

with great power, comes great responsibility



I-Ching & The World of Metaphysics

Law of order

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Western han scholar Dong Zhongshu, in his tome Chun Qiu Fan Lu, or Luxuriant Dew of the Spring and Autumn Annals, wrote about the importance of harmony between heaven and humans and how any deviation would violate that.

Humans have 365 minor bones, matching the 365 days in a year, and 12 major ones, matching the 12 months of the year. Our skin is like the earth's surface, while our blood vessels are like the rivers, oceans and mountains.

Our happiness is like a summer day, anger a cloudy day or autumn, joy like spring, sorrow like winter. The body's wu zhang, or five major organs, relate to the wu xin, or the five elements, while our limbs match the four seasons.

This systematic wisdom handed down by the ancients means that fung shui is neither superficial nor superstitious.

The concept of yin and yang is also embedded in our lives. We wake up in the morning, when the yang is predominant, and we go to sleep when the yin suffuses the air. Women represent yin and men yang, just as the sky is yang and the earth is yin.

Based on this knowledge, the ancient Chinese were able to devise predictive tools to conquer the unknown. They knew that unkind energy is often the result of a violation of the cosmic or natural law, while kind energy flows from the natural order of things.

Put simply, auspicious events result when energy is flowing naturally, while inauspicious events occur when there is a violation of the natural law or a disruption in the interaction between humans and heaven.

That is why the Chinese emphasize filial piety, because it means not just respect for the elderly but also respect for mother nature and a world that gives us life and energy.

Thought of the week: Use every moment to think the purest thought, say the kindest word and do the noblest deed.



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