FENG SHUI THE PILLARS OF DESTINY
Understanding Your Fate and Fortune
by Raymond Lo

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“The major metaphysical texts of the ancient Chinese had, on the orders of an intelligent Emperor of the Ching Dynasty, been included in the compilation of a set of Imperial books called ‘The Four Libraries of Complete Works’. The section covering metaphysics included nine huge volumes which discussed cosmology, theories about the universe, time and space, human destiny, oracles and feng shui. I discovered that some of these theories are so unique to the Chinese that there is often no parallel in other cultures.”

Raymond Lo (Preface)

Raymond Lo produced many articles on feng shui in his column in the Hong Kong Standard and other media publications between 1990 and 1992.

“The term feng shui is believed to have first appeared in the ancient Chinese book called ‘The Rules for Burial’. This text, whilst discussing the influence of energy on the landscape, explains that “the flow of energy dissipated by wind stops at the boundary of water”. Hence, the words feng shui literally mean “wind” and “water” respectively. The “energy mentioned in the text is not clear in meaning, but it is generally believed that it refers to certain abstract natural forces which run with the lie of the landscape and also case effect on people. This energy has become known as a feng shui force.”

A suitable yin house (and yang) is situated in the ‘dragon’s den’, a place where the natural beneficial feng shui forces of a mountain concentrate.

The Tang Dynasty Emperors were firm feng shui believers and asked a monk to produce a false feng shui book with the intention to fool their barbarian enemies and bring misfortune upon them.

“During the Tai Ping Rebellion in the Ching Dynasty, when the Imperial general found the grave site of an ancestor of the rebellion leaders and bombarded it with cannon balls, believing that this would destroy the ‘dragon’s vein’ (the beneficial influence of the site) and bring misfortune to the rebels. Indeed the rebellion was eventually suppressed.”

Many Chinese in their daily life refer to an ancient Chinese almanac called the Tung Sing which is found to be accurate in predicting the weather.

Bats are a symbol of fortune and riches. A bat’s mouth open wide absorbs wealth and prosperity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>ELEMENT</th>
<th>PERSON</th>
<th>COLOUR</th>
<th>OBJECT</th>
<th>BODY</th>
<th>TRIGRAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>WATER</td>
<td>middle-aged man</td>
<td>black</td>
<td>blood, den</td>
<td>ear</td>
<td>K’an</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>EARTH</td>
<td>old woman</td>
<td>black</td>
<td>earth, ox</td>
<td>stomach</td>
<td>Kun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>WOOD</td>
<td>eldest son</td>
<td>green</td>
<td>thunder</td>
<td>foot</td>
<td>Chen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>WOOD</td>
<td>eldest daughter</td>
<td>green</td>
<td>wind</td>
<td>buttocks</td>
<td>Sun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>EARTH</td>
<td>father</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>METAL</td>
<td>young girl</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>heaven</td>
<td>head</td>
<td>Ch’ien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>METAL</td>
<td>young son</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>lake</td>
<td>mouth</td>
<td>Tui</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>EARTH</td>
<td>young daughter</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>mountain</td>
<td>hands</td>
<td>Ken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>FIRE</td>
<td>middle daughter</td>
<td>red</td>
<td>sun, beauty</td>
<td>eyes</td>
<td>Li</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For students of the I Ching combinations of two trigrams becomes a kua.

“One trigram, for instance, represents a fixed element or object, but two trigrams, one over the other, brings about interactions between two elements, causing the objects to come alive with dynamic meaning. For example, the trigram ----- represents the lake and the element of metal, while the trigram ----- symbolises the element of fire. The two combined form a kua called “Revolution”, the I Ching provides the following explanation of this kua:

The young lady is above and the older lady is below; and what results is essentially only an opposition of tendencies. The influences are in actual conflict and the forces combat each other like fire and water (lake), each trying to destroy the other. Hence the idea of revolution.”

The trigram -----is symbolised by the number 9, and the trigram ----- is symbolised by the number 7. Coupling these numbers 9 and 7 will also bear a similar meaning of disaster associated with fire.

1 and 4: water gives birth to wood. This means literature, art, academic achievement or promotion. However, it can also signify romance or a sex scandal when under a bad influence.

4 and 8: the number 8 is by nature the earth element but it also symbolises the young son or child. The number 4 is the element of wood, the destroyer of earth. Consequently, this pair of numbers is not favourable to children.

7 and 3: metal clashes with wood. This pair of numbers signifies robbery, conflict and discord.

9 and 6: this is not a positive pair as fire destroys metal and means a fire disaster. The number 6 also symbolises the father or head of the family, so this pair can also reflect harm to the father.

9 and 8: fire gives birth to earth. This pair usually symbolised happy occasions such as marriages or celebrations. As 8 refers to young children, it can also mean the joy of a newborn baby.

2 and 5: sickness is often associated with the number 2 while 5 symbolises misfortune. This pair of numbers should certainly be avoided.

7,9 & 5: can be interpreted as representing heavy smoking or drug addiction as they create the scenario of mouth (7), fire (9) and evil (5).

In the essential feng shui classics written by Master Sum of the Ching Dynasty, a number of examples are included to display how numbers can vividly describe murder scenes, supernatural occurrences and suicides.

If the mountain star at the back falls into open space this is called ‘mountain star falling into water’ which is not so fortunate for the human aspects of health and relationships and is a serious drawback to human harmony.

Placing a prosperous water star in a bathroom will literally flush prosperity away.
“The famous Tiananmen in Beijing is the symbol of political authority in China. The Tiananmen is in fact part of a larger group of buildings called the Forbidden City which was originally built as a palace for the Emperors of the Ming Dynasty. According to historical records the Forbidden City was completed in the year 1420 and it is situated with its front facing exactly south and its back due north.”

“The Forbidden City is an age of 5 building with the mountain star 5 at its back and the water star 5 in front.”

This may explain why the Ming Dynasty was considered a golden era in Chinese history.

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