

I was recently asked an interesting question about the apparent reappraisal of Iran by the West, if it is ever likely to be accepted as a normal member of the community of nations, and whether or not feng shui had a role to play in any of this? The question itself casts light on a very different aspect of feng shui, especially that of the Time/Space dynamic in classical Chinese feng shui, better known as the Flying Stars school. Looking at the effect of the feng shui of an entire country from this perspective, can often give us insights into history and current events that we might otherwise not understand.

In the Flying Stars School, time has a recognised influence over space. Within this school, there are 9 Periods of 20 years each, that have differing but predictable effects. This school traces these time periods according to the *flight* or path of the 9 cell grid of the Luo Shu or *magic square*, as the numbers rotate from one configuration to another. The Luo Shu square, or the River Luo pattern as it can be translated, has long held a fascination for the Chinese and plays a very important role in traditional Chinese culture. It is directly related to the Later Heaven Sequenced Ba Gua, also a fundamental of feng shui. It is the basis of some of the rings of the Luo Pan or Chinese magnetic compass and is clearly illustrated as such on most models.

4	9	2
3	5	7
8	1	6

The original Luo Shu Magic Square  
Note the # 5 in the centre cell

One of the most basic of all Flying Star School concepts is founded in the time/space dynamic inherent in the numeric patterns of the Luo Shu square. It is the notion that as time passes, its effects can be calculated within the movements of the square and the consequences of Time's changing influences are, therefore, predictable. One primary prediction that is made, is that in whichever direction the number 5 falls, within the pattern for each of the 20 year periods, if there is water in that location, then that place will prosper. Conversely, if there should be landmass or mountains, the location will not prosper, especially financially, and the people will likely suffer the ensuing economic hardship. The second

half of the equation is the opposite. In the direction opposite to where the number 5 falls, there should be mountains and land mass; when so, the populace will prosper and there will be human harmony for the people as a whole. If however, there is in fact water, then the people will hurt for the duration of that timeframe. A good example of this in the current period is what has happened in the USA following the commencement of the current Period of 8. There, where from 2004 to 2024, there should be water to the Southwest and Mountains to the Northeast, we unfortunately, find the opposite is true. Thus just as the period was getting properly underway, we saw the start of the Global Financial Crisis, starting with the collapse of Fanny Mae and Freddie Mac in 2007-2008, followed by worldwide wide financial upset. The US economy is after all, the world's largest and had a disastrous, knock-on effect. This is because the geography of the USA is the opposite of that required for positive feng shui in this period, which requires water in the southwest, and landmass and mountains to the northeast. The US borders Mexico across much of its southwest and is thus, cut off from a water border here; whilst being almost completely surrounded by water in the northeast, from Chicago in the north all the way down to the Virginias in the east. This is in no small part due the length of the St Lawrence Seaway.

7	3	5
6	8	1
2	4	9

Period 8 Chart  
Note the # 5 now in the Southwest

So in returning to the question of Iran. Long treated as a pariah by the West and once named as part of the *Axis of Evil* by George W. Bush, it remains daggers drawn against the Saudis but has recently gained some credence in its stand against ISL and the neo-Caliphate in general. The latest easing of trade sanctions by the West, led by the Obama administration, has seen an improvement in its economy since 2014. This timing gives us some clues I believe as to the direction Iran may be headed over the next few decades.

In the current Period of 8, which began in 2004 and will end in 2024, 2014 saw the reaching of an

important half-way point; from approximately then forward, the next time influence, that of Period 9 begins to fire-up and exhibit some of its expected effects. In this coming Period of 9, those locations with water to their north and mountains, or at least landmass to their south, will prosper best. Since Iran, along with Afghanistan, bridges the Indian Subcontinent to its east and the Middle-East to the west, it has the Gulf of Persia and Oman to its south, and the Caspian Sea to its north. It is this positioning with the Caspian Sea to its north, which I believe, is already having a positive effect. It is this water in the north that is likely to see Iran prosper economically at least partially, in the Period of 9. Although it must be borne in mind that there is a serious set of Mountains, the Elburz Mountains, between Tehran the capital, and the Caspian. This may well yet impede on the economy of the capital. Time will tell. But since the effects of water to the north can already be felt from the incoming Period of 9. Even here in Auckland it is noticeable with the marked development of the Wynyard Quarter in the CBD. I believe we are already seeing the flicker of the coming power of water to the north in Period 9 (2024-2044).

8	4	6
7	9	2
3	5	1

The Period 9 Chart  
Note the 5 in the North

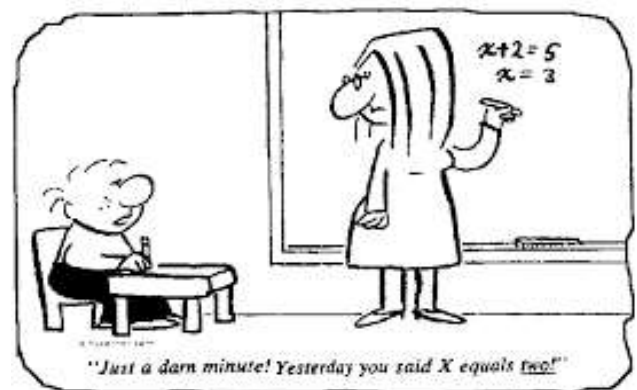
However, the second requirement for there to be Mountains to the South in order for there to be human harmony within a country, falls short I'm afraid. In Iran's south, although there are indeed some arid, semi desert like mountainous regions, the land eventually runs out and meets the waters of the Straits of Hormuz. This does not auger so well for the human harmony of Iran in the Period of 9, in my opinion.

### Five Strong Kiwi Women

In earlier issues I have written about the lives of several famous Chinese women and the impact they had on Chinese history. In this issue I will look at the first of five influential New Zealand women to have had a marked impact on our own country. We'll start with Kate Sheppard. Born in Liverpool on the 10th March, 1847 to Scottish parents, she was to spend time living in Nairn with her uncle, a Free Church of Scotland minister. It seems his strong religious views were to influence Kate's own opinions and were in turn to motivate much of her later temperance and suffragette work. Following the death of her father, the remainder of her family migrated to Christchurch in 1869 where she was to

marry and have a son, Donald. By 1885, she had become involved in the New Zealand Women's Temperance Union. Realising that a great deal of the support for the temperance movement came from women, the Union began also to campaign for women's suffrage rights. It was in this area that Kate Sheppard become most well known, gaining considerable prominence.

Whilst Wellington man Henry Wright said women were 'recommended to go home, look after their children, cook their husband's dinners, empty the slops, and generally attend to the domestic affairs for which Nature designed them', he also thought they should give up 'meddling in masculine concerns of which they are profoundly ignorant'. Kate by contrast responded to such views by saying, 'All that separates, whether of race, class, creed, or sex, is inhuman and must be overcome.' and on another occasion, 'We are tired of having a "sphere" doled out to us, and of being told that anything outside that sphere is "unwomanly".'<sup>1</sup> Powerful sentiments, especially for the time. Her abilities as a persuasive orator won her a great deal of popular support; despite the opposition of the larger than life and very controlling Premier, Richard (King Dick) Seddon, who vehemently opposed women getting the vote. Featured today, on the New Zealand \$10 bill, Kate Sheppard was a strong wood element person. As such, we can start to identify this as the source of some of her creativity. However, strong wood people are also renowned for their stubbornness; in some cases even eccentricity. I have no doubt many of her contemporaries, especially her opponents, would have perceived her as crazy rather than simply eccentric.



### 'Contempt prior to investigation is what enslaves a mind to Ignorance.'

This or similar statements are more often misattributed to Herbert Spencer, but the source of the phrase "contempt prior to investigation" seems to have been William Paley, in A View of the Evidences of Christianity (1794):

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<sup>1</sup> Wikipedia