

## The Navagrahas or Nine Planetary Gods in Hindu Religion and their Significance

The Hindus believe that Navagrahas play a key role in their destiny. and are responsible for all the good or bad times one faces in life. According to Hindu Astrology, significance is attached on the positions of the nine planets in the twelve constellations of the zodiac, the belt around the sky in which the movements of Sun, Moon and planets are confined.



People believe that transition of Saturn, Jupiter, Rahu and Ketu from one zodiac sign to other sign will bring good or bad or mixed fortunes. All miseries and obstacles caused by one or many planets will be mitigated by chanting Gayatri's relevant to the specific ill placement of any of these planets in ones horoscope.

Each of the Navagrahas, except Rahu and Ketu, rules one day each of the week and also have Gemstones representing them. The details of the Navagrahas are given below.

**SURYA (Sun):** The Sun is considered as a royal Planet and giver of life. The day of Sun is Sunday and gemstone is Ruby. The ill placement of Sun in Horoscope can cause mental tension, head aches, fevers, body ache, problems of the heart, blood pressure etc. Surya Namaskar is a good practice for attaining a healthy life.

**CHANDRA (Moon):** The Moon represents the mind, feminine nature, beauty and happiness. The mental stability and well being of an individual to a larger extent depends on the placement of moon in horoscope. The day of the Moon is Monday and gemstone is Pearl. An ill placement of the Moon can cause diseases like urinary infections, colitis, bronchitis, abdominal problems etc.

**CHEVVAY (Mars):** Mars is often referred to as a 'hot planet' and protector of Dharma. Mars controls the muscular system of the body and also rules over nose, forehead and circulatory systems. The day of Mars is Tuesday and gemstone is Coral. An ill placement of Mars can cause accidents, blood clots, and inflammation of the lungs, typhoid and other blood disorders.

**BHUDHAN (Mercury):** Mercury is representation of ones intelligence and communication. This Planet governs the nervous system. The day of Mercury is Wednesday and gemstone is Emerald. An ill placement of Mercury can cause stammering, bronchitis, asthma, paralysis, nervous disorders, brain fever, nasal disorders etc.

**GURU (Jupiter):** Jupiter symbolizes knowledge, love and spirituality. The day of Jupiter is Thursday and the Gemstone is yellow sapphire. This planet rules the thighs, flesh, kidney, liver, fat and arterial system. An ill placement of Jupiter can cause diabetics, piles, tumors, liver malfunction, blood cancer, gout etc.

**SUKRAN (Venus):** Venus symbolizes love and passion. The day of Venus is Friday and gemstone is Diamond. An ill placement of Venus can cause eye diseases, indigestion, skin rashes, pimples, impotency, venereal diseases etc.

**SANI (Saturn):** Saturn is often referred to as a 'dark planet' and symbolizes longevity, misery, grief and old age. The day of Saturn is Saturday and the gemstone is Blue Sapphire. An ill placement of Saturn can cause asthma, gout, arthritis, rheumatism, impotency, TB etc.

**RAHU** (Shadow planet - Snake's head) Rahu does not have any special day dedicated to it. According to Hindu Mythology Rahu swallows the Sun or the Moon, causing eclipses. When Rahu is afflicted, one faces several miseries and obstacles in the way of success. The gemstone of Rahu is Gomedh.

**KETU** (Shadow planet - Snake's tail) Ketu does not have any specific day dedicated to it. According to Hindu mythology, Ketu is generally referred to as a "shadow" planet and descending lunar node. According to Vedic astrology, Ketu is the representation of karmic collections both good and bad, spirituality and supernatural influences. The Gemstone of Ketu is Cats Eye.