

Budha (Mercury)

Budha means the intelligent, clever or a wise man in Sanskrit. It is also the name of one of the nine grahas whose movement affects human beings as well as nations and weather conditions that are the subject matter of the divine science known as Vedic Astrology. Hindu mythology (Puranas) tells that Budha (Mercury) is the illegitimate son of Chandra (Moon) out of Tara who was Guru's (Jupiter) wife. The Puranas tell us that Chandra was enamored of Tara the wife of Guru and seduced her when she was taking a walk in a garden. Tara is then said to have eloped with Chandra. On being asked by Guru to return his wife, Chandra refused to do so. Thereupon Guru sought help of other Gods who waged war against Chandra but Chandra who was helped by Shukra (Venus) defeated them. Then Guru sought help of Lord Shiva who set out to fight Chandra. Lord Brahma, who treats Chandra as his son, knew that this war would end in annihilation of Chandra and therefore went to Chandra and prevailed upon him to return Tara to Guru, thus avoiding war. Chandra relented and returned Tara who started living with Guru. However Tara was pregnant by that time and gave birth to Budha at Guru's place. On being confronted, she accepted that Budha was son of Chandra. However Budha was so handsome, sharp, capable of grasping things fast, and intelligent that Guru decided to accept him as his own son and taught him all the shastras (sciences), which Budha absorbed in a short time. In Vedic Astrology Budha considers Chandra as his enemy while Chandra considers Budha as a friend and the legend perhaps tries to tell us this important astrological principle through the mythological story.

Budha is considered the Prince in the planetary cabinet and is said to rule over त्वचा (Skin). He is also indicator of learning by listening and writing (called श्रुत and लिखित in Sanskrit) as well as education, as expected from the story of his birth. He is of a dainty appearance and possessed of a proportionate body. His colour is said to be light green. I think this is the colour of his clothes and other matters ruled by him. I attribute dark colour to him, when we consider colour of the Jataka. Let us see the attributes and names of Budha, below.

Rasis owned by Budha	Mithuna(Gemini) & Kanyā (Virgo) from 20° to 30°
Exaltation Rasi	Kanyā (Virgo)
Debilitation Rasi	Meena (Pisces)
Deep Exaltation (Parmocchamsha)	15° in Kanyā
Deep debilitation (Paramaneechamsha)	15° of Meena
Mooltrikona Rasi	15° to 20° of Kanyā
Season	Sharada Ritu (23 August to 23 October)
Taste	Mixed taste (sweet and sour)
Metal	Bronze
Colour	Like Durvā a grass used in rituals. This is a light green with some dark tint. His Body colour is dark.
Time frame	He rules over Ritu (Period of two lunar months)
Rising	By head
Resides in	Play ground
Gem	Emerald
Clothes	Black clothes. Some say its clothes are wet. Kalyānvarmā attributes light green clothes to Budha and I tend to agree.
Direction	Uttara (North)

Budha (Mercury)

Nature	Shubha (Benefic) when alone or conjunct a benefic, but Paapa (Malefic) when conjunct malefics.
Shape	Attractive and medium
Animal that he resembles	Birdlike (perhaps as birds were used to communicate)
Organ in Body	Skin and nerves
Dig bala (Directional strength)	Iagna bhava (East)
Humour	All three that is Kapha, Vāta and Pitta (The three humors of cough/cold, arthritic and acidic nature)
Hair	Thick hair (somewhat rough)
Eyes	Bluish some what large eyes, looks sideways
Caste	Vaishya (Trader class)
Height	Whether tall or short, but with proportionate body
Age	Adolescent, very young boy. Mantreshwar says he is 20 years of age
Element	Prithvi (Earth)
Deity	Lord Vishnu
Satellite of Budha	Ardhayaama (अर्धयाम)
Kālabala	Strong, both, in day and night
Cheshtā bala	He is strong in UttarāyaNa (Capricorn to Cancer)
Vakra bala	Budha gets strength when retrograde
Naisargika bala	Last but second in strength, being stronger than Mangal.
Trees and its parts	Fruitless trees and branches of trees
Names of Budha	He is known as, Somaputra, Bodhana, Shashija, Saumya, Induputra, Yaamininaathaputra, Kumāra, RauhiNeya, Tārāputra and by many other names
Diseases	Diseases related to nervous system, skin, chronic diseases, diseases like dysentery etc.

Budha also rules intellect, habit of using puns while talking, taking pleasure in humiliating others, quick grasp of any subject, learning by listening and reading, Atharvaveda etc. He rules over communication and its means, like journalism and communication equipments. It is well to remember that Budha is said to be ineffective when occupying the 4th bhāva of a chart. This does not mean he will give any good results at all but that its effects would be on a reduced scale. It is always necessary to remember that though Budha has powers of discrimination, it is influenced by the planets that conjoin him and acts like a malefic when conjunct a malefic and like a benefic when with a benefic. When Budha is alone in a bhāva he acts like a benefic. It is also opined by some authorities that Budha is cruel when occupying odd rāshis, while he is soft in nature when in even rāshis. When one looks at Budha with Surya, it always being within 28 degrees of Surya, one has to analyze this aspect carefully. One must remember that though Surya is called Krura (cruel) he is not categorized as a Pāpa (malefic) graha and this distinction between Pāpa and Krura, albeit very fine, has also to be taken into account while analyzing effects of Budha when he is conjunct any graha. One has to balance Budha's effects properly, so as not to get confused while analyzing his aspect. This is so, as Budha's aspect is said to give strength to the bhāva that it aspects. A

Budha (Mercury)

person is said to also visit temples of other religions when Budha occupies the 8th bhāva. In my opinion, Budha could make a jātaka do that even while aspecting the 8th bhāva.

Budha and Surya occupying one rāshi are said to give rise to “Budhaaditya” yoga which literally mean conjunction of Budha and Aaditya (Sun). This yoga is said to bestow a jātaka with great intelligence. One has to remember that Budha is always within 28 degrees arc from Surya and therefore there has to be more to this than mere coming together of the two planets. I agree with those who say that Budha within 10 degrees of Surya gives rise to a very weak “Budhaaditya” yoga, while when it is within 10 to 15 degrees of Surya it gives rise to Buddhi-NiupuNa (expert intelligence) yoga where the jātaka is very intelligent but it is of use only for himself. On the other hand when Budha is with Surya in one rāshi but more than 15 degrees away from him such a situation gives rise to Buddhi-Mādhurya (sweet intelligence) yoga where not only is the jātaka intelligent, his intelligence also helps others. Hindus have always revered intelligence that benefits others, more than intelligence by itself and so the names of these yogas and their order of importance is apt.

We shall now try to analyze the three charts that we have been consistently analyzing so far, for effects of Budha in them. We begin with Arnold Schwarzenegger’s chart.

Arnold Schwarzenegger

SL	AL		Ra	Me	HL
GL			Ma	As	
Md	Rasi			Ve	Sa
Gk	A Schwarzenegger				
	July 30, 1947				
	4:10:00 (2:00 east)				
	15 E 27, 47 N 4				
Mo	Ke		Ju		

Ve	Sa	Ra	
Su	Me	Ma	
5	4	HL	2
	As		1
		3	12
		6	9
Ju	7	Mo	11
	8		10
Ke			Gk

As:	25 Ge 59	Su:	12 Cn 58 (PK)	Mo:	9 Sg 47 (GK)	Ma:	26 Ta 59 (AK)
Me:	24 Ge 56 (AmK)	Ju:	24 Li 52 (BK)	Ve:	3 Cn 15 (DK)	Sa:	18 Cn 28 (PiK)
Ra:	5 Ta 54 (MK)	Ke:	5 Sc 54	HL:	0 Ge 54	GL:	29 Pi 08

Budha (Mercury)

GL		Me Gk	As Ju	Mo					
Ra	D-9			Ve					
Md	A Schwarzenegger			Ke					
SL	July 30, 1947 4:10:00 (2:00 east) 15 E 27, 47 N 4			AL					
Sa		HL	Su	Ma	6	7	8	9	10

As: 25 Ge 59	Su: 12 Cn 58 (PK)	Mo: 9 Sg 47 (GK)	Ma: 26 Ta 59 (AK)
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We see that in Arnold's chart Mercury occupies Mithuna lagna causing the much talked about "Bhadra" Mahāpurusha yoga, which is one of the five yogas for the great ones (Panch-Mahāpurusha yogas) caused by planets other than Surya and Chandra occupying their own or exaltation rāshi in a kendra, in the natal chart. We also see that Budha is in lagna giving it directional strength and also occupies friend's rāshi in navamsha in navamsha lagna. Budha in Mithuna rāshi is aspected by Guru in the natal chart, resulting in strengthening of the lagna bhava and in turn its lord Budha. So Budha, in Arnold's chart, is very powerful giving rise to a strong Bhadra yoga. The results of Bhadra Mahapurusha yoga are that the jātaka are given in the astrological classics as:

"The jātaka born in Bhadra Yoga is said to be endowed with a lion like aura, walk like an elephant (slow and steady pace), prominent chest which is wide, strong and well formed arms, with good libido, fine hair, well formed cheeks, of a delicate body, strong, with hands and feet like lotus (red palms and feet) and knower of yoga (certain meditation techniques that include body poses to keep the body supple). He is very intelligent, of good speech, religious, courageous, and with very dark and curly hair. He is of an independent nature, kind to human beings in general, wealthy and one whose wealth is also enjoyed by others. He lives for eighty years and becomes a king."

We see that most of these results manifest in Arnold's case and he is indeed enjoying royal powers, by virtue of being Governor of the state of California, though he became famous as an actor. He is known to donate his salary, as Governor, to charities. Budha is also the lord of his lagna that also indicates body of the jataka and its strength and being situated in the lagna gave him a powerful body. Budha, the lagna lord and the lagna itself is in Papakartari yoga that sometimes indicates being imprisoned and Arnold is said to have undergone a week's imprisonment when he went AWOL in order to participate in the Junior Mr. Europe competition in 1965, which he eventually won. Budha also being the lord of 4th and therefore also motherland, in Papakartari also led him to leave his motherland, Austria and migrate to the U.S.A. We have also seen that Budha takes pleasure in insulting others and in a satellite

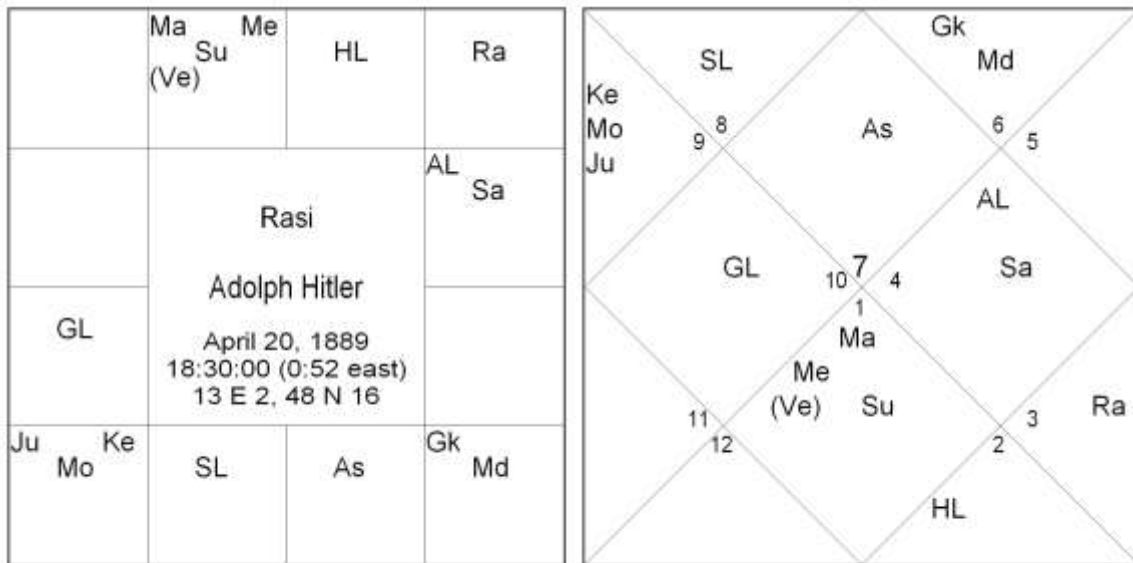
Budha (Mercury)

broadcast, with the Mayor of London Boris Johnson, Schwarzenegger was recorded commenting on Johnson, stating that "This guy is fumbling all over the place".

Budha's aspect on a bhāva is said to make a bhāva strong and in Arnold's case it aspects the 7th bhāva of marriage. The 7th bhāva is also occupied by Chandra that can indicate either a love for travel or multiple partners. Arnold did date many women but once he got married to Maria Shriver, in a country where marriages do not have much longevity, his marriage is still in tact.

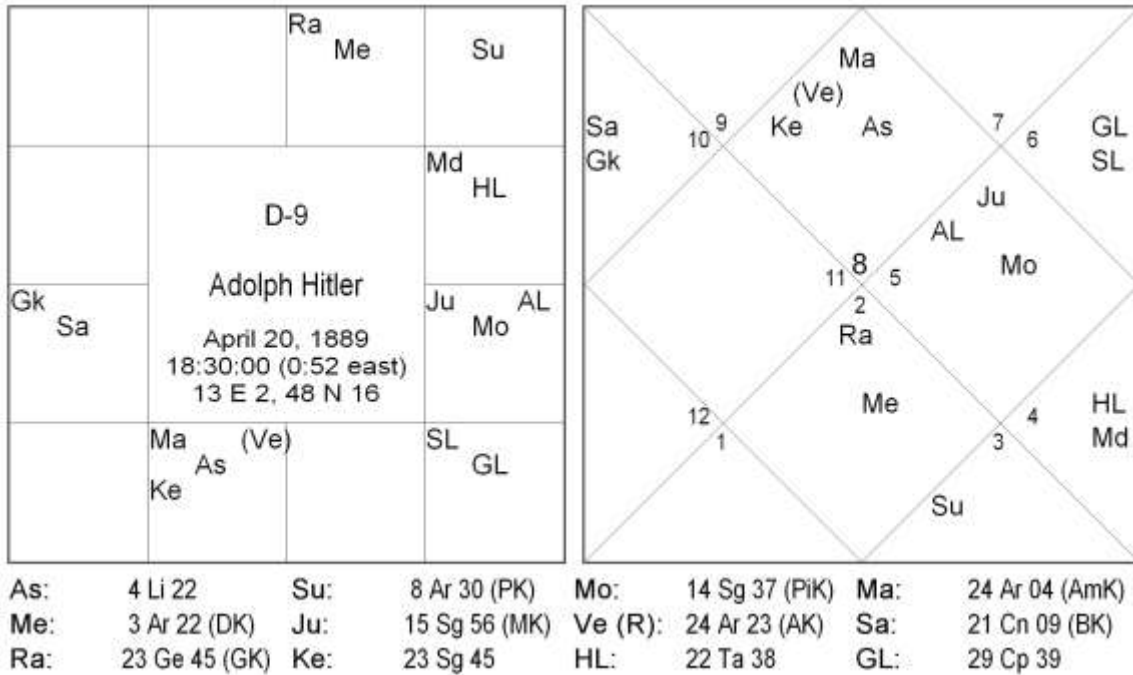
Having seen how Budha manifests, in Arnold Schwarzenegger's chart, let us look at the next of the three charts we have been following in our efforts to understand how grahas manifest in a chart. So we move on to Adolph Hitler's chart below:

Adolph Hitler



As: 4 Li 22	Su: 8 Ar 30 (PK)	Mo: 14 Sg 37 (PiK)	Ma: 24 Ar 04 (AmK)
Me: 3 Ar 22 (DK)	Ju: 15 Sg 56 (MK)	Ve (R): 24 Ar 23 (AK)	Sa: 21 Cn 09 (BK)
Ra: 23 Ge 45 (GK)	Ke: 23 Sg 45	HL: 22 Ta 38	GL: 29 Cp 39

Budha (Mercury)



In Adolph Hitler's chart we observe that Budha occupies the 7th bhava that is a kendra in rāshi of his enemy Mangal (Mars) and in navamsha though it is occupying another kendra in rāshi of his friend Shukra (Venus), he is afflicted by Rahu conjunct there. In neither charts it does not get digbala. We also see that the distance in degrees between Surya and Budha is about 5 degrees, hence we can understand that the effects of Budhāditya yoga would not manifest strongly here. We also observe that in rāshi chart Rahu occupies the 9th bhāva of duties or dharma in rāshi of Budha causing further affliction to Budha. At the same time we see Budha a trine lord conjunct Shukra (Venus) a kendra lord and Mangal another kendra lord occupying a kendra causing a Rajyoga, and its aspect on the lagna giving Hitler a fairly strong body. At the same time ruling skin and nervous system and being afflicted, Budha did give him skin diseases and also at a later stage Parkinson's disease. We know that Budha represents the intellect and, as we will find in the attributes of Rahu in the soon to appear article, Rahu represents a rogue and one who likes to investigate and is also by nature suspicious. This combination resulted in Adolph Hitler developing a suspicious state of mind. Budha is also conjunct an exalted and thus powerful Surya and Mangala occupying own rāshi and though conjunct a shubha Shukra, the association with two powerful cruel planets made Budha also a malefic and as such, a malefic Budha aspecting the lagna taints the entire personality of Jataka, besides being body of Jataka.

We also observe that the bhāva owned by Budha that is the 9th and the 12th bhāva also suffer due to its lord being both afflicted and turning cruel. This led to his view of Dharma (9th bhava) being distorted and his disowning his own roots (Hitler was said to have had Jewish blood, though he claimed to be pure Aryan and persecuted Jews on account of their religion). He was also known to have deep resentment against his father (9th bhava). The 12th bhāva besides other indications also represents bed pleasures and he did have three liaisons, the last of them turning into marriage, just before his suicide, but it is well known none of them turned out to be very happy. The fact of Budha the karaka for relatives, in 7th house of spouse with karaka for spouse Venus and afflicted may be the reason two of his three known liaisons being with his distant relatives. Some psychoanalysts and even his contemporaries claimed that he was sexually deviant.

Budha (Mercury)

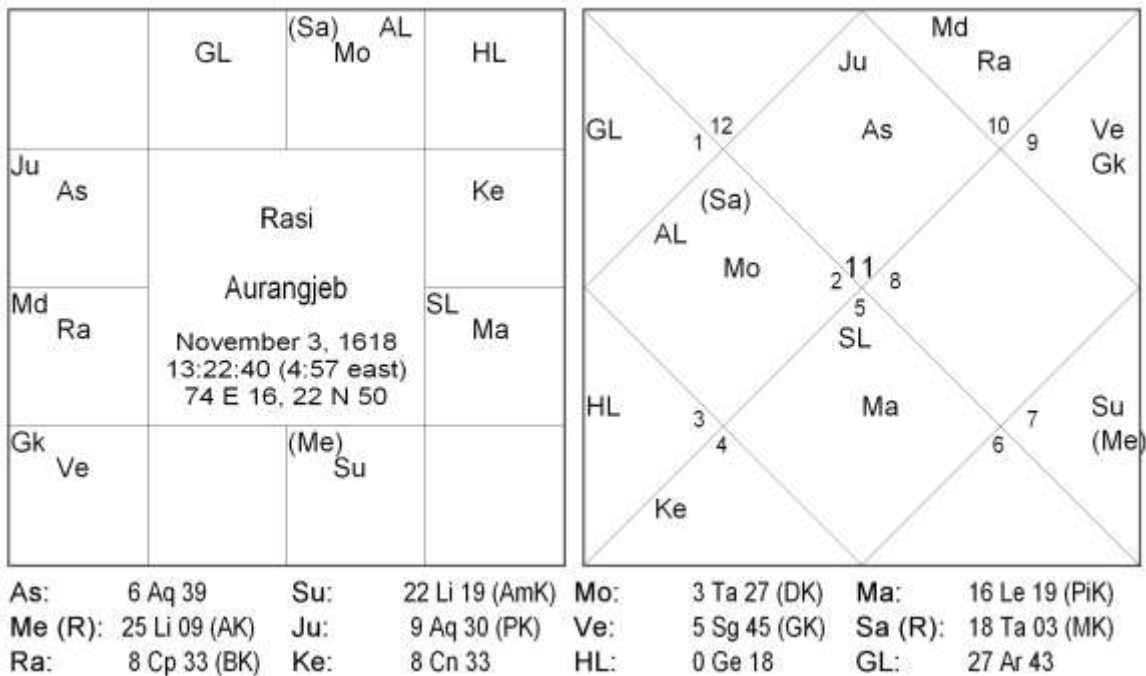
Yet, Budha in kendra in both rāshi and navamsha and aspecting both the lagna and navamsha lagna did give him enough intelligence to create an army that was thought to be invincible almost until the end of the of World War II. However Budha, who is also karaka for education per se, being afflicted he could not complete his education and dropped out of high-school, without a degree.

We know Budha also represents intellect and its affliction in both rāshi and navamsha by nodes led to a very twisted intelligent in Adolph Hitler. There are many other ways in which Budha being afflicted but well place, manifested in Hitler’s life, but that involves his association with other planets and its placement as Bhava lords and this article being analysis of effects of Budha as a graha in a chart, we are not covering them here.

We shall now look at the last of the standard charts that we have been looking at for effects of grahas, in a chart, in Emperor Aurangzeb’s chart.

Aurangjeb - Mughal Emperor

We can, perhaps, learn more about how a karaka can play out his role when it is strong but afflicted as in Adolph Hitler’s chart and when he is endowed with full strength as in Mughal Emperor Aurangjeb’s chart, which is given below.



Budha (Mercury)

saumyaà saumya guëopetaà taà budhaà praëamyämaham|

I prostrate in front of Budha, who is the dark one like the bud of Priyangu flower, is unequalled in beauty and is intelligent, and the son of Chandra, the one who is peaceful.

ॐ गजध्वजाय विद्महे । शुकहस्ताय धीमही । तन्नो बुधः प्रचोदयात् ॥

om gajadhvajäya vidmahe| çukahastäya dhémahé| tanno budhaù pracodayät||

Oh Budha, we know you as the one whose flag bears the image of an elephant, who holds a parrot in his hand, may you grant us prosperity.