CHAPTER-VI
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1. DEFECTS OF THE HOUSE

The defects and shortcomings in land and buildings occur due to wrong orientation, wrong masonry, and use of wrong material etc. People pay attention towards faults and shortcomings in land and buildings when they get loss in business, health problems, hindrances in life, lack of mental peace etc. Vāstu dosha plays a alarming role in occurrence of problems in life. In these days many people face a lot of problems in their lives and business due to the malefic effects of Vāstu Dosha in their houses.

1. 1. DEFECTS RELATED TO LAND AND DIRECTION

The land with circular, semi-circular, triangular, pentagonal, hexagonal, spear-like and winnowing basket shapes, formed like back of fish, elephant and tortoise, and appearing like the face of a cow should be avoided.¹

The Nairtya (SW), Varuna (W), Yamya (S), Āgneya (SE), Vayavya (NW), and central part of the land if sunken low causes many inauspicious events.² The MAC also says that the land with centre depression will cause migration.³ The Vilita (bent low or wrinkled), calita (quaking), bhrānta (revolving) and Visutra are known as fourfold defective houses.⁴ The Dviśāla, Triśāla and catuśśāla houses, not having ‘mūṣā’ or round windows (air holes or round windows ‘Mūṣā’) brings evil results.⁵ If the house or sala is exposed to moonlight or it comes through round windows, this should be closed immediately.

1.2. UNFAVOURABLE MONTHS

Chaitra (March-April), Jyestha (May-June), Āsvin, Kartika and Māgha are not favorable months for beginning of the construction of a house.⁶
1.3. DEFECTS RELATED TO BALCONIES OR VERANDHA

The author also says a house in which the sālā is lower than alinda is bad. An alinda (balconies or verandha) should be constructed either in the front or on the right part of the house and it should not be constructed in the left part of the house. The halakālinda should not be placed wrongly, because it causes evil consequences. The SS has given a list of defective houses in the 48th chapter.

If there are jujube, plantain, pomegranate and the citron-trees are there in a house, that house does not flourish, resulting in disease, penury, grief, torment and even death. Disfugers of a house like elevated thatch, hole in the centre, bulged out at the opening, poles and walls dilapidated and depleted balcony cause the house owner to afford uncherished ends.

1. 4. DEFECTS RELATED TO DOOR

The door in the centre of a house may be a cause of pollution of highflown vulnerable points owing to the employment of a different sort of material and may be a cause of destruction of everything of the landlord and also a cause of death.

"madhye dvāram na kartavyam manujānām kathamcana.

madhye dvāre kṛte tatra kulanāśa prajāyate. SS.48.58

The house having a door opening towards the rear of another’s house is termed as ‘Khādaka and should be avoided. The door being to the left causes the loss of wealth. The door, therefore, should not be created with this norm by the experts. Pegs, beams, poles walls and round windows or air holes ventilators deserve not to be carved out at the center of the door nor even unevenly built.
There should be no door adjoining to the pillars and a wall. By the reversal of these there may ensue many troubles for men.

If a room is low lying and the balcony or veranda may be in elevation, a death invariably happens there and perennial sorrows and dangers may crop up. In line with the doors at the root, the doors may be in that line over the upper storey. If created otherwise, those may be horror provoking ones.\textsuperscript{11} A door created in the centre of a house, is the destroyer of wealth and treasury and may carry out a quarrel with the owner or may result in the unchastity of his wife. The broader vulnerable points obstructed by an additional material become instruments in the destruction of everything of the house holder or even the certainty of death.

If there may be a plate like knot in a door's centre, there may be the doom of the Architect and dissolution for the lineage. When a superior cross beam and upper rafter or beam may be placed horizontally on a door, then penury, disease and torment are the outcome for the land lord.\textsuperscript{12} Automatically opened and closed door is bestowed with utmost woe and creaking one is fear provoking.\textsuperscript{13}

\textit{Mistaya purāṇa} gives following important information about piercing or obstructing of the doorway. Any road or street piercing the door of house brings ruin of whole dynasty. Door being pierced or obstructed by tree brings more animosity, being splashed by mud or dirty water brings misery, obstructed by well (right in front of door) brings disease of \textit{(mrge)} epilepsy.

Flowing Water piercing the door (canal of roof in monsoon) brings bodily pain, if pierced by nails, brings fear of fire, struck with a demigod (carving demigods figures on door) brings ruin and struck with (obstructed by) a pillar brings misery from ladies of home.
Doors opposite to other house (door) bring destruction of house owner and being struck with inauspicious ingredients the lady of the home becomes barren. If cremation grounds are right in front of home or cremation ashes struck (coming through smoke or any other means when bodies are burned) the door the owner has fear from weapons. But if that is situated at a distance of more than double of the height of house, this 
\textit{doṣa} (fault) does not apply.

Doors opening automatically - bring disease of craziness or madness, doors closing automatically - destroys the whole dynasty. Doors higher than owner’s height bring fear from king and if shorter causes fear from thieves.

Door above door in home is considered mouth of \textit{Yama}. If the home is situated in the middle of road and has very long width and main door is smaller than other doors in the home, that is considered not auspicious. The following are important points that one should consider before designing the doors and windows. Maximum number of doors and windows should open in the North and East as compared to the South and West. The doors and windows should be in even numbers like 2, 4, 6, 8 etc. but not 10 and multiple of 8. The main door of house should be taller than other doors. It should be of two shutters. \footnote{15}

1.5. BHANGA OR BREAKAGE

The SS. has devoted as many as four chapters \footnote{16} on it and among them the “\textit{Torana bhanga}”, the breakage of the arch is of special notice which is a bad omen indicative of the breaking up of the nation \footnote{17} and another is entry of a dove or \textit{Kaput} in to a house brings calamity. \footnote{18} A house having cracks within the bordering rooms is very inauspicious. \footnote{19}
2. **MARMA (VULNERABLE POINTS)**

The horizontal, vertical and diagonal lines drawn inside the plot are the meridians through which the cosmic energy flows and the plot becomes a living entity. The points where all the three directional meridians cross each other are called a *marma*. These are similar to sensitive acupuncture points in the human body, and should be left unhurt. No pillar, wall, door, window should be placed upon these nodes. *Marma* faults are avoided by shifting the centre line of the pillar, door etc by half the dimension of the node.\(^{20}\)

Figure No-5.1

3. **DVÄR VEDHA-**

The Vedha indicates obstruction of light and air into the house. According to Vāstuśastra there are as many as seven types of *vedhas*- *Tala vedha, kona vedha, Tula vedha, Kapala vedha, Stambha vedha, Tahuvedha,* and *Dvara vedha.*
3.1. DVĀRA VEDHA SHOOLA

The obstruction of a door brings calamity either to the owner or to his family members of a house. Some of these obstructions are a road, a tree, a corner wall, a pillar, a water cannel or a temple. If one street ahead of a house it’s called Street Focus, and also called “Vedhi shoola”. In other words a street ahead of a house is said to have its effect on the house, this effect is called as street focus. The house is said to have the positive or negative effects of the street focus. All street focuses do not have equal and same effects; different effects appear in different street focuses.

If one house is having good street focus then the inmates of that house will be getting regular good alerts, all success, happy, health, wealth, joy, harmony, unexpected profits, sudden good happenings and etc.

There are 16 street focuses in general to a house, plot or any other construction. If the house is not at 90 degrees, it may give bad results. Regarding street focuses care should be taken in the initial stage itself. There are different kinds of street focuses like- east, west, north, south, nairutya (southwest), vāyanyā (northwest), Eshān (Northeast), Āgneya (southeast).

3.2. ISHĀN /NORTH-EAST STREET FOCUS:

If a street focuses a house at east Ishān (northeast towards east) is called as ishān street focus. This type of house is always good and give positive results like- leadership qualities, satisfactory life, enjoyment, pleasant trips, foreign trips, good education, name and fame in the society, bank deposits, good alliance to the daughters, right job and all amenities in the house, etc.

3.3. EAST ĀGNEYA /SOUTH-EAST STREET FOCUS:

If a street hits house from east āgneya, it is called as east āgneya street focus. This east āgneya starts from the part of east middle point and south corner side that is āgneya corner. The place in between is called as East Āgneya. This
part is a very sensitive part of the directions; we must have to take full care for this part. If one house is having east āgneya street focus, the inmates of the house will be continuously worried. The east āgneya street focus is a very bad and dangerous street focus. It causes poverty, theft, untraceable diseases to the inmates of the family, especially damage to the ladies and 2nd child of the house hold. This street focus is the witness for daily problems, quarrel, cruelty, power madness.

3.3. SOUTH-WEST STREET FOCUS

The south-west street focus and north-west street focus push the person into deep depression and frustration.

Therefore, preventive measures should be taken in the initial stage itself prior to the construction of a house.

4. DOSAS

Vīśvakarmā Prakāsa prescribes the following 16 dosas such as andhaka, rudhira, kubja, kāna, badhiraka, digvaktra, cipita, vyangaja, marana, kutila, kubajaka, sputa, sankhapālaka, vighata, kathāraka, and kainkara. These dosas should be avoided. The Andhaka-having no windows, Rudhira-having disproportionate doors, Kubja-having small doors, Digavakra-having disproportionate windows, Sankhapālika-without pillars etc. are to be avoided.

Andhakam rudhiram caiva kubja kānam vadhiraka
Digvaktram cipitam caiva vyangajam maram tathā /
Kutilam kubajakam caiva suptam ca sankhapālakam
Vighatam ca kathārakam kainkaram sadasam smrutam //

There are ten types of vadha dosas-Andhaka denotes illness, Kubja denotes leprosy, kana denotes blindness to the owner.
5. CASE STUDY:

It is observed that newly constructed houses reveal many Vāstu defects. Most of the modern architects have been emphasizing more on aesthetic value of the house, rather than making it Vāstu friendly. That is the reason Vāstu principles are being ignored knowingly or unknowingly at the time of building the house. Vāstu plays an important role in affecting one’s health, wealth and state of mind whether male’s or female’s. A kind of disharmony is created between positive and negative energies if there are Vāstu defects in the house which not only have effects on the health of the residents but also on their life. Let us find out the reasons, responsible for disharmony between these energies in the house.

When the east direction is defective in a home, it will have a negative impact on health, longevity, character, status, prosperity and on one’s success. It will unfavorably influence the general well being of the occupant of the building. Since the direction is ruled by life giving force on earth that is sun, the progeny of occupant of the building will be adversely affected. East is the strength of a building and is of supreme importance.

If a house is broken in the front or the plaster of its walls is peeled off or there are cracks in the front wall or its door is broken or it has other such defects, the residents of that house suffer due to the bad health, mental tension and depression.

Therefore, to observe whether vastu is a science or a belief a number of case studies was undertaken at various places of Odisha in course of my study adopting personal interview method.
CASE-1

I visited the house of Dr. B N. Mohapatra of Jayadev Vihar, Bhubaneswar. I found that the toilet had been constructed in the north-east corner, which is the place of Isha. The north-east is considered as sacred direction, because the pranik energy comes from north-east. So, a toilet should never be constructed in north-east or east or north. It should be in south, west or north-west.

I enquired of Dr. Mohapatra to know its effect on his family. He told me that both husband and wife were passing through health hazards. They had no peace of mind at all. In this case the faulty construction of the house may be presumed to be the cause of their misery.

CASE-2

I visited Dr. C.K. Sarangi’s residence at Titilagarh and I found that his Kitchen was in north-east of his house, dinning in south-east, master bed room in north-east and there is no as such separate Puja grha. I wanted to know from him his health, mental state and financial condition. I found that his financial condition and academic growth was satisfactory. But he is suffering from hypertension, diabetes and asthma. However, Dr. Sarangi refused to believe that this was due to non observance of Vastu rules in its construction.

CASE-3

I visited Mr. A Jain’s residence at Titilagarh and I found there were pillars and constructions on Brahma Stāna. Brahma Stāna lies in the center of the house and should be left free. This means, a pillar or wall should never be laid in the Brahma stāna. His master bed room is in the north-west, as per Vastu
it is the direction of Vāyu (Wind) and as per astrology is the direction of Moon. Both wind and moon have fast changing and fast flowing properties. Therefore, anything which is movable should be placed there. After enquiry I could know that he had divorced his wife and was passing through a very bad period.

CASE-4

Mrs. Nandini Kunar of Koraput area stays in a house which is in the south-west corner of the plot. The earth level was about 6ft high when compared with the road level. Mrs. Kunar started the earth removal to bring it on par with the road level from south-west corner. When the western half of the earth was removed, her hale and hearty husband suffered a massive heart attack resulting in his death.

The south-west is the foundation of luck and fortune. Therefore, the defects in south west forces the occupant to engage in wasteful activities in life. The longevity of the head of the family suffers due to the defect in south west. It affects the moral values of the occupants and their fortune. This e also eliminates the male member in the family and the family members have to face disgrace, degradation, sorrows, and debts, punishments from governments, obstruction and intense mental worry.

CASE-5

Mr. Shankar Das of Titilagarh stays in a plot where north-east corner is closed with his bedroom and more open space is there in south. His wife has not given birth to any child. In spite of the fact that medical test shows there is nothing organically wrong either with husband or wife, no conception has taken place till today.
The defect in this direction may have negative effect on the birth of children, problem in gaining knowledge and earning money. The owner of this kind of house may indulge in wasteful expenditure and may suffer loss in business and a huge part of his earnings may be spent in hospitalization. If the person is working, he may also destroy relations with immediate superiors. There may be losses in speculations. The native may be deprived of the comforts of bed and may suffer from insomnia. The secret enemies of the owner may be very active and may always try to harm him.

CASE-6

The rounded north-east shape of the house of Mr. Kartik Dharua of Sindhekela resulted in his mental sickness and insanity. The defective construction in north east badly affects the assets, prestige, social status, speech, learning and vision, material welfare, stamina, and courage. The construction defect in north-east causes heavy losses in all financial investments, shares, bonds, securities and also has negative effect on his relationship with bankers. The owner of such house may not have ardent relation with his neighbors who might force him to change the residence and in turn it may negatively affect his mental inclination.

CASE-7

Mr. Sanatan Mohanty of Bolangir constructed a house placing Toilet in the NW corner. It resulted in ruin of his business and discontinuity of study of his son.

The defect in this direction usually aggravates lust, anger, greed, infatuation, arrogance and jealousy. That means the occupant indulges in scandals, litigations, cruel actions that lead to imprisonment. Defective
construction north-west leads to the bad relations with the outsiders, neighbours and relatives. If the owner is a financer he suffers the loss in interest, earnings and problem in recovering money from the borrowers. The native may have problem in abdomen, liver and intestine.

CASE-8

Mr. N.K. Gupta of Tililagarh is having his Master Bed room in west with sloped roof towards west. Mr. Gupta is having only female children.

The defective construction in west adversely affects the relationship between husband and wife. It is also responsible for their divorce. There may be problem if the person is in the business of exports. If the person is in politics his image may be spoiled by some blame. The native may not have male child.

From the above case studies it is observed that Vāstu plays a major role in life. All these Vāstu defects mentioned are the causes of various sufferings in the house. Life can be made easy, disease-free and peaceful if these Vāstu defects are removed from the house. Vāstušāsta is a science. To get rid of these defects means - to bring about the favourable changes in the construction of the house which are prescribed by Vāstušāsta. By proper Vastu planning of the buildings negative forces are overcome to make the life peaceful and progressive.
NOTES AND REFERENCES

1. MAC.stanza-18

2. SS.48.2-4

3. MaC; stanza-20


5. SS.48.17.

6. SS,48,6 & 7

7. 48,69-105,& 136-139.

8. SS,48,21-23

a. SS.48.61-70

9. SS.48.76-80

10.SS.48,94-96

11.SS.48.74

12. MP, Ch,39, 44-47

13. SS, Ch, 12,43,46, and 47

14. SS,46,9

15. SS, Ch,46,32-33

16. SS, Ch,13,10-14 and 117-118

17. SS,Ch,48,69-105,& 136-139
18. SS.48, Ch.132-140

19. SS. Ch.13.10-14 and 117-118

20. VKP. narates16 dosas