

Parasara Manifesto

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The original Vedic astrology was taught by Sage Parashara, the father of Vedavyasa, who later wrote the great epic **Mahabharata**. Vedic astrology, also known as **Hora Shastra**, is based on **Shastra**, not modern science. Many people misunderstand the difference between **Shastra** and **Science**, but they are not the same.

A **Shastra** is a guiding principle that must be followed (Sasana). The word Sasana means a directive or command given by someone you consider authoritative and trustworthy.

For example, imagine your father telling you as a child:

"Don't sleep until 8 AM. Wake up at 6 AM, go for a jog, or play sports."

This is **Sasana**, a directive meant for your well-being.

Scientifically, there's no harm in waking up at 8 AM. You could exercise in the evening and still stay healthy. However, **Sasana** is not based solely on scientific reasoning; it is a rule set by wisdom and experience, which may or may not have a scientific explanation. Even when science explains a **Sasana**, it does so in a different way than how a **Shastra** directs it

You can choose to believe in **Shastra** (like the Sasana given by your father) and start waking up early in the morning. If you align your life with such wisdom, you will likely experience many positive changes. But why did your father give you this instruction? He may have spoken from his own life experiences, intuition, or deep confidence in its benefits. Importantly, he didn't give this advice to everyone, only to you, his child.

This is the unique nature of **Sasana** or **Shastra**. It is not



meant for everyone at all times. Both the giver (the one who shares wisdom) and the receiver (the one who follows it) must be **ready**. There must be a meaningful connection, a valid reason for transmitting the knowledge. If you accept and follow the Sasana, it will be beneficial for you.

In ancient times, during the **Gurukula** education system, students lived at their **Guru's** (teacher's) home for years to learn. But the Guru never started teaching immediately, nor did he teach all students the same way at the same time. He observed each student closely. When he sensed that a student was **ready** and when the student also felt prepared to receive, then the **Sasana** (teaching) would begin. At this stage, deep knowledge did not require hours of lessons. If the Guru and student were aligned, the wisdom naturally flowed, transferring like an energy from teacher to student.

Planets do not control you; they influence you.

Vedic astrology, or **Hora Shastra**, follows the same principle. It is not what many think, it does not claim that planets have power over living beings. That is a misinterpretation. Planets do not control you; they **influence** you. Influence and power are not the same.

Moreover, planets and **Grahas** are different. The system of Navagraha does not represent the nine planets as defined by modern astronomy. For example, Earth is a planet, but it is **not** a **Graha**. The Sun, which is not considered a planet in modern science, **is** a **Graha**. The Moon, though a satellite, is also a **Graha**.

The word **Graha** comes from the root **Grah**, meaning “**to grasp**” or “**to influence**.” A **Graha** is something that influences your day and time. Does the Sun affect you? Absolutely, your entire daily cycle is structured around the Sun. That is why the Sun is a **Graha** for you. It influences your life, your time, and your energy.

A common question arises: **How can a distant planet like**

Saturn influence us, especially when it's not even visible to the naked eye? The answer lies in understanding what **influence** truly means, it does not require something to be physically seen or directly felt.

1PM Clock

Consider a simple example: **Does the clock showing 1 PM influence you?** For those who attend school, college, or work, 1 PM is often associated with lunchtime. Over time, the mere sight of 1 PM on a clock triggers hunger, not because the clock **causes** hunger, but because people have repeatedly associated that time with eating. Initially, hunger comes first, and 1 PM is just a reference. But after repeated reinforcement, the clock itself starts to influence when you feel hungry.

This principle is fundamental to Vedic astrology. Think of mathematics: when we write $x = 5$ and $y = 8$, these are just symbolic representations of numbers. Similarly, in programming, `int i = 0` is simply a variable used to reference something.

In the same way, Vedic astrology uses the bright planet Venus as a **symbolic reference** for love and marriage. The concept of love and marriage existed first, just like hunger came before the 1 PM reference. But over time, after observing patterns in people's lives, astrologers assigned Venus as a marker for love and relationships. Venus itself does not **cause** marriage, just as the clock does not **cause** hunger. A planet orbiting the Sun has no awareness of human concepts like love or marriage. It is we who have assigned these meanings, not the other way around.

Similarly, when Vedic astrology observed recurring patterns of misfortune, such as failed crops, financial losses, or natural disasters, these events were mapped to specific time periods. Using intuition and deep insight, the ancient sages chose Mars (**Kuja**), with its fiery red glow, and Saturn (**Shani**), a large and slow-moving planet, to represent these challenges. Mars itself does not create problems, just as a red traffic light doesn't **cause** you to stop, it simply signals a pattern.

So when Vedic astrology says that a particular position of Mars (**Kuja**) brings difficulties, it's not because Mars has any power over you. Instead, historical data has shown that certain negative events tend to align with Mars' placement. Again, think of it like the 1 PM clock, Mars doesn't **cause** harm, but its position serves as a reference to indicate when hardships are more likely to occur.

This is how Vedic astrology functions, it is not about planets controlling your life but about identifying patterns and influences that have been observed over generations.

Human life and its problems cannot be mapped using just nine **Grahas (Navagraha)**. Life is filled with countless permutations and combinations, each representing different situations and experiences. Vedic astrology uses these variations, like mathematical equations, to interpret life's complexities.

For example, in algebra, if we have $x + y = 10$ and $x - y = 2$, solving for x and y gives different values, depending on the operation used. Similarly, different planetary alignments create unique outcomes in a person's life. Each combination has its own significance, just as different mathematical equations produce different results.

However, there is nothing "scientific" in the way Sage Parashara recorded these principles. He did not follow a step-by-step scientific process of hypothesis, experimentation, and proof. Instead, what he shared was **Sasana**, a direct revelation, an intuitive realization that flowed naturally through his awakened mind.

Think of it like this: when your father tells you to wake up at 6 AM, it is not because he conducted a scientific study on the benefits of waking early. It is his wisdom, his lived experience, and his inner knowing that led him to tell you that. Science requires reasons, causes, and step-by-step validation. **Shastra**, on the other hand, is rooted in trust, transmission, and direct realization.

Three things matter in Sasana:

1. **Who told you** – the authority behind the knowledge
2. **What exactly was told** – the purity of the instruction
3. **To whom it was told** – the readiness of the receiver

This is the essence of **Parastro**, the astrology of Parashara. It is not just about planets and charts; it is a beautifully crafted framework for life itself, a divine **Sasana** from Sage Parashara.

