

The Year of the Water Snake – A Talk by Master Peter Lai

By Patricia Chew

It was a brave man indeed to stand before a group of 24 ladies from all corners of the world with different cultural backgrounds and attempt to explain the meaning of Feng Shui, the Year of the Water Snake and what is in store for the year ahead. This is what Master Peter Lai did! In 45 minutes, he gave us a very informative and entertaining talk which caught our imagination and had us all paying attention.

Feng Shui is the study of the elements and art of placement of buildings and objects in one's environment so that one will have good energy and harmony in one's life.

Sounds simple! Not so.

There are so many variables to consider when creating such an environment that Feng Shui is both the science of harnessing energy and the metaphysical science of the mathematical analysis of one's birth chart, considering the year, month and time of birth of the person involved.

There are also the three 60 year cycles within the universe to factor in! Within these cycles is the twelve year cycle of the Chinese Zodiac (see chart) which is based on the philosophy of the animalistic characteristics of twelve different animals

Yee Sang!

To end our most enjoyable Coffee Morning and to celebrate the Chinese New Year together, we all came together to "lo hei", where we tossed and mixed the ingredients and feasted on "Yee Sang" wishing each other a year of health, wealth and happiness.

Peter very kindly spent a few minutes of his talk explaining the meaning of "Yee Sang" and we learnt that it is a tradition of Malaysian and Singaporean Chinese migrants called "Nanyang". The dish probably originated from the Teochew people who had a tradition of eating very lightly cooked fish in porridge. Nowadays the dish is made up of raw fish, pomelo, cucumber, white radish, carrots, ginger, five spice powder, peanuts, a bit of plum sauce and a few more ingredients. It is only served at Chinese New Year to give everyone a boost of energy and a chance for a get-together to have a bit of good cheer!

Many thanks to Master Peter Lai for a most interesting talk and we look forward to more in the future



and the cycle of the five elements – Wood, fire, Earth, Metal and Water. These Feng Shui elements interact between themselves in many ways, generally defined as the productive and destructive cycles

The analysis of your birth chart will determine if you are an earth monkey or a water snake etc.

In one home there may be a number of people whose charts need to be considered before a Feng Shui master can design an environment that can create the desired flow of good energy and harmony. The variables could possibly be never-ending!

So in the cycle of things, 2013 is the Year of the Snake and the element is water.

Master Peter Lai advised that the Water Snake will have a different impact on different people!

In brief – water nourishes wood so this year wood people will be "lucky", water puts out fire so fire people will be "unlucky", earth absorbs water so water people will be "fighting" and lastly metal produces water so metal people will be "weak

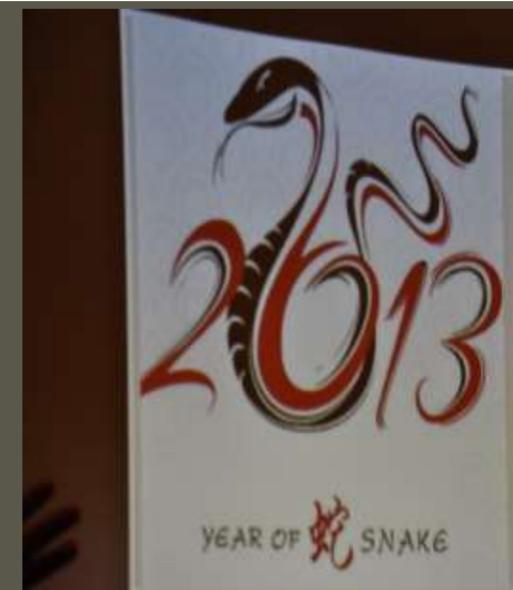
Once we got all this sorted out, we enjoyed Master Peter Lai's interpretation of what lies ahead for each of us according to whether we are a monkey, ox, dragon or snake etc. This provoked many questions from the floor but we were warned that in 45 minutes, he could only give a general prediction to help us in our understanding. I think by that time we all also knew that there was much more to consider in order to have good luck and harmony in one's life!

So what is in store (in general) for the year of the Water Snake? A "fighting year", Master Peter Lai said, "but a year of fighting – trying to win". I reckon that can't be so bad – a little bit of conflict keeps us on our toes!

For more information on ways to improve the quality of your life and your business you can refer to Master Peter Lai's website www.MyFengShui4u.com and there you can find a wealth of information.



Master Peter Lai



The Chinese Zodiac

Feb15, 1972-Feb 2, 1973	Water Rat
Feb 3, 1973-Jan 22, 1974	Water Ox
Jan 23, 1974-Feb10, 1975	Wood Tiger
Feb11, 1975-Jan 30, 1976	Wood Rabbit
Jan 31,1976-Feb 17, 1977	Fire Dragon
Feb 18,1977-Feb 6, 1978	Fire Snake
Feb 7, 1978-Jan 27 1979	Earth Horse
Jan 28, 1979-Feb 15, 1980	Earth Goat
Feb 16, 1980-Feb 4, 1981	Metal Monkey
Feb 5, 1981-Jan 24, 1982	Metal Rooster
Jan 25, 1982-Feb 12, 1983	Water Dog
Feb 13, 1983-Feb 1, 1984	Water Pig

Here is a table of one cycle of twelve years, starting at 1972 which is the year of the rat to 1983 to the year of the pig.

1984 starts the animal cycle again with the year of the rat but the element will be "wood"!

What's your element?

If you would like to find out what element you are, you can look at the year you were born and refer to the last number of that year

If the year ends in a 4 or 5 your element is "wood", 6 or 7 your element is "fire", 8 or 9 your element is "earth", 0 or 1 your element is "metal" and if it is 2 or 3 your element is "water".

