

## QUESTION ON GEM USE



by [Richard S. Brown](#)

**My question: I would like to ask is about the "book". Your presumption that gems, not talismans, MUST touch on the skin you claim to be going by "the book". As I have published 10 books on planetary gemology, as well as being the founder of the Planetary Gemologists Association <http://www.p-g-a.org>, and being myself an authority on Planetary Gemology, I am interested in the "book" that you swear by. Because I have read everything from Mani Mala to Agni Purana, from Brihat Jataka to the works of contemporary scholars, I am not aware of what book it is you swear by?**

**Please let me know. Because in Mani Mala it is clearly stated that Ratna Daan (donating gems) and Ratna Daran (wearing gems) are the two bone fide ways of using gems in astrology. If a planet is bad for a person then there is Ratna Daan. For example, if one has a Rahu problem they should donate the Gomedha gem to a leper on a Saturday evening with Rahu's mantra. But if Rahu is favorable they should wear the Gomedha gem, as a pendant or ring. Or they should keep in their temple and worship. In the first case of donating there is no possibility of the gem touching the skin as the gem has been given away. So what does the "book" say about that?**

**I have pondered since 1974 on this issue. And concluded that gems are "astrological" and as we are influenced by planets, without touching them physically, in the same way gems work as either a donation or a talisman to wear or as an object of worship in the temple. This is because they are astrological, not mundane. It is not that the gem must touch on the physical planet on one side, and then, reaching through space, must touch one's skin on the other side. I long ago saw from actual testing many thousands of clients, including myself, and my**

family, that talismans may be worn, or kept in a temple, or donated to another person, and in all cases - given that the gem is auspicious quality - they work astrologically.

Therefore I concluded this idea is mundane (non astrological) and is the same logic as to drive a car the engine must touch one's body, or to use a gem it must touch the body. I concluded, logically and practically, that idea is just not bona fide. In fact it is grossly mundane. In my mind this is the aspirin tablet concept: to take a pill it must be swallowed (which is true of pills). And my research with over 18,000 people since 1974 has confirmed this. And for this reason whenever I try to make a gem touch the skin, I do so in understanding that it is a mundane, non astrological concept, that is not spiritual. It is only done to satisfy mundane-minded who can't understand how a ruby (or Graha) can have an effect, in spite of its not touching on the Sun planet by making direct contact with the Sun. Without touching the Sun ruby still works. And Ruby works when used astrologically by a person who either donates it to a king or government leader, or keeps in one's temple and worships it, or wears it on one's body in a gold talisman. So I do request you to kindly enlighten me further as to what you mean, "by the book."

Reply: I found an extract from the book 'Autobiography Of A Yogi' which explains the use of gemstones to ward off evil planetary influences:

"Just as a house may be fitted with a copper rod to absorb the shock of lightning, so the bodily temple can be protected in certain ways... The practical preventative uses of astrology have seldom been seriously studied outside of India. One little known fact (fact or opinion?) is that the proper jewels, metals, and plant preparations are valueless (valueless?) unless the required weight (carat? ratti?) is secured and unless the remedial agent (gem or talisman?) is worn next to the skin." --  
-Sri Yukteswar --- Autobiography of a Yogi, Paramahansa Yogananda

(So the complete science of Planetary Gemology is based on, "Autobiography of a Yogi" - a beginners book which is not even about gems?)

My answer: I personally do not follow Autobiography of A Yogi, which I read in 1967, neither as a sadhana, or as a siddhanta, or as a shastra praman, or as an authority on gemology. Not as long as there are specific books on these subjects, such as Graha-Gochar-Jyotish, Mani

**Mala, Garuda Purana, Brihat Jataka, etc., which contradict those statements that are made in passing reference not by a gem expert who has any experience nor done any testing. And I can assure you that nothing is "valueless" - a word that cannot be applied to even thin air or a drop of water.**