



八字算命

Paper 1 - What is Bazi Suanming?

The Life Calculation by the Eight Characters
or
Traditional Chinese Chronobiology / Chrono-psychology

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What is Bazi Suanming?

The “calculation of fate according to the eight characters,” or respectively the “calculation of life according to the eight characters” 八字算命 (bazi suanming), is a traditional Chinese method of calculation of an individual's Qi and its development over the course of a life.

The Life Calculation by the Eight Characters

八	Ba	Eight
字	Zi	Characters
算	Suan	Calculating
命	Ming	Life

Graph 1.1 Bazi Suanming, Chinese Version, Pronunciation, Translation

[LISTEN below to Manfred Kubny explain Graph 1.1.]

The calculations of Bazi Suanming are carried out using the birth date of a person and looking at its relation to the Chinese calendar system 萬年曆 *10,000 Years Calendar* (wannianli). Because of using the birthdate as a starting point, the technique is also known as “Traditional Chinese

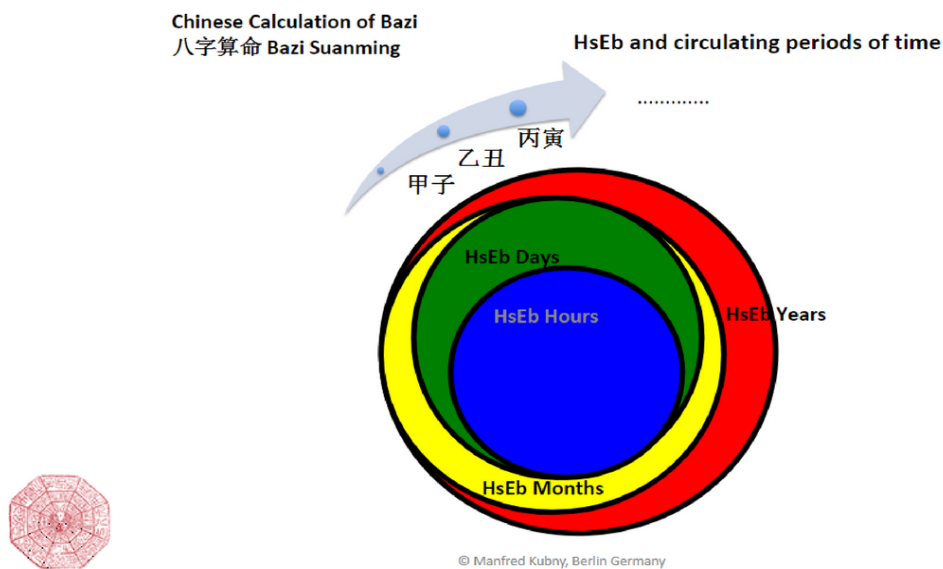
Astrology” in Western culture. However, a close glance shows us that only one heavenly body plays a role in the technique, the sun. This is however, the only similarity to western astrology.

Based on the foundational Chinese calendar system, Bazi Suanming starts from the assumption that the flow of time is subject to a continuous change of qualities, which affects the life of an individual. If the functions of the quality changes of time are known, it is possible to calculate the development of the Qi of an individual for his/her entire life span.

Climatic influences are the main factors inside the calculation of Bazi Suanming. The main compound in Bazi is the Basic Disposition which is reflected by constantly changing individual and common influences related to the quality of time expressed by the four seasons. Because of these factors Bazi seems to be more an early Chinese system of a climatology.

The data of Bazi Suanming consists of eight Chinese Characters divided into four pairs of one Heavenly stem (Hs) and one Earthly branch (Eb). This is where the name “Life Calculation by the Eight Characters” is derived from. Because the design of a Bazi Chart consists of four pairs of Chinese characters with one heavenly stem above and one earthly branch below, each forming a pillar, it is also called the “Calculation of Fate according to the Four Pillars” 四柱算命 (sizhu suanming.) Each of the four pairs of Heavenly stems and Earthly branches represent a defined period of time: the period of the year, the month, the day and the hour, such that the Bazi system is an intrinsic combination of circles which are together showing the current quality of time. For this reason

we are also calling Bazi Suanming “Traditional Chinese Chrono-Biology and Chrono-Psychology” at the academic realm in universities.



Graph 1.2 Interlaced time cycles are the numerical basement of the Bazi interpretation.

[LISTEN below to Manfred Kubny explain Graph 1.2.]

The results of the calculation can be evaluated and interpreted psychologically for personality diagnosis, as well as biomedically in relation to organ and channel diagnosis in traditional Chinese medicine (TCM).

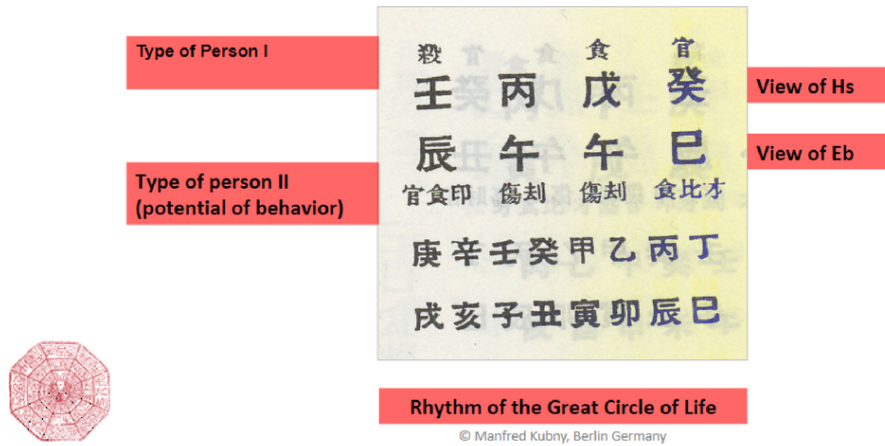
Beginning in the 10th cent. Bazi Suanming has over the millennia developed into the central psychological system of Chinese culture in which overarching theories for the categorization of human personality have matured, and which have experienced an uninterrupted development up to this day.

Bazi Suanming prospers especially in Taiwan R.O.C. where a rich expert literature on the topic has been produced. It also finds lively application in Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore and in every other society committed to classical Chinese traditions. In the People's Republic of China Bazi Suanming had been forbidden in 1948 as a "corrupt art," but now it is flourishing again since the late nineties of the 20th century.

The tradition of Bazi Suanming has been well documented since the 10th cent. by a large number of classical lecturer books and studies written through the centuries until our times.

Bazi Suanming represents Chinese psychological knowledge about the human nature and the changes of a human personality during a lifetime.

Although it is categorized in Chinese encyclopedias as "square-arts" 方術 (fangshu) and herein the sub-category "Fate by Stars" 星命 (xingming), and based on calculating a birthday using the Chinese "Ten-thousand-Years-Calendar" 萬年曆 (wannianli), it has no further similarities with the Western conception of astrology.



Graph 1.3 The Basic Disposition of the eight characters: Hs, Eb, Types of personality (also known as the 10 gods) and Hidden heavenly stems (HHs).

[LISTEN below to Manfred Kubny explain Graph 1.3.]

Bazi Suanming seems to be more a kind of traditional Chinese personality diagnostic technique made out on the birth date, which is located in a period of time in one of the four seasons. It might therefore be better called: a method to diagnose human personality based on climatic influences and thermal proclivities.

Bazi Suanming experts, sometimes referred to as “fortune-tellers,” make consultations concerning all aspects of a human life: including the education of children, choice of profession, marriage, life crisis, crisis in partnership, important decisions in the family or in business, and health analysis.

Currently, the practice of Bazi is based on a tradition of classic literature, commentary on these classics as well as lesser historical texts on the subject and modern Chinese lecture books. The classical Chinese literature is rarely scientifically examined and utilized because of the enormous difficulties in understanding its significant technical terms and their surrounding theories and concepts.

My studies of classical and modern texts on this technique and various field researches in Taiwan and Hong Kong have led me to realize that the experts of Bazi Suanming have the role of psychological coaches in Chinese communities for the reason Bazi Suanming also contains theories about human personality:

- The definitions of the self by the “Day Master” 日主 (rizhu) or “Source-Spirit” 元神 (yuanshen)
- 10 types of different personalities expressed by the “Ten Spirits” 十神 (shishen)
- A theory of a kind of subconsciousness equivalent:

The focus of all calculations are three terms:

“Operative consciousness” 用神 (yong shen)

“Desiring consciousness” 喜神 (xishen)

“Neglecting consciousness” 忌神 (jishen)

These are together somewhat similar to the term “subconsciousness” in Western psychology though it doesn’t mean exactly the same thing.

Applications of Bazi Suanming

The Bazi Suanming expert usually assumes the position of a psychological or medical coach. The main applications are in the following areas:

Psychological and pedagogical applications

- **Children's education:** Promotion of predispositions of the child.
- **Personality analysis:** Analysis of the personality and its changes during life and the detection of life episodes in which the qi force of the client is especially favorable in the sense of effective life planning.
- **Human resources:** Choice of suitable staff for the filling of jobs with specific requirements.
- **Partnership counseling:** Analysis of the compatibility and incompatibility between people, e.g., for bringing together matrimonial partners, or for the fine-tuning of teams.
- **Crisis management:** Analysis and support of persons in a personal crisis and in need of psychological counsel, but also partnership counseling in cases of matrimonial conflict.
- **Behavioral training:** Practicing of certain behavioral aspects of the client, in order to promote the development of his/her effectiveness

and life circumstances according to the needs of his/her basic disposition and his/her expectations.

Applications in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM)

- **Complementary medical diagnostics:** Bazi Suanming is particularly called upon in case of chronic illness as a complementary diagnostic instrument to determine the organ disposition of the client and to describe the organ's changes over a long time.
- **Preventive medical diagnostics:** Bazi Suanming calculates the organ disposition and its long-term development during life, which makes it possible, within the systematic correspondences of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), to give dietetic and preventive medical recommendations for specific life phases. This is done according to the well-known motto of TCM, "Curing the illness before it breaks out."
- **Elaboration of client-centered therapeutic strategies:** Through its theoretical background, Bazi Suanming is closely connected with TCM, and its calculations play a considerable role for example in the determination of individual chrono-acupuncture.

Also, the adjustment of Chinese pharmacological therapy to the findings of Bazi Suanming is also possible. This very special combination of TCM and Bazi Suanming has found its theoretical expression in the medical discipline of the "five cycles and six qi" (Wuyun liuqi).

Fortune Telling

- **Developing an individual life strategy:** Knowing the individual configuration of Qi expressed by the eight Chinese Characters (or four pairs of Hs and Eb), Bazi Suanming is used in order to investigate the development of the individual Qi in the future due to mental and physical results. Based on this meaning, fortune telling is one of the main applications of Bazi Suanming
- **Figuring out individual inborn abilities and talents:** By Bazi Suanming it is possible to detect individual talents and abilities due to the operative and desiring consciousness.
- **Avoiding misshapes and bad decisions:** Bazi Suanming can describe a human's natural development and is used for making decisions.
- **Detecting life epochs of success:** Bazi Suanming shows also individual life cycles by which it is possible to describe potentialities and favorable epochs of life.

Conclusion - What's Next?

This paper is to introduce Bazi Suanming and present the main applications for everyday psychological and biological use.

[Now read Paper 2 - Fundamentals of Bazi Suanming.](#)

To learn more about Bazi Suanming and its applications for self-understanding, health, healing and destiny, I invite you to visit our [Chinese Fate Science Institute.](#)

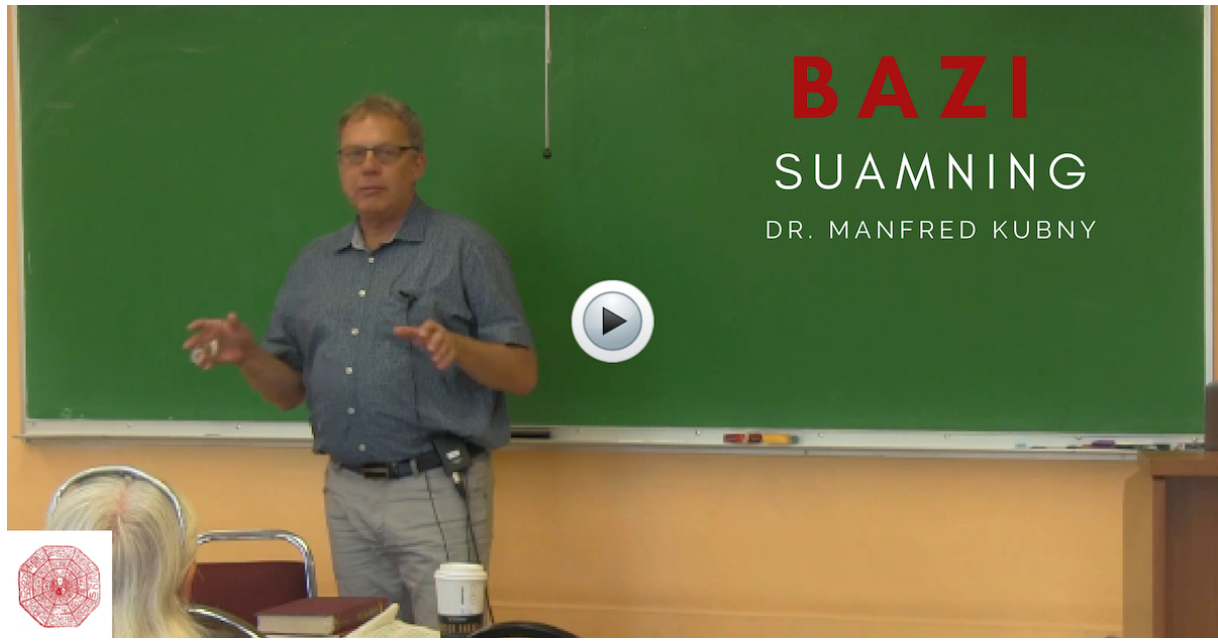


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UNANNOUNCED BONUS



Sample: Dr. Kubny's Bazi Suanming Introductory Class-
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