



Naisargik Subh (Natural Benefic) and Asubh (Natural Malefic) Planets

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

In **Vedic Astrology (Jyotish)**, every planet possesses an inherent, natural temperament regardless of which birth chart (Kundli) it operates in. This foundational classification divides the planets into **Naisargik Subh Grahas (Natural Benefics) and Naisargik Asubh Grahas (Natural Malefics)**.

Understanding this natural distinction helps you evaluate how planets express their core character - whether they naturally nurture and harmonize or apply pressure, discipline and friction to bring growth.

What Is Naisargik Subh Graha? (Natural Benefic)

Subh means auspicious, gentle and nourishing.

Naisargik Subh Grahas carry soft, positive and constructive energy. By default, they seek to build, protect, expand and bring grace to whichever house they occupy or aspect in a chart.

What Is Naisargik Asubh Graha? (Natural Malefic)

Asubha means challenging, harsh or demanding.

Naisargik Asubh Grahas carry intense, hot or restrictive energy. They do not exist to cause senseless harm; rather, they act as cosmic teachers, using pressure, hard work, transformation or obstacles to build resilience and burn karma.

Naisargik Subh Grahas (Natural Benefics)

- **Guru / Brihaspati (Jupiter):** The greatest natural benefic. Represents wisdom, grace, fortune, expansion, spirituality and divine guidance.
- **Shukra (Venus):** The planet of love, harmony, art, beauty, relationships, luxury and comfort.
- **Chandra (The Bright Moon):** Auspicious when it is waxing (Shukla Paksha) and has strong digital strength, bringing emotional peace, mental clarity and nurturing energy.
- **Budh (Mercury):** Naturally benefic when sitting alone or accompanied by other benefics, bringing intelligence, sharp communication, logic and humor.

Naisargik Asubh Grahas (Natural Malefics)

- **Shani (Saturn):** The primary natural malefic and strict taskmaster. Governs delays, hard labor, discipline, karma, restrictions and long-term perseverance.
- **Mangal (Mars):** The fiery commander. Governs aggression, conflict, passion, impulsiveness, sharp actions and physical drive.
- **Surya (The Sun):** Classed as a mild malefic (Krupa Graha) due to its intense heat, ego and burning nature, which can overshadow gentler house themes.
- **Rahu (North Node):** The shadow planet of illusion, obsession, unexpected chaos, worldly attachments and sudden disruptions.
- **Ketu (South Node):** The shadow planet of detachment, sudden losses, isolation, sharp cuts and intense spiritual transformation.

Important Conditional Rules

Vedic astrology includes two crucial conditional rules regarding natural benefics:

1. The Moon's Phase Matters: A waxing/bright Moon (Shukla Paksha) acts as a strong Subh Graha. However, a waning/dark Moon (Krishna Paksha) loses its light functions as a mild Asubh Graha.

2. Mercury Takes On Its Company: Mercury acts like a mirror. When placed with benefics (like Jupiter or Venus), it acts as a Subh Graha. When placed with malefics (like Mars, Saturn, Rahu or Ketu), it adopts their harsh traits and acts as an Asubh Graha.

Quick Summary

While Naisargik status defines a planet's inherent personality, its Functional (Tatkalik) status determines whether it brings good or bad events for your specific Ascendant (Lagna). A natural malefic like Saturn can become a functional hero, while a natural benefic like Jupiter can sometimes act as a functional challenge!

<https://astroarpitanath.com/subh-asubh-planets/>

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