



IMPORTANCE OF VASTU IN ASTROLOGY

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The origin of the word 'Vastu' is as follows:-

**Vasanti pranino'treti
Vastupadavyutpattih /**

This is explained in the Mayamata in two stages:

**Amartyas Caiva Martyas ca yatre
yatra vasanti hi tad vasto iti matam /**

'The place where the immortals and mortals line is called Vastu ;वास्तुद्ध, i.e the dwelling site'; and.

**Prasadadini vastuni vastsutuad
Vastusamsrayat**

'The dwelling is the structure proper erected above the dwelling site hence called Vastu.

Thus the word Vastu includes both the dwelling and the dwelling site.

Vastu Sastra has grown out of life. It has its techniques of identification with Nature. Life and destiny are a part of the universal fabric of Nature. Today, Vastu Sastra is yet to be discovered and systematized. And that is why some intellectuals may have a reckless urge to dismiss it as totally irrelevant, groundless and even superstitious. But as a matter of fact, this science has outlasted the history of modern science and it continues to yield amazing powerful results on many people in their lives and work.

The difference between astrology and Vastu is that astrology gives general direction of one's life. It defines one's weakness tendencies and strength which one can try to overcome by improving oneself and minimize the weakness through efforts. It gives some solace to one in difficult circumstances.

By using the principles of Vastu one can definitely within a reasonable span, improve one's financial stability and also relationship with the outer world. Once you make the necessary changes in your house or workplace other things automatically follow.

Vastu Sastra is one of the branches of Hindu Astrology. The Rishis should have thought deeply on the Karakatva of the planets or their significations in formulating the principles of Vastu. The principles given by our Acaryas are of eternal nature in the changing world. The characteristics of the Karakatva of planets cannot be changed. Keeping in view the natural laws the Rishis have given the basis to build houses temples cities etc. By following these principles of Vastu i.e. the Karakatva of planets in building dwelling places we can get peace and general happiness in our lives.

The whole world is a manifestation of the Panca-mahabutas or panca-tattvas viz., P[^]thvi, Apa, Tejas, Vayu and Akasa. The Akasatattva works in higher dimensions of life. Whereas the four

basic Tattvas viz P[^]thvi, Apa, Teja, Vayu are of great utility in man's day to day life. He himself is a product of the Panca-mahabutas. The house in which he dwells has three components of the Tattvas and if proper rules are not followed. There will be every likelihood of suffering with anxieties in life.

Let us try to understand the different directions and their rulers.

Rules:- The East direction is ruled by the **Sun** and the West is ruled by Saturn. In the same way, the North is ruled by Mercury, and the South is ruled by Mars. The North-East is ruled by Jupiter, and the South-East is ruled by Venus. The North-West is ruled by the Moon, and the South-West is ruled by Rahu.

East:- The **Sun**, who rules this direction, is the promoter of health and that is why the sun-rays should enter a house early in the morning. Therefore we have to keep doors and windows properly to get the sunlight in a house. Windows are therefore ruled by the **Sun** and the Moon who are called the luminaries which in other words are

planets responsible for light in human life, and more specifically, physically, and mental, health. The life giving principles of the **Sun** should be followed by keeping doors and windows open so that sunrays enter a house, as the morning **Sun** has a property of purifying water. The entry of sunlight in the morning is life Protecting and as the **Sun** goes up his destructive force comes into play. By evening when it comes down it again has a soothing influence. If by chance the kitchen is located in the East of the house, Venus being the enemy of the **Sun** the housewife may suffer from bilious complains and nervous debility and also there may be uterine disorders.

West:- Saturn is the presiding deity of the West direction. This direction is very suitable for locating the dining room, which will bring auspicious influence to the family. The person who has the main door in this direction will have come up from great difficulties and increases out his livelihood by physical labour as Saturn stands for labour and hard work. To keep food grains in this direction is good.

North:- Since the **North** is ruled by Mercury which is a planet of the mind education etc. We can keep the study room in this direction. In addition to the treasury of wealth. The presiding deity Mercury who is symbolic of God **Viṅḷu** is the Lord of Wealth. If the main door is kept in this direction the head of the family will be intelligent and will earn his living through business enterprises or intellectual activities as Mercury stands for **Buddhi**; the **Karakatvas** for consultation and communication are good here. Generally this is a good direction to keep the money-chest.

South:- The South direction has **Mars** as its lord. This is the best direction for the bedroom. The husband governing planet Mars and the wife governing planet Venus are both friendly to each other. This therefore is a good direction for them to sleep and is very conducive to deep attachment and understating between them. When the kitchen and the bedroom are in one direction the couple will experience a lot of mental unrest. It is also not good to take food in this direction as they may suffer ill-health or other ailments.

This direction is called the direction of the god of Death.

North-west:- Vayu is the presiding deity of this direction. Vayu is the god of wind and the ruler is the **Moon**. If the main door is towards this direction the lord of the house will have many travels. This is a very good place for storage of food-grains. The Puja room here will also bring auspicious indications

South-West:- This direction is ruled by **Rahu**. This is the place where the toilet has to be built. If by chance the walls of this direction are damaged, there will be visitations of spirits.

North-East:- This direction is ruled by **Jupiter** and the presiding deity is Isvara. This is the place where divine contemplation is done. Idols of worship should be kept in this direction. The owner of the house will have high honour respect and prestige in society. It is said that the Puja room and the bathroom in this direction will ensure auspicious results and will promote longevity, good health, good fortune and peace of mind.

South-East:- The presiding deity of the South East is Agni the god of fire and **Venus** is the governing planet of this direction. If the kitchen is kept in this direction there will be peace and happiness in the family. If by chance there is an overhead tank or large accumulation of food articles in this direction corners, the house wife and her daughters will suffer from ill health.

Therefore to understand the good and bad aspects of different portions of the house one has to understand the permutations and combinations of major planets and sub planets joining them. In order to understand this, we have to identify each planet with different portions of the house. The **Sun** and the **Moon** representing the windows are found on the right and left side of the front portion of the house. The inside hall of the house is identified with **Mars**, **Venus** with the bedroom, **Saturn** with the store room and **Ketu** with ventilation of the front door. Generally speaking **Ketu** represents the conservancy stagnant water or a ditch. The moon generally stands for

cowshed and also storage of grains. Though **Saturn** is also a planet connected with storage he represents Bhutagaṛas, which means living beings who consume food. Therefore the **West** direction is meant for dining room. In addition to mercury's jurisdiction of the hall in the house, he represents the treasury room where treasures of the house in the form of jewels, money, cash and documents are kept. It may be also called as strong room where the iron-chest is kept, **Rahu** the ruler of Nirtya is a planet ruling waste material. Therefore the lords of eight directions are Indra (East), Agni (South East), Yama (South), Varuṅa (South-West), Sani (West), Kubera (North), Isvara (North East) and Vayu (North West).

Let us study some of the **Karakatvas** of the planet which can fit into the Vastu principles: The **Sun** stands for fire, father, east direction, mental purity, copper and mouth. The **Moon** stands for mind, water, heart, silver, mother, pond, nourishment pleasures of life, eating, good blood and vital energy **Mars** stands for South, fire, affection, jewel, gold, beautiful

clothes, management of wild elements, independence etc. **Mercury** stands for treasury, education, writing, conversation, philosophy, doctor, astrology, flourishing of family and sacred prayer. Jupiter stands for cow. Philosophy, gods, finance, religious, duty, Mantra, holy water, movements in heaven, sweet juice, gentleness, Vedic text and being engaged in one's duty. Venus stands for women, Marriage. Southeast corner, beauty, love making, enjoyment, singing, happiness from wife and luck. **Saturn** stands for labour class, workers, service duty, old age, strong at the conclusion of the day, black grains, iron, a room where weapons are kept and quality of Tamas. **Rahu** stands for northwest direction, gambling, waste material and dirty things. **Ketu** stands for lord Gaṛesa, science of witchcraft, knowledge of Brahma, Philosophy and luck.

Now we can understand how our Rishis built houses in conformity with planetary directions and their Karakatvas for the peace and prosperity of man. They have also taken into consideration the **benefic** and **malefic**

qualities of the planets. For example Jupiter Mercury and **Sun** are benefic with Sattvika nature and the moon and Venus are benefic with Rajasika nature and Mars Saturn and Rahu are malefic with Tamasika nature. In our daily life we may segregate our actions into Sattvika Rajasika and Tamasika activities.

Now, when we come to the actual picture of house, we see the rules of **Vastu** for different activities as follows: Praying in the **North-East** direction, sleeping in the **South** direction, studying, commercial undertakings and keeping the treasury in the **North**, and storing of grains and having servants' quarters in the West of the house. When we take to the sleeping room, elders will sleep towards **South-West**. West ruled by Saturn is symbolic of old age and in other directions, young members of the house may be sleeping. Since the hall of the house is a communicating room where friends and relatives come and sit and discuss, it is ruled by **Mercury**, the planet of communication. The Vastu principles strictly follow the enmities and friendships of planets.

Thus, I can say that **Vastu** and **Astrology** are the two divine sciences with the help of which one can plan to have a peaceful and happy life. These two sciences deal with invisible forces which make one's life happy or otherwise.

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