

Will it be Bush or Gore for the USA?

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The other day I was visiting the neighbourhood bank. Noticing a copy of the VEDIC ASTROLOGY in my hand, Mr. Bimal Bhattacharya, general manager at the bank, expressed his interest in the journal. I too could not resist mentioning that I had been writing on the subject for a while now. His immediate query was, "Who is going to win the US Presidential election later this year?" I told him that though it was possible to make a prediction in this regard the relevant data would need to be procured and assessed according to the method of analysis laid down. The matter was left there although I made a mental note of the date and time out of sheer habit. Later I got to thinking that this indeed is an important upcoming event, the outcome of which will have a significant impact on the world as a whole at least for the next four years. The thought kept gnawing for attention leading me to wonder as to how the data for the main aspirants to the world's most powerful position could be obtained. As if ordained, the data was available in the VEDIC ASTROLOGY data bank. This indeed was a stroke of luck, as any data obtained from an external source may have had to be subjected to verification to determine its authenticity to the extent possible. Taking cue therefrom I set about attempting to take a peek into the coming US presidential election.

In contrast with India where we have a number of political parties of various hues, United States of America has virtually a two party system. They are the Democratic party and the Republican party. As I begin writing this paper, Mr. Al Gore, current vice president, is most likely to emerge

as the Democrat nominee for the presidential election. The Republicans are likely to choose Mr. George Bush Jr. to have a go at the hustings as their nominee. The opinion polls so far have given the Republican candidate George Bush Jr. a runaway lead over Al Gore. This by no means is any indication of the final outcome. There are still a couple of months to the election and the opinion polls are bound to present a varying scenario on a week to week basis, may be even more frequently. In this backdrop let us examine astrologically the probable outcome of the electoral race ahead.

Al Gore

We begin with Al Gore, not because he is the vice president or has better chances or that I have a soft corner for the Democrats, but simply because alphabetically he and his party score over the rival!

The birth particulars as per our data bank are as under :

Born on March 31, 1948; at 12:53 hours; at Washington, DC: DST: 0 hour.

The natal chart based on the above data has the Ascendant as Cancer 11:05, having a debilitated Mars, though enjoying neecha-bhanga yoga and being a yogakaraka having the fifth and the tenth lordship, and a retrograde Saturn having the seventh and eighth lordship, posited therein. Fourth house Libra has Ketu and, therefore, Rahu is in the tenth house Aries. Jupiter, the sixth and ninth lord is in own sign Sagittarius in the sixth house along with the lagna lord Moon. The third and twelfth lord Mercury is posited in the eighth house Aquarius. Sun having the second lordship is in

the friendly sign Pisces in the ninth house. Venus having the fourth and the eleventh lordship is in the own sign Taurus in the eleventh house.

A complete analysis of the natal chart is precluded from the scope of this article. We shall, therefore, restrict ourselves to the areas that may be relevant to the present quest. The placement of lagna lord Moon in the sixth house is not very good as such though being conjunct with Jupiter it forms a Gaja-Kesari yoga. In the navamsa Moon posited in own sign is an improvement. Navamsha ascendant being Libra, its lord Venus is in the fourth house in friendly sign Capricorn along with Saturn and in a *Paap-Kartari*. Not the best of situations. In dasamsa the Moon is in friendly sign Pisces in the tenth house aspected by an exalted Mercury, also the dasamsa laganasha since Gemini is the ascendant of dasamsa. An improvement here by any standard.

Fourth lord Venus is posited eighth from itself in own sign Taurus in the eleventh house while Ketu is posited in the fourth house Libra. The fourth house is aspected by a debilitated Mars. Venus in the navamsha chart has been dealt with above. In navamsha fourth lord Saturn is posited in the fourth house Capricorn conjunct with Venus receiving an aspect from the Moon in the tenth house and Jupiter in the eighth. In dashamsha Venus continues to be in Capricorn, though weakened as Capricorn occupies the eighth house here and being conjunct with a debilitated Jupiter. Dashamsha fourth lord is Mercury exalted in Virgo in the fourth house itself aspected by the Moon from the tenth and Jupiter from the eighth.

Fifth lord Mars is debilitated in the lagna, therefore, enjoying neech-bhanga yoga, conjunct with retrograde Saturn. Fifth house is aspected by Venus from the eleventh. In the navamsha, Mars is in Aquarius in the fifth house itself while fifth lord Saturn is in the twelfth

from it, in Capricorn. There are no aspects on Mars or the fifth house in the navamsha chart. In the dashamsha, Mars is in own sign Scorpio in the sixth house conjunct with Rahu, without any aspects. Fifth house Libra has an exalted Saturn posited therein aspected by Sun, while fifth lord Venus has gone to the eighth being conjunct with a debilitated Jupiter. In fact there is an exchange between the fifth and the eighth lords in the dashamsha chart.

Seventh lord Saturn is unaspected and has the eighth lordship as well. Being conjunct with debilitated Mars they aspect the seventh house from the lagna. Saturn in the navamsha has been dealt with earlier as has been Mars who is the navamsha seventh lord. The seventh house Aries has Ketu posited therein. In the dashamsha, Saturn is exalted, aspected by the Sun and is aspecting the seventh house. The seventh lord Jupiter is debilitated in the eighth house and conjunct with Venus.

Tenth house Aries has Rahu posited and aspected by Saturn from the lagna. The tenth lord Mars has been discussed above. In the navamsha, Mars and the tenth lord Moon have been dealt with earlier. Likewise for Mars in dashamsha and the dashamsha tenth lord Jupiter.

Eleventh house Taurus is unaspected and has own lord Venus posited therein. Venus has been analysed in both navamsha and dashamsha charts earlier. Sun the navamsha eleventh lord is posited in the friendly sign Sagittarius in the third house while Mars the dashamsha eleventh lord is in the sixth house in own sign Scorpio conjunct with Rahu.

Current Vimshottari dasha running is Rahu-Saturn-Jupiter and operates till 22nd November 2000 covering the election day. Rahu in Aries is aspected by Saturn, well placed in the tenth house, the strongest quadrant and the *Karmasthana*. Rahu should, therefore, be emulating its dispositor Mars, becoming the tenth lord in own house and thus a benefic for the

Sun	Rahu	Venus	
Mercury	Chart 1 Al Gore		Lagna Saturn(R) Mars
	March 31, 1948 Washington DC		
Jupiter Moon		Ketu	

Lagna	11°05'	Mars
Sun	17°48'	Mercury
Moon	10°06'	Jupiter

5	Lagna	3	2
6	Saturn(R) Mars		Venus
	4	1	
	Ketu	7	Rahu
		10	
8			12
9	Jupiter Moon		Sun
			11
			Mercury

25°00'	Venus	2°53'
23°46'	Saturn (R)	22°52'
5°29'	Rahu	21°27'

	Ketu	Mercury Jupiter	
Mars	Navamsha		Moon
Saturn (R) Venus			
Sun		Lagna Rahu	

9	8	Lagna	6	5
Sun		Rahu		
		7	4	
	Saturn (R) Venus	10	1	Moon
11				
Mars		Ketu		3
	12			2
				Mercury Jupiter

Moon	Sun	Ketu	Lagna
	Dashamsha		
Jupiter Venus			
	Mars Rahu	Saturn	Mercury

		Ketu	1
5	4	Lagna	2
			Sun
		3	
	Mercury	6	12
7		9	Moon
Saturn			
8	Mars Rahu		10
			Jupiter Venus
			11

Sun	Mars Jupiter Saturn		
Moon Mercury Venus	Varshaphala		Rahu
	March 31, 2000		
Ketu			
	Muntha	Lagna	

Lagna	16°16'	Mars
Sun	17°47'	Mercury
Moon	2°48'	Jupiter

	Muntha		
9	8	Lagna	6
			5
		7	
	Ketu	10	4
			Rahu
11		1	
Moon Mer Ven		Mars Jupiter Saturn	3
	12		2
	Sun		

12°44'	Venus	29°06'
20°15'	Saturn	21°39'
15°20'	Rahu	7°21'

native for career pursuits. Therefore, its mahadasha should bestow on the native, in the current context, power and fame. The antardasha lord Saturn is well placed in the lagna but its retrogression and conjunction with a debilitated Mars is a cause for concern. The pratyantardasha lord Jupiter being in own sign Sagittarius, forming Gaja-Kesari yoga with the Moon though in the sixth house can only be considered favourable for the electoral prospects. Both Jupiter and Saturn are average in *Shadbala*, while in Bhinnashtakvarga Saturn is weak with two points and Jupiter is above average with five points. At the time of swearing in the antardasha and pratyantardasha will be that of Mercury. Mercury being the third and twelfth lord is placed in the eighth. Placement in the eighth for Mercury is not considered adverse. Further such a placement is also giving rise to a Vipareeta Raja yoga. It is a matter of debate whether this will come into play in the present context. Mercury is below average in *Shadbala* and just about average in *Bhinnashtakvarga* with five points.

We go on to examine the Varshaphala for Al Gore commencing March 2000. The chart is for the 53rd year, 31st March 2000, 20:49:30 hours at Washington DC. The Ascendant is Libra. Fourth house Capricorn has Ketu and, therefore, Rahu is in the tenth house Cancer. Mercury, the Moon and Venus are in the fifth house Aquarius. The Sun is in the friendly sign Pisces in the sixth house. Saturn is debilitated in Aries in the seventh house conjunct with Mars and Jupiter. Mars the *Varshesha* is placed in the seventh and is with a very high strength of 15:4 indicating a good year for the native. Muntha is well placed in the second house although the placement of Muntha lord in the seventh is not considered favourable. The year ascendant is the fourth house in the natal chart, signifying throne amongst other things, and the natal ascendant being the tenth house, signifying profession, etc., in the year chart, bringing into prominence the

respective significations. In addition a number of benefic Tajika yogas, like Ithasala between the fourth/fifth lord and the seventh lord, the seventh lord and the tenth lord, amongst a host of others hold a promise for the coming period.

George Bush Jr.

Born on July 6, 1946; at 7:26 AM; at 72°W49', 41°N13'; DST: 1 hour.

The birth particulars of the prospective Republican candidate Mr. George Bush Jr. as per our data bank are as under :

The natal chart based on the above data has the Ascendant as Cancer 14:11. The lagna is in *Paap-Kartari*. Saturn the seventh and eighth lord, Mercury the third and twelfth lord along with Venus the fourth and eleventh lord are posited in the lagna. Mars is posited in the friendly sign Leo in the second house. Lagna lord Moon is enjoying a close conjunction with Jupiter, the sixth and ninth lord, in the third house Virgo forming a *Gaja-Kesari* yoga. Fifth house Scorpio has Ketu and, therefore, Rahu is in the eleventh house Taurus. RKA is considered to be in exaltation in these signs. Second lord Sun is posited in Gemini in the twelfth house.

As earlier mentioned, a complete analysis of the natal chart is precluded from the scope of this article. We shall, therefore, restrict ourselves to the areas that may be relevant to the present quest. The placement of the lagna lord Moon in the third house can be considered good to the extent of it being in an Upachaya house signifying expansion. Being conjunct with Jupiter it forms a *Gaja-Kesari* yoga. In the navamsha, the Moon posited in friendly sign Leo conjunct with the navamsa ascendant and sixth lord Mars, second and fifth lord Jupiter and third and fourth lord Saturn gives rise to a host of favourable yogas including *Gaja-Kesari*. In dashamsha the Moon, also the dashamsha laganasha since Cancer is the ascendant of dashamsha, is in friendly sign Sagittarius in the sixth house conjunct with Venus and the Sun.

Fourth lord Venus is well posited in the lagna, tenth from the fourth house, in Cancer, conjunct with Mercury and Saturn. The fourth house is unaspected. Venus in the navamsha chart is exalted in Pisces in the fifth house and is conjunct with Ketu. In the navamsha the fourth lord Saturn is posited in the tenth house Leo conjunct with Jupiter, Mars and the Moon. All these planets aspect the fourth house. In dashamsha, Venus is in Sagittarius in the sixth house conjunct with the two luminaries Moon and Sun. Venus is also the fourth lord in dashamsha chart. The fourth house has Rahu posited therein and is aspected by a debilitated Saturn from the tenth house.

Fifth lord Mars is well placed in friendly sign Leo in the second house and is aspecting the fifth house Scorpio. Ketu in the fifth house is in its sign of exaltation. There are no other aspects on the fifth house while Mars is unaspected. In the navamsha, Mars is in Leo in the tenth house conjunct with the navamsha fifth lord Jupiter along with Saturn and the Moon. In the dashamsha, Mars is exalted in Capricorn though conjunct with debilitated Jupiter and aspected by debilitated Saturn. Once again Mars is the fifth lord of the dashamsha chart too. The fifth house here is unaspected.

Seventh lord Saturn is unaspected and has the eighth lordship as well. Being conjunct with Mercury and Venus they aspect the seventh house from the lagna. Saturn in the navamsha has been dealt with earlier as has been Venus who is the navamsha seventh lord. The seventh house Taurus has no planet posited therein and it receives the aspect of Saturn. In the dashamsha Saturn, who is also the dashamsha seventh lord, is debilitated, aspected by Mars and conjunct with Ketu while aspecting the seventh house.

Tenth house Aries has no planet posited and is aspected by Saturn from the lagna while the tenth lord Mars has been discussed above. In the navamsha chart too Mars has been discussed and the tenth lord of navamsha Sun is exalted in Aries in

the sixth house. Likewise for Mars in dashamsha who is also the dashamsha tenth lord.

Eleventh house Taurus has Rahu posited therein in exaltation and is unaspect. Venus has been analysed in both navamsha and dashamsha charts earlier. Mercury the navamsha eleventh lord is posited in Sagittarius in the second house aspected by Jupiter.

Current Vimshottari dasha running is Saturn-Mars and operates till 27th December 2000 covering the election day. Saturn is well placed in the lagna conjunct with Mercury and Venus. The seventh lordship may well be the operative difference in the final outcome. Though Saturn is the eighth lord too, for Saturn this may not be considered as much of a blemish. The antardasha lord Mars enjoys the yogakaraka status and is well placed in the second house Leo. The pratyantardasha lord at the time of election will be the Sun. The Sun is the second lord placed in the twelfth house. However, the Sun is exalted in the navamsha chart and, therefore, despite its ill placement in the natal chart promises to bestow on the native the required strength to overcome opponents particularly in the field of politics. The Sun, Mars and Saturn are all on the better side of average in *Shadbala*, while in *Bhinnashtakvarga* Saturn is strong with five points, Mars is average with three points and Sun is again strong with six points. At the time of swearing in the antardasha and pratyantardasha will be that of Rahu, exalted in the natal chart and capable of bestowing favourable results on account of being in Scorpio navamsha too.

We go on to examine the Varshaphala for George Bush Jr. commencing July 2000, the chart is for the 55th year, 6th July 2000; 03:40:14 hours at New Haven, CT. The Ascendant is Taurus having yogakaraka Saturn and Jupiter posited therein. Second house Gemini has a conglomeration of four planets Mars, Sun, retrograde Mercury and Venus. Ninth house Capricorn has Ketu and, therefore, Rahu is in the

		Rahu	Sun
	Chart 2 George Bush Jr. July 6, 1946 New Haven, CT		Lagna Mer Ven Saturn
			Mars
	Ketu		Moon Jupiter

Lagna	14°11'	Mars	16°12'	Venus	28°23'
Sun	20°40'	Mercury	16°43'	Saturn	3°24'
Moon	23°36'	Jupiter	25°02'	Rahu	27°29'

6	Mars	Lagna	Sun	2
Moon	5	Mercury	3	Rahu
Jupiter		Venus	4	
		Saturn	7	1
			10	
8				12
Ketu	9			11

Venus Ketu	Sun		
	Navamsha		Moon Mars Jup Saturn
			Rahu
Mercury	Lagna		

	Mercury			6
10		Lagna		Rahu
			8	Moon Mars Jupiter Saturn
			11	5
			2	
12	Venus Ketu			4
			1	3
			Sun	

	Saturn Ketu		
	Dashamsha		Lagna
Mars Jupiter			Mercury
Sun Moon Venus		Rahu	

	Mercury			2
6	5	Lagna		3
			4	1
		Rahu	7	Saturn Ketu
			10	
8				12
	9	Mars Jupiter		11
	Sun Moon Ven			

		Lagna Jupiter Saturn	Sun Ven Mars Mer (R)
	Varshaphala July 6, 2000		Rahu
Ketu Muntha			Moon

Lagna	26°07'	Mars	19°19'	Venus	27°31'
Sun	20°41'	Mercury (R)	20°56'	Saturn	3°20'
Moon	22°55'	Jupiter	7°22'	Rahu	0°47'

4	Sun Mars Ven Mer(R)	Lagna	1	12
Rahu		Jupiter Saturn		
			2	
	Moon		5	11
			8	
6				10
	7			Ketu Muntha
				9

third house Cancer. The Moon is in the fourth house Leo. Saturn the Varshesha is well placed in the ascendant with a very moderate strength of 8:49 indicating a reasonable year for the native. The *Muntha* is well placed in the ninth house and the *Munthesha* is in the ascendant. Such a placement of the *Muntha* and the *Munthesha* is extremely favourable, particularly since the *Munthesha* is also the Varshesha and a yogakaraka for the year. The year ascendant is the eleventh house in the natal chart, signifying gains, enhanced status, etc., amongst others and the natal ascendant being the third house, signifying effort, valour, courage, etc., in the year chart bring into prominence the respective significations. However, the chart is lacking in benefic Tajika yogas, like Ithasala, etc.

Evaluating the effect of transits

presents somewhat a predicament. Both the front-runners share the same ascendant. We, therefore, shall have no option but to consider the effect of transit from the Moon only, though I personally consider ascendant as a better reference for such an exercise. Al Gore has the major planets Saturn and Jupiter in the sixth from his natal Moon posited in Sagittarius. At the end of this month RKA will commence a transit over his natal Moon with Ketu entering Sagittarius. On the other hand George Bush Jr. has his natal Moon in Virgo and, therefore, Saturn and Jupiter are in the ninth house Taurus. RKA will be entering the tenth fourth axis from Virgo which in itself is not adverse.

Trying to draw a definitive conclusion based on the above astrological

evidence is proving to be a handful. Both the candidates appear to have astrological strengths and weaknesses that tend to be balancing out. The situation is fraught with confusion. We may well witness the same lack of clarity transfer itself to the voters mind leading to wild swings in the opinion polls alternately favouring the contestants. The poll analysts will indeed have a tough time predicting the outcome of this election quite simply because the voter will not have made up his mind virtually till the election time.

On balance to make a call based purely on the astrological evidence, perhaps George Bush Jr. may be enjoying an edge over Al Gore, even if it be very slight. Though whether the edge is significant enough to ensure his victory will have to be seen. 🍀