

Death of Sibling - a Research

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Certain events in life are experienced by most people at some time or other: marriage, birth of children, death of parents and grandparents, etc. One event that is often unexpected and can leave emotional scars that may remain with the person for a long time, is the loss of a sibling, particularly when the death occurs at a relatively young age. In this study, we will look at this event in some detail, looking for verification of the classic dicta as well as searching for new meaning of combinations that point to the loss of a brother or sister.

Research Parameters

The following parameters were employed in establishing the study group of charts:

1. The age of the sibling at time of death was beyond 8 years (i.e. cases of *Balarishtha* have been excluded from the study - this could make a separate study of it's own)
2. The age of the surviving sibling is 50 or less (this implies that the death occurred in the *Alpayu* or *Madhyayu* range of years)
3. The birth times of the natives have been verified with major life events.

The criteria having been established, 72 horoscopes were gathered in which the conditions noted above were fully met.

Classical Analysis

Shlokas for loss of siblings were culled from the classics - 33 combinations were tested in all, of which 25 were found to be applicable in one or more of the charts in the study. Some of the dicta quote extremely rare combinations, for example:

"If Saturn be in the 7th, Rahu in the 9th, and Mars in the 11th house, loss of brothers should be predicted", declares *Sanketa Nidhi*, Ch.4 Shl.24.

The odds of this combination is one in 1,728 charts, so it is not altogether surprising that none of the 72 study charts met the conditions of this shloka.

Some yogas were present in many of the study group charts. Here's one from *Sarvartha Chintamani*, (SC) Ch.4 Shl.10: Determine the lord of the sign denoted by the Navamsha occupied by the lord of the 3rd house. If the lord of the said sign is in debilitated sign, eclipsed or located in inimical sign, there is loss of brothers. This combination was found in 27 of the 72 charts.

Here are a few more - the number in brackets indicates the number of horoscopes wherein that particular combination was found:

SC Ch. 4 Shl.13: If both the 3rd house and Mars are in association with extremely malefic planets & so also is the case with the lord of the 3rd house, there is the destruction of brothers. (20)

SC Ch. 4 Shl.4: If a malefic planet occupies the 3rd house or if the 3rd house is aspected by a malefic & if the lord of the 3rd house is located between malefic planets, there is destruction of brothers. (7)

SC Ch. 2 Shl 27: During the main ruling period of the lord of the 4th house and the sub-ruling period of malefics, there is relinquishment of residence & the loss of brothers. Similar results follow during the sub-periods of planets that are debilitation, or are eclipsed by the Sun. (6)

SC Ch. 2 Shl. 31: During the main ruling period of the lord of the 8th house and the sub-period of Rahu, Mars, or Saturn, there is the loss of longevity, fame and wealth of self and the destruction of wife, relatives & brothers. (5)

SC Ch. 26 Shl 39: During the ruling period of Saturn in retrogression, the native gets failure in actions, frustration in undertakings, sorrow & destruction of brothers. (6) Note: In all 6 cases some other yoga was already present, so that Saturn retrograde during it's dasha was seen as a contributing factor, not the sole determinant.

Bhrigu Sutram Ch. 6 Shl. 20-22: If Venus is in the third house and the lord of the third house is in the sixth, eighth or twelfth house or he is associated with malefics there will be loss of brothers. (9) Venus was found in the 3rd house in 9 of the 72 charts, and all of these met the conditions of the shloka, that the 3rd lord be associated with malefics or in dusthana houses.

Bhrigu Sutram Ch. 3 Shl. 16-25: If Mars in the third house is associated with or aspected by malefics, the native will suffer from loss of brothers and sisters. (4) In each of the four cases where Mars was in the third house, the conditions again held true.

Jataka Parijata Ch. 12 Shl. 45: If a malefic planet in the 3rd bhava be in its inimical or depression sign, loss of brothers will result from poison or other cause. (14)

Sanketa Nidhi Ch. 4 Shl.19: If Saturn be posited in 3rd house and be aspected by Mars, this disposition would cause loss of brothers. (5) Of the 8 cases where Saturn occupied the 3rd house (see Table 1), Mars was aspecting the 3rd house in 5 cases.

Thus far we have covered the most frequently occurring classic combinations. The remainder of the *shlokas* investigated had 4 or fewer matches in the study group, and in the interest of space will not be detailed here. In half of the charts examined, 2 or more combinations like the samples given were found. In 14 cases, however, none of the 33 *shlokas* investigated held true, yet these natives all faced the loss of a sibling. This leads us to investigate other factors that could contribute to understanding the conditions under which this event can arise. This part of the analysis is partly classical, partly romantic, in an attempt to break new ground. Some of the observations noted require further study, as the sample size was not large enough to statistically validate them in all cases.

Position

Table 1 shows the distribution of the planets by house number for the 72 charts. On average, each house should be occupied 6 times, (72 charts divided by 12 houses). Numbers in bold (in this and all subsequent tables) represent a departure of 2 or more standard deviations from the average; these should be considered as statistically valid (i.e. there is less than 5% chance of the result being due to random sampling error).

Prominent here is the presence of Rahu in the 10th house (13 times), the house of longevity of siblings (the 8th from the 3rd). A malefic like Rahu here certainly supports the contention of reduced life span for siblings. Naturally this places Ketu in the 4th house, a *maraka* house for the 3rd.

Sun was in the 2nd house in 12 charts, the house of loss for siblings (12th from the 3rd). Saturn was noticeably absent from its house of directional strength, the 7th, but prominent in the 3rd, 11th (older siblings) and 2nd.

Notice that among the houses with higher overall concentration of planets, we have the 10th and the 2nd (which are 8th and 12th from the 3rd), the *maraka* 4th, as well as the 3rd itself. Saturn is prominent in the *panapara* houses: 2, 5, 8 and 11 with 32 placements compared with an expected 24 (6 x 4). The *panapara* houses are the *apoklima* houses as counted from the 3rd house!

Jupiter in the 5th is also an unfavourable factor here, occurring in 10 cases - this puts Jupiter in the adverse 3rd (from the 3rd), as well as being in a *maraka* placement from the 11th house of older siblings, for which it is also the *karaka*. In only two of these cases, however, was the *dasha* of Jupiter running at the time of loss.

Mars was most often in the 4th and 12th houses, from where it fully aspects the 11th and 3rd respectively, the two most relevant houses for siblings. In addition, the 4th and 12th are the worst *maraka* houses for the 3rd and 11th, again illustrating that *karakas* in *maraka* places prove highly adverse.

Table 1. Position of Planets in Houses

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Avg.	Std. Dev.
Planet	(e.g. Mars was found in the 12th house in 10 charts)													
Sun	8	12	6	2	6	5	4	4	8	8	4	5	6	2.5
Moon	9	8	4	9	3	9	6	5	6	5	5	3	6	2.2
Mars	4	5	4	10	7	4	7	5	7	7	2	10	6	2.3
Mercury	9	7	9	3	4	6	6	5	5	6	3	9	6	2.1
Jupiter	5	6	7	6	10	6	5	5	7	4	7	4	6	1.6
Venus	10	7	9	3	4	2	4	9	7	6	5	6	6	2.4
Saturn	7	8	8	6	6	2	1	7	5	4	11	7	6	2.6
Rahu	6	2	4	8	5	3	6	8	7	13	4	6	6	2.8
Ketu	6	8	7	13	4	6	6	2	4	8	5	3	6	2.8
Total	64	63	58	60	49	43	45	50	56	61	46	53		
Avg. Expd.	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54		
% of Expd.	119%	117%	107%	111%	91%	80%	83%	93%	104%	113%	85%	96%		

Table 2: House Lord Position by House Number														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Avg.	Std. Dev.
Lord Placement (eg. Lord of 4 was found in the 3rd house in 12 charts)														
L of 1 in	5	5	7	7	6	9	5	5	6	6	2	9	6	1.8
L of 2 in	6	7	3	4	6	7	6	6	8	7	5	7	6	1.4
L of 3 in	2	11	5	4	5	4	5	9	6	6	9	6	6	2.4
L of 4 in	10	7	12	4	0	2	7	3	4	11	4	8	6	3.6
L of 5 in	10	6	7	6	7	2	2	5	7	5	8	7	6	2.2
L of 6 in	7	4	7	4	9	3	3	8	7	6	6	8	6	2.0
L of 7 in	11	7	8	9	6	3	3	6	6	7	5	1	6	2.6
L of 8 in	7	9	11	6	6	4	3	6	6	5	5	4	6	2.1
L of 9 in	5	7	8	6	7	5	7	7	5	5	4	6	6	1.2
L of 10 in	9	7	6	8	8	6	5	6	7	2	4	4	6	1.9
L of 11 in	8	7	5	4	5	4	7	3	7	5	6	11	6	2.1
L of 12 in	7	9	5	5	6	5	3	7	7	2	7	9	6	2.0
Total	87	86	84	67	71	54	56	71	76	67	65	80		
Avg. Expd.	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72		
% of Expd.	121%	119%	117%	93%	99%	75%	78%	99%	106%	93%	90%	111%		

Table 2 shows the same information, only by which house lord is involved in the placement. In this table, Rahu and Ketu have not been assigned any rulership. The 3rd house was occupied most often by the 4th, and 9th lords, (both being *maraka* planets for the 3rd house), and the 8th lord being a natural *karaka* for death. The 3rd lord was found most often in the 2nd, 12th from it's own house, while the lord of the 11th was most often in the difficult 12th. The concentration of planets in the 2nd house (12th from the 3rd) and 12th (2nd from the 11th) is understandable.

The lord of the 3rd was in *panapara* houses (*apoklima* houses from it's own house) 34 times (vs. 24 exp.), and in *dusthana* from the 3rd (i.e. 8th, 10th and 2nd) 26 times (18 exp.). These are all adverse placements for the 3rd lord.

Some additional observations that were not already covered in the tables on position were:

- Mars was found in the 11th from the Sun in 13 charts (6 exp.), and also more often in the 3rd from the Sun (10 vs. 6 exp.).

- Mars was in the *Nakshatra* of Jupiter 16 times, twice the expected average of 8. Ketu also (which acts like Mars) was in Jupiter's *Nakshatra* 14 times.

- Mars was in trine from Rahu in 28 charts (18 exp.) - those who don't believe that the nodes have trinal aspects take note!

- Mars was in the adverse 8th from Jupiter in 11 charts (6 exp.).

- Mars was in the 2nd from Venus more often (13 vs. 6 exp.).

- Jupiter was in the 8th from the Moon 13 times forming *Sakata Yoga* (6 exp.).

- Mars, Saturn and the 3rd lord were significantly more often placed in fire and water *Navamshas* (i.e. the 1st and 4th padas of any *Nakshatra*, which could also indicate *Nakshatra sandhi*). In the case of Mars, it was in fire and water *Navamshas* 47 times, and in earth and air *Navamshas* in only 25 charts.

In *ashtakavarga* of the individual planets, the average strength in the signs they occupied, with the expected mathematical average shown in brackets following were:

Sun 3.8 (4.0), Moon 4.4 (4.1), Mars 3.5 (3.3), Mercury 4.7 (4.5), Jupiter 5.0 (4.7), Venus 4.6 (4.3), and Saturn 3.0 (3.3).

With the exception of Saturn, the natives in the study had slightly higher than average expected *ashtakavarga* strength in their individual planetary placements, but these results do not represent a significant departure from the norm.

There was, however, a significant deviation noted in the natal position of the 3rd lord in *ashtakavarga*. It was found to be in signs averaging only 26.0 in strength (compared to the mathematical average of 28.1), which is a considerable departure for this number of charts. Mars itself was relatively strong with an average of 28.5 points in the sign occupied by it.

	Sun	Moon	Mars	Mercury	Jupiter	Venus	Saturn	Total	Avg. Expd.	% of Expd.
Aspecting Planet (eg. Jupiter aspected Saturn in 19 charts)										
Sun		7	3		6		4	20	24	83%
Moon	7		5	9	6	6	7	40	36	111%
Mars	11	17		16	18	8	17	87	108	81%
Mercury		9	4		6		5	24	36	67%
Jupiter	15	20	18	15		25	19	112	108	104%
Venus		6	3		9		6	24	36	67%
Saturn	16	17	18	14	23	16		104	108	96%
Total	49	76	51	54	68	55	58	411	456	90%
Avg. Expd.	60	72	60	60	60	60	60	432		
% of Expd.	82%	106%	85%	90%	113%	92%	97%	95%		

Aspect

Table 3 shows the aspects between planets. Jupiter cast and received the most aspects, while Mars cast and received relatively few compared to expected. This latter fact could be related to the predominance of conjunctions, or sextile positions of Mars from other planets, as already noted with respect to the Sun. It is no wonder then that Mars aspected the Sun in only 11 charts (18 exp.).

Association between Venus and Jupiter appears to contribute to loss of siblings. These two were in opposition 9 times, and Jupiter aspected Venus in 25 case (18 exp.).

Table 4 shows the same information by which house lords were involved in casting the aspects.

The 6th lord cast the most aspects, while the Moon received the most aspects (it is of course normally the most aspected of all the planets, in that it is the only planet that can receive the aspect of any other planet including the 3 outer planets having special aspects).

Not shown here are aspects by house lords on house lords, but the following were observed:

- The 3rd lord received the most aspects from the lords of 4 (13) and 5 (15).
- The 10th lord (sibling's longevity) received most aspects from the lords of 2 and 8 (16 each), both of which are evil lords with respect to the 3rd house.
- The 4th lord received the most aspects from the lord of the 6th (17).

	Sun	Moon	Mars	Mercury	Jupiter	Venus	Saturn	Total	% of Total
Aspecting Lord (eg. Lord of 6 aspected the Moon in 15 charts)									
L of 1	5	7	6	9	9	6	9	51	7.1%
L of 2	6	6	9	8	14	9	9	61	8.5%
L of 3	6	6	5	8	7	5	7	44	6.1%
L of 4	7	7	5	9	9	9	7	53	7.4%
L of 5	6	13	4	8	10	13	9	63	8.8%
L of 6	10	15	8	13	8	12	9	75	10.4%
L of 7	8	13	12	7	11	11	7	69	9.6%
L of 8	10	10	10	10	10	9	6	65	9.1%
L of 9	10	15	8	8	10	9	10	70	9.7%
L of 10	7	15	9	9	3	11	11	65	9.1%
L of 11	9	14	7	11	9	7	4	61	8.5%
L of 12	7	9	4	3	9	3	6	41	5.7%
Total	91	130	87	103	109	104	94	718	100%
% of Total	12.7%	18.1%	12.1%	14.3%	15.2%	14.5%	13.1%	100%	

Table 5: Conjunctions of Planets								
	Sun	Moon	Mars	Mercury	Jupiter	Venus	Saturn	Total
Aspecting Planet	(eg. Venus was conjunct Saturn in 13 charts)							
Sun		7	7	38	5	17	7	81
Moon	7		3	5	6	6	8	35
Mars	7	3		7	1	8	6	32
Mercury	38	5	7		6	23	5	84
Jupiter	5	6	1	6		6	9	33
Venus	17	6	8	23	6		13	73
Saturn	7	8	6	5	9	13		48
Total	81	35	32	84	33	73	48	386
Avg. Expd.	76	36	36	80	36	60	36	360
% of Expd.	107%	97%	89%	105%	92%	122%	133%	107%

Conjunction

Having investigated position and aspect, let us move on to the third leg of the PAC formula, the conjunction of planets. Table 5 shows the conjunction of planets with planets. In the "average expected" row, the amounts have been adjusted for the frequent conjunctions between Sun, Mercury and Venus, based on the percentage of occurrence of these over 10 years of ephemeris data.

Mars formed the fewest conjunctions of all, most notably only one time with Jupiter. It seems that Jupiter conjunct Mars is a combination that strongly protects one from early loss of a sibling, even more powerfully than Jupiter's aspect, as Mars and Jupiter aspected each other an average number of times (18) in this study (see Table 3).

In total, more conjunctions than the average expected were formed, mainly with Saturn and Venus on a percentage basis. In fact, these two formed an unusually high number of conjunctions, 13 (vs. 6 exp.). The role of Venus was also prominent in the *Bhrigu Sutram shloka* (Ch. 6 20-22) discussed earlier.

Table 6 shows the conjunctions by which lord was involved. Saturn was most often conjunct the 3rd and 4th lord (11 times each). The former represents the sibling, while the latter is a *maraka* for siblings, becoming more malefic by Saturn's presence.

Not shown in these tables was that the 3rd lord was most often conjunct the 6th lord (16 times), 8th lord (18 times), and 12th lord (22 times).

Table 6: Conjunctions of House Lords and Planets									
	Sun	Moon	Mars	Mercury	Jupiter	Venus	Saturn	Total	% of Total
Conjunct Lord	(eg. Lord of 12 was conjunct Sun in 17 charts)								
L of 1	13	6	6	8	9	9	6	57	8.7%
L of 2	7	4	4	6	6	10	8	45	6.9%
L of 3	11	5	4	10	5	11	11	57	8.7%
L of 4	12	5	5	10	6	14	11	63	9.6%
L of 5	11	1	6	12	4	6	9	49	7.5%
L of 6	14	12	3	9	3	8	2	51	7.8%
L of 7	13	6	4	9	3	12	6	53	8.1%
L of 8	12	4	6	13	1	14	6	56	8.5%
L of 9	15	6	5	10	3	11	4	54	8.2%
L of 10	14	5	5	10	5	8	4	51	7.8%
L of 11	16	6	4	13	2	11	5	57	8.7%
L of 12	17	3	2	15	8	9	9	63	9.6%
Total	155	63	54	125	55	123	81	656	100%
% of Total	23.6%	9.6%	8.2%	19.1%	8.4%	18.8%	12.3%	100%	

	Table 7: Mahadasha Lord at time of Loss									Total
	Ketu	Venus	Sun	Moon	Mars	Rahu	Jupiter	Saturn	Mercury	
Actual	2	11	3	2	9	15	11	16	6	75
Avg. Expd.	4.4	12.5	3.8	6.3	4.4	11.3	10.0	11.9	10.6	75
% of Expd.	46%	88%	80%	32%	206%	133%	110%	135%	56%	

Dasha

The *mahadasha* in operation at the time of the sibling's death is shown in Table 7. Here there are a total of 75 "events" as 3 of the study group experienced the death of 2 siblings. The 3 most malefic planets, Mars, Rahu and Saturn, had overall dominance of the *mahadasha* which is to be expected.

The event was less common in the *dasha* of Moon, Mercury, and Venus with Jupiter showing average results (i.e. neither aggravating nor denying the occurrence of the loss). Sun and Ketu *dashas* were also less common, but their *dashas* being so short, the sample size here is not sufficiently large to give a clear indication.

Table 8 shows the positions of the planets who's *mahadasha* (MD), *antardasha* (AD) and *pratyantardasha* (PD) were in operation at the time of the death.

The 3rd and 10th house again receive the most influence (i.e. the death was more likely connected with *dashas*, etc. of planets which occupy the natal 3rd and 10th houses). In the *Rasi* chart, the AD lord was found in the 3rd house in 13 charts (6 avg.)

While the 3rd received the most attention in the *Rasi* and *Navamsha* charts, it was the 1st which was most occupied in the *Drekkana*, by the *dasha* rulers.

A basic principle mentioned in Jyotish texts, is that the significant results of a *dasha* do not come in it's own *antardasha*. This was not evident in the study. At any moment, the chances of the *antardasha* lord being the same as the *dasha* lord is 1 in 9. In the study, the *dasha* and *antardasha* lord were the same in 18 cases (8 expected, even excluding the above principle).

Table 9 shows the relative position of the MD, AD and PD lords with respect to each other. Even adjusting the average expected result for the average occurrence of same planet being either both MD and AD or AD and PD, the result still highly favours the mutual *kendra* placement.

It seems, that all else being equal, when a planet running the AD or PD is in a *kendra* from the MD or AD planet, in the *Rasi*, *Navamsha* and *Drekkana* charts, it is more likely to trigger a significant event around the indications for that planet. It may be that this is a fundamental principle which could apply to other significant events in life as well.

Table 8: Natal House Position of MD/AD/PD Lords															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Avg.	Std. Dev.	
Lord Placement	(eg. The Antardasha Lord was in the 3rd House in the Rasi chart in 13 cases)														
In Rasi:															
MD Lord	7	4	9	9	5	1	4	8	9	9	6	4	6.25	2.6	
AD Lord	9	9	13	7	7	2	1	6	4	8	7	2	6.25	3.3	
PD Lord	5	9	1	9	7	8	5	5	4	10	5	7	6.25	2.5	
In Navamsha:															
MD Lord	4	7	9	7	4	8	6	6	5	8	5	6	6.25	1.5	
AD Lord	4	3	8	7	2	10	7	7	9	5	10	3	6.25	2.7	
PD Lord	4	9	5	4	5	6	6	4	6	6	9	11	6.25	2.2	
In Drekkana:															
MD Lord	8	6	7	9	5	4	5	6	7	4	7	7	6.25	1.5	
AD Lord	8	3	9	5	6	7	8	4	6	9	4	6	6.25	1.9	
PD Lord	11	6	5	3	2	9	3	9	4	11	3	9	6.25	3.2	
Total	60	56	66	60	43	55	45	55	54	70	56	55			
Avg. Expd.	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56			
% of Expd.	107%	100%	117%	107%	76%	98%	80%	98%	96%	124%	100%	98%			

	Kendra 1-4-7-10	Panapara 2-5-8-11	Apoklima 3-6-9-12
In Rasi:			
AD from MD	35	21	19
PD from AD	35	22	18
In Navamsha:			
AD from MD	36	20	19
PD from AD	37	12	26
In Drekanna:			
AD from MD	39	19	17
PD from AD	40	18	17
Total	222	112	116
Avg. Expd.	183	133	133
% of Expd.	121%	84%	87%

Thus far we have explored the PAC of the planets and the operating dasha. Now, we will turn our attention to the transit influences operating at the time of the sibling's death. We will consider the *ashtakavarga* strength of the *gochara* planets as well.

Gochara

The transit positions of the planets were considered with respect to the sign placements, as well as houses counted from the *Lagna*, natal Moon, Mars and 3rd Lord. The latter two provided the most revealing observations, so only those two will be shown in table format, in the interest of space.

Table 10 shows the *gochara* placement of all of the planets with respect to natal Mars.

Not too surprisingly, the most occupied house is the 1st from Mars itself, with Rahu being the most frequent planet transiting over Mars, at 13. Mars itself was most often (13 times) transiting the 2nd from itself, reinforcing the notion that *karakas* in *maraka* houses prove bad.

The 6th from Mars was also more heavily occupied by transiting planets.

Table 11 shows the *gochara* placement from natal 3rd lord. Mars was most often in transit over the 3rd lord itself. Note the high concentration of occupancy for the two *maraka* houses, the 2nd and 7th, both with 124% of the "expected" planets located there.

Additional observations not covered in these tables are:

- Leo and Sagittarius were the most occupied signs with 124% and 126% of average expected occupancy respectively.

- Venus was in transit over natal *Lagna* in 16 charts (vs. 6 exp.).

- from the *Lagna*, the houses most occupied by *gochara* planets were the 1st, 3rd, 4th and 10th, all of which have already been established as being significant with respect to siblings.

- from the Moon *Lagna*, the houses most occupied by *gochara* planets were the 3rd, 4th, 6th and 10th, again emphasizing most of the same houses.

These results are all appropriate under the circumstances and bear witness to the role of the *gochara* planetary positions in triggering the static indications already present in the birth chart.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Avg.	Std. Dev.
Planet	(e.g. Rahu was Gochara in the 1st from Natal Mars in 13 charts)													
Sun	7	9	8	7	6	4	4	9	5	7	4	5	6.25	1.8
Moon	9	8	10	4	6	6	7	3	7	7	4	4	6.25	2.1
Mars	6	13	6	6	4	8	6	3	11	6	3	3	6.25	3.0
Mercury	8	4	10	10	2	7	6	3	10	6	3	6	6.25	2.7
Jupiter	8	6	5	5	5	8	7	7	4	8	5	7	6.25	1.4
Venus	7	8	6	12	4	7	4	6	5	7	5	4	6.25	2.2
Saturn	6	5	7	5	11	6	4	7	7	4	8	5	6.25	1.9
Rahu	13	5	4	4	7	11	6	1	6	3	6	9	6.25	3.2
Ketu	6	1	6	3	6	9	13	5	4	4	7	11	6.25	3.2
Total	70	59	62	56	51	66	57	44	59	52	45	54		
Avg. Expd.	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56		
% of Expd.	124%	105%	110%	100%	91%	117%	101%	78%	105%	92%	80%	96%		

Table 11: Gochara Position of Planets in Houses from Natal 3rd Lord														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Avg.	Std. Dev.
Planet	(e.g. Mars was Gochara on the Natal 3rd lord in 13 charts)													
Sun	6	11	5	5	7	6	7	10	3	6	5	4	6.25	2.2
Moon	6	11	3	7	4	7	7	5	7	8	5	5	6.25	2.0
Mars	13	6	7	3	8	4	7	5	8	4	4	6	6.25	2.6
Mercury	5	11	5	7	6	6	7	8	7	6	6	1	6.25	2.2
Jupiter	7	7	5	3	4	6	8	8	10	4	7	6	6.25	1.9
Venus	9	5	6	8	6	4	10	5	8	5	3	6	6.25	2.0
Saturn	3	7	9	8	4	7	9	7	1	8	4	8	6.25	2.5
Rahu	8	7	9	5	6	3	7	5	3	5	12	5	6.25	2.5
Ketu	7	5	3	5	12	5	8	7	9	5	6	3	6.25	2.5
Total	64	70	52	51	57	48	70	60	56	51	52	44		
Avg. Expd.	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56		
% of Expd.	114%	124%	92%	91%	101%	85%	124%	107%	100%	91%	92%	78%		

Ashtakavarga

The *gochara* positions of all the planets was correlated to the total *ashtakavarga* strength of the signs occupied at the time of the loss. Overall, the planets were in transit in signs which were "average" in strength, without significant deviation. The Sun was in signs averaging 28.7 points, the Moon 27.7, Mars 27.9, Mercury 28.7, Jupiter 28.1, Venus 28.1, Saturn 28.4, Rahu 28.2 and Ketu 27.6. One might expect a correlation between transit of "weak" signs and a significant loss, such as a death in the family. The overall average of 28.159 was however astonishingly close to the mathematical average (337 / 12) of 28.083. While the transit of a weak sign may be a contributing factor in some cases, there was no evidence to support a statistical deviation from the mathematical expected average.

Case Study

So far we have looked at classic combinations, the PAC, *dasha*, and *gochara* influences. Now we will examine a sample chart, to see how the effects ripened for one of these 72 natives.

I met the father of the boy (see Chart 1) in early 1993 in Kerala. He was on a pilgrimage to the Holy River Ganges, wherein he wished to throw the ashes of his son, who had just died in November due to injuries received in an accidental fall from a height.

"Nobody foresaw his death", was what he told me, though he had consulted astrologers in India many times previously regarding his own chart and those of his two sons. Nobody had even warned him that it was a dangerous period for his son.

Let us examine the combinations in the chart of his surviving son (Chart 1).

Of the 33 tested classic combinations, only one applied fully to this chart: SC Ch. 4 Shl.13: "If both the 3rd house and Mars are in association with extremely malefic planets & so also is the case with the lord of the 3rd house, there is the destruction of brothers." Since this *shloka* may not have been memorized by many practitioners of Jyotish, uncovering other "rules of thumb" that lead to the same conclusion would be helpful.

Some combinations which were observed in the study and present in this chart are:

- Mars, the *karaka*, and also *maraka* for his 3rd house is debilitated in *Rasi*, *Navamsha* and *Drekkana* charts, in Jupiter's *Nakshatra*, a water *Navamsha*, and afflicted by Rahu.

- Jupiter, the 3rd lord (who is also 12th lord) is in the 9th house (also a *maraka* for the 3rd), closely conjunct Saturn and debilitated Venus.

- Venus, the 10th lord of longevity of siblings is debilitated in the (*maraka*) 9th with 12th lord Jupiter and Saturn (Ven-Sat conjunctions were common).

- In *sarvashtakavarga*, Virgo has the fewest points, with only 18, a poor placement for the 3rd lord and 10th lord.

- In *Drekkana*, Mars is debilitated in the 3rd, with Rahu, 3rd lord Moon is in the 6th (accident), and natal 3rd lord Jupiter is debilitated in the (*maraka*) 9th.

From the static analysis of the horoscope, it is evident that his younger brother's longevity was impaired. Let us now consider the *dasha* and *gochara* effects:

<table border="1"> <tr><td>11</td><td>10</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>Lagna Ketu</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td></td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>Mars Rahu</td><td>Sat Ven Jup</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>Moon</td><td>5 Sun Mer</td></tr> </table>	11	10	9	12	Lagna Ketu	8	1		7	2	4	6	3	Mars Rahu	Sat Ven Jup		Moon	5 Sun Mer	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Moon</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>Chart 1 Ref: n0114 25-Aug-81 3:41 pm Australia</td><td>Mars Rahu</td></tr> <tr><td>Lagna Ketu</td><td></td><td></td><td>Sun Mer</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Sat Ven Jup</td></tr> </table>				Moon							Chart 1 Ref: n0114 25-Aug-81 3:41 pm Australia	Mars Rahu	Lagna Ketu			Sun Mer				Sat Ven Jup													
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Degrees

Lagna	15° 07'
Sun	08° 20'
Moon	13° 03'
Mars	01° 23'
Mercury	22° 15'
Jupiter	16° 45'
Venus	14° 20'
Saturn	14° 18'
Rahu	07° 51'
Ketu	07° 51'

Karakas

AK	Mer
AmK	Jup
BK	Ven
MK	Sat
PK	Moon
GK	Sun
DK	Mars

Transit Chart

Lagna	13° 41'
Sun	26° 01'
Moon	14° 39'
Mars	02° 00'
Mercury	14° 36'
Jupiter	12° 42'
Venus	04° 17'
Saturn	18° 40'
Rahu	27° 56'
Ketu	27° 56'

- Jupiter *mahadasha* was running (afflicted 3rd lord), and Jupiter was also the *antardasha* lord.

- The *pratyantardasha* was of Rahu, who is conjunct Mars in Cancer. Rahu is in a *kendra* from Jupiter in both *Navamsha* and *Drekkana*.

- In transit, Mars and Jupiter both had returned to their natal positions, repeating the devastating combination in the birth chart, with Mars less than 1° from its natal position. Transit Saturn was aspecting the 3rd house as well as Mars.

- The fall occurred the day before his death, with the Moon in *Krittika*, a sharp, volatile and downward facing *Nakshatra*.

The nature of death can be seen from the 8th house. In this case Venus, 8th lord from the 3rd house is conjunct Jupiter, which as lord of the 12th house Sagittarius, also stands for "fall from a height". The boy was climbing on an awning over their back porch, which collapsed under his weight. Could he have been avoiding risky activities, had his father been warned that a dangerous period was at hand? As a future research, this tragedy may be studied from the horoscope of the father.

Miscellaneous Factors

Table 12 shows the distribution of the signs for the most significant points in the study. With the exception of Scorpio, the air and water signs figured most frequently for *Lagna*, Moon, Mars and 3rd lord placement. *Lagna* was most often in mutable signs while Mars and the Moon were least often in these. Mars was most often found in the signs of Venus.

The average ages of the surviving sibling and deceased were 30 and 34 years respectively.

The research was conducted on the horoscopes of natives from 25 different countries, covering 5 continents. The natives came from a wide variety of walks of life and social standing.

Summary

The following combinations from the research are observations which contribute to "loss of sibling". The esteemed readers are requested to test these on charts in their possession and come to their own conclusions.

1. Position: The 3rd lord occupies a sign which is low in total *sarvashtakavarga* points; Rahu in 10; malefic influence on the 10th house and 10th lord; Mars in *trine* to Rahu and 3/11 to Sun; the 3rd lord often occupies a *dusthana* house as counted from the 3rd (i.e. 8th, 10th or 2nd); Mars, Saturn and 3rd lord occupy fire or water *Navamshas*; more planets in the 4th and 10th houses (*maraka* places from the 3rd); Mars and Ketu occupy Jupiter's *Nakshatras*.

2. Aspect: The 10th lord is often aspected by 2nd and 8th lords; the 6th lord often aspects the 4th lord; Jupiter often aspects Venus.

3. Conjunction: The 3rd lord often conjuncts lords of dusthanas; Venus and Saturn are often conjunct.

4. *Dasha*: The MD of Saturn, Mars and Rahu; AD lord connected with 3rd; MD, AD and PD in mutual kendras in Rasi and divisional charts.

5. *Gochara*: Mars and 6th from Mars often being transited, specially Rahu over Mars; from *Lagna* and Moon, more planets *gochara* in 3rd and 4th.

Conclusion

While these observations may not provide any foolproof "formula" for prediction, when taken together they form a picture, which is made up of many smaller convergent influences. It is the analysis of the chart leading to conclusions based on many diverse factors that is the art of Jyotish.

Table 12: Frequency of Sign Occupancy in Rasi Chakra

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Avg.	Std. Dev.
Lagna	3	2	13	9	5	6	7	5	5	6	4	7	6	2.8
Mars	4	10	7	7	7	2	11	4	1	5	6	8	6	2.9
Moon	7	4	5	6	8	3	7	6	5	4	10	7	6	1.9
3rd Lord	9	5	5	8	5	7	5	5	6	1	11	5	6	2.4
Total	23	21	30	30	25	18	30	20	17	16	31	27		
Avg. Expd.	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24		
% of Expd.	96%	88%	125%	125%	104%	75%	125%	83%	71%	67%	129%	113%		