

Feng Shui of Imperial China

Day 8
May 16, 2005
Forbidden City

The Forbidden City is a sprawling large complex, constructed in the 15th century by the Ming Emperor Yong Le. The Qing Dynasty eventually moved its capital from Shenyang to Beijing after overthrowing the Ming Dynasty.



After measuring the direction of the entrance of the Forbidden City we all noticed that the gate was named as Wu gate, the direction it is facing, South 2. As we proceeded into the crowded Forbidden City we were reminded that the Forbidden City is located on a flat-land dragon and in flat land dragon, the most important thing is Water.



Ching San Hill

At the top of Jinshan Hill, Coal Hill, which is located behind the Forbidden City we had a good overview of the structure and layout of the Forbidden City and the surrounding landform. The Forbidden City has been built based on the special axis in relation to the special incoming dragons, mountains in the distance and the vein approaches from the Rising Phoenix formation.

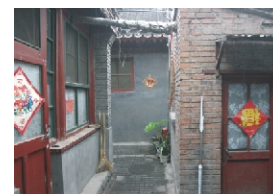


The key to the luck of the Emperors in the Forbidden City lies in the Water that runs around the City. The water favours Emperors using the palace in Upper Time Periods and is not favourable in Lower Time Periods. We also found that there is a very special Ju Men, Huge Door formation, of the vicinity river formation that goes around the Forbidden City. This formation, coupled with the unique formation of mountain ranges is basis of the Forbidden City's Feng Shui. However, it is also because of this particular formation that in certain periods of time, brought the downfall of the feudal empire.



A ride around the Hutong

In the days of the Ming and Qing Dynasty, the hutongs were where the homes of high-level imperial mandarins, military officers and princes were located. A rickshaw ride to the hutongs introduced us to this area. This was in the outer part of the Forbidden City. Following the revolution in 1949, most of these hutongs were seized by the government and then designated as public housing. Today, many of these buildings have become private homes, with often an entire family occupying one room in the hutong and another room used for cooking and a washroom.



The tour guide noted that like the Forbidden City, the Feng Shui in these areas is very auspicious. Of course, he provided no reasoning to his conclusion, a good enough cause for us to take his words at no face value. One should also be objective in evaluating the Feng Shui of a place, be it Yin or Yang House, large structure or small structure. Many of the hutongs were built prior to the practice of Flying Star Feng Shui. So how then was classical Feng Shui deployed in these homes? Through simple methods of locking and distributing Qi in with curving roads to avoid Sha Qi and protrusions and indentations of the walls, doors and path ways in the home to draw in and lock in the Qi. Of course to harness the Qi, one has to study the very unique river formation. Finally, most of these homes utilised strict BaZhai or Eight Mansions Feng Shui, basing the Feng Shui predominantly on the House Gua and the Favourable and Unfavourable Sectors.



In the evening the Chinese Art Circus and the Peking Duck in Beijing were excellent highlights and a nice change for our brain activities. :-)

