



Conjunctions in Vedic Astrology

By Gary Gomes, Ed.D.

Photography James Seddon

Conjunctions are complicated events in a Vedic astrology chart, and there are several factors that need to be examined when assessing these patterns. First, which planets are involved in the conjunction?

The following factors should be analysed:

1. Are the planets friends or enemies to each other? (This information can be obtained in any Vedic Astrology software program.) If friends, the planets will work well together or have some consistency of purpose. If enemies, there will be struggles between the planets and the planets will present a struggle in parts of life that they govern.
2. Conjunctions placed in the 6th, 8th or 12th houses can cause good results if the lords of the 6th, 8th and 12th houses are placed in the houses, as described in Phaladeepika (difficult house lords in difficult houses tend to produce good results - similar to the multiplication of two negative numbers producing a positive number).

3. Are the planets rulers of benefic, difficult, or partnership houses in the chart? If the planets are benefic rulers (1, 4, 5, 9, 10), they will generally work well together. If conditions like planetary war (planets within one degree of each other), combustion (within range of the Sun), or affliction by a bad planetary or house aspect, the conjunction will be damaged and the person will have hardships. If the conjunction is in a difficult house, or rules a difficult house (3rd, 6th, 8th, 11th or 12th house), these combinations will generally cause difficulty, hardship, illness or loss, although the 11th lord can produce wealth if well placed. The partnership lords (2nd and 7th lords) can cause illness for individuals connected to the house rulers of conjoined planets but may also cause wealth or marriage which will be modified by the planets it conjoins. It should be noted that ANY planet in the company of another planet will always absorb some of the nature of that planet, so Jupiter in the same sign with Venus will act quite differently from Jupiter in the same sign with Saturn.

4. The primary significations of the planets must be tied to the planets involved (such as Sun for father, Moon for Mother, Mars for brother) and any other meanings connected to the planets.

5. Then, like building blocks, the interpreter must combine the significations to see how the primary significations will manifest based on the conjunction.

6. Most importantly, from my perspective, these planets must be analysed from a house rulership perspective.

Do the planets form good combinations or increase bad patterns? Does it form combinations that can lead to disease, poverty, ignorance, or wandering in life? From practical experience, one good conjunction can salvage a chart; one bad conjunction can damage most parts of the chart.

7. Moveable indicators. For example, the planet that is highest in degree regardless of sign represents the individual; the planet lowest in degree regardless of sign is the planet connected with the spouse (these are most commonly used in Jaimini astrology). These should also be considered. For instance, if the marriage indicator is damaged by conjunction with the enemy or illness indicator, it can provide a bad marriage, a sick spouse, or constant struggle.

8. It is also important to determine if the conjunction of planets, house rulers and moveable house indicators will be advantageous or harmful to the person. It should be noted that planets retain their natural disposition, as do houses, in Jaimini astrology. So, Saturn will always be a bit pessimistic; Jupiter, happy, etc. The sixth, eighth and twelfth houses will always contain some degree of difficulty.

9. Transits are also important factors, as difficult transits passing over conjunctions can be immensely challenging, and benefic transits can be very beneficial. When these clusters of planets gather, they can signal big events or big challenges.

10. Conjunctions of planets in houses can reflect concentrations in a chart. They can reflect areas of life in which the person can reap benefits, must work harder, or can leave behind. This is particularly true of 3-4 planet conjunctions which can sometimes dominate a chart.

11. Finally, there are combinations found in the Garga Hora, Lal Kitab, Bhrigu Nandi Nadi, Deva Keralam and other books which do not seem to follow Parasara's rules of interpretation, but, nonetheless, produce unique effects. Patterns such as these should be studied to unlock logical keys that will enhance chart interpretation.

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Dr. Gary Gomes has been a Vedic Astrologer and teacher for nearly 30 years. He has trained in Vedic Astrology with several teachers, including K. N. Rao. He has also served as President and Vice-President of the Council of Vedic Astrology, been recognized by Bharat Vidya Bhavan for his contributions to Jaimini and has been recognized as a Jyotish Choodamani. He is also a Jyotish Kovid and Swami of the Temple of Kriya Yoga, and holds academic degrees in Education, Business and Sociology from Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts and the University of Massachusetts. He is also a faculty member at Kepler College.