



7 Major Branches of Vedic Astrology

By Arpita Nath · Start Here — Foundations · 2026-07-26

Vedic Astrology (Jyotish) is a vast cosmic science, but over thousands of years, it has evolved into 7 major branches or schools of thought. Each system offers a unique lens for reading birth charts, predicting future events and uncovering past-life karma.

Here is a simple breakdown of the 7 primary traditions of Vedic astrology:

1. Parashari System (The Primary Foundation)

- **Foundation:** Based on the ancient text Brihat Parashara Hora Shastra.
- **Key Features:** Uses fixed significators (Sthira Karakas), planetary aspects (Graha Drishti), star constellations (Nakshatras) and the famous 120-year Vimshottari Dasha system.
- **Main Use:** The most widely used and popular system in the world for birth chart analysis and overall life predictions.

2. Jaimini System (The Advanced Analytical Branch)

- **Foundation:** Derived from Maharishi Jaimini's Jaimini Sutras.
- **Key Features:** Uses variable significators (Chara Karakas like Atmakaraka), sign-based aspects (Rashi Drishti), Chara Dasha and Arudha Padas (perceived status).
- **Main Use:** Highly effective for pinpointing major life events, soul purpose and spiritual analysis.

3. Tajika System (Annual Predictions & Horary)

- **Foundation:** Influenced by Persian and Arabic astrological techniques blended with Vedic tradition.

- **Key Features:** Focuses heavily on annual solar return charts (Varshaphal) and instant question analysis (Prashna or Horary Astrology).
- **Main Use:** Predicting month-by-month results for a specific year and answering immediate, specific questions without requiring a birth chart.

4. Bhrigu System (Past Lives & Karmic Patterns)

- **Foundation:** Associated with the legendary sage Maharishi Bhrigu (Bhrigu Samhita).
- **Key Features:** Closely linked with Nadi techniques, emphasizing past-life actions (Karmaphala) and soul patterns.
- **Main Use:** Uncovering root causes of present-life struggles stemming from past-life karma.

5. Nadi System (Detailed & Specific Predictions)

- **Foundation:** A deeply revered South Indian tradition recorded on ancient palm leaf manuscripts (Nadi Granthas).
- **Key Features:** Direct planetary combinations (Yogas) without heavy reliance on traditional house lords.
- **Main Use:** Known for giving hyper-specific and strikingly accurate details regarding marriage timing, progeny, career milestones and health.

6. Tantrik Jyotish (Remedial & Esoteric Astrology)

- **Foundation:** Rooted in esoteric Tantric wisdom and spiritual energy work.
- **Key Features:** Utilizes sacred chants (Mantras), mystical geometric diagrams (Yantras), rituals (Tantra) and talismanic shields (Kavach).
- **Main Use:** Removing heavy planetary afflictions (Doshas), energetic protection, fast results and overcoming persistent obstacles.

7. Dhruva System (Micro-Calculations)

- **Foundation:** An intricate branch focused on precision timing and mathematical division.
- **Key Features:** Uses deep mathematical subdivisions and specialized analytical rules to fine-tune horoscopes.
- **Main Use:** High-precision chart rectifications and detailed sub-charts analysis.

While most astrologers begin their journey with the Parashari system, combining insights from Jaimini and Nadi traditions provides a remarkably complete picture of a person's destiny.

<https://astroarpitanath.com/7-branches-of-vedic-astrology/>

Astrology is offered for guidance only. For important life decisions, please consult a qualified professional.