



Om Sree Gurubhyo Namha

Om Sri Ganesayanamaha

A brief Note on Retro Planets - by Prof.C.S.Rao



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INTRODUCTION: Horoscopes are drawn and analyzed on the basis of astronomical speed of planets. Some horoscopes indicate “Retro Planet” if the planet is going back. In real cosmic setup no planet moves “backward” or even “slow down” in its orbit. So retrogression is termed as an “apparent” phenomenon.

Retrograde-station-direct cycles are essentially illusions from Earth’s point of view. This is because the Earth is also orbiting around Sun with a different speed. Men on Earth do not feel the speed of Earth and feels that other planet is going back.

A retro planet is considered as away from Sun than in its normal times and so less combust. With this low combustion the retro planet becomes more independent and their effect on Earth is more intensive. As per classical theories. “*vakri balopetha*” is the normal dictum.

In mathematical part - in arriving at “Shabala” and the “Avastas” of planets motional strength (Chesta bala), Powerful motion (Saktaavasta) and accelerated movement (bheetaavasta) of planets are calculated.

Coming to the predictive part, the impact of a retro planet is considered as different from that of its normal times. Predictive theories differed in giving importance to the retro position of planets. However, the study of retro planets is useful to know the native’s past karma influence if his birth chart has any retro planet(s). Study of a retro planet is, in fact, revealing valid information on the past karmic influence of the native.

Retrograde frequency of Planets: Following is the frequency of planets “retro” movements: Sun and Moon never seen on retro motion. Rahu and ketu - being points of intersection are always seen on reverse motion in the horoscope.



Planet	Frequency	Duration of retro movement	Approximately Stationed before and after for	Distance from Sun (degrees)		Effects
				Retrograde	Direct	
Mars	Once in 2 years	80 days	3 or 4 days	226 ⁰ appx.	130 ⁰ appx.	Angry- Poverty - accidents
Mercury	Thrice in a year	24 days	1 day	14 ⁰ to 20 ⁰ appx.	17 ⁰ to 20 ⁰ appx	Changes the mode of thinking
Jupiter	Once in a year	120 days	5 days	245 ⁰	115 ⁰	Misfortune;
Venus	Once in 2 years	42 days	2 days	29 ⁰	29 ⁰	Separation in family life
Saturn	Once in a year	140 days	5 days	251 ⁰	109 ⁰	Misunderstandings

Retro Planet - A Karmic indicator: Study of retrograde planets as a KARMIC indicator is based on its influence on native's body and consciousness. Human body is composed of five elements (pancha bhutas). Native's consciousness is developed through the nerve centers i.e, Chakras (nerve centers) and on body's sense organs (Jnanendriyas and Karmendriyas). Sahsrara and Ajna chakras are under the influence of Sun and Moon. Other chakras are under the influence of other five planets as detailed below.

Retro Planet influence on Chakras-Retrograde Planets influence the primary structure of the human consciousness and its relationship with its human life. By blocking the CHAKRAS and complicating the Pancha bhutas, they create disconnection and imbalances, inability to control the senses. An individual has to understand their retrograde planets and nurture them to bring back to harmony. The following is an indication of the Planets and their connection to chakras and elements.

Planet	Tatwas ; Elements; Indriya.	Chakra Blocked by retro Planet	When the Planet is Retrograde
Mars	Tejas- Fire	Manipura -deals with balance, vision and energy.	Retro Mars - blocks the way and creates problems in a subtle way. Logic gets skewed or twisted. Unethical but very powerful. Native do not understand their own power and do not know how to use it properly.
Mars	Sight; Eyes; Feet and Legs		
Mercury	Prithvi-Earth	Mulaadhaara Chakra - is blocked - Make native impractical and unstable.	Retro Mercury - Talking too much or No talking at all. If retro Mercury is also combust - Native is unsure of using his Mercury qualities.
	Smell; Nose; Anus		



Jupiter	Aakash - Ether	Visudha -- deals with knowledge, Wisdom, ability to purify poisons, repel negative forces. When blocked the poisons of the mind do not get right filter.	Retro Jupiter - spoils the Visudha chakra (filter) leads to wrong choices. Very knowledgeable but do not know how to use their knowledge. They have a different and unconventional view point in understanding and advising others.
	Hearing; Ear; Mouth (Speech)		
Venus	Apas- Water	Swadhishtana - deals with emotions, taste, happiness and peace.	Retro Venus -May choose unusual alliances- Do not know how to express love and affection.
	Taste, Tongue; Genitals		
Saturn	Vayu- air	Anahata Chakra -teaches dispassion and detachment - when retro Saturn blocks this chakra and native finds difficult to detach.	Retro Saturn - Native does not know when to stop working or do not work at all.
	Touch; Skin; Hands		

Astrological Study of retro planets revolves round the analysis of:

Impact of transiting retrograde planets whenever make sensitive angles to the sensitive points in the natal chart. Sensitive points in the natal chart are 9 points of planets and 12 points of house cusps. This study is to be made in two ways i.e.,

- (i) Natal charts with one or more retro planets;
- (ii) Natal charts with no retro planets; and
- (iii) Horary charts- (detailed study of horary charts not included in this article)

Analysis of Birth Charts- While analyzing a birth chart one must observe the following to know the impact of a transiting retro planet on natal positions of planets and house cusps.

1. Lordship and placement of any retro planet at birth and /or in its transit position.
2. One or more planet(s) in retro – at birth – and / or transit
3. Dasa / bhukti lords etc., while in retro motion.
4. Duration of retro planets in transit and its relation to the running dasa /bhukti lords.
5. Whether retro planet is a significator for the bhava results under study.
6. Whether a retro planet is cancelling any good yoga formed in birth chart -i.e., yoga bhanga e.g. Ruchika yoga is spoiled if Mars is retrograde.
7. Whether the retro planet is exalted / debilitated in natal or transiting positions
8. Connection of other planets with retro planet(s) at birth and/or in transit.
9. Duration of retro - stagnant - direct motion of the retro planet.
10. Is retro planet in the STAR of a direct / retro planet (in stellar astrology).
11. Is it Natal chart / question chart under study (Retro motion is not considered in natal chart in K.P.System)

Effects of retro planets in Natal Chart :: Eminent authors have differed in their views. The actual results from a retro planet depend much on the strength and weakness of the natal chart. There is need to analyze birth chart with retro planets because of present day complex



and complicated life events. Following are some of the views of prominent authors on the effect of a retro planet in Natal Chart.

- i. Karkatwa of a retro planet works in an **adverse manner**.
- ii. Retro planet in birth chart – indicate the **deficiency of that chakra** in the body and of that karakatwa at birth time.
- iii. Retro planet as a karmic planet – indicates more about bad karma committed by the native in his previous life connected to that karakatwa. What happened exactly in previous life cannot be narrated –literally – but a retro planet **indicates the area of error(s)** basing on its karakatwa.
- iv. A debilitated planet if in retro motion – gives **good results**
- v. An exalted planet if in retro motion – give **difficulties in the dasa period of that retro planet**.
- vi. Retro planet exalted in Rasi and debilitated in Navamsa varga – indication is **GOOD** result in the dasa periods of that planet.
- vii. Functional benefics - if in retro motion – give **GOOD results**
- viii. Functional malefic - if in retro motion – give **BAD results**
- ix. A retro planet during retro motion is likely to enter into previous sign - even then such retro planet continue to give the result of the sign where it started retro motion. Jupiter is an exception to this. Jupiter gives the result of the sign where it is posited actually. For example: (1) Saturn started retro motion in libra and happen to enter Virgo during the period of retro motion - Saturn give the results of Libra sign while in Virgo also. (2) Jupiter starts retro in Gemini and happens to enter into Taurus. Jupiter gives the results of Gemini while in Gemini and of Taurus while in Taurus.

Effects of Birth time Retro Planets on different Ascendants

Any planet when it is retrograde that retro planet to which house it is vyayadhipati (12th lord) becomes powerless to spoil that house. e.g., for Aquarius lagna native Jupiter is 2nd and 11th lord and if Jupiter is retrograde and running its dasa the native enjoys the results of 3 and 12. This mean that Jupiter is retro Kumbha lagna native matters like change of place, change of job, sale of house etc., will take place. In short, when a planet is retrograde it gives the results of a bhava succeeding to the bhavas owned by that retro planet. This is indicated, for 12 lagnas, in the following table.

Native's Ascendant	Retro planets effects on different Ascendants (as per their Lordship)				
	Mars (R)	Mercury (R)	Jupiter (R)	Venus (R)	Saturn (R)
Aries	2-9	4-7	10-1	3-8	11-12
Taurus	1-9	3-6	9-12	2-7	10-11
Gemini	2-7	2-5	8-11	1-6	9-10
Cancer	11-6	1-4	7-10	12-5	8-9
Leo	10-5	12-3	6-9	11-4	7-8
Virgo	9-4	11-2	5-8	10-3	6-7
Libra	8-3	10-1	4-7	9-2	5-6



Scorpio	7-2	9-12	3-6	8-1	4-5
Sagittarius	6-1	8-11	2-5	7-12	3-4
Capricorn	5-12	7-10	1-4	6-11	2-3
Aquarius	4-11	6-9	12-3	5-10	1-2
Pisces	3-10	5-8	2-11	4-9	1-12

Suggestions to be given to natives - Following are the planet -wise general suggestions to be given- to any native by different astrologers to adjust to the times of a retrograde planet.

1- When transit Mars is Retrograde - To wait and plan for future- Avoid frustration-Do not resort to poor choices- maintain energy levels- control impulsive actions-avoid arguments.- Not to initiate new projects- accept compromises - review goals and methods adopted. -- ensure proper health- avoid stress related matters- willingly adjustment to the situations

2-When transit Mercury is Retrograde - it is a chance to think of ways to improve life - to review and revise his life style- time to plan for changes in future- adjust himself and act on issues by giving new directions. -To know that adjustments made in retro periods will prevail throughout the year- To understand that things may go away from their regular way.- to avoid scope for misunderstandings, delays, disrupted negotiations, defective communications etc - be alert to face any unforeseen changes, obstacles etc.,- To understand the impact in retro times on his mind, his thought process.

3- When transit Jupiter is Retrograde - verify any chance to gain a better perspective on life - examine the chances of gains by reviving old contacts -understand the scope for any useful journeys.- get ready to receive the results of past deeds- make all efforts to complete any job left in completed earlier - improve knowledge of about spiritual matters.

4- When transit Venus is Retrograde -verify the impact on love matters and values thereon. -think of development of personal life, and relationships-. to postpone marriage performance, if any, till the Venus turn direct.- to postpone any major financial decisions. - Not to start any new things till its direct motion. - the plans of beautifications, decorations fails - control the nature of doubting himself with any complexities.- watch and ward any critical direction of current relationships.- avoid to plan any major changes to himself or his house.- get ready to receive old friends that may come back.

5-When transit Saturn is Retrograde - Review and accomplish any pending commitments.- learn to resist any tension due to delays and obstacles- avoid frustration by accepting things as they are.- take up issue based evaluation and openly decline unfavorable issues.- Not to begin a new venture without considering the completion of past commitments.- scan the surroundings and see how to change the current critical situations. - Not to get disappointed if things don't work out as per plans.- review and reorganize important life matters.

Example Charts: Example (1) : Natal Chart Female - 3 planets in retro motion and Venus is combust :: She set her own standards in the selection of a spouse for marriage. In spite of best efforts by parents she is struggling, for the last 4 or 5years, to finalize a life partner for marriage as per her standards. No employment due to poor performance in technical



education. Consequently becoming erratic and loosing health while in search of a suitable marriage alliance. Birth time chart: Planetary configuration - DOB. 15-06-1984 - Ascendant: Capricorn -18.09 Sun - Gemini; 1.05 Moon -Sagittarius 26.08; Mars-(Retro) Libra 18.10; Mercury - Taurus 22.06; Jupiter-(Retro) Sagittarius 16.11; Venus -(Combust) Gemini 1.00; Saturn (Retro) Libra-16.40 ; Rahu-Taurus -12.54 ; Ketu -Scorpio - 12.54.

Example (2) Natal Chart Female - Mercury is retrograde - conjoined with Saturn lagna lord in Aquarius Ascendant.. Native joined as Officer in Government service - She has gone abroad, many times, for better employment for about a decade. She traveled without completing leave formalities in Government service. At a stage, disciplinary action was started by Govt. and the job was at stake. At one stage decided to continue in Government service. Meanwhile had to face the wrath of disciplinary action and practically became much junior to all colleagues. - Birth time Chart - Planetary Configuration - DOB- 04-04-1966- Ascendant : Aquarius 22.15;;Sun-Pisces 20.21;; Moon - Leo 29.30;; Mars Pisces-26.09;; Mercury (Retro) Aquarius 29.21;; Jupiter - Gemini -1.21;; Venus - Aquarius- 3.59;; Saturn - Aquarius - 29.24;; Rahu -Taurus 2.39;; Ketu - Scorpio- 2.39.

Example (3) Natal Chart - Male: Two planets Jupiter and Saturn are in retro motion. Native is suffering for money. No proper employment. Indulges in real estate business. Most of the times live in high financial risk. Birth time Chart - Planetary Configuration - DOB 10-04-01956 - Ascendant - Scorpio - 11.20; Sun-Pisces-21.35;; Moon-Pisces-21.54;; Mars-Capricorn-4.4;; Mercury-Aries-2.32;; Jupiter-Retro-Cancer - 28.24;; Venus-Taurus-13.16;; Saturn-Retro-Scorpio-8.56;; Rahu-Scorpio-15.55;; Ketu-Taurus-15.55.

Example (4) Natal Chart - Male - Struggled for money for bread and butter till 55th year of age- i.e., around commencement of retro Mercury Mahardasa. - Mercury was in Retro motion - Posited 7th bhava - own sign with Sun forming Budhaditya Yoga. Conjoined with Mars. Lagna Saggittarius - retro Mercury is 7th lord. Badhka lord- 7th and 10th lord in 7th retro and combust. Native was a very good in karnatak classical Music Singer - vocal.. A renowned Singer in cine field in the earlier parts of his carrier. Being very orthodox in social movements could not make money even for minimum livelihood. Suffered with financial crisis for bread and butter also. But by the time of Budha Mahardasa commenced around his 55th-60th year he has written Hanuman Chalisa in Telugu and became a Devotional singer. He has given many programs in Andhra Pradesh and in London also. Made a lot of money, earned name and fame. His program was, then, recorded and is being played, in important temples even now i.e, after 20years of his death. Birth time Chart - Planetary Configuration :: DOB- 3rd July 1921: 17.38; p.m 80E35; 16N15. Lagna Saggittarius ;Sun;Gemini, Moon - Taurus -Rohini 3rd ; Mars-Gemini; Mercury (Retro) - Gemini; Jupiter- Leo; Venus-Taurus; Saturn - Leo; Rahu-Libra; Ketu Aries.

References in brief : (1) Dr.A.V.Sundaram - Articles in [saptagiri astrology website](#). (2) Dr.Shanker Adawal -Book “Know About Transit of Planets” (3) M.P.Shanmumugham, Book-“ Astro Secrets and K.P Part 1” (4)K.P.System- JASA Journal Article by Dr.Andrew Dutta. (5) Sarvardha Chandrika-4 volumns (in Telugu) by Mullapudi .Leela Krishna Murthy (6) Different websites from internet.
