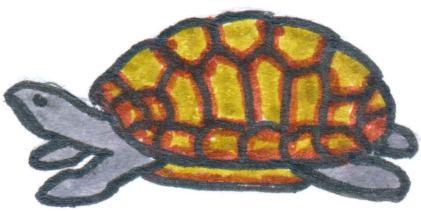
Elemental Changes in the I Ching





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Alain Stalder

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About this series

In this exactphilosophy.net series of pocket books, I hope to convey some fascinating novel ideas and findings, roughly one topic per volume, both in very simple words and beautifully presented with color illustrations.

Other than on my website, which is rather focused on researching fundamental questions, here I try to keep things as simple as possible to carve out each idea.

Feel free to start with any volume, while the first one presents sort of an overarching idea, which may or may not be how it “really” is; I am not sure, but remain curious.

All volumes are freely available on my website in digital form already while writing and once finished usually also as printed pocket books from your favorite bookstores.

Enjoy fantastic new worlds!

Alain Stalder (*1966 in Zürich, PhD in physics)

Past

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Present

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Future

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Volume 4 reveals an interesting structure in the trigrams and hexagrams of the I Ching.

The eight trigrams would be transformations between the “Greek” elements fire, air, water and earth, as already indistinctly hinted at by Richard Wilhelm in his book about the I Ching. For example, the lake triagram would be ‘earth to water’, the earth trigram ‘water to earth’. All eight trigrams together would form exactly Aristotle’s circle of the elements!

Besides exploration of the trigrams, also the hexagrams are explored one by one, as well as some key differences in symbolic views of the night sky between China and the West.

Alain Stalder is a Swiss physicist (*1966 in Zürich).

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