Ashwini indicates one with low-class associates. Though he may never have children, he will gain some respect in society because he helps others.

Fourth Pada

The native will live away from his birthplace when Ketu is present in the fourth pada of Ashwini. He will depend on others to give him food, and he will only live to age 35 to 40 years.



⁹ The mention of marine science technology in such an ancient classic is noteworthy.