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## Did planet Mercury (Budha) exist before lord Rama's time period?

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### Abstract

Sage Valmiki in Ramayana, did not mention about planet Mercury (Budha). In this article, we have analysed Sage Valmiki's Bala Kanda slokas, Sundara Kanda slokas, Gomphotheres (Four tusked elephants) timeline, Himalayan mountain timeline, Lord Sri Rama's birth timeline as per Vayu Purana, situations that lead to the birth of planet Mercury (Budha) in Vayu Purana and Padma Purana, Giant Impact of Earth's Moon and various Yugas timeline calculations to conclude that, planet Mercury (Budha) did not exist during Lord Rama's time period.

**Keywords:** Ramayana, gomphotheres, astrology, Rama, mercury, sundara kanda

### Introduction

Lord Sri Rama's birth and planetary positions at the time of birth were mentioned in Sri Ramayana by Sage Valmiki. Many in the past have explored the possibilities of the position of planet Mercury in the birth chart of Lord Sri Rama in different ways. Raghavendra Sai Akkinapragada, *et al.* [1] reported Sun's precise position in Lord Rama's birth chart. According to another article [2], Mercury was shown in Aries of Lord Rama's birth chart. According to Bangalore Sureshwara [3], Mercury was present in Taurus of Lord Rama's birth chart. According to another article [4], Mercury got its place in Aries of Lord Rama's birth chart. According to the calculation [5], Mercury was shown in Taurus of Lord Rama's birth chart. According to Astro Data Bank [6] it was unclear for them where Mercury should be in Lord Rama's birth chart. According to the author of [7], Mercury was placed in Aries of Lord Rama's birth chart. According to the author of the blog post [8], Mercury should be in Taurus of Lord Rama's birth chart. According to Amit [9], Mercury should be placed in Taurus of Lord Rama's birth chart. According to Laxmanan [10], Mercury takes its place in Aries of Lord Rama's birth chart. According to Victor Hugo [11], Mercury must be placed in Pisces of Lord Rama's birth chart.

It becomes evident that, the placement of Mercury (Budha) in the birth chart of Lord Sri Rama is of immensely important in order to draw the accurate horoscope results. Now the question is, what did Sage Valmiki mention about the placement of Mercury (Budha) in Lord Sri Rama's birth chart. Surprisingly we find that, there was no mention about Mercury (Budha) in the birth chart of Lord Sri Rama by Sage Valmiki in his epic Ramayana's [12] Bala Kanda. Does this mean, that there is no significance of Mercury (Budha)? Or didn't Planet Mercury (Budha) exist before Ramayana's time period? Or is this an oversight of Sage Valmiki? If at all planet Mercury (Budha) existed, where should it have been placed in Lord Sri Rama's birth chart? In this research paper, we will explore various aspects to find an answer to the above questions.

### Method and Materials

#### Sage Valmiki Ramayana's Sundara Kanda Slokas

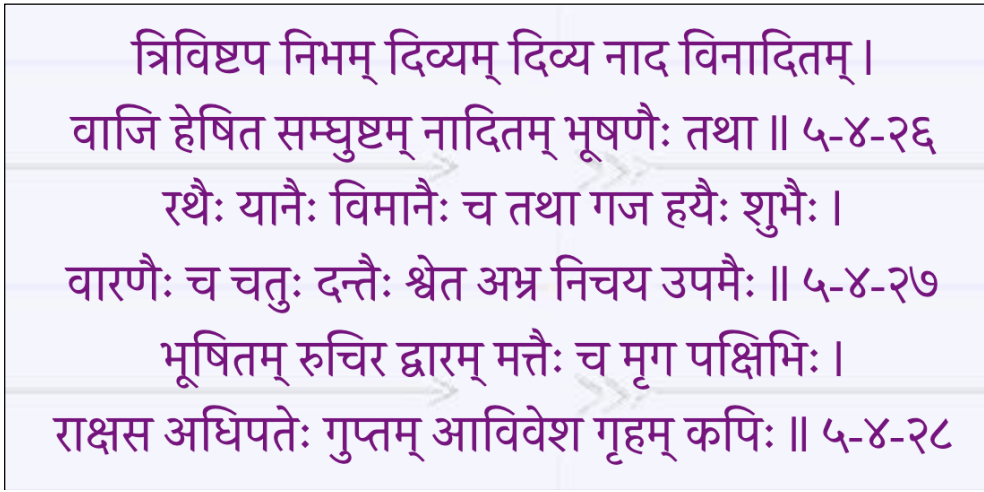
According to Sage Valmiki's Ramayana Sundara Kanda Slokas - Sarga 4 (verse 26, 27 and 28) [13], before the war began between Sri Rama and Ravana, Sri Hanuman entered Lanka and found great elephants with four tusks.

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[https://www.valmikiramayana.net/utf8/sundara/sarga4/sundara\\_4\\_frame.htm](https://www.valmikiramayana.net/utf8/sundara/sarga4/sundara_4_frame.htm) <sup>[13]</sup>

**Fig 1:** Sage Valmiki Ramayana's Sundara Kanda Slokas - Sarga 4 (verse 26, 27 and 28)

### Gomphotheres (Four tusked elephants) timeline

The elephants with four tusks are scientifically known as Gomphotheres. According to article <sup>[14]</sup>, four tusked elephants also called as Gomphotheres existed on Earth about 25,80,000 years ago. According to author of the article <sup>[15]</sup>, Gomphotheres might have lived about 33.9-23 million years ago on Earth. According to Jayson Kowinsky <sup>[16]</sup>, Gomphotheres might have lived 25-5 million years ago on Earth. According to Tim Evanson <sup>[17]</sup>, Gomphotheres might have lived 33 million years to 10,000 years ago on Earth. According to Kaitlin Maguire <sup>[18]</sup>, Gomphotheres might have lived 22 million years ago on this Earth. According to the Phil Ganz <sup>[19]</sup>, Gomphotheres existed about 3 million years ago on this Earth. According to Jeffrey Kluger <sup>[20]</sup> Gomphotheres existed 33 million ago on this Earth. From these references, we can safely assume that, Gomphotheres existed anywhere between 33.9-5 million years ago.

### Himalayas timeline

According to United States Government's Geological Survey article <sup>[21]</sup>, Himalayas were formed about 40-50 million years ago due to a collision as India rammed into Asia. According to Mario Aguilera <sup>[22]</sup> on UC San Diego Today, said Himalayas were formed about 47 million years ago. According to American Museum of Natural History <sup>[23]</sup>, Himalayas were formed about 40 million years ago. A team of Australian and American scientists <sup>[24]</sup>, believe that Himalayas were formed 47 million years ago. According to Roger Bilham <sup>[25]</sup>, Himalayas were formed about 60 million years ago. From these references, we can safely assume that, Himalayas existed on Earth from last 40-50 Millions years only.

### Lord Sri Rama's birth timeline as per Vayu Purana

According to Chapter 36 <sup>[26]</sup> - title Glorification of Vishnu's Greatness, on page 336, sloka 91, it has been mentioned that, Lord Sri Rama took birth in 24<sup>th</sup> Tretayuga of this Manvanthara (Vaivasvatha).

1 Chaturyuga = 4,320,000 years = 4.32 million years. As on today, we are currently in 28<sup>th</sup> Chaturyuga. Therefore time elapsed between Ramayana's period and current date is given below:

Time that passed from Ramayana till date = 3 ChaturYugas (between 28<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>) x 4,32,000 years + SatyaYuga + TretaYuga + DwaparaYuga + 5124 (KaliYuga years already elapsed).

We can safely conclude that, Ramayana had happened 17,285,124 years (17.28 million years) ago as on date (approximately) as per the above calculations.

### Now, let us discuss the birth of Budha (Mercury) planet as per Puranas

#### Vayu Purana

- According to Chapter 5<sup>[26]</sup> - titled The Race of Dharma on page 49, in sloka 22, it was mentioned that planet Mercury (Budha) was the son of Soma (the Moon).
- According to Chapter 28<sup>[26]</sup> - titled the nativity of Soma and Saumya (Mercury/Budha).
- On page 246, sloka 28 it was mentioned that Soma (The Moon) abducted Tara of great fame, wife of Jupiter (Brihaspati).
- On page 246, slokas 29-35 explain the Tarakamaya war, fought between Soma (Moon)'s army and Lord Ruda's army for the return on Tara, wife of Jupiter to Jupiter from Soma (Moon)'s captivity.
- On page 247, sloka 37 mentions that Tara, wife of Jupiter in Soma (Moon)'s captivity got pregnant.
- On page 247, sloka 38 mentions that, Tara, wife of Jupiter has delivered a baby boy who appeared like the fire that blazes after catching the Isika grass.
- On page 247, sloka 42 mentions that, Tara, wife of Jupiter reveals to Lord Brahma that, Soma (Moon) was the father of the baby boy.
- On page 247, sloka 43 mentions that, Soma (Moon) sniffed at head of his newly born son and names him "Budha" (Mercury).

#### Padma Purana

- According to Chapter 12<sup>[27]</sup> - titled The Dynasty of Yadu
- On page 55, sloka 25 mentions that, Soma (The Moon) and Tara, wife of Jupiter enjoyed each other's company and they both were attracted to each other.
- On page 55, sloka 26 mentions that, both Soma (The Moon) and Tara, wife of Jupiter spent a long time with each other at Soma (The Moon)'s house.
- On page 55, sloka 36 mentions that, war broke out between the armies of Lord Rudra and Soma (The Moon).
- On page 56, sloka 42 mentions that, Soma (The Moon) had returned Tara, the wife of Jupiter back to Jupiter.

- On page 56, point 53 mentions that, Mercury (Budha) pleased Lord Brahma on the peak of Himalayas, obtained lordship of the world (status of the planet).

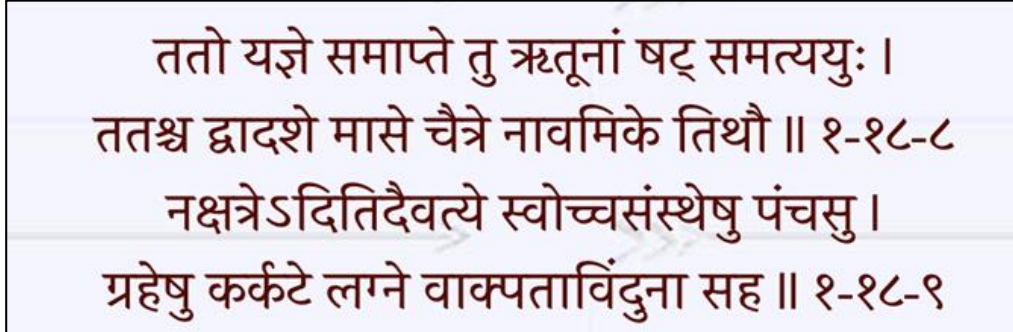
### Giant Impact on Moon

As per American Geophysical Union [28] discussed about a giant impact on Moon and concluded that, new evidence about the Moon's crust suggests the differences were caused by a wayward dwarf planet colliding with the Moon in the

early history of the solar system. References [29-30], explains very close similarities between Earth's Moon and Planet Mercury (Budha).

### Sage Valmiki Ramayana's Bala Kanda Slokas

With reference to Vālmiki Rāmāyana (Bala Kanda.18/ Sloka 8, 9), clearly denotes the planetary positions of Lord Sri Rama's birth chart.



Ref: [https://www.valmikiramayana.net/utf8/baala/sarga18/bala\\_18\\_frame.htm](https://www.valmikiramayana.net/utf8/baala/sarga18/bala_18_frame.htm)[31]

Fig 2: Excerpts from Ramayana, written by Sage Valmiki

### Results and Discussions

According to reference [13], there were four tusked elephants (Gomphotheres) during Ramayana's time period. According to references [14-20], we can statistically say that, Gomphotheres existed anywhere between 15-25 million years ago. According to reference [26] and subsequent yuga calculations, dates Ramayana time to be around 17.28 million years that corroborates references [13-20].

According to references [21-25], Himalayas were formed only about 40-50 million years ago. But in reference [27], Mercury (Budha) after his birth propitiated Lord Brahma on the peak of Himalayas. This evidence bring Mercury (Budha) into existence only after the Himalayas were formed. Therefore, Mercury (Budha) could not have been older than 40-50 million years. Lord Brahma gave the status of a planet to Mercury (Budha) [27].

According to references [26-27], Mercury (Budha) came into existence because of Tara, the wife of Jupiter and Soma (The Moon of Earth). In Sanskrit literatures, Earth moving around Sun is considered as wife of Sun. Similarly, Tara, must be considered as a natural satellite (moving around Jupiter [Brihaspati]) in this context. According to reference [28], it is understood that, a dwarf planet collided with Moon of Earth. As per reference [29-30], it is evident that, Planet Mercury (Budha) is having very close similarities as the Moon of Earth. Taking all these references [26-30] into consideration, the dwarf planet could have been Tara, a natural satellite of Jupiter (Brihaspati).

### From the above three paragraphs and other references, the following are evident

- Planet Mercury (Budha) came into existence because of a collision between a Dwarf planet (Jupiter's satellite) and Earth's Moon. Therefore, we can with evidence prove that that Dwarf planet is none other than Tara, supposed to be a satellite of Jupiter (Brihaspati) (mentioned in references) [26-27].
- The planet Mercury (Budha) could not have been formed earlier than 40-50 million years.

- Sage Valmiki Ramayana that mentioned Lord Rama's planetary positions in his birth chart was no older than 17.28 million years (as per yuga calculations).
- According to reference [31], there was no mention of the Planet Mercury (Budha) in the birth chart of Lord Sri Rama by Sage Valmiki in Ramayana's Bala Kanda.
- From above points (1) to (4), we can safely conclude that, planet Mercury (Budha) didn't exist until after Ramayana happened. Was this the very reason why Sage Valmiki did not mentioned planet Mercury (Budha) in Lord Rama's birth chart in his Bala Kanda slokas?

### Conclusion

Based on above given methods and materials, results and discussions, we can safely conclude that planet Mercury (Budha) was not in existence during Lord Rama's time period and this was the reason why Sage Valmiki did not mentioned about planet Mercury (Budha) in Lord Rama's birth chart in his Bala Kanda slokas (Sarga 18, versus 8,9).

Pisces Venus	Aries Sun		
	Sage Valmiki's Lord Rama's birth chart as per Bala Kanda(Sarga 18, versus 8,9)		ASC, Cancer Jupiter Moon
Capricorn Mars		Libra Saturn	

Fig 3: South Indian chart type

### Acknowledgement

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