

## **The Mystical Meaning of Feng Shui**

**Juan M. Alvarez**

Mysticism is a refined stage of consciousness that connects our beings with the essence of all that manifests in the Universe through light, colors, forms, and life. Our physical and logical world is nurtured by energy particles that manifest from another dimension, not part of the visible and invisible nature of things. The Transcendental Method of Feng Shui, as taught by Professor Lin Yun, Spiritual Master of the Black Hat School, Tibetan Tantric Buddhism (BTB), works with this channel of pure and harmonious energy which radiates from the unmanifested source of the power of creation. This subtle and powerful energy is Chi or spirit.

Feng Shui provides a system for evaluating existing influences in your surrounding environment, both the visible, such as land, buildings, and furniture, and the invisible, such as electromagnetic fields. It then balances the flow of Chi with corresponding cures that can be made on the visible level with the nine basic cure items (crystals, chimes, mirrors, and so forth) or the invisible level with Bau-Biology. BTB Feng Shui goes a step further and uses transcendental methods, like the Three Secrets Reinforcement and Tracing the Nine Star Path.<sup>1</sup>

Intention is the connection that establishes and seals Feng Shui cures in order to manifest harmonious Chi in the environment. The combination of body, mind, and word, or the *Mystery of the Three Secrets*, is the means of manifesting this intention, sealed when honoring the tradition of the red envelope.<sup>2</sup> Through reverence (body: mudra), heart (word: mantra), and mind (visualization: sutra), you infuse the Feng Shui

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<sup>1</sup> Please refer to "*Spirituality and Feng Shui*," p. 357.

<sup>2</sup> Please refer to the *Glossary*, p. 427 for information on the red envelope.

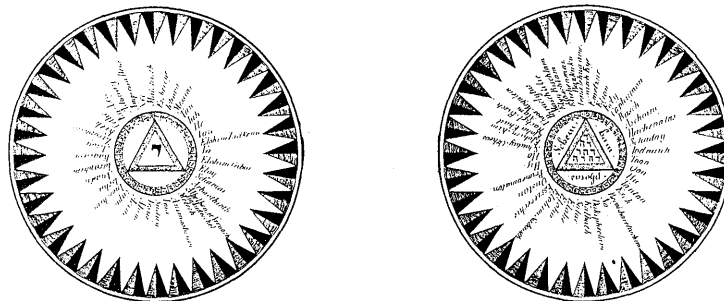
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adjustments with your own divine nature and spirit. The result of the cure is then 120 percent.

BTB Feng Shui establishes a discipline for the study and application of the universal principles of creation as they are manifested throughout the symbols of the Bagua.<sup>3</sup> Feng Shui is based on the history and philosophy of yin and yang, Tao, the I Ching, the trigrams of Feng Shui, as well as the Theory of the Five Elements,<sup>4</sup> The Lines of Harmony of the Bagua,<sup>5</sup> Buddhist meditations, and Chinese Astrology to determine the best times to perform Feng Shui adjustments.

### **The Three Schools of Colors**

Other valuable tools of BTB Feng Shui that are less often talked about are the Three Schools of Colors. These are representative of the Law of the Triangle, also known as the Law of Creation. Each *creation* starts at the first point of the triangle, with the *idea* or yin. It follows with the second point of the triangle, with the *action* or yang, and it manifests at the third point of the triangle, as *creation* or Tao. The objective of Feng Shui is to create harmonious spaces, complementing the negative/yin aspects with the positive/yang aspects to create harmony, or the unity of Tao.



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<sup>3</sup> Please refer to "The Bagua," p. 35.

<sup>4</sup> Please refer to "The Five Phases of Energy," p. 81.

<sup>5</sup> The lines of harmony represent each of the eight lines connecting the Bagua to the forms or shapes of living spaces. These lines can also be visualized as the diameters of vibrating energy circles, providing a frame of reference for the creation of harmony between heaven and earth in its habitats.

Each of the Three Schools of Colors represents a point of the Law of the Triangle.

1. The School of the Seven Colors of the Rainbow, or the psychic vibratory nature of colors, is used for creating internal harmony, personal Chi, or the yin aspect of the triangle and Feng Shui design.<sup>6</sup>
2. The School of the Colors of the Five Chinese Elements, or the color association of the elements, is used to create harmony in the external environment, external Chi, or yang aspect.
3. The School of the Colors of the Six True Words,<sup>7</sup> or the divine essence of the eminent nature of things, is used to create harmony between heaven and earth, spiritual Chi, or the Tao aspect.



### **The Theory of the Elements, both East and West**

The works of the Greek philosopher Aristotle speak about the theory of the elements. The elements proposed in Aristotle's works included: Water, Fire, Earth, and Air. The development of his theory later gave rise to a fifth element known as the fifth essence or spirit. Each of the metaphysical elements of the West has a corresponding Chinese element.

Each of the elements identifies a manifestation of energy that is reflected in many forms. For example, the energetic manifestation of the element *wood* can be seen not only in the many colors and species of the vegetable kingdom, but also as it is revealed in human personality traits.

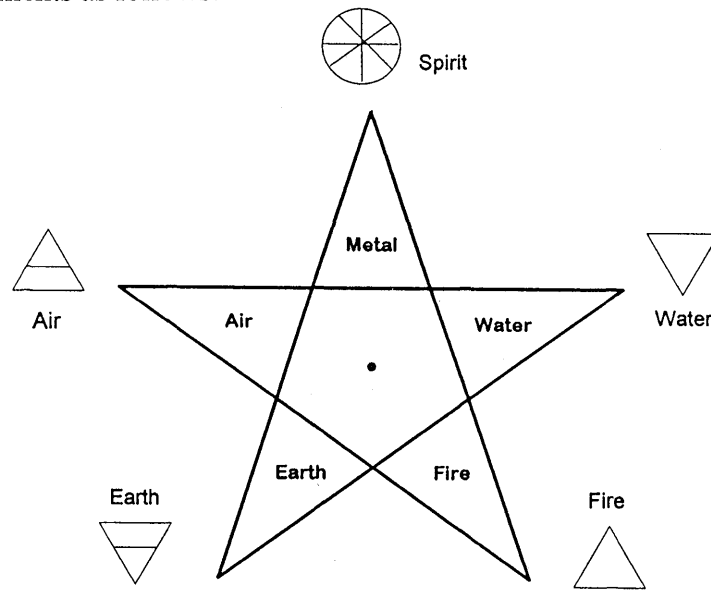
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<sup>6</sup> Please refer to "Color and the Chakra System," p. 311.

<sup>7</sup> Please refer to "Spirituality and Feng Shui," p. 357, and "The Magic of Ritual and Feng Shui," p. 369.

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Eastern and Western philosophies are united through the symbols of the five elements as follows:



### **The Bagua**

The Bagua is one of the special tools used in the environmental art of Feng Shui. It is composed of eight symbols or Guas, each depicted by a trigram (a combination of yin and yang symbols, in groups of three.) Each of the Guas has a corresponding color, element, manifestation of nature, mundane activity, cardinal direction, and planet, among others. The nature of these manifestations is to connect the visible and the invisible universe with its unmanifested essence, to create harmonious environments.

One of the aspects connecting mystical philosophies can be related to space or the four cardinal points. The Bagua, Chinese and Western Astrology, and other ancient systems were aligned to the four cardinal points. For example, a study of the relationship of angels to cardinal directions is known as The Four Angels of the Wind. They were identified as: Mikhael (East Wind), Uriel (South Wind), Raphael (West Wind) and Gabriel (North Wind).

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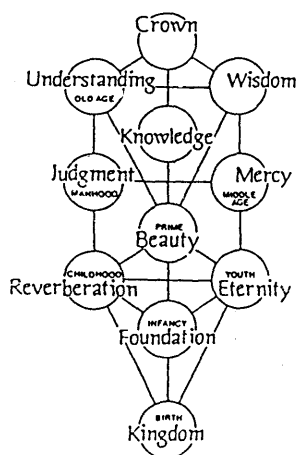
Relating the four cardinal points to the Bagua, Chinese and Western Astrologies, and the Kabballah Tree of Life, the following correspondences exist:

CARDINAL DIRECTIONS	KING-WEN BA-GUA	CHINESE ASTROLOGY	WESTERN ASTROLOGY	TREE OF LIFE
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EAST	WOOD	DRAGON	ARIES	MIKHAEL
SOUTH	FIRE	PHOENIX	CAPRICORN	URIEL
WEST	METAL	TIGER	LIBRA	RAPHAEL
NORTH	WATER	TORTOISE	CANCER	GABRIEL
CENTER	EARTH	SERPENT	GEOCENTER	ZAPHIEL

The eight symbols of the Bagua are connected to hermetic, Rosicrucian, and other metaphysical teachings, including the philosophy of Kabballah.

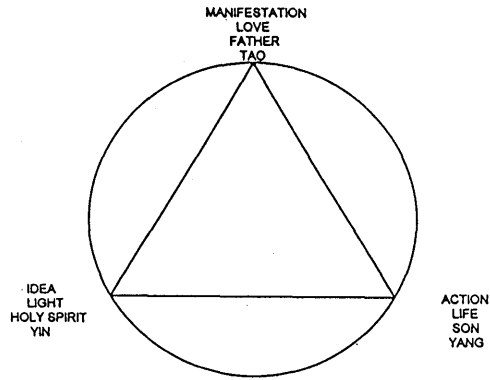
The Tree of Life of the Kabballah explains the creation of the Universe and holds the key to finding the connection between human life and its divine source.



**Sephirotic Tree  
of the Kabballah**

According to this philosophy, the Universe emanated from the Void, by the Will of a Supreme Force or God, which projected its essence through four realities and ten dimensions or sephirot.

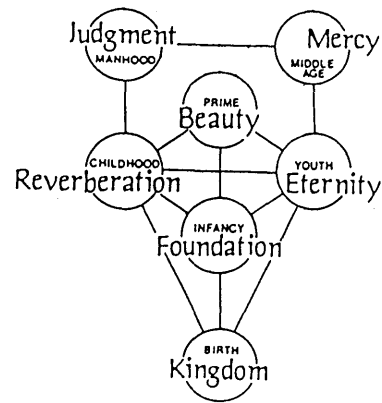
Hebrew philosophers related and understood the sephirot through the use of an archetypal form known as the Tree of Life. The Tree of Life is divided into two types: The Small Tree of Life and the Large Tree of Life.



**Small Tree of Life**

The Small Tree of Life represents the unmanifested and consists of three symbols or spiritual forces: the Father (Kether), the Son (Chokmah) and the Holy Spirit (Binah). It also relates to the Tao triad philosophy: Tao (Father), Yang (Son), Yin (Holy Spirit).

The Large Tree of Life represents creation, including forms, colors, and substance. It emanates from the Small Tree of Life and consists of seven sephirot or symbols.



**Large Tree of Life**

Each of the ten dimensions or sephirot represents an emanation from the universal essence/consciousness of God and corresponds with many manifestations. The law of correspondence is an aspect of the evolutionary process of the Universe.

One of the geometrical symbols describing spiritual and material evolution is the spiral. The process of evolution follows the geometry of the spiral, vibrating from the infinitesimal instant to the infinite and eternal Universe. At each turn, the vibratory energy aligns with the previous position, at a higher level. Each sephiroth can be described as a harmonic manifestation of the emanation of God through the evolutionary process of the Universe. At a given dimensional point, it is given a name and correspondences as follows:

**The Essence, the Unmanifested**

1. Kether, Father, Crown, Metatron, Seraphims, Love of God, Tao.
2. Chokmah, Son, Wisdom, Ratziel, Cherubims, Light of God, White, Zodiac, Yang.
3. Binah, Holy Spirit, Understanding, Zafkiel, Thrones, Life of God, Black, Saturn, Yin.

**The World of Creation**

4. Chesed, Mercy, Zadkiel, Dominations, Expansion, Jupiter, Blue, Thursday, Yang.
5. Geburah, Strength, Kamael, Powers, Will, Mars, Red, Tuesday, Yin.
6. Tiphereth, Beauty, Mikhael, Virtues, Love, Sun, Yellow, Sunday, Tao.

**The World of Manifestation**

7. Netzach, Victory, Anael, Principalities, Creative, Venus, Green, Friday, Yang.
8. Hod, Splendor, Raphael, Archangels, Healing, Mercury, Orange, Wednesday, Yin.
9. Yesod, Foundation, Gabriel, Angels, Infinite Mind, Moon, Violet, Monday, Tao.
10. Malkuth, Kingdom, Uriel, Elements, Experiences, Saturn as the planet of the Earth, Ying-Yang-Tao.





Excerpted from  
*The Feng Shui Anthology*

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Feng-Shui-Interior Design

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