



Dev Grahas (Sattvic Camp) - Danav Grahas (Asuric Camp)

By Arpita Nath · How to Read a Chart · 2026-07-27

In Vedic Astrology (Jyotish), the nine planets (Navagrahas) are fundamentally divided into two major cosmic camps based on their nature, philosophy and spiritual orientation: **Dev Grahas (The Divine/Sattvic Camp)** and **Danav Grahas (The Material/Asuric Camp)**.

Understanding these two planetary teams makes reading chart dynamics, planetary friendships and conjunctions remarkably simple.

Dev Camp

Sun

Moon

Jupiter

Mars

Danav Camp

Venus

Saturn

Rahu

Ketu

Mercury

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1. Dev Grahas (The Divine / Sattvic Camp)

Led by Surya (The Sun) and guided by Jupiter (Guru), the Dev Grahas represent consciousness, righteousness (Dharma), soul growth, self-respect and spiritual duty. They operate primarily on higher ideals, order and noble principles.

The Dev Grahas List:

- **Surya (The Sun):** The King. Governs the soul (Atma), ego, divine authority, truth and father.
- **Chandra (The Moon):** The Queen. Governs the mind (Manas), emotional purity, intuition and motherly care.
- **Guru / Brihaspati (Jupiter):** The High Priest & Guide. Governs wisdom, dharma, morality, higher learning and grace.
- **Mangal (Mars):** The Commander. Governs courage, protection of righteousness, energy, drive and sacrifice.

2. Danav Grahas (The Material / Asuric Camp)

Led by Shukra (Venus) and executed by Shani (Saturn), the Danav Grahas represent worldly mastery, material prosperity, diplomacy, practical logic and earthly desire. They focus on navigating physical reality, enjoying life's comforts and learning through hard karmic structure.

The Danav Grahas List:

- **Shukra (Venus):** The Guru of the Asuras & Diplomat. Governs love, material comforts, arts, diplomacy, wealth and worldly pleasure.
- **Shani (Saturn):** The Judge & Taskmaster. Governs justice, physical discipline, hard labor, perseverance, time and karma.
- **Rahu (North Node):** The Shadow Innovator. Governs worldly ambition, material obsession, breaking traditions and sudden growth.
- **Ketu (South Node):** The Shadow Mystic. Though deeply spiritual, Ketu belongs to this astronomical family due to its origin with Rahu (the demon Swarbanu). Governs detachment, liberation and cutting away illusions.

What About Budh (Mercury)?

Budh (Mercury) occupies a unique position as the neutral Prince.

- Naturally aligned with intelligence, commerce and communication, Mercury maintains strong friendships with the Danav camp (Venus and Saturn).
- However, because it is the son of the Moon, it sits comfortably in the middle, adapting its behavior based on whichever planet it joins or receives influence from in a chart.

How This Works in Birth Chart Analysis

- **Team Synergy:** When planets within the same camp join together (e.g., Sun + Mars, or Venus + Saturn), they collaborate easily and enhance each other's goals.
- **Cross-Camp Conflict:** When planets from opposite camps combine (e.g., Sun + Saturn or Mars + Venus), they create internal friction, requiring a conscious effort to balance spiritual principles with worldly needs.

<https://astroarpitanath.com/dev-grahas-danav-grahas/>

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