

4. EXPLANATION OF THE HE RIVER MAP (HE-TU)

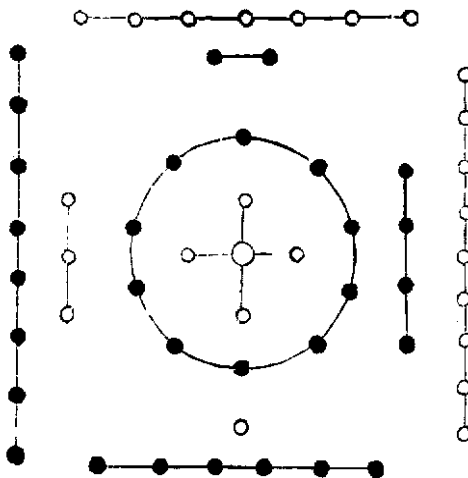


FIG. 0.5.1 THE HE RIVER MAP (HE-SHU)

The Book of Changes says: "To heaven belongs the number one^[1]; to earth two^[2]; to heaven three; to earth four; to heaven five; to earth six; to heaven seven; to earth eight; to heaven nine; to earth ten.

Five numbers belong to heaven: one, three, five, seven and nine. Five numbers also belong to earth: two, four, six, eight and ten. These two series of five numbers correspond to each other, each number matched with a 'mate' in the sequence, as shown in the following: one and six correlate with water; two and seven with fire; three and eight with wood; four and nine with metal; five and ten with earth.

When one is added to four, or two to three, the result is five. When six is added to nine, or seven to eight and five to ten, they all total fifteen. Also, when one is combined with nine, or two with eight, three with seven, and four with six, the total is always ten.

[1] An odd number.

[2] An even number.

The heavenly numbers^[3], one, three, five, seven and nine, total twenty-five; the earthly numbers^[4], two, four, six, eight and ten, amount to thirty. Adding numbers of both heaven and earth we get fifty-five. It is these patterns that keep the spirits and gods in motion, thereby effecting changes and transformations.

5. EXPLANATION OF THE LUO RIVER WRITINGS (LUO-SHU)

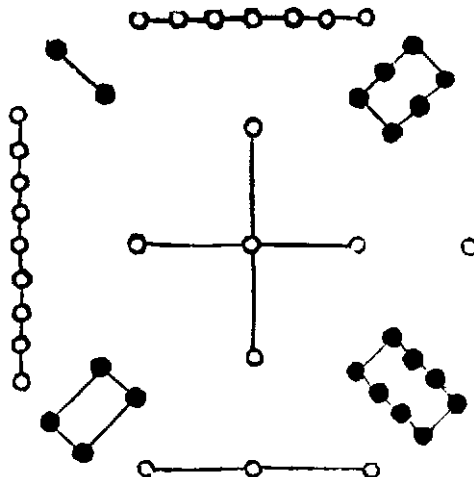


FIG. 0.5.1 THE LUO RIVER WRITINGS (LUO-SHU)

The numbers in the Luo River Writings come to a total of forty-five. The odd numbers (one, three, seven, nine) correlate with the four cardinal directions (*si zheng*): heaven, earth, water and fire. The even numbers (two, four, six, eight) correspond to the four corners (*si yu*) respectively: thunder, wind, mountain and marsh.

[3] Heavenly numbers are odd numbers.

[4] Earthly numbers are even numbers.