

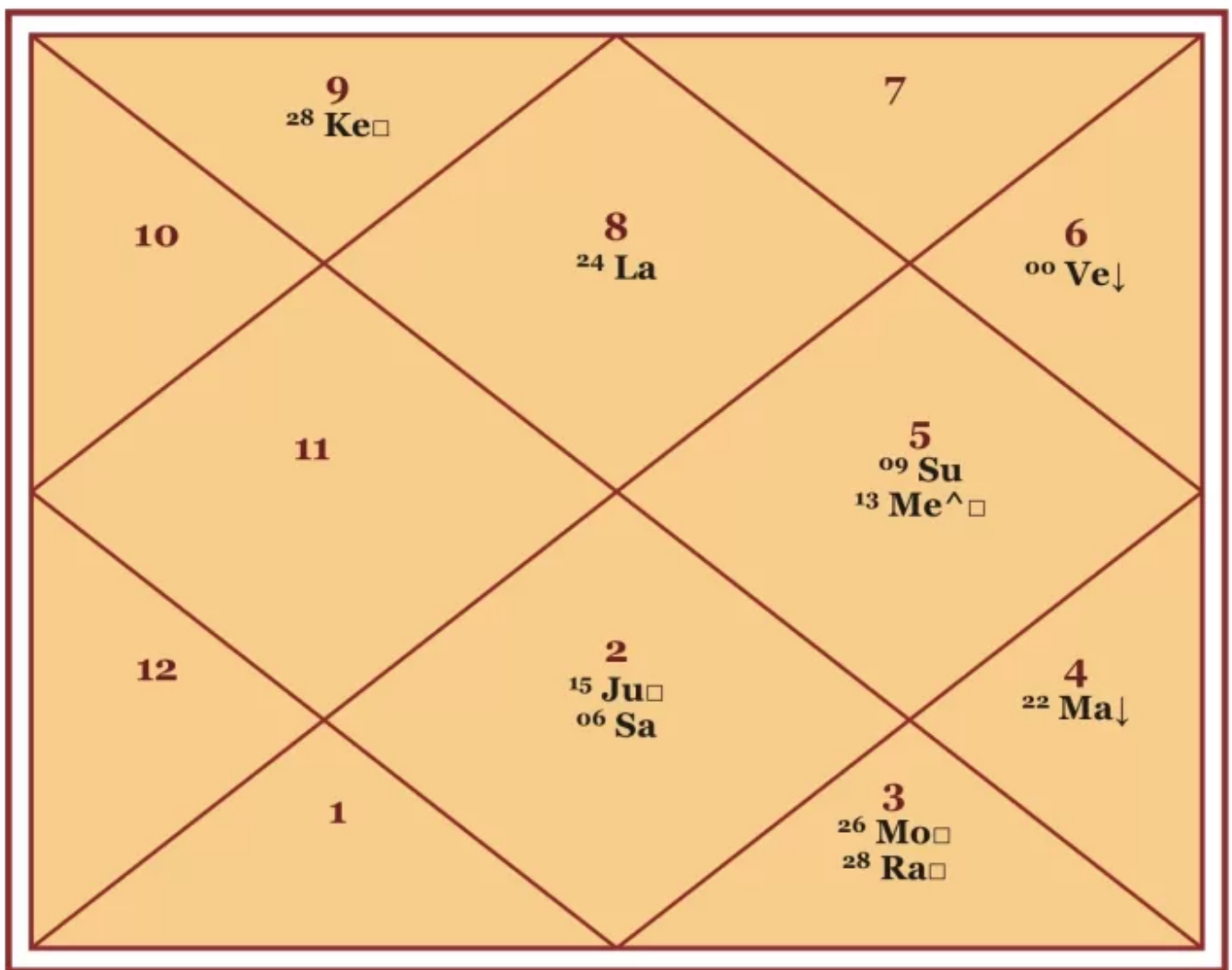


# Alpayu (Short Life) Combinations: How Classical Texts Read Longevity in a Chart

By Arpita Nath · Case Studies · 2026-09-18

Evaluating Alpayu (short lifespan category, traditionally considered up to around 32–36 years in classical Vedic texts) requires assessing the Lagna (vitality/body), Lagna Lord, the 8th House (longevity), the 8th Lord, Saturn (Ayush Karaka) and the classical three-pair longevity methods.

## 1. Key Placements in This Chart



- **Ascendant (Lagna):** Scorpio (Sign 8) at 24°.
- **Lagna Lord:** Mars (Ma), placed in Cancer (Sign 4) in the 9th House.

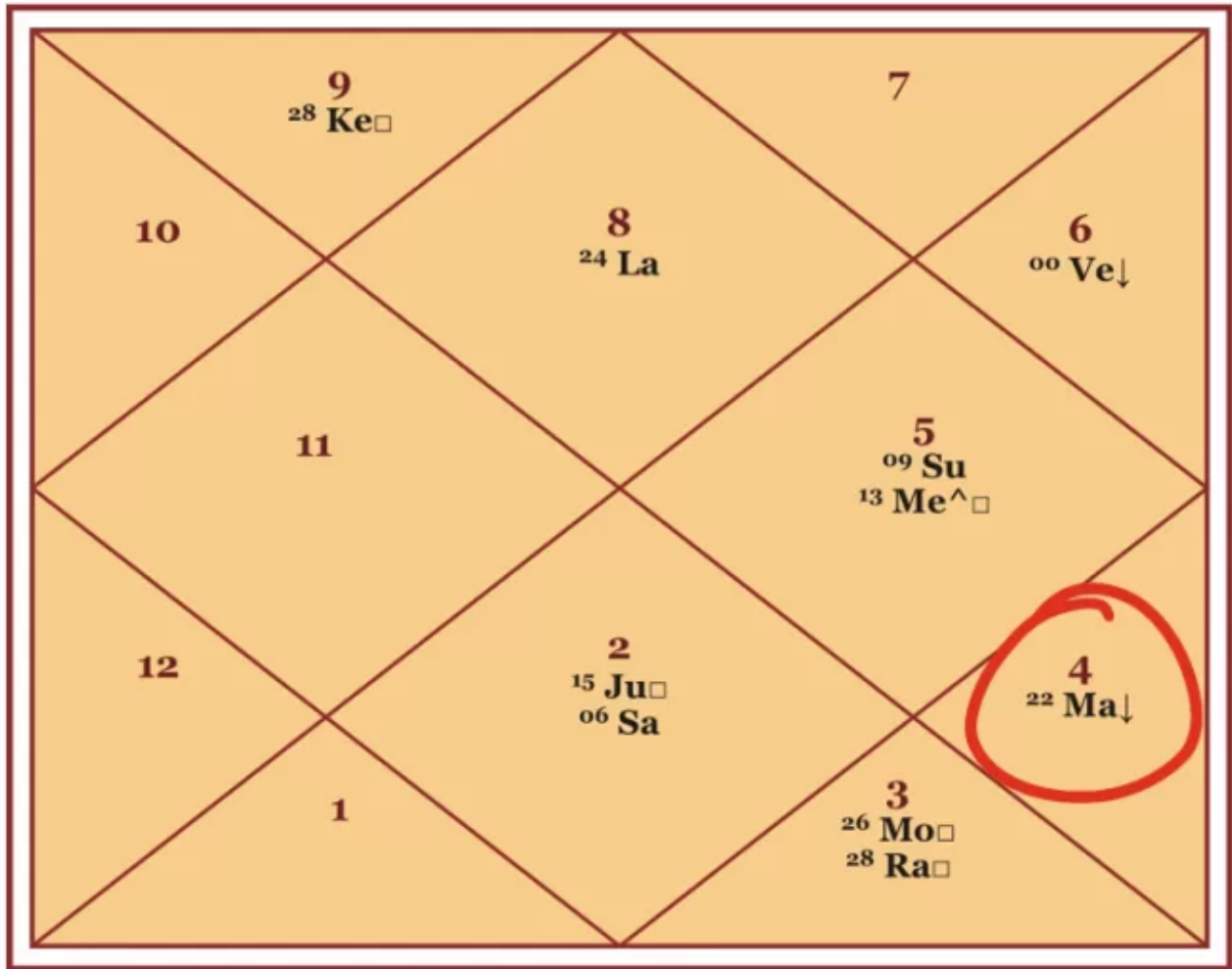
- **Status of Lagna Lord:** Mars is Debilitated at 22° in Cancer.
- **8th House (Longevity/Ayur Bhava):** Gemini (Sign 3).
- **8th Lord:** Mercury (Me), placed in the 10th House (Leo) combust/conjoined with Sun.
- **Planets in the 8th House:** Moon (Mo) + Rahu (Ra) conjunction in Gemini (close degrees: Moon at 26°, Rahu at 28°).
- **Significator of Longevity (Ayush Karaka):** Saturn (Sa), placed in Taurus (7th House, a Maraka house) alongside Jupiter.
- **Significator of Vitality (Sun):** Placed in the 10th House in own sign (Leo).

## 2. Factors Supporting the "Alpayu" (Short Longevity) Premise

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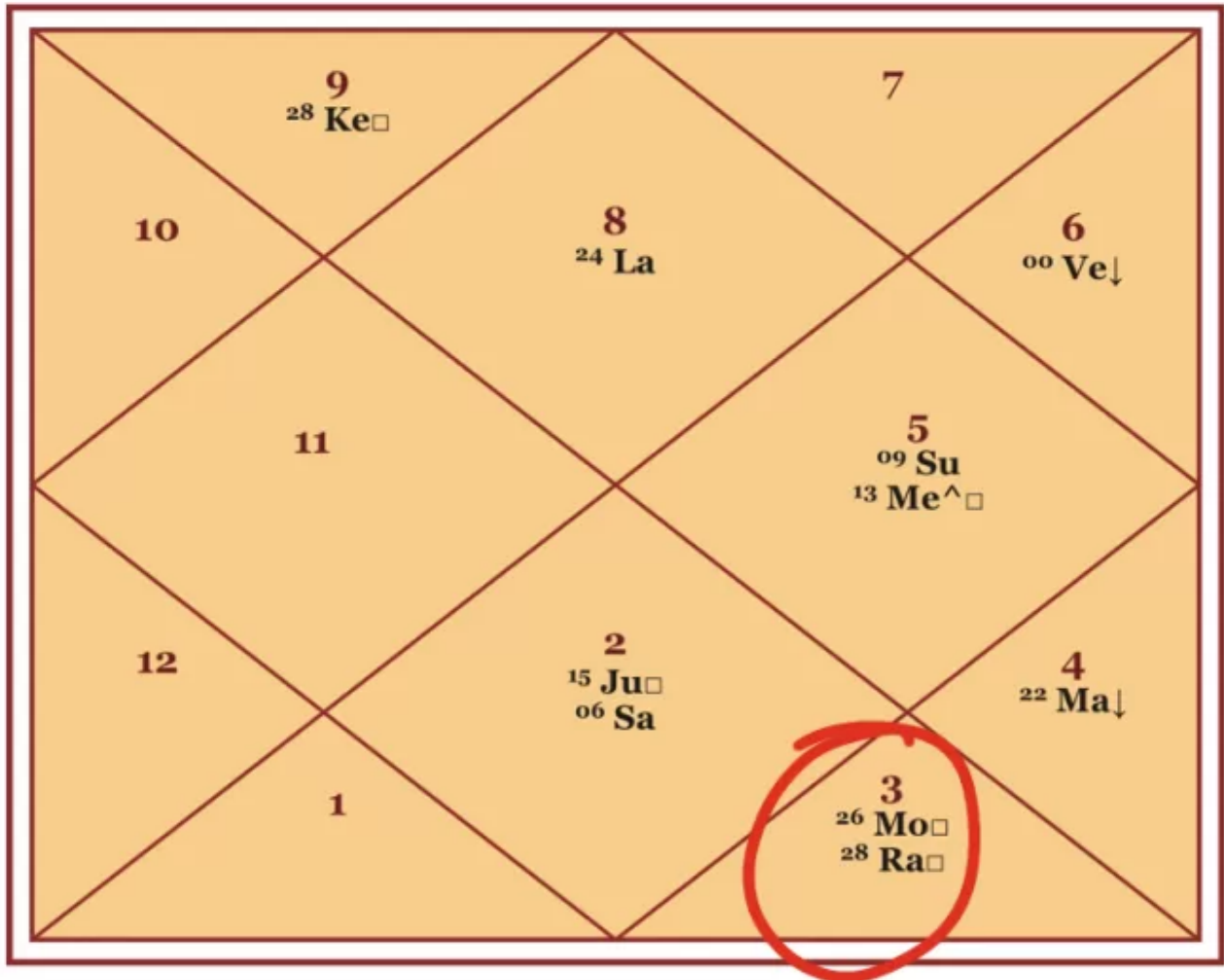
Classical texts (such as Brihat Parashara Hora Shastra and Jaimini Upadesha Sutras) outline specific combinations that deplete physical vitality and point toward the lower longevity bracket:

**\*Debilitated Lagna Lord (Mars):**



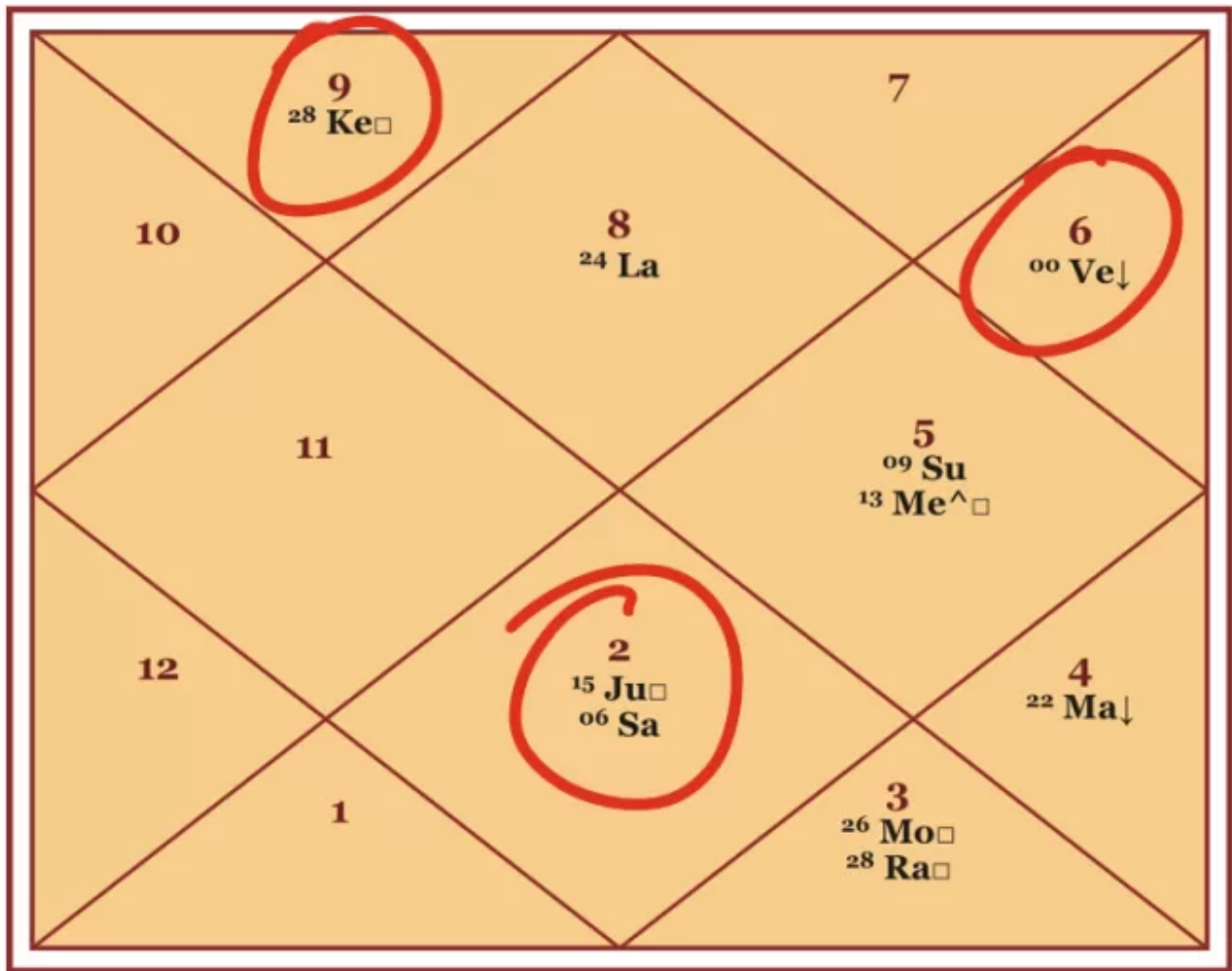
- The primary anchor of physical constitution and life force (Lagna Lord Mars) is in its sign of debilitation (Neecha) in Cancer. A weak or debilitated Lagna Lord struggles to sustain the physical frame against major malefic transits and heavy Dasha periods.

**\*Severe Affliction to the 8th House (Moon + Rahu / Grahan Yoga):**



- The 8th House governs longevity, chronic vulnerability and accidents.
- Here, the Moon sits with Rahu in an exact conjunction within 2° (Mo at 26°, Ra at 28°). This forms a tight eclipse (Grahan) combination inside the house of longevity, creating extreme psychic and physical vulnerability, sudden health crises or water/toxin/accident-related threats.

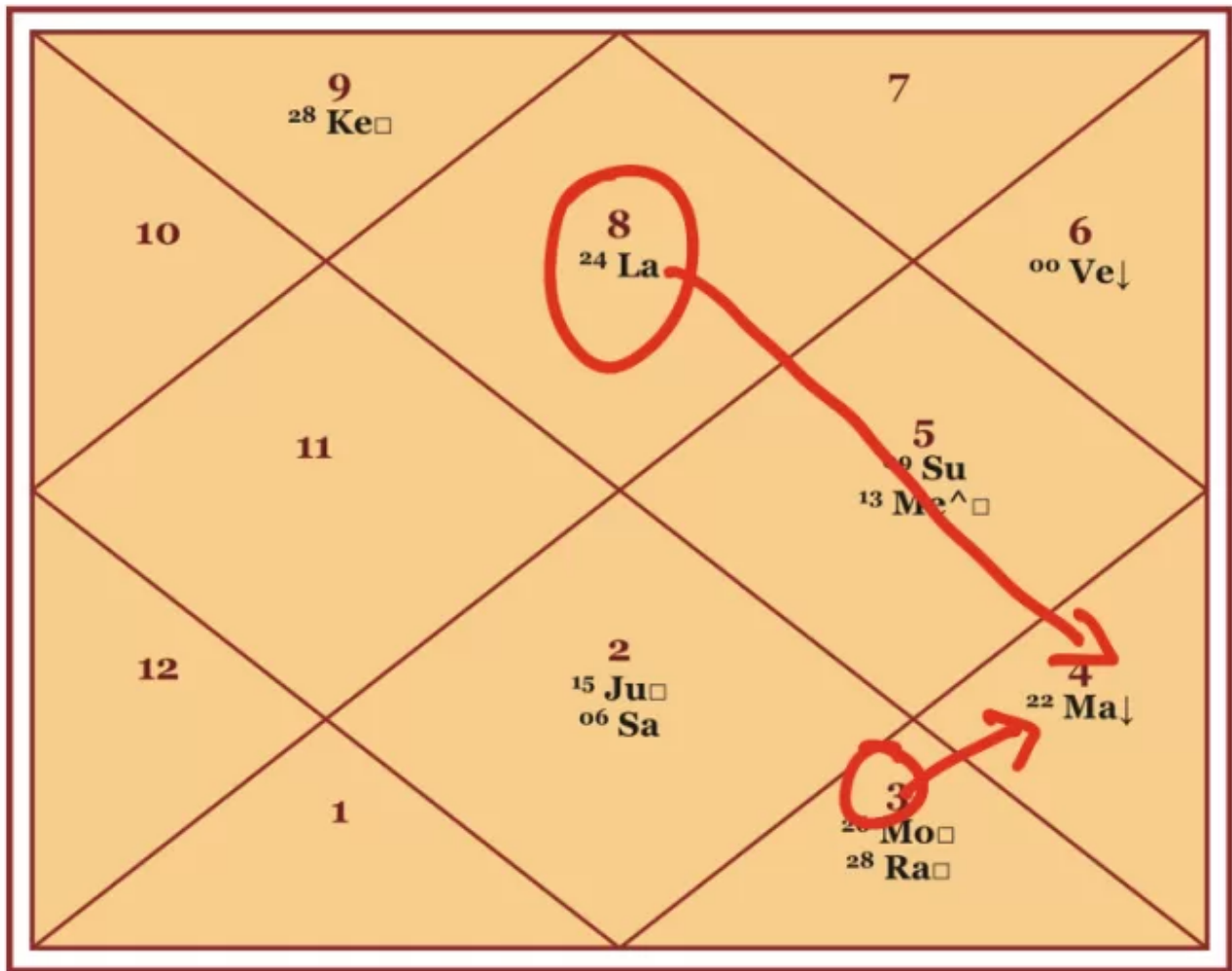
**\*Both Maraka Houses (2nd & 7th) Heavily Activated:**



- **2nd House (Sagittarius):** Occupied by Ketu at 28°.
- **7th House (Taurus):** Occupied by Saturn (a natural death significator and Maraka lord of 3rd/4th) alongside Jupiter (2nd lord of death/Maraka). Saturn sitting in the 7th house acts as a strong functional Maraka.
- **Debilitated Venus:** Venus, representing the life-restoring nectar (Sanjeevani Shakti), sits debilitated at 00° in Virgo (11th House), reducing its capacity to offer strong restorative vitality.

### 3. Classical Three-Pair Longevity Assessment (Jaimini / Parashara)

In the classical mathematical test using sign types (Fixed, Movable, Dual):

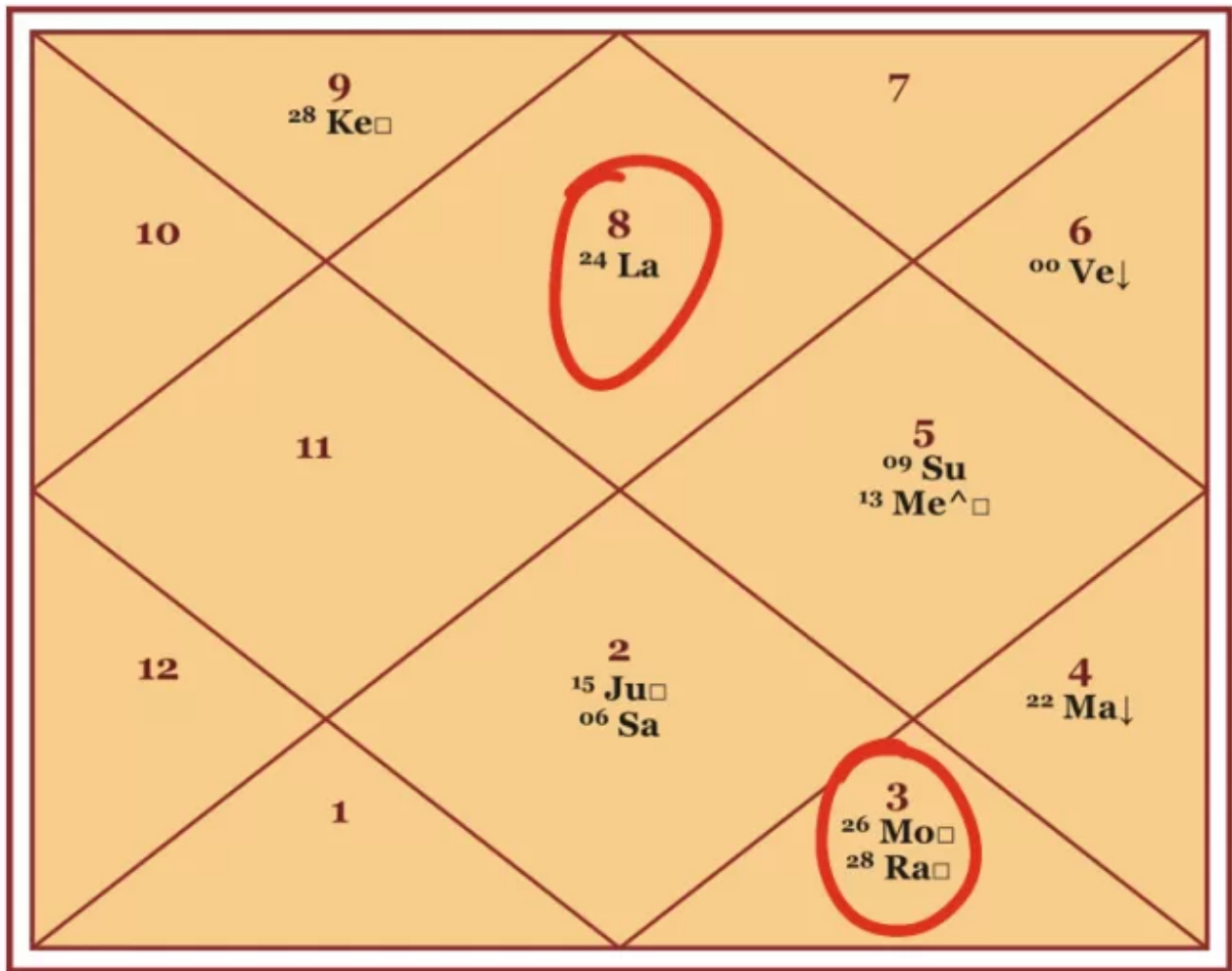


**Lagna Lord & 8th Lord:**

**Mars (Cancer) & Mercury (Leo)**

**Movable + Fixed**

**Madhyayu (Medium)**

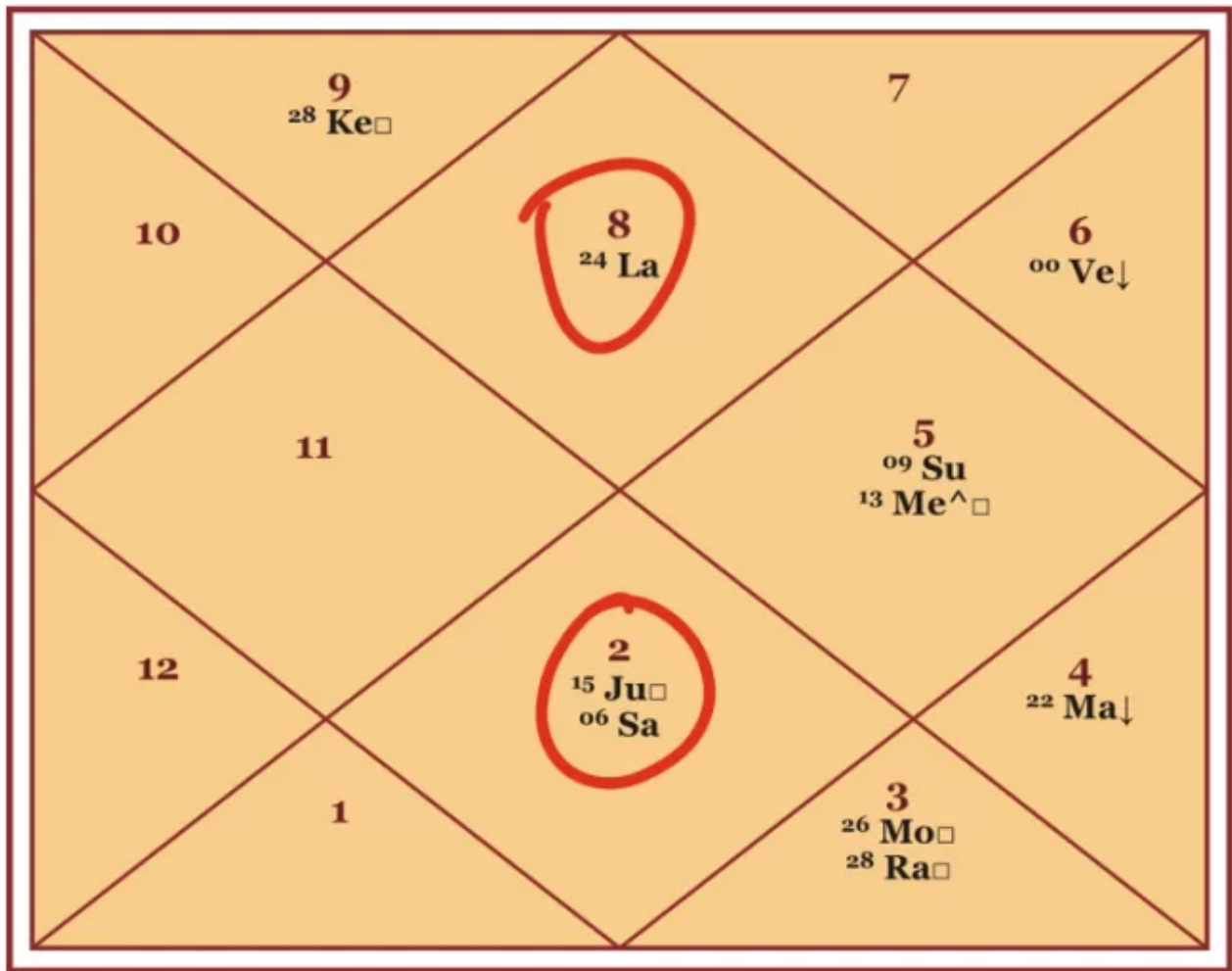


**Lagna & Moon:**

**Scorpio & Gemini**

**Fixed + Dual**

**Alpayu (Short)**



**Lagna & Saturn:**

**Scorpio & Taurus**

**Fixed + Fixed**

**Alpayu (Short)**

Because two out of the three primary pairs indicate Alpayu, classical principles initially classify the foundational baseline of this horoscope in the Alpayu (short life) category.

#### 4. Counter-Balancing Factors (Extenders of Life)

While the foundational indicators lean toward Alpayu, an astrologer must examine factors that protect or prolong life before reaching a definitive conclusion:

- **Sun in Own Sign (Leo) in the 10th House:** The Sun (governor of the soul, vitality and heart) is exceptionally strong and unblemished by malefic aspect in its own sign, granting strong constitutional resistance.

- **Jupiter Aspecting the Lagna:** Jupiter is placed in Taurus (7th House) and casts its direct 7th house aspect directly onto the Lagna (Scorpio). An aspect from Jupiter to the Ascendant is considered one of the foremost protective shields (Raksha Kavach) against premature demise (Apamrityu).

- **Saturn's Inherent Role:** Although Saturn sits in a Maraka house, Saturn as Ayush Karaka generally protects lifespan when not aspected by direct enemies.

The chart displays textbook classical indicators for Alpayu (due to the debilitated Lagna Lord, afflicted 8th house with a tight Moon-Rahu conjunction, and two out of three classical sign-pair formulas pointing to short life). However, the direct aspect of Jupiter onto the Ascendant and the strong Sun in the 10th house provide a significant counteracting force, often pushing the lifespan toward the higher end of the range or demanding specific remedies to ward off critical periods.

\*The individual passed away at 26 years old from a fatal fall from a cliff.

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<https://astroarpitanath.com/alpayu-short-lifespan/>

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