

STUDY OF PRINCIPLES AND DIRECTIONS OF VASTU IN RESIDENTIAL SPACE

MRS. RUCHIKA SHARMA¹

¹Assistant Professor, Department of Interior Design, SDPS Women's College, Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India

Abstract: The Place where a person lives and work called Vastu. According to Indian ancient classical texts Vastu means appropriate land for house. All types of houses, buildings, cities, forts, bungalow industries where ever a person lives or works called Vastu.

The 5 core principles of Vastu Shastra are

1. **Doctrine of orientation:** Directions have the more importance i.e. East, West, North, South. It depends on the sun rays which is a rich source of Vitamin D.
2. **Site Planning:** Here the design of house is decided according to direction of movement of sun
3. **Proportionate Measurements:** Standard of measurement should be done as per vastu.
4. **Six Rules of Vedic Architecture:** six main component part of the building : Aadhistaana (Base), Stambha (Column), Prastara (Entablature), Karna (Wings), Shikhara (Roof), and Stuupi (dome).
5. **Aesthetics of the building:** Chanda is the structural aspect of building, mainly it is rhythmical disposition is like that of poetry. Rhythm evokes a reality and measure builds it up.

So, if you are planning to make a new house, get it done with the proper Vastu Shastra principles by the best vastu consultant in India and maintain your family's health and wealth and live your life happily

I. INTRODUCTION

Vastu Shastra is one of the ancient teachings from the Indian civilization. It deals with the science of the architecture and tells how a building should be planned to channelize the positive energy in our lives. The proper implementation of Vastu techniques has brought peace and prosperity to many households for centuries. Though Vastu started out with the construction rules for Hindu temples, it soon branched out to residential houses, office buildings, vehicles, sculpture, paintings, furniture etc. The science of Vastu is mostly based on directions and the building materials used, along with many other minor factors.

There are five elements that are really important in Vastu Shastra. These are-

1. Earth
2. Water
3. Fire
4. Air
5. Space

According to the traditional knowledge, the entire universe around us is made up of these five basic elements. In fact, the five elements of the nature have to be coordinated with the five elements of the human body as well. This coordination is critical as this is what makes human relationship harmonious. Knowledge of the elements can really make it beneficial for people to know more about Vastu Shastra and also help them realize the reason why they have to make certain changes in the house or put certain things in certain places.

The elements can determine the way particular directions interact with particular objects or certain kinds of people. It would be bad for a fire sign to set up an office in the corner that represents the water corner. These little details of Vastu is

not just based on the directions and the elements of the nature, but a little on the personality of the dweller, or at least the element that the person was born into.

1.2 IMPORTANCE OF VASTU

- **Harmonizing nature's energy** – Vastu harmonize nature's powerful energy sources, such as – sun, moon, wind, light, thermal, earth, electric, magnetic and cosmic energy. These energies harmonized by vastu render utmost benefits to the owner of a living space with growth and perpetual prosperity.
- **Monetary blessing** –Correct application of vastu principles in a house blesses its occupants an abundant supply of wealth or financial happiness by unblocking your fate to golden opportunities and success. Exponential monetary growth yields in your life, as well as you get to experience financial dependence and security with application of vastu principles in your living space.
- **Growth in your chosen endeavor** – Vastu science is a great remedial course for anything that is halting your growth in your chosen endeavor. Whether you seek a promotion or success in your job/career or want to go an extra mile in your academic pursuit, following vastu will help you expand your horizon, with growth and success coming in great measures in your chosen field of activity. This is the very power of vastu that enables you to experience a series of golden chances that your life offers you!
- **Keeps your relationship bond always strong** – One fine contribution of vastu Shastra in your relationship is that it acts like a great neutralizing factor against every negative element causing the bond of your relationship to fade and brittle. Experience healthy relationship with better family bonding with your relatives.
- **Brings happiness** – If you notice that your living space is the house of scuffle and misery and it is no longer a harmonious space that it used to be, it is because of vastu flaws in your property. High time you got rid of such defects for the resuscitation of lost happiness in your dwelling place, with every member living together happily.

II. BASIC PRINCIPLE OF VASTU

• SITE ORIENTATION

Site Orientation refers to the location or position of the Site with respect to the cardinal directions(or the points of the Compass). The Site's orientation is identified by the direction that the front of the Site faces i.e. the side facing the road. So, when you stand in the Site and face the road, the direction you face is said to be the Site's orientation. Therefore, a Site with a road in the East, is called a East facing Site.

Explained here is the Vastu Principle – Orientation which is one of the five Vastu Principles used as a reference guide for designing and planning proportionate, aesthetic and beautiful buildings with the right measurements. Since Vastu is a science, it is based on logic and reasoning.

• SITE PLANNING

The ancient Indian text Mayamatam on Vastu Sastra, written thousands of years ago, explains the legend of the Vastu Purusha. According to Hindu mythology, in the beginning Brahma the creator of the Universe, experimented with a new creature. He created a large cosmic man, who grew rapidly as he began to devour everything in his path to satisfy his insatiable hunger. When he became unmanageably big so that his shadow fell on the Earth like a permanent eclipse, the gods Shiva and Vishnu begged Brahma to do something before everything was destroyed by this Creature.

Brahma realised his mistake and called the Astha Dikpalakas – the Gods of the eight cardinal directions. Together, they overpowered the monster and held it flat against the Earth while Brahma jumped on it's middle. Then the Monster cried out to Brahma, "You created me like this. So why am I being punished?" Brahma offered him a compromise and made the Monster immortal with the boon that he would be worshiped by any mortal that builds a structure on earth. He was named Vastu Purusha.

Vastu Shastra gives the directive principles regarding construction of buildings so as not to displease the Vastu Purusha. These principles are explained with the help of the diagram called the Vastu Purusha Mandala.

- **PROPOTION**

It is worthwhile to apply the Vastu principles to the design of the building so as to ensure a proportionate, aesthetic and beautiful building with the right measurements. The Vastu principle '**Maana-Proportions**' prescribes the perfect ratio of height-to-breadth of a building, to make it look proportionate. Explained here is the Vastu Principle – Maana or Proportion. The Vastu principle – Maana is one of the five Vastu Principles which are a guide for designing and planning proportionate, aesthetic and beautiful buildings with the right measurements. Since Vastu is a science, it is based on logic and reasoning.

- **DIMENSION**

It is advisable to apply Vastu principles and tips to the design of the building. This will ensure a proportionate, aesthetic and beautiful building with the right measurements. The Vastu principle '**Aayadi – dimensions**' prescribes six formulae to work out the right dimensions (length, breadth and height) of a building. Though the science of Vastu follows generic rules for the design of spaces, a specific set of six formulae called **Aayadi** are used to work out the Length, Breadth, perimeter, area and the height of the building. Here, the length and breadth mean the outer measurements of the foundation seen above the ground. The height of the building is considered to be from the bottom of the base to the topmost point of the building. Like the other Vastu principles, it was necessary that one follows the Aayadi formulae strictly in order to experience positive effects within the building. In fact even today, Aayadi is the only aspect of Vastu Shastra that is followed in many parts of India.

- **ASSTHETICS**

The next step is to apply Vastu principles to the design of the building. This will ensure a proportionate, aesthetic and beautiful building with the right measurements. One of the Vastu principles known as 'Chanda – aesthetics/form', describes the different forms or elevations of a building.

There are six chandas in Vastu Shastra. They have been explained below along with suitable architectural examples.

1. **Meru Chanda,**
2. **Khanda Meru Chanda,**
3. **Pataaka Chanda,**
4. **Sushi Chanda,**
5. **Uddista Chanda,**
6. **Nasta Chanda.**

In Meru Chanda, the form of a building is like the mythological, sacred, Hindu mountain, "Meru" which is believed to be the centre of all physical, metaphysical and spiritual universes. The Meru perspective appears like a central pinnacle which rises considerably above the ground surface and having sides sloping step by step in an easy gradation all round. Many Hindu temples are modelled on the Meru aspect to symbolically represent Mount Meru.

In Khanda Meru the outward peripheral ends of the building do not form a complete circle, but has a vertical cut side, i.e., it appears like Meru which has been cut off vertically leaving the exposed surface as a precipitous cliff. An example of a building with this contour is the well known Burj Al Arab hotel in Dubai, the second tallest hotel in the world at a height of 1050 feet.

In Pataaka Chanda the building appears to be like a flagstaff with a flag unfurled, i.e. with a narrow lower portion and progressive, cantilevered upper floors. For example, the Throne Pillar at Fatehpur Sikri, India.

In Sushi Chanda the building has the appearance of a needle. An example is the recently completed, tallest building in the world, the Burj Khalifa towers in Dubai at a height of 2717 feet.

The above mentioned Chandas or forms were used in the design of different buildings meant for different functions. For example, temples all over India took the form of the mythological Mountain Meru, thought to be the seat of Lord Brahma in Hindu mythology.

III. THE DIRECTION

There are 4 main directions in Vastu EAST, WEST, NORTH & SOUTH and 4 sub-directions or the corners at which the main directions meet namely NORTH-EAST, NORTH-WEST SOUTH-EAST, and SOUTH-WEST. Each main Direction in Vastu Shastra has its own significance in vastu Shastra and the corner directions retain the characteristics of the two sides they join along with their own characteristics. Also As per my analysis the 4 sub directions have more importance than the main direction. Vastu Shastra essentially Deals with the positioning of the House/ office / factory along with other objects and rooms and various other things in any place according to the above mentioned directions.

The Arrangements of the Rooms and other objects if done up as per the proper directions in accordance with VASTU SHASTRA ensure proper flow of positive energy throughout the Home or office or any other piece of land and influence the lives of its inhabitants in a very favorable manner.

- **EAST (PURAV):**

- **East** is the first direction in VASTU SHASTRA, Since **SUN** the source of our Energy Rises from the east.
- **Planet SUN Rules this direction.**
- **LORD INDRA** (Supreme God of all Gods) is the lord of the direction East.
- **LORD INDRA** is also supposed to bring Rains and whenever there is no rainfall in any region, people pray to **LORD INDRA** and Seek his blessings.
- It is the **direction of prosperity and Victory**. Its is a common practice to sit and pray in the east to the sun as it brings happiness and prosperity to our lives. **Lord INDRA is the giver of wealth.**
- This direction should be left **as open as possible** to bring in abundant prosperity.
- **Mirrors** put up in this Direction double up prosperity.

- **WEST: (PASCHIM)**

- **Varun** the Lord of Water is the lord of this Direction.
- Generally this direction is not considered very auspicious.
- **Planet SATURN** rules this direction.
- The west direction is occupied by the lower abdomen, genitals & reproduction organs of the vastu purush.
- The openings & entries from this direction are not good. It spoils the prospects of income
- Big opening from this direction is not advisable.
- It is beneficial to have overhead water tank & the staircase in the West direction
- It is beneficial to have garage in the West direction
- In Most Cases it has been Noted that The West direction is more beneficial to women.

- **NORTH (UTTAR)**

- **LORD KUBER** is the Lord of the **NORTH direction**. He is considered the treasurer of the Gods.
- This is the direction of **Wealth and riches**.
- **Mirrors** are auspicious here they are supposed to double up your wealth.
- **Planet MERCURY** rules this direction.

- There should be **big openings** in the North direction
- It is auspicious and there is financial gain if there is **slope & well or underground Water tank** on North side of the Plot . ?
- There is a loss wealth & prosperity if there is heavy construction in the North direction.
- North means Lord Kubera abode This its is Advised to keep a **Cash Box or SAFE for cash / treasury or valuable items** in the **NORTH Direction** of the Home or Office .

• **SOUTH: (DAKSHIN)**

- **LORD YAMA** is the lord of South direction. He is the lord of Death.
- South direction is considered very Inauspicious for any activity.
- South direction should always be **kept heavy and loaded.**
- **Planet MARS** rules South direction.
- It is beneficial if the South direction is on a higher level & it is auspicious to **have overhead water tank in this region.**
- It is very bad to have a basement in the South direction.
- It has been Noted that Persons living in the **South Facing Door House face Problems after 8 Yrs** of Staying in that Place

IV. CONCLUSIONS

The current generation cannot understand or accept the significance of such an ancient subject in modern constructions with the end result of many people disregarding Vastu Shastra when buying a new home. They doubt its relevance in the current economic scenario and environment. These younger Indians are of the opinion that it's better to adapt to new and innovative ways rather than being a 'stick-in-the-mud' and still following contemporary ideas; that with the current trend of having to struggle for a plot of 'air' in the multi-storey apartments being so tough, it's a further burden to try and adapt that restricted space to the concepts of Vastu Shastra. The general concept now is that Vastu Shastra is for the rich who can afford to spend extra to change building plans to suit this ancient science. Another school of thought feels that the only Vastu necessary these days is that needed for building earthquake and cyclone-resistant buildings! That with this specific Vastu, it would not only help them to stay healthy, wealthy and at peace, but also feel a lot safer...

The current trend these days is to buy an apartment that is close to amenities and easy on the pocket, so the concept of following Vastu guidelines becomes redundant. Today, India is still a developing country and the common man cannot afford to follow concepts like Vastu, and for many, it's just such a relief to afford a roof of their own, making Vastu Shastra totally irrelevant!

At the same time, the application of Vastu Shastra is a Vedic science and architectural technology that is not time related, but eternal. The ancient Vastu architects were aware of structural engineering and construction technologies that are being used even today, so the question of Vastu Shastra being obsolete or redundant doesn't arise. It can be said that the Vastu Shastra of modern day architecture is similar to the ancient science, only difference is in the way of approaching the concepts. This infers that unknowingly, we are still following the ancient science as derived from the Vedic sutras!

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BIOGRAPHIES



NAME – MRS. RUCHIKA SHARMA
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SDPS
WOMENS COLLEGE INDORE
MSC IN INTERIOR DESIGN,
MASTER IN BUSINESS
MANAGEMENT.