

# **IJAS**

## **INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ASTROLOGY**



Journal ID: 1154-4513

 Google Scholar

 ResearchGate

**ACADEMIA**

 Crossref 



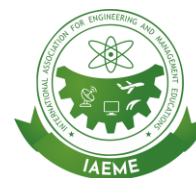
**IAEME Publication**

Chennai, India

[editor@iaeme.com](mailto:editor@iaeme.com) / [iaemedu@gmail.com](mailto:iaemedu@gmail.com)

<https://iaeme.com/Home/journal/IJAS>





# MOON-MERCURY CONFIGURATIONS AND PARENT-REPORTED BEHAVIORAL PATTERNS IN CHILDREN

**An Exploratory Observational Study Within A Vedic Astrology Framework**

**Rahul Thakur Rudra**

**\*\* MS Nanotechnology, Gujarat/National Forensic Sciences University, Gujarat, India**

**\*Dept. of Chemistry, Panjab University (PhD pursuing) DST Fellow,**

**\*eData Analytics, University of Amsterdam,**

**\*Jyotish Vachaspati, Tantra Maharishi (Hon.)**

## ABSTRACT

**Background:** *This exploratory study examined whether a predefined direct relationship between the Moon and Mercury in a natal chart was associated with parent-reported behavioral patterns in children.*

**Methods:** *The restored study design comprised 48 children: Group A ( $n = 24$ ) with a predefined Moon-Mercury relationship and Group B ( $n = 24$ ) without such a direct relationship. The manuscript contained complete numerical results for three outcomes: attention needs, difficulty in handling, and mood swings. Group differences were re-evaluated from the reported means and standard deviations using independent-samples Welch tests, and standardized effect sizes were calculated.*

**Results:** *Group A had higher mean scores for attention needs (4.68 vs 3.21; mean difference 1.47, 95% CI 0.84-2.10;  $p = 0.000024$ ; Hedges  $g = 1.34$ ), difficulty in handling (4.32 vs 2.98; difference 1.34, 95% CI 0.74-1.94;  $p = 0.000044$ ;  $g = 1.29$ ), and mood swings (4.14 vs 3.02; difference 1.12, 95% CI 0.57-1.67;  $p = 0.000186$ ;  $g = 1.16$ ).*

**Conclusion:** *The available summary data show large between-group differences on the three reported parent-rated outcomes. Because the study is observational, uses a small non-random sample, and lacks complete documentation of the behavioral instrument, recruitment variables, blinding, and potential confounders, the findings should be interpreted as exploratory associations rather than evidence of causation. Replication using preregistered definitions, standardized psychological instruments, blinded chart classification, and a larger sample is required.*

**Keywords:** Vedic Astrology; Jyotisha; Moon; Mercury; Child Behavior; Parent-Reported Outcomes; Observational Study; Exploratory Analysis

**Cite this Article:** Rahul Thakur Rudra. (2026). Moon-Mercury Configurations and Parent-Reported Behavioral Patterns in Children. International Journal of Astrology (IJAS), 4(2), 1-10. DOI: [https://doi.org/10.34218/IJAS\\_04\\_02\\_001](https://doi.org/10.34218/IJAS_04_02_001)

## 1. Introduction

Vedic astrology (Jyotisha) traditionally assigns the Moon a central role in manas (mind, responsiveness, and affective experience) and Mercury a role in buddhi, speech, learning, discrimination, and adaptive cognition. The present study does not attempt to validate those traditional attributions in the abstract; instead, it tests a narrowly defined empirical question: whether children classified as having a direct Moon-Mercury relationship in their natal charts differ from controls on selected parent-reported behavioral measures.

Astrological claims remain scientifically controversial, and controlled empirical work in Western astrological settings has not established broad predictive validity. Accordingly, a study in this area requires unusually explicit exposure definitions, reproducible chart calculations, careful control selection, validated outcome measures, and conservative interpretation. The manuscript is therefore framed as an exploratory observational analysis rather than as proof of astrological causation.

The original manuscript contained several internal inconsistencies, most importantly conflicting sample sizes and undefined comparison groups. The present revision restores the original comparative design of 24 exposed and 24 control participants and restricts the primary results to outcomes for which numerical summary statistics are actually available.

## 2. Objectives and hypotheses

- To compare parent-reported attention needs between children with and without the predefined Moon-Mercury relationship.
- To compare parent-reported difficulty in handling between the two groups.
- To compare parent-reported mood swings between the two groups.
- To estimate the magnitude and precision of between-group differences, rather than relying only on threshold p-values.
- To identify methodological requirements for a larger confirmatory replication.

The directional exploratory hypothesis was that Group A would show higher mean scores on the three behavioral measures than Group B. Because the protocol and outcomes were not preregistered, these hypotheses should be treated as exploratory.

## 3. Methods

### 3.1. Study design and participants

The study used an observational, cross-sectional, two-group comparative design. The restored analytic sample comprised 48 children: Group A ( $n = 24$ ), classified as having a direct Moon-Mercury relationship according to the study protocol, and Group B ( $n = 24$ ), serving as a control group without a direct Moon-Mercury interaction.

The source manuscript does not document the recruitment setting, participant age range, sex distribution, socioeconomic characteristics, inclusion/exclusion criteria unrelated to astrology, missing-data handling, or whether the groups were matched. These details must be recovered from the original participant records before journal submission because they affect reproducibility and confounding assessment.

### 3.2. Astrological exposure definition

The original protocol used the term "Yukti" for the Moon-Mercury relationship. In standard Jyotisha terminology, yuti refers to conjunction, whereas sambandha is a broader term for planetary relationship. The revised manuscript therefore uses "Moon-Mercury relationship (sambandha)" as the umbrella exposure term. The source text indicates that the exposure included (a) Moon and Mercury in the same zodiac sign and (b) a mutual sign relationship in which the planets occupy each other's signs. These configurations should not be treated as identical mechanisms in a future confirmatory analysis.

For reproducibility, the final protocol should state the sidereal zodiac and ayanamsha used, ephemeris/software version, birth-time verification procedure, whether same-sign conjunction was accepted regardless of angular separation, the maximum conjunction orb if any, and the precise rule used for mutual sign exchange (parivartana). Those technical settings were not preserved in the current manuscript file and are not invented in this revision.

### **3.3. Behavioral outcomes and data collection**

Behavioral information was collected through questionnaires and structured parental interviews. The original manuscript named five intended domains - attention needs, difficulty in handling, mood swings, emotional stability, and learning abilities - but complete numerical results were preserved only for the first three. The revised primary analysis therefore includes only those three outcomes.

The current manuscript does not identify a validated psychological scale, response anchors, item count, scoring algorithm, interviewer training, inter-rater reliability, or whether parents/interviewers were blinded to astrological group status. These are major measurement limitations. Any future replication should use validated age-appropriate behavioral instruments and blinded outcome assessment wherever feasible.

### **3.4. Statistical analysis**

Between-group differences were reconstructed from the reported means and standard deviations using two-sided Welch independent-samples t-tests with  $n = 24$  per group. Mean differences are presented with 95% confidence intervals. Standardized differences are expressed as Hedges  $g$ , which applies a small-sample correction to Cohen's  $d$ . Exact  $p$ -values are reported rather than only  $p < 0.001$ . Because three primary outcomes were evaluated, the results also remain below a conservative Bonferroni threshold of 0.0167, although multiplicity procedures were not specified in the original protocol.

The source manuscript also reported correlations of  $r = 0.67$ ,  $r = 0.58$ , and  $r = 0.52$ . Those coefficients are not retained as primary results here because the exact correlated astrological variable and coding scheme are not defined in the surviving manuscript. With  $n = 48$ , their reported  $p < 0.001$  values are mathematically plausible, but the coefficients should be reinstated only after the original variable definition and participant-level data are verified.

## 4. Results

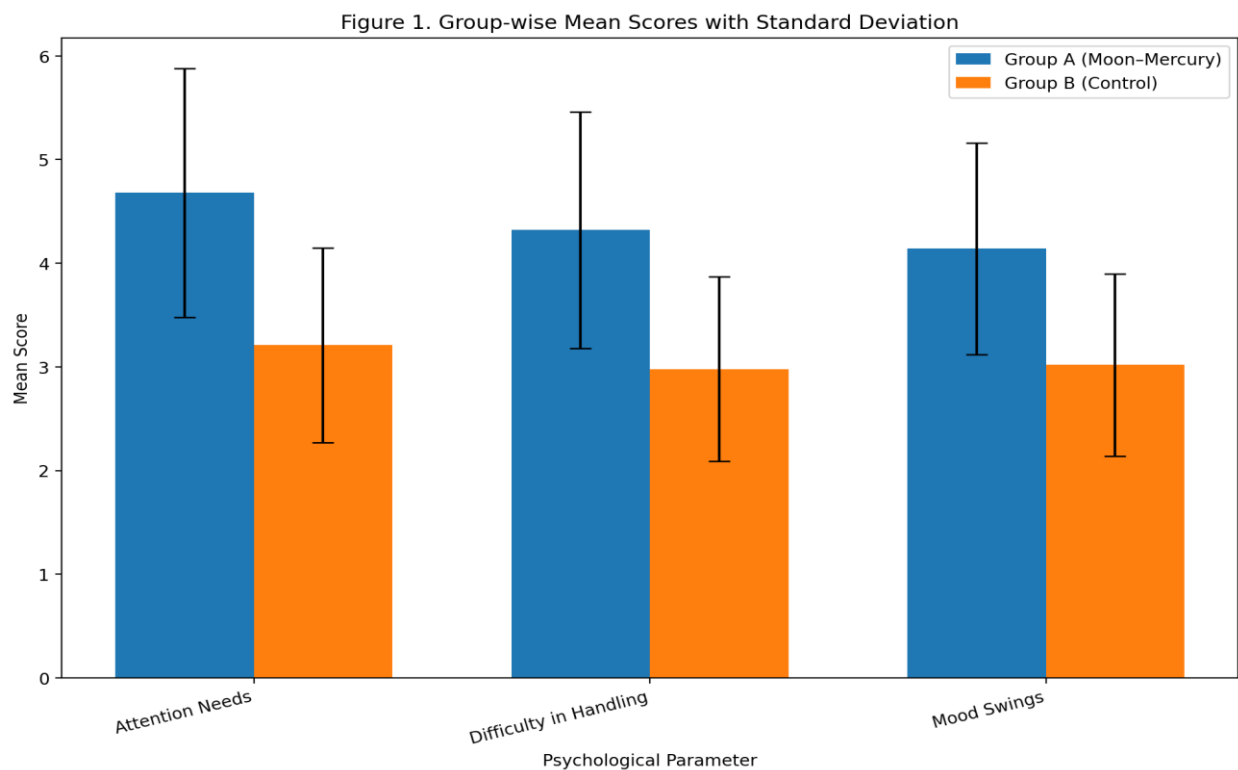
All three reported behavioral outcomes were higher in Group A than in Group B. Recalculated inferential statistics and standardized effect sizes are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Reconstructed between-group comparisons from the summary statistics preserved in the source manuscript (n = 24 per group).

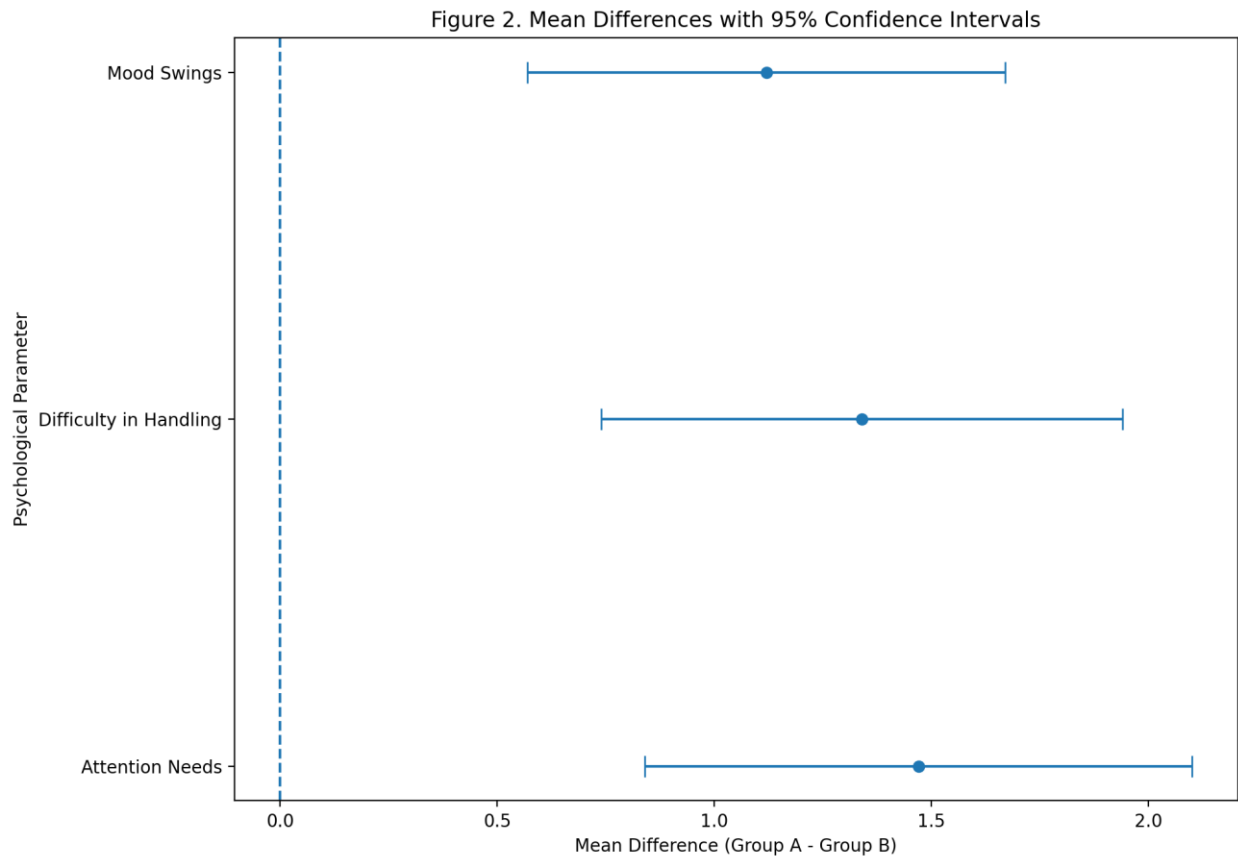
| Outcome                | Group A<br>Mean $\pm$ SD | Group B<br>Mean $\pm$ SD | Mean<br>difference | 95% CI       | Welch t (df) | Exact p  | Hedges g |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| Attention needs        | 4.68 $\pm$ 1.20          | 3.21 $\pm$ 0.94          | 1.47               | 0.84 to 2.10 | 4.72 (43.51) | 0.000024 | 1.34     |
| Difficulty in handling | 4.32 $\pm$ 1.14          | 2.98 $\pm$ 0.89          | 1.34               | 0.74 to 1.94 | 4.54 (43.44) | 0.000044 | 1.29     |
| Mood swings            | 4.14 $\pm$ 1.02          | 3.02 $\pm$ 0.88          | 1.12               | 0.57 to 1.67 | 4.07 (45.03) | 0.000186 | 1.16     |

The effect-size estimates were large for all three outcomes (Hedges g = 1.16-1.34). The 95% confidence intervals for all mean differences excluded zero. These estimates describe the magnitude of association in this sample; they do not establish that the astrological configuration caused the behavioral differences.

Graphical summaries of the reconstructed between-group comparisons are presented in Figures 1 and 2.



**Figure 1.** Group-wise mean scores with standard deviation for Group A (Moon–Mercury) and Group B (Control).



**Figure 2.** Mean differences (Group A – Group B) with 95% confidence intervals for the three reported behavioral outcomes.

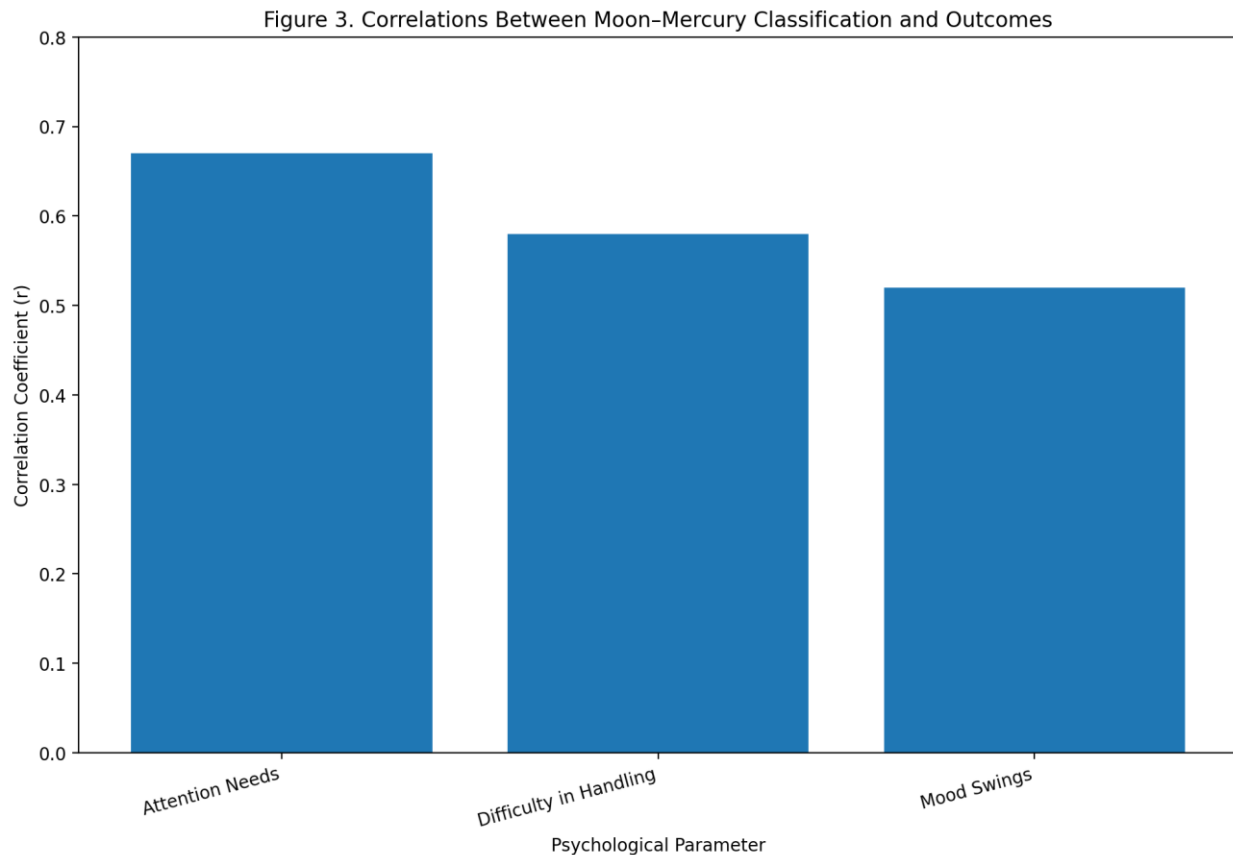
#### 4.1. Previously reported correlation coefficients: verification status

The original Results section reported three positive correlations. Their two-sided significance values are compatible with a total sample of 48, but the manuscript does not specify the exposure variable used in these correlations. They are therefore shown below for audit transparency, not as fully verified primary findings.

| Outcome                | Reported r | Approx. 95% CI for $r^*$ | Exact two-sided $p^*$ | Verification status          |
|------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Attention needs        | 0.67       | 0.48 to 0.80             | 0.00000019            | Variable definition required |
| Difficulty in handling | 0.58       | 0.35 to 0.74             | 0.0000156             | Variable definition required |
| Mood swings            | 0.52       | 0.28 to 0.70             | 0.000152              | Variable definition required |

*\*Computed assuming  $n = 48$  and a conventional Pearson correlation test. The coefficient itself has not been independently recomputed because the original participant-level data and correlated exposure variable are not available in the manuscript file.*

For descriptive visualization, the previously reported correlation coefficients are shown in Figure 3.



**Figure 3.** Previously reported correlations between Moon–Mercury classification and the three behavioral outcomes (descriptive display; participant-level verification still required).

## 5. Discussion

Within this exploratory dataset, children classified as having the predefined Moon-Mercury relationship had higher parent-reported scores for attention needs, difficulty in handling, and mood swings than controls. The standardized differences were large. The numerical pattern is therefore not a trivial difference in means; however, the design cannot distinguish an astrological association from selection effects, reporting bias, uncontrolled confounding, or measurement artifacts.

The distinction between traditional astrological interpretation and empirical inference is important. Classical Jyotisha provides symbolic and interpretive reasons for examining Moon-Mercury relationships, but the existence of a traditional doctrine does not itself constitute empirical evidence.

Conversely, a statistically significant observational association does not establish mechanism or causality. The scientific contribution of the present work is therefore best framed as hypothesis generation.

The study also illustrates why exposure definition matters. Same-sign Moon-Mercury conjunction and mutual sign exchange are different astrological configurations and may have different interpretive meanings. Combining them into one group can obscure configuration-specific effects. A larger replication should predefine separate exposure strata, record exact longitudinal separation, and analyze sign, house, dignity, aspects, and relevant confounders only according to a prespecified plan to reduce researcher degrees of freedom.

## 6. Limitations

- Small sample size (48 total) and no documented power calculation.
- Observational, non-random design; causal language is not justified.
- Recruitment procedure and demographic comparability of groups are not documented in the current file.
- Behavioral outcomes appear to be parent-reported, but the questionnaire/scoring system and psychometric properties are not described.
- Blinding of parents, interviewers, and chart classifiers is not documented, creating risk of expectancy and observer bias.
- Astrological computation settings (ayanamsha, ephemeris/software, exact conjunction rule, birth-time validation) are missing from the surviving manuscript.
- Two originally intended outcomes - emotional stability and learning abilities - lack complete numerical results and were therefore excluded from the revised primary analysis.
- The original correlation coefficients lack a defined correlated exposure variable and require participant-level verification.
- No adjustment for age, sex, family environment, neurodevelopmental diagnoses, educational context, socioeconomic factors, or other potential confounders is documented.

## 7. Recommended confirmatory study

A confirmatory study should prospectively preregister the Moon-Mercury exposure definition, use a substantially larger sample, separate conjunction from mutual exchange, record exact planetary longitude differences, use validated age-specific psychological scales, blind outcome raters to chart classification, and predefine covariates and primary outcomes. Analysis should report effect sizes and 95% confidence intervals, not only statistical significance. The reporting structure should follow the STROBE framework for observational studies.

## 8. Conclusion

The restored 24-versus-24 dataset shows statistically strong and large between-group differences in three parent-reported behavioral outcomes. These findings justify further investigation of the prespecified Moon-Mercury hypothesis, but they should not be presented as proof that planetary configurations determine child psychology. The most defensible conclusion is that the study provides preliminary observational evidence of an association that requires independent, blinded, preregistered replication with standardized psychological measurement and fully reproducible astrological classification.

## 9. Ethics, consent, and data availability

Because the participants are children, the final submission should state the institutional/independent ethics review status, parental or guardian informed consent procedure, assent procedure where age-appropriate, anonymization method, and data-protection safeguards. These details are not contained in the source manuscript and should not be inferred. A data-availability statement should specify whether de-identified participant-level data and the statistical code can be shared.

## REFERENCES

- [1] von Elm E, Altman DG, Egger M, Pocock SJ, Gøtzsche PC, Vandenbroucke JP; STROBE Initiative. The Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology (STROBE) statement: guidelines for reporting observational studies. *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*. 2008;61(4):344-349. PMID: 18313558.
- [2] Carlson S. A double-blind test of astrology. *Nature*. 1985;318:419-425. doi:10.1038/318419a0.
- [3] Hume N. Is there an association between astrological data and personality? *Journal of Clinical Psychology*. 1977;33(3):711-713. doi:10.1002/1097-4679(197707)33:3<711::AID-JCLP2270330321>3.0.CO;2-H.

- [4] Cohen J. Statistical Power Analysis for the Behavioral Sciences. 2nd ed. Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates; 1988.
- [5] Parashara. Brihat Parashara Hora Shastra. Classical Jyotisha text; edition/translation used by the author should be specified in the final reference list.
- [6] Mantreswara. Phaladeepika. Classical Jyotisha text; edition/translation used by the author should be specified in the final reference list.

**Citation:** Rahul Thakur Rudra. (2026). Moon-Mercury Configurations and Parent-Reported Behavioral Patterns in Children. International Journal of Astrology (IJAS), 4(2), 1-10.

**Abstract Link:** [https://iaeme.com/Home/article\\_id/IJAS\\_04\\_02\\_001](https://iaeme.com/Home/article_id/IJAS_04_02_001)

**Article Link:**

[https://iaeme.com/MasterAdmin/Journal\\_uploads/IJAS/VOLUME\\_4\\_ISSUE\\_2/IJAS\\_04\\_02\\_001.pdf](https://iaeme.com/MasterAdmin/Journal_uploads/IJAS/VOLUME_4_ISSUE_2/IJAS_04_02_001.pdf)

**Copyright:** © 2026 Authors. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

**Creative Commons license:** Creative Commons license: CC BY 4.0.



✉ [editor@iaeme.com](mailto:editor@iaeme.com)