

The Eastern Window

by Penny Farrow

Editor's Note: Cross ventilation produces a breath of fresh air. It is desirable in a house and even in a magazine! In this spirit, we are featuring a series of short articles designed to make some of the basic building blocks and ideas of Vedic astrology more accessible to all. We anticipate that opening the Eastern Window can clarify the complementarity between great astrological traditions.

Elevator Going Up

Barbra Streisand and Neil Diamond graduated from Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn a few years before I did. We all sang in the top-tier mixed choir of that venerable institution and were the children of immigrant Jewish families eking out a living in the late 1940s and early '50s. The resemblance ends there. True to our charts, they have worldwide recognition and I, alas, do not.

People rise in life in endless ways and in uncountable shades of gray: the chief cook in a busy restaurant, the first tuba in a prestigious college marching band, the mayor of a small town or large city, or the president of the United States. The ability to predict that rise and its magnitude is one of the most fascinating topics in Jyotisha.

Though pre-eminence in a chart can be seen in a variety of ways, skilled Jyotishis will start by scanning a chart for what are known as *raja yogas* — yogas (combinations) indicating that the native potentially has what it takes to ride the elevator up. Assessing the level of success depends upon the quality and confluence of these yogas and upon the ability of the native to capitalize on them. Some of these yogas are relatively

easy to spot, while others are less common and therefore slip under the radar.

The many ancient texts of Jyotisha highlight a certain set of *raja yogas* that are based on rulers of auspicious *bhavas* (houses). It is generally agreed that the most auspicious *bhavas* are the *trikonas* — *bhavas* 1, 5, and 9. They are said to be the places of dharma, grace, and good fortune and, as such, are linked to the very auspicious deity Shri Lakshmi. The rulers of these three *bhavas* are the lords of dharma (action in harmony with natural law).

Also considered to be highly favorable are the four *kendras* — *bhavas* 1, 4, 7, and 10. These angular houses are thought to represent themes that are the pillars of our life in the material world. Collectively, the rulers of these *bhavas* are said to be the lords of karma (action). Note that the *lagnesha*, the ruler of the 1st *bhava* (which is both a *trikona* and a *kendra*), becomes especially significant and potentially very auspicious.

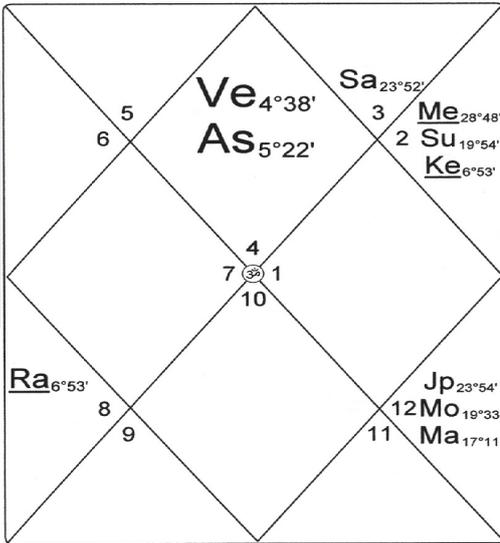
The 1st *kendra* denotes our body, which is like a pillar from foot to head. The 4th represents the field in which that pillar was planted — our ancestors, mother, DNA, primal mind, and emotional peace. The 7th denotes all others with whom we deal who aren't blood relations. In ancient times, marriage was a contractual relationship with the "other," and therefore the 7th *bhava* is the all-important place where we read the partner. And the 10th *bhava*, the Midheaven, represents all our actions and how we are seen as a result of the way we engage in our worldly life. It is the *bhava* of the en-

tire range of karmas, from career to spiritual rituals. These four *bhavas* are linked to Lord Vishnu, said to be the powerful deity who maintains the creation we are currently living in.

Lakshmi and Vishnu are indeed the power couple of the Jyotisha tradition. Their union is an indicator of actions imbued with dharma and good fortune. This is discernible in a chart if there is a marriage, a mutual relationship, between the ruler of a *trikona bhava* (Lakshmi) and the ruler of a *kendra* (Vishnu). Such a marriage is one of the more accessible chart indicators of a rise in life, and these configurations are known as Dharma Karma Adhipati yogas, or simply DKA yogas. As the term Adhipati can be translated as "lord," the name reflects how these yogas are formed — the *sambandha* between a dharma lord and a karma lord. The texts



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Angelina Jolie
North and South
Indian charts,
Lahiri ayanamsha,
and the Mean Node

call them raja yogas, but not all of these yogas give those big kahuna results. Remember, in ancient India you could be a raja (king) of a dusty postage stamp of a kingdom or a scion of vast rich lands.

In an earlier issue (Aug./Sept. 2017), we discussed this notion of *graha sambandha*, which is a mutual relationship between two grahas (planets). Briefly, when two grahas are together in a particular bhava, they are said to be *samyukta* or *yuti* (associated) and therefore in sambandha. When grahas have mutual *drishti* (aspects), they also have sambandha.

We are going to return to the chart of Angelina Jolie because she sports a number of these more easily recognized DKA yogas for pre-eminence. (See **Figure**, above.) The premier combination among the possible permutations of dharma and karma lords hooking up is the sambandha between the ruler of the 9th (the principal bhava of dharma and grace) and the ruler of the 10th (the principal bhava of karma). This sambandha is the one that can signal a most significant rise, should other chart factors support it.

In Angelina's chart, notice that the ruler of the 9th is Jupiter, who happens to be occupying its own *rashi* (sign) of Pisces. The rashi of Aries falls on the 10th bhava, and therefore Mars is the ruler of the 10th. Mars is in the 9th bhava in sambandha (in this case, *yuti* or association) with the *swa* 9th lord Jupiter, forming a first-class yoga of pre-eminence, a raja yoga. This unites the positive meanings of the 10th

bhava, such as career, fame, and reputation, with the good fortune of the 9th house bringing in additional themes of charity, service, contact with spiritual emissaries, foreign lands, etc.

What is it that distinguishes Angelina's 9/10 raja yoga from the numbers of such yogas that occur in the charts of ordinary people? Here are some of the most significant among many factors: (1) She has a strong enough Ascendant (*lagna*) and Ascendant lord (*lagnesha*) to actualize this yoga, as discussed in the previous column (Dec. 2017/Jan. 2018); (2) at least one of the grahas making that yoga is very strong, being *swa* (in its own rashi); and (3) she has several other raja yogas in her chart that give a powerful confluence of combinations for fame and success.

Just for fun, try to find some of the other DKA yogas in Angelina's chart. Which one(s) do you think relate more directly to her fame and visibility? (The **Answer Key** is found at the end of the article — no peeking!)

We can then conclude that although these DKA yogas are abundant, whether they indicate a ride up to the penthouse or only to the third floor depends on the ecosystem of the individual chart. Does it have the rest of the "right stuff" — including the all-important factor of timing? That is the subject of the next installment of The Eastern Window.

Chart Data and Source

Angelina Jolie, June 4, 1975; 9:09 a.m. PDT; Los Angeles, CA, USA (34°N03', 118°W15'); AA: BC/BR in hand.

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(Of these, the sambandha of the lords of 1/10 most directly links to fame, as both the 1st and 10th houses have fame as one of their central meanings.)

Lords of 1 and 10
Lords of 1 and 5
Lords of 1 and 9
Lords of 7 and 5
Answer Key: