

Feng shui is based in the imbalance of architectural design

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Abstract

This paper first traces back the origin of feng shui, recognizes the objective double existence of rationality and irrationality, and clarifies that we regard it as a cultural phenomenon with incomplete cognition of the world. This paper analyzes the weak adaptability of feng shui in contemporary design: the old operation procedures and new creative techniques; the exaggeration of superstitious carriers and the weakening of reasonable level; the loss of objective experience and the rise of scientific ideas; the unadaptability of feng shui theory in current design.

Keywords

Feng shui; architectural design; scientific concept.

1. The origin of feng shui

The Chinese concept of feng shui is based on the ancient witchcraft of "the house". Its earliest example was found in the Zhou Dynasty. In the Zhou Dynasty, the residence mainly depended on planning and divination. "The Book of Songs" said: "love first love plan, love deed my turtle. At the end of the day, the building in the room", is to use the method of turtle bu to determine the time and place of the house construction and the possible ancient disaster. The emergence of [1] "feng shui" concept, and the popularity of "feng shui" as a kind of building site selection and building space management, generally began in the Wei and Jin times. In Guo Pu's Burment Sutra in the Jin Dynasty, wind, water and gas were unified as a systematic whole.

In the early days of the founding of the People's Republic of China, people avoided the feng shui issues, until the 1980s, the academic thought and academic atmosphere were unprecedented active. Feng shui gets renewed attention. With the serious scientific research work, a "feng shui" fever also rises. For the purpose of profit-seeking, feng shui masters have expanded the content of feng shui to the form of building site selection and even construction.

2. Rational and irrational level of feng shui

The main characteristics of the philosophical foundation of Chinese traditional culture are: history (social) + rational (natural) + emotion (interpersonal), which are a comprehensive unity. After a long period of labor practice and experience accumulation, human beings have established a rational judgment of nature, and at the same time, they also have their own sensibility and fantasy, thus forming their own cosmology, nature and outlook on life. [2]

The formation of feng shui theory is based on the rational judgment and perceptual understanding of nature, and is an incomplete exploration of the objective world. [3] includes the understanding of sunlight, air and water, the observation of the sun, moon and water, stars and the geography of mountains, spring, summer, autumn and winter, and the pursuit of the location of houses, etc. This derivation of feng shui theory is a kind of dialectical logical thinking. At the same time, limited to the development level of social civilization development, human beings have to attach to nature with sensibility and metaphysics, making feng shui theory did not get rid of the shackles and fetters of superstition, and did not develop into a

completely scientific theoretical system. Feng shui theory is a unique traditional academic category of ancient China under the framework of traditional Chinese philosophy, integrating superstition and rationality, dross and essence coexist, and integrating nature and humanity.[4]

3. Feng Shui: An imbalance in contemporary design

3.1. Old operating procedures and new creative techniques

There are a lot of reasonable and practical knowledge in feng shui of Chinese architecture, and there are many examples of successful application in ancient times. In modern society, some conservative fixed operation procedures and theories are still followed by feng shui activities, and their content is not constantly updated with the development of The Times, but only "repair" on the surface. With the accelerating process of urbanization, the rise of high-rise buildings and the rapid increase of urban population density, the ancient feng shui theory is inadequate in front of more and more artificial buildings. In order to continue their "career", one-sided and limited adjustment of feng shui theory. For example, it is difficult to see the scene surrounded by mountains and rivers, it is difficult to meet the sand in the feng shui books, so feng shui masters forced that in residential areas, "one inch high is mountain, one inch low is water", the same use of intention or comparison attached, the dragon vein into a road or even a road in front of the building. In addition to the transfer and application of "term", the scarcity of urban land resources also makes the focus of feng shui teachers choose from outdoor to indoor, including furniture placement and the adjustment of flowers and plants, however, this adjustment more shows the irrational and mystical tendency in the practice and theoretical evolution of feng shui. This does not help the transformation and correctness defense of feng shui theory, but is only a practice attached to echo the trend of The Times, and cannot adapt to the creative techniques and ideas of the new era.

3.2. The carrier of superstition is exaggerated and the reasonable level is diluted

At present, most of the feng shui books on the market are crowned in the name of studying Chinese traditional culture, blindly one-sided exaggerated feng shui, ignoring its superstitious dross part. Professor CAI Dafeng from Tongji University believes that feng shui, as a research object, has research value from the perspective of folklore and architecture, but it is irresponsible to use it from a commercial perspective to gain economic benefits. Unfortunately, there are more and more books in this regard. The overemphasized feng shui theory is gradually shifted to superstition, which makes it easily used and bring extremely serious negative impact on the society. In the residential layout, feng shui uses Zhouyi's four columns, six lines of theory, combining the Qimen dun armour and compass. It is about the high-level art number of space, momentum. According to the eight characters of the head of the house, and then to judge the good and bad position suitable for the eight characters, the comprehensive design layout is the most suitable for the head of the house.[5] is contrary to modern design such as socio-economic benefits and site information in general. If only relying on the compass positioning can predict the fate, then this will fall into the cycle of one-sided idealism, people's destiny is in their own hands, which is also contrary to the mainstream values of today's society.

3.3. The loss of objective experience and the rise of scientific concepts

Due to the lack of scientific theory and technical means, the application of feng shui in today's society has been strongly challenged. Mr. Pan Guanxi showed in the History of Chinese Architecture that, generally speaking, "because the site selection of ancient Chinese architecture has been combined with divination from the very beginning", although it "has empirical knowledge in line with objective laws", "the theory and means based on it" lack practical significance. "With the development of The Times, the feng shui produced under the

background of backward development level is difficult to apply to the contemporary living environment design without flexibility.

Take urban planning as an example, the Rites of Zhou is a grave code of ancient Chinese urban planning and feng shui theory."Zhou Li local official Si Tu" cloud: " in the earth, heaven and earth, the four times, the wind and rain, Yin and Yang are also."(See Figure 1)" Earth " is an ideal state of harmony between man and nature, which promotes the growth and breeding of all things, and seeks the great harmony between man and everything, and even the whole universe.[6] According to the theory in the Rites of Zhou, the ancient people divided the city inside and outside the city under the condition of urban size and population base, forming an expanded urban ecological structure model, which was suitable for the society at that time.However, in the modern society, the scale and structure of the city change, the rapid social development, the rapid economic growth, the city develops towards the direction of diversification.Urban planning needs to combine rational analysis and scientific means to design according to the expected scale and actual needs of the city.If we continue to plan and design according to feng shui, the urban environment revolves around one center, expands layer by layer, and the urban functions will be chaotic, which will seriously affect the urban development and people's daily life.It can be seen from this case that although there is the basis of thousands of years of practical application, many situations or patterns in the basic paradigm of feng shui are difficult to meet the needs of today if they cannot develop with The Times.[7]

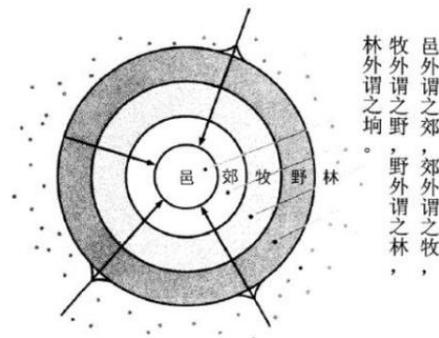


Figure 1 Ancient Urban Planning

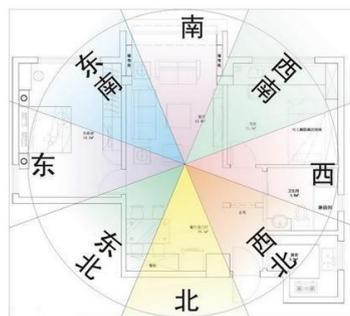


Figure 2 Facing (painted by the author) (from China National Geographic)

At the same time, with the improvement of science and technology level, the choice of living environment will no longer be limited by the natural environmental conditions. In architectural design, feng shui focuses on "facing south". (see Figure 2) China is located in the middle and low latitudes of the northern hemisphere of the earth. The house facing south and conducive to lighting. The sunshine spacing is more accurately determined by the sunshine Angle at 12:00 noon on the winter solstice. In addition, in the future, all kinds of energy-saving and environmental protection buildings may no longer be restricted in lighting and ventilation, and "facing south" will no longer become absolute. Thus, with the development of The Times, feng shui is not more flexible, and will soon be eliminated by contemporary design.

3.4. The high-of commercial profit and the origin of duckweed

With the activity of academic thought, the feng shui problem that people have been avoiding since the founding of the country began to ascend to the elegant hall of academic research. The initial attention and research on feng shui was carried out by architectural scholars with good academic level. By combining architectural objects and historical documents, they made a lot of exploratory work on the site selection, group methods, group space art laws and other aspects of ancient Chinese architecture. However, due to the high gray income, a "feng shui fever" gradually rise and rampant. High income let more and more people holding the mentality of profiteering into the feng shui industry, some unknown modern feng shui new theory on all kinds of platforms, owners also evil trouble please do not know the origin of the feng shui master to see feng shui. The reasonable part of feng shui theory should be considered and worthy of affirmation, but it should not blindly bid up its status because of one-sided. The exaggerated feng shui theory will cover up its non-scientific side. In today's highly developed architectural technology, we should use rational eyes to examine and rationally apply it in today's design.

4. Summary

Based on the summary of historical experience, feng shui is urgent to promote broader research today, promote its practice in modern science and technology, and promote the concept of sustainable development with the idea of "unity of man and nature". At the same time, due to the limitations of The Times and its internal cause, feng shui focus is the accumulation of practice and experience, including superstition absurd part, feng shui in modern design needs flexibility, realize scientific breakthrough, applied in the process of civilization development of various disciplines, makes it in modern architecture, geology, meteorology, psychology have more rigorous scientific interpretation.

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