Calculating the Vimshottari Dasha Periods

Although there are a number of different Dasha systems used in Jyotish, the Vimshottari Dasha system is by far the most popular.

The Vimshottari Dasha system divides a 120 year archetypal human lifespan into 9 Major Periods, one for each of the nine Grahas of Jyotish. The Moon's Nakshatra position at birth is used for the calculation if these periods, and they always follow the same sequence as the planetary rulers of the Nakshatras. The location of a person's Moon at birth determines where they begin the sequence.

Ketu is a 7 year period, Venus is 20 years, Sun is 6 years, Moon is 10 years, Mars is 7 years, Rahu is 18 years, Jupiter is 16 years, Saturn is 19 years and Mercury is 17 years.

Determine which Nakshatra the Moon as located in at birth. For example, if someone has their Moon at 12 degrees and 26 minutes of Virgo then the Moon would be located in Hasta Nakshatra.

Since the Moon is the planetary ruler of Hasta Nakshatra, someone born with Moon in Hasta will begin their life in Moon Dasha, which will invariably be followed by Mars, and then Rahu Dasha, and so on.

Next we need to determine how many more degrees and minutes the Moon would have to travel to reach the end of it's Nakshatra position. In this example we would note that Hasta begins at 10 degrees and 00 minutes of Virgo and ends at 23 degrees and 20 minutes of Virgo. Each Nakshatra is 13 degrees and 20 minutes or 800 minutes in length. Since the Moon, in our example, was located at 12 degrees and 26 minutes of Virgo the Moon had already completed 2 degrees and 26 minutes (or 146 minutes) of the 800 minutes occupied by Hasta- therefor 654 minutes, or 10 degrees and 54 minutes remain. Divide the remainder (654 minutes) by 800 to get the percentage of the period that remains-

654 divided by 800 equals: 0.8175

So, now we need to consider the length of the Moon period, which is always 10 years. So, 0.8175 of the 10 years of Moon Dasha would remain at birth, for our example. So, we multiply the duration of the planetary period by the remainder-

10 multiplied by 0.8175 equals: 8.175 (years)

Next we multiply the remainder (minus the years) by 12 to get the months-

12 multiplied by 0.175 equals: 2.1 (months)

Finally we multiple the remainder minus the months by 30 to get the days-

30 multiplied by 0.1 equals: 3 (days)

So, there would by 8 years 2 months and 3 days left of Moon Dasha after birth for someone born with their Moon at 12 degrees and 26 minutes of Virgo (which is 2 degrees and 26 minutes into Hasta Nakshatra). Thereafter the 7 years if Mars Dasha would follow, and then the 18 years of Rahu Dasha, and so on.
Each Major Period (or Mahadasha) is subdivided into 9 Sub-periods (or Bhuktis).

**Ketu Dasha: 7 years**
- Ketu- Ketu: 0 years 4 months 27 days
- Ketu-Venus: 1 year 2 months 0 days
- Ketu-Sun: 0 years 4 months 6 days
- Ketu-Moon: 0 years 7 months 0 days
- Ketu-Mars: 0 years 4 months 27 days
- Ketu-Rahu: 1 year 0 months 18 days
- Ketu-Jupiter: 0 years 11 months 6 days
- Ketu-Saturn: 1 year 1 month 9 days
- Ketu-Mercury: 0 years 11 months 27 days

**Venus Dasha: 20 years**
- Venus-Venus: 3 years 4 months 0 days
- Venus-Sun: 1 year 0 months 0 days
- Venus-Moon: 1 year 8 months 0 days
- Venus-Mars: 1 year 2 months 0 days
- Venus-Rahu: 3 years 0 months 0 days
- Venus-Jupiter: 2 years 8 months 0 days
- Venus-Saturn: 3 years 2 months 0 days
- Venus-Mercury: 2 years 10 months 0 days
- Venus-Ketu: 1 year 2 months 0 days

**Sun Dasha: 6 years**
- Sun-Sun: 0 years 3 months 18 days
- Sun-Moon: 0 years 6 months 0 days
- Sun-Mars: 0 years 4 months 6 days
- Sun-Rahu: 0 years 10 months 24 days
- Sun-Jupiter: 0 years 9 months 18 days
- Sun-Saturn: 0 years 11 months 12 days
- Sun-Mercury: 0 years 10 months 6 days
- Sun-Ketu: 0 years 4 months 6 days
- Sun-Venus: 1 year 0 months 0 days

**Moon Dasha: 10 years**
- Moon-Moon: 0 years 10 months 0 days
- Moon-Mars: 0 years 7 months 0 days
- Moon-Rahu: 1 year 6 months 0 days
- Moon-Jupiter: 1 year 4 months 0 days
- Moon-Saturn: 1 year 7 months 0 days
- Moon-Mercury: 1 year 5 months 0 days
- Moon-Ketu: 0 years 7 months 0 days
- Moon-Venus: 1 year 8 months 0 days
- Moon-Sun: 0 years 6 months 0 days

**Mars Dasha: 7 years**
- Mars-Mars: 0 years 4 months 27 days
- Mars-Rahu: 1 year 0 months 18 days
- Mars-Jupiter: 0 years 11 months 6 days
Mars-Saturn: 1 year 1 month 9 days
Mars-Mercury: 0 years 11 months 27 days
Mars-Ketu: 0 years 4 months 27 days
Mars-Venus: 1 year 2 months 0 days
Mars-Sun: 0 years 4 months 6 days
Mars-Moon: 0 years 7 months 0 days

**Rahu Dasha: 18 years**
Rahu-Rahu: 2 years 8 month 12 days
Rahu-Jupiter: 2 years 4 months 24 days
Rahu-Saturn: 2 years 10 months 6 days
Rahu-Mercury: 2 years 6 months 18 days
Rahu-Ketu: 1 year 0 months 18 days
Rahu-Venus: 3 years 0 months 0 days
Rahu-Sun: 0 years 10 months 24 days
Rahu-Moon: 1 year 6 months 0 days
Rahu-Mars: 1 year 0 months 18 days

**Jupiter Dasha: 16 years**
Jupiter-Jupiter: 2 years 1 month 18 days
Jupiter-Saturn: 2 years 6 months 12 days
Jupiter-Mercury: 2 years 3 months 6 days
Jupiter-Ketu: 0 years 11 months 6 days
Jupiter-Venus: 2 years 8 months 0 days
Jupiter-Sun: 0 years 9 months 18 days
Jupiter-Moon: 1 year 4 months 0 days
Jupiter-Mars: 0 years 11 months 6 days
Jupiter-Rahu: 2 years 4 months 24 days

**Saturn Dasha: 19 years**
Saturn-Saturn: 3 years 0 months 3 days
Saturn-Mercury: 2 years 8 months 9 days
Saturn-Ketu: 1 year 9 months 9 days
Saturn-Venus: 3 years 2 months 0 days
Saturn-Sun: 0 years 11 months 12 days
Saturn-Moon: 1 year 7 months 0 days
Saturn-Mars: 1 year 1 month 9 days
Saturn-Rahu: 2 years 10 months 6 days
Saturn-Jupiter: 2 years 6 months 12 days

**Mercury Dasha: 17 years**
Mercury-Mercury: 2 years 4 months 27 days
Mercury-Ketu: 0 years 11 months 27 days
Mercury-Venus: 2 years 10 months 0 days
Mercury-Sun: 0 years 10 months 6 days
Mercury-Moon: 1 year 5 months 0 days
Mercury-Mars: 0 years 11 months 27 days
Mercury-Rahu: 2 years 6 months 18 days
Mercury-Jupiter: 2 years 3 months 6 days
Mercury-Saturn: 2 years 8 months 9 days