

Nakshatra Associations

Deity – Each Nakshatra has at least one associated deity. In the Rig Veda, the Nakshatras are actually named by the deities. They give the overall energy of the Nakshatra. The Nakshatra is their ‘responsibility’. Understanding the Mythology of these deities is very important. As I mentioned, there is sometimes more than one deity listed. That is because the Nakshatra Sutras of Taittiriya Bhramana many times list different deities. In these cases, I have put this deity first as it should be considered of prime importance. The consideration of the second deity is also important however as it will give further detail.

Emissary – Most sources list the Nakshatras as having a ruling planet. But, this is thinking that we should really work to curb in my opinion. It is the deity that is in charge of the Nakshatra and not it’s lord. Different Dasa systems associate different planets with the Nakshatras as this is how the planets were originally associated with the Nakshatras. As Vimshottari Dasa is the most common of the Dasa systems, this is how the classical association of the planets with the Nakshatras came into being. But although the Deity is the actual Lord of the Nakshatra, the planet connected to the Nakshatra is important. And its well being, or lack of, will impact how a Nakshatra grows. When the planet is afflicted, the Nakshatra will grow things in a more challenging manner. When it is supported, more positive growth of the Nakshatra will tend to result. For this reason, the planets can be understood as emissaries of the deities connected to the Nakshatras. If the emissary is not treated well, the deity’s message will not get through.

Yoni

Buffalo- strength, patience, overrunning.

Cat- cleanliness, finicky, detached, indifferent.

Cow- utilise, running strongly, sometimes running past.

Dog- loyalty, friendship, slinking, holing up.

Elephant- understanding, immobility.

Hare- fear, comfort.

Horse- power, panic.

Lion- pride, leadership, respect.

Monkey- playfulness, lack of seriousness, moving from one thing to another.

Moongoose- viciousness, speed.

Rat- trickster or treachery.

Sheep- gentleness, retreat, bareness.

Snake- transmutation, hibernation, sneakiness.

Tiger- aggressive, ruthless.

The effects given by Hora Ratnam of the Yonies according to the Yavanas is as follows. Please note that these meanings are meant to be figurative and not exact:

Horse: Will be fickle minded, move fast, be fond of war, powerful and faithful to his lord.

Elephant: Will walk in a slow pace, be strong, eat aplenty, be dear to king, truthful and fatigued.

Sheep: Will break into impeccable and rare places and be quite suspicious and intelligent.

Snake: Sight of will instil fear, and will be ostentatious and will usurp other's homes.

Dog: Will hear everything, be a liar, wicked, will wish good for his employer, will not be able to withstand forests and be heroic.

Cat: Will have tawny eyes, eat anything, be fickle minded, contemptuous, and unnecessarily irascible.

Rat: Will be wicked, interested in his undertakings, will destroy others work and completely destroy enemies.

Cow: Endowed with various kinds of quadrupeds, fond of consuming milk, very charming and helpful to others.

Buffalo: Will walk in a slow pace, be stout bodied, eat avidly, powerful, wealth and consume much food and milk.

Tiger: Will be a destroyer, eat anything, be a scholar, skilful and fearful by mere appearance.

Deer: Will enjoy songs and musical instruments, be quite good looking, fond of animals and wicked.

Monkey: Will be tawny eyed, unstable in mind, move in forests, consume fruits and will win the trust of no one.

Mongoose: Will be charming in appearance, devoted to his undertakings, will honour other's missions, live in holes and be long lived.

Lion: Will be very powerful, have tawny eyes and thin waist, be fearful in appearance and eat anything.

Ashwini Nakshatra

The two harnessed horses [aśvayujau] of the aśvinī (The Two Charioteers) are the community from above [grāmaḥ] and the army [senā] from below.

Deity: The Two Asvin Kumars (Divine Physicians, Focused on Righteousness, Swift to Act, Ever Youthful, Dualistic)

Emissary: Ketu

Body: Knees

Yoni: Horse

Symbol: Horses Head

Constellation Shape: Horse's Mouth

Number of Stars: 3

Place: town

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita: horse-dealers, commandants, physicians, attendants, horses, horse-riders, merchants, handsome persons and horse-grooms.

Bharani Nakshatra

The bearing away [apabharaniḥ] of yama (The Restrainer) is drawing away [apakarṣantaḥ] from above and carrying away [apavahantaḥ] from below. ---Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Yama (God of Death, Transmigration of Souls, Dharmaraja)

Emissary: Venus

Body: Head

Yoni: Elephant

Symbol: Female Reproductive Organ

Constellation Shape: Yoni (Vagina)

Number of Stars: 3

Place: Street

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita: those that feed on blood and flesh, cruel men, those that are engaged in killing, imprisoning and beating others, cereals, low-born persons, and those who are devoid of courage (character or nobility).

Krittika Nakshatra

The white spots [kṛttikāḥ] of agni (Fire) are bright [śukram] from above and light [jyotiḥ] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Agni (Fire)

Emissary: Sun

Body: Hips, Waist

Yoni: Goat, Sheep

Symbol: Razor

Constellation Shape: The Potency of a Cloud

Number of Stars: 6

Place: jungle

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

White flowers, Brahmans who maintain and worship the sacred fire daily, knowers of the sacred hymns and sacrificial rules, grammarians, miners, barbers, Brahmans, potters, priests and astrologers.

Rohini Nakshatra

The red growing [rohiṇī] of prajāpati (The Creator) is water [āpaḥ] from above and the receptacles of light [oṣadhayaḥ] from below. -Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Brahma, Prajapati(The Creator, the Father of All)

Emissary: Moon

Body: Shanks

Yoni: Snake

Symbol: Chariot

Constellation Shape: Breath

Number of Stars: 5

Place: Stable

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Observers of vows, merchandises, kings, wealthy persons, Yogins, cartmen, cows, bulls, aquatic animals, husbandmen, mountains and men in authority.

Mrigasira Nakshatra

The diminutive pervadings [invakā] of soma (Moon) are diffusions [vitatāni] from above and weaving [vayantaḥ] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Soma (Name of the Moon, God of Immortality)

Emissary: Mars

Body: Eyes

Yoni: Snake

Symbol: Head of a Deer

Constellation Shape: Stag's Mouth

Number of Stars: 3

Place: Cot

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Fragrant articles, garments, aquatic products, flowers, fruits, gems, foresters (or forest-dwellers), birds, beasts, those who partake of Soma juice (in sacrifices), musicians, lovers and carriers of letters.

Ardra Nakshatra

The two arms [bāhū] of rudra (The Howling) are deer and grain [mrigayavaḥ] from above and the caustic [vikṣaraḥ] from below.
Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Rudra (God of the Tempest, The One Who Roars, Fire as a Destructive Agent)

Emissary: Rahu

Body: Hair, Scalp

Yoni: Dog

Symbol: Tear Drop, Gem

Constellation Shape: Gem

Number of Stars: 1

Place: temple

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Murderers (or executioners), animal-catchers, liars, adulterers, thieves, rogues, creators of discord, cereals, cruel persons, charmers, sorcerers and those well versed in the art of raising goblins.

Punarvasu Nakshatra

The restoration of good [punarvasu] for aditi (The Undivided) is wind [vātaḥ] from above and moisture [ārdram] from below.
Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Aditi (Undivided, Boundless, Mother of the Adityas)

Emissary: Jupiter

Body: Fingers

Yoni: Cat

Symbol: House, Quiver, Bow

Constellation Shape: House

Number of Stars: 5/4

Place: granary

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

The truthful, generous, pure, high-born, handsome, intelligent, famous, the rich, best varieties of grains, merchants, servants and artisans.

Pushya Nakshatra

The auspiciousness [tishya] of bṛhaspati (The Lord of Devotion) is worshipping [juhvataḥ] from above and the worshippers [yajamānā] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Brihaspati (Priest of the Gods, Lord of Abundance; the Lord of Devotion and Prayer)

Emissary: Saturn

Body: Mouth, Face

Yoni: Goat/Sheep

Symbol: Teat of a Cow, Arrow, Flower, Circle with a dot in the center

Constellation Shape: Arrow

Number of Stars 3

Place: house

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Barley, wheat, rice, sugarcane, forest, ministers, kings, fishermen and the like, virtuous men and those that are engaged in big and small sacrifices.

Ashlesha Nakshatra

The embraces [āśreṣāḥ] of sarpāḥ (The Serpents) are approaching indirectly [abhyāgacchantāḥ] from above and indirectly dancing towards [abhyānṛtyantāḥ] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Sarpah Deities, Naagas (Serpent Deities)

Emissary: Mercury

Body: Nails

Yoni: Cat

Symbol: Wheel, Serpent

Constellation Shape: Wheel

Number of Stars 6/5

Place: debris

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Artificial things, bulbs, roots, fruits, insects, reptiles, poison, robbers, cereals and all classes of physicians.

Magha Nakshatra

The gifts [maghāḥ] of the pitaraḥ (The Ancestors) are crying [rudantaḥ] from above and the fallen down [apabhraṁśaḥ] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Pitr (Ancestral Deities, of the Father, Also Known as the Pitris, Pitnam means called by the Father's Name)

Emissary: Ketu

Body: Nose

Yoni: Mouse/Rat

Symbol: Throne, Palanquin, Royal Court

Constellation Shape: Dwelling

Number of Stars: 5

Place: Paddy Box

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

People rich in gold and corn, granaries, mountaineers, those who are devoted to parents or the manes, traders, heroes, carnivorous beings and women-haters.

Purva Phalguni Nakshatra

The reddish at the early [pūrve phalguṇī] of aditya aryaman (The Companion) is wife [jāyā] from above and a male [ṛṣabhaḥ] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Aryaman (God of Contracts and Agreements, an Aditya, a friend who on behalf of his friend asks a woman to marry his friend)

Emissary: Venus

Body: Genitals

Yoni: Mouse/Rat

Symbol: Legs of a Cot, Stage, Couch, Fireplace

Constellation Shape: Platform

Number of Stars: 8/2

Place: Ruined House

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Actors, young women, amiable persons, musicians, artists, commodities, cotton, salt, honey, oil and boys.

Uttara Phalguni Nakshatra

(The reddish) at the concluding [uttare] of the aditya bhaga (The Dispenser) is strong flow [vahatavaḥ] from above and flowing wishes [vahamānā] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Bhaga (An Aditya, The Sun as Bliss, Part, Portion, Division, Luck)

Emissary: Sun

Body: Genitals

Yoni: Cow

Symbol: Bed, Legs of a Cot

Constellation Shape: Bed

Number of Stars: 2

Place: water

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Kind-hearted persons, the pure in conduct, modest, heretics, charitable persons and the learned, fine-grains, very rich men, those who are devoted to their duties, and kings.

Hasta Nakshatra

The hand [hastah] of the aditya deva savitr (The Vivifier) is the delivery [prasavaḥ] from above and the acquisition [saniḥ] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Savitar (Sun as the Inspirer and Giver of Life)

Emissary: Moon

Body: Hands

Yoni: Buffalo

Symbol: Hand

Constellation Shape: The Do-er, The Hand

Number of Stars: 5

Place: Pond

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Thieves, elephants, those who travel in chariots, elephant-drivers, artisans, commodities, cereals, men learned in the Vedas, traders and men of prowess.

Chitra Nakshatra

The brights [citrā] of Indra (The Conqueror) is right [ṛtaṁ] from above and truth [satyam] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Indra (Indra Conquered his senses, He is the God of the Senses and achieved notoriety as King of the Gods), Visvakarman (The Celestial Architect)

Emissary: Mars

Body: Forehead

Yoni: Tiger

Symbol: Pearl

Constellation Shape: Pearl

Number of Stars: 1

Place: river bund (embankment)

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Persons skilled in making ornaments, jewelers (or jewel-examiners), dyeing (or painting), writing, singing and perfumery, as well as mathematicians, weavers, ophthalmic surgeons and king's corn.

Swati Nakshatra

The strange things [niṣṭyā] of vayu (Wind) are the spreading [vratatiḥ] from above and the non-accomplishment [asiddhiḥ] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Vayu (Wind God)

Emissary: Rahu

Body: Teeth

Yoni: Buffalo

Symbol: Coral, Blade of Grass

Constellation Shape: Red Coral

Number of Stars: 1

Place: field

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Birds, beasts, horses, traders, grains that cause lots of wind, unsteady friends, feeble characters, ascetics and connoisseurs of wares.

Vishakha Nakshatra

At the branched [viśākhe] of indra & agni (The Conqueror and The Fire) are yokes [yugāni] from above and crops [kṛṣamāṇā] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Indraagni (Indra and Agni, the Conqueror, King of the Gods and God of Fire)

Emissary: Jupiter

Body: Arms

Yoni: Tiger

Symbol: Leaf Decked Triumphal Gate, Potter's Wheel

Constellation Shape: Arch

Number of Stars: 5/4

Place: Cottonfield

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Trees that bear red blossoms and fruits, sesame, green gram, cotton, black gram, Bengal gram and men devoted to Indra and Agni.

Anuradha Nakshatra

The well beings along with the gifts [anurādhāḥ] of aditya mitra (The Friend) is ascending towards [abhyārohat] from above and the ascended to [abhyārūḍham] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Mitra (God of Friendship, The One Who uncovers in the day what Varuna has covered over during the night) Radha (Supreme Devotee)

Emissary: Saturn

Body: Breast

Yoni: Deer

Symbol: Lotus Flower

Constellation Shape: Offered Food

Number of Stars: 4

Place: Grassy Place

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Men of prowess, heads of corporations, friends of the virtuous, lovers of assemblies, tourists (or lovers of carriages), all honest persons in the world and all things that grow in autumn.

Jyeshtha Nakshatra

The red growing (rohini) of indra (The Conqueror) is attacking [sṛṇat] from above and attacking in return [pratiṣṛṇat] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Indra (The Conqueror, King of the Gods)

Emissary: Mercury

Body: Neck

Yoni: Deer

Symbol: Earring, Umbrella

Constellation Shape: Ear Ring

Number of Stars: 3

Place: jungle

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Great battle heroes, those who are noted for pedigree, wealth and fame, thieves, kings who are intent on conquests and commandants.

Mula Nakshatra

The uprootings [mūlavarhaṇī] for nirṛti (The Without Motion) is fracturing [pratibhañjantaḥ] from above and breaking into pieces [pratiṣṛṇantaḥ] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Nirriti (Goddess of Dissolution, Destruction, Alakshmi, The One Without Motion)

Emissary: Ketu

Body: Feet

Yoni: Dog

Symbol: Tail of Lion, Roots tied together

Constellation Shape: Tail of a Lion

Number of Stars: 11

Place: horse stable

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Medicines, physicians, leaders of groups, those who deal in flowers, roots and fruits, seeds, exceedingly wealthy persons and those who live only on fruits and roots.

Purva Ashadha Nakshatra

The earlier victories [pūrvā aṣāḍhāḥ] of apā (The Waters) is vigor [varcaḥ] from above and a battle [samitiḥ] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Apa(s) (Of The Waters)

Emissary: Venus

Body: Thighs

Yoni: Monkey

Symbol: Hand Fan, Winnowing Basket, Tusk

Constellation Shape: Elephant Tusks

Number of Stars: 2

Place: roof

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

People that are tender-hearted, navigators, fishermen, aquatic animals, etc., the truthful, pure and wealthy, constructors of bridges, those who live by water, and aquatic flowers and fruits.

Uttara Ashadha Nakshatra

The concluding (victories) [uttarāḥ (aṣāḍhāḥ)] of viśveśāni devānāni (All Divine Lords) is superiorly conquering [abhijayat] from above and complete victory [abhijitam] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: The Vishvadevas (Gods of Universalisation, All Divine Lords)

Emissary: Sun

Body: Thighs

Yoni: Cow UAs/Mongoose Abhijit

Symbol: Elephant Tusk, Square, Planks of a bed

Constellation Shape: Small Platform

Number of Stars: 8/2

Place: washing ghat

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Elephant drivers, wrestlers, elephants, horses, devotees of Gods, immovable things like trees, warriors, persons enjoying pleasures, and men of valor.

Sravana Nakshatra

The cripples [śroṇā] of viṣṇu (The All Pervasive) are inquiring ideas [pṛcchamānāḥ] from above and the paths [panthā] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Vishnu (Pervader and Preserver)

Emissary: Moon

Body: Ears

Yoni: Monkey

Symbol: Ear, 3 Footprints, Arrow

Constellation Shape: Bright Navel

Number of Stars: 3

Place: battle-field

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Jugglers, the ever-active, the efficient, the energetic, the righteous, devotees of Lord Visnu and the truthful.

Dhanishtha Nakshatra

The most famous ones [śraviṣṭhāḥ] of the vasūnāḥ (The Excellent Ones) are the past [bhūtam] from above and the thriving [bhūtiḥ] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Vasus (The Good or Excellent Ones (The Supporting i.e. the Earth, Water, The Pole Star, Moon, Wind, Fire, Dawn and Light, Gods of Light and Abundance)

Emissary: Mars

Body: Back

Yoni: Lion

Symbol: Mardala (Drum), Krishna's Flute

Constellation Shape: Mardala (A Type of Drum)

Number of Stars: 5/4

Place: oil press

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Men without pride, eunuchs, fast friends, men who are hated by women, charitable persons, the very wealthy, the peaceful (or self-controlled) persons.

Shatabhishak Nakshatra

The 100 cures [śatabhiṣak] of Indra (The Conqueror) are all expanse [viśvavyacāḥ] from above and all earth [viśvakṣitiḥ] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Indra (The Conqueror, King of the Gods), Varuna (God of the Cosmic Waters)

Emissary: Rahu

Body: Chin, Laughter

Yoni: Horse

Symbol: Circle, Thousand Petalled Lotus Flower

Constellation Shape: Circle

Number of Stars: 100

Place: Street

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Snarers, anglers, aquatic products, and dealers in fish etc., boar-hunters, washer-men, distillers and fowlers.

Purva Bhadrapada Nakshatra

One foot at the earlier feet of the stool [ekapadaḥ pūrve proṣṭhapadāḥ] of aja (The Unborn) is common to all humans [vaiśvānaram] from above and the collective gods [vaiśvāvasavam] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Aja Ekapada (One Footed Goat Form of Siva)

Emissary: Jupiter

Body: Side

Yoni: Lion

Symbol: Double Faced Man, Legs of a Cot

Constellation Shape: Platform

Number of Stars: 2

Place: house in south

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Thieves, cowherds, murderous persons, those engaged in despicable and roguish activities, those who are devoid of virtuous or religious observances and those that are clever in single combat.

Uttara Bhadrapada Nakshatra

In the concluding (feet of the stool) [uttare (proṣṭhapadāḥ)] of ahirbudhnyas (The Serpent at the Deep) is sprinkling upon [abhiṣiñcantah] from above and pressing out juice [abhiṣuṇvantah] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Ahirbudhnyas (Serpent of the Depths, Serpent at the Bottom)

Emissary: Saturn

Body: Side

Yoni: Cow

Symbol: Last Bed, Two Joined Men, Legs of a Cot

Constellation Shape: Pair Meeting

Number of Stars: 8/2

Place: rivers

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Brahmanas, those that are engaged in sacrifices, charity and penance, very wealthy persons, recluses, heretics, monarchs and valuable corn

Revati Nakshatra

The wealthy ones [revatī] of aditya pūṣan (The Nourisher) are the cow [gāvahaḥ] from above and calves [vatsā] from below.

Taittiriya Brahmana

Deity: Pushan (Sun as Nurturer, Protector and Fosterer, an Aditya)

Emissary: Mercury

Body: Abdomen

Yoni: Elephant

Symbol: Mridanga, Fish

Constellation Shape: Mardala (A Type of Drum)

Number of Stars: 32

Place: garden

Articles & People from Brihat Samhita

Aquatic products as well as fruits and flowers, salt, gems, conch shell, pearls, lotuses, perfumes, flowers (or fragrant flowers), traders and sailor.