

Modern Qi Men Dun Jia

Raymond Lo

International Feng Shui Association, Hong Kong, China

“Qi Men Dun Jia” is one of the most respected ancient divination arts. It is said to have been invented at the time of the Yellow Emperor in 2600 BC in his battle against the monster Chi You. This famous art was used as war strategy in the famous battle of Red Cliff in 208 AD. In the modern world, we can employ this amazing ancient technique as an effective tool to understand a problematic situation and enhance the chance of successes.

Keywords: Qi Men Dun Jia, Heavenly Stems, Magic Doors, Heaven stars, Deity

Introduction

The term “Qi Men Dun Jia” (奇門遁甲) is becoming very popular in recent years. This is actually a very ancient metaphysical subject applied as a battle field strategy as far back as the time of the Yellow Emperor in 2600 BC. During this time, there is a very famous battle fought between the Yellow Emperor and a monster tribal king called Chi You (蚩尤) at the place Zhuolu (涿鹿). It was said that to defeat this monster, the Yellow Emperor has consulted his teacher – The Goddess of the 9th Heaven – who taught him to make a compass needle to show the correct directions, as well as employment of the war strategy of “Qi Men Dun Jia”.

What is “Qi Men Dun Jia”? These are 4 Chinese characters. “Qi” means magic, miracle. “Men” is a Door or Gate. “Dun” means escape and hide, whereas “Jia” is the Yang Wood – the first of the 10 Heavenly Stems in the Chinese calendar system. So the simple translation of these 4 words is “Magical doors hiding the Yang Wood”. As the Yang Wood – “Jia” is the first one of the ten Heavenly Stems, it is the Head, the King. So the subject Qi Men Dun Jia is “Magical Door Hiding the King”. It is a battle strategy to make sure the King is well protected and defended from the enemy.

This technique is said to be preceding Feng Shui, similar to fengshui, the system employed the “9 square chart” to represent 9 positions, with 8 directions – North, South, West, East, Northwest, Southwest, Northeast, Southeast, plus the Center. Each position is occupied by 4 types of energies in 4 dimensions – Heaven, Earth, Man, and Spirit. They are as follows:

Heaven Stars – Grass 蓬, Official 任, Aggressor 冲, Assistant 輔, Hero 英, Rice 芮, Pillar 柱, Heart 心
Earth – 9 Heavenly stems – Yang Earth 戊, Yin Earth 己, Yang Metal 庚, Yin Metal 辛, Yang Water 壬
Yin Water 癸, Yin Fire 丁, Yang Fire 丙, Yin Wood 乙
Man – 8 Magic Doors – Rest Door 休, Birth Door 生, Injury Door 傷, Delusion Door 杜, View Door 景,
Death Door 死, Shocking Door 驚, Opening Door 開
Spirit – 8 Deity – Commander 符, Snake 蛇, Yin 陰, Harmony 合, Tiger 虎, Tortoise 武, Earth 九地,
Heaven 九天

These energies or stars are allocated to each of the 9 positions in the format of the “9 Square Chart” according to a particular moment of time – Year, Month, Day, and Hour. So the Qi Men 9 Square chart will show the distribution of energies in different directions at a certain moment of time. With such energy map one can choose the best position to take appropriate actions to achieve an objective.

The Battle of Red Cliff 208 AD

The technique of Qi Men Dun Jia was applied in the very famous battle of Red Cliff during the end of Han dynasty in the period called “Romance of Three Kingdoms” in the year 208 A.D. The powerful Imperial army led by Cao Cao invaded the south and he confronted the united army of Sun Quan and Liu Bei. Cao Cao’s army stationed in the North bank of Yangtze river. As they are from the North and suffering from sea sick, their battle ships were connected by chain to maintain stability. However, this become a serious mistake as the ships are not flexible and hard to escape when there is a fire. The allied army of Sun Quan and Liu Bei were commanded by the famous war strategist Zhuge Liang who is said to be an expert of Qi Men Dun Jia. On historical record, he applied Qi Men Dun Jia to bring the south easterly wind to assist his attack with fire and he totally destroyed Cao Cao’s imperial army bringing in the Era of the Three Kingdoms, with China divided among Cao Cao, Sun Quan, and Liu Bei. This battle of Red Cliff could have taken place in the mid night of 16/11/208 AD. On basis of such moment of time, we can set up the Qi Men Dun Jia Chart as below (see Figure 1):

Zhi Fu		Zhi Shi	
Aggressor at 3		Injury at 4	
Heaven 辛 Assistant	Earth 丙 Hero	Warrior 癸庚Rice 禽F	
Injury 辛 Xun 4	Delusion 丙 Li 9	View 癸庚 Kun 2	
Commander 壬 Aggressor	(5) 庚	Tiger 戊 Pillar	
Birth 壬 Zhen 3	Fu Tou 壬 at 3	Death 戊 Dui 7	
Snake 乙 Official	Yin 丁 Grass	Harmonies 己 Heart	
Rest 乙 Gen 8	Open 丁 Kan 1	Shocking 己 Qian 6	

Figure 1. Midnight 16/11/208 A.D.

As the attack is from SE towards NW, we can place our focus on these two positions.

- SE – Assistant star – meaning Wind
- Injury door – suitable for set out to hunt or attack
- Double Yin metal – represent revolution, fierce White Tiger

These all indicate suitable position to bring the wind and launch fierce attack

- NW – Heart – the leader, the commander – Cao Cao
- Shocking Door – surprise, shock
- Double Yin earth – secret plot, cheat
- Harmony – can be interpreted as connecting, chaining up of ships

So it seems Zhuge Liang had chosen the best attacking timing and position base on the Qi Men Dun Jia chart.

The Normandy Invasion 1944

The Battle of Red Cliff is very ancient and the exact timing of attack is not without controversy. Now we can examine a more recent example of another great battle – the D-Day, 6/6/1944 invasion of Normandy in Northern France.

The attack began in the early morning of 6/6/1944. Using this moment of time we can set out a Qi Men Dun Jia chart as below (see Figure 2):

Hour	Day	Month	Year			
05:01	06	06	1944			
辛 Xin - Metal	辛 Xin - Metal	庚 Geng + Metal	甲 Jia + Wood			
卯 Mao Rabbit - Wood	丑 Chou Ox - Earth	午 Wu Horse + Fire	申 Shen Monkey + Metal			
				Tiger 癸 Official Shocking 己 Xun 4	Warrior 戌 Aggressor Open 丁 Li 9	Earth 己 Assistant Rest 乙庚 Kun 2
				Harmonies 丙 Grass Death 戊 Zhen 3	(5) 庚 Fu Tou 庚 at 5	Heaven 丁 Hero Birth 壬 Dui 7
				Yin 辛 Heart View 癸 Gen 8	Snake 壬 Pillar Delusion 丙 Kan 1	Commander 乙庚 Rice 禽 F Injury 辛 Qian 6

Figure 2. 5.30 a.m. 6/6/1944.

As the invasion army set out from England to attack Northern France, so we can put our focus on NW and SE of the Chart:

NW – England – Commander – the allied headquarter is England
 Injury Door – good position to set out to hunt to attack
 Yin wood and yin metal – Dragon run away. This may refer to the Dunkirk Retreat of British army
 in 1940
 SE – Normandy – Tiger – fierce, under pressure
 Official – Heavy duty, tough job
 Shocking door – surprise, shock
 Yin water – obstacle Yin earth – secret plot

So in this case, it is advantageous position to attack from NW towards SE. It is also observed that the U.S. invaded from West which is Birth Door, so that the U.S. soldiers proceed faster and more smooth. The British invaded from the E which is Death Door. Death Door is notorious for being stubborn, so they encountered strong German resistance.

Modern Application – Career Analysis

Qi Men Dun Jia is not only used to take advantage of good positioning to attack, in the modern day, it is common to apply the technique to analyze our everyday problems and choose the best timing to take appropriate action to enhance chance of success.

Today there are basically two schools of Qi men with different method of setting up the chart. Yang Qi Men school use the 24 seasonal divisions of the year to set up the chart. There is total 1,080 scenarios. However another school which is called Daoist school or Yin Dun Jia school used mixture of solar and lunar calendar to set up the chart.

When analyzing a problem, the Qi Men chart is interpreted in conjunction with the Four Pillars of the moment of the chart – Year, Month, Day, Hour, as well as the 9 square positions and their relevant elements and trigrams, together with the meaning of the energies as explained above. Take for example, the following Qi Men chart is set up on basis of the time moment 1200 noon on 16/8/2017.

The simple question is – How is the career aspect of John who raised this question at such time.

Before we examine the Qi Men Chart. We have to look at the Four pillars of this moment of time:

Hour	Day	Month	Year
壬	乙	戊	丁
Water	Wood	Earth	Fire
午	亥	申	酉
Fire	Water	Metal	Metal

Day Heavenly Stem - 乙 Yin Wood – John (if he is present)

Hour Heavenly Stem - 壬 Yang Water – the matter he is asking, subordinates

Month Heavenly Stem - 戊 Yang Earth – his colleague

Year Heavenly Stem - 丁 Yin Fire – his boss

Opening Door - the Job, Birth Door – Money aspect

				Zhi Fu		Zhi Shi	
				Pillar at 4		Shocking at 8	
Hour	Day	Month	Year	Commander 己 Pillar	Heaven 庚 Heart	Earth 丙 Grass	
11:09	16	08	2017	Rest 壬 Xun 4	Birth 乙 Li 9	Injury 丁 辛 Kun 2	
壬 Ren + Water	乙 Yi - Wood	戊 Wu + Earth	丁 Ding - Fire	SNAKE 丁 辛 Rice 禽 F	(5) 辛	Warrior 戊 Official	
午 Wu Horse + Fire	亥 Hai Pig - Water	申 Shen Monkey + Metal	酉 You Rooster - Metal	Open 癸 Zhen 3	Fu Tou 己 at 7	Delusion 己 Dui 7	
丁 己	壬 甲	戊 庚 壬	辛	Yin 乙 Hero	Harmonies 壬 Assistant	Tiger 癸 Aggressor	
				Shocking 戊 Gen 8	Death 丙 Kan 1	View 庚 Qian 6	

Figure 3. 12 noon 16/8/2017.

Let us first look for John in the Qi Men Chart, he is represented by yin wood which is found in NE. The energies here are : Hero – plan, calculate – so his job nature is to do with planning, there is Shocking door, so he felt under pressure, and worried, the Yang earth refers to money, so he needs to handle money matters. Now we also see how is his relationship with the Boss. The Boss is Yin fire which is found in E, and it is wood trigram attacking John's position in NE which is earth trigram. The boss is in same position of Opening Door, which means the Job. So both the boss and the job exert heavy pressure on John.

Money is Birth Door which is found in South square, this is fire giving support to NE earth. As such money is good for John.

Subordinate is yang water in North square of water, this is under control by John's earth square.

Colleague is Yang earth found in W square. As John is earth giving support to Metal in the west square, this means John gave support to his colleagues.

So the Career of John is fine, money is good, just he felt pressure from his boss and the job.

Then what can we do to help, the charm of Qi Men Dun Jia is that it can offer some tricks to help ease the problem. Take this example, we have spotted the problem area is the E square of the boss and the job. Then we can do something in the E sector of John's house to reduce the problem.

The following table shows the meaning of the energies we found in the E sector:

- 丁 – yin fire – lights, sharp objects
- 癸 – yin water – Dirty water
- 辛 – yin metal – Small metal, coins
- 芮 – Rice – boxes, bags, books
- Open door – metal object
- 蛇 – Snake – pattern

Then it is recommended to John that he goes home and see if he can find any of the above items in the E sector of his home, and try to clear up that sector. The idea is somewhat like the “Butterfly effect”. A small object or action may cause big consequences. So Qi Men chart is able to locate the initial cause which may have brought about problems in our lives. So if such small initial cause is removed, then the problem may go away. In addition to removing the unwanted items, the Daoist Qi Men also recommend enhancement by burning some talisman of animals. In our above example, the problem area is in the East, and East is direction of Rabbit, so one can also burn talisman of a Rabbit in the East and this should take place within 9 days of this Qi Men Chart and best in the hour of Rabbit or Rooster.

Modern Application – Resolving a Legal Case

In the modern day, Qi Men Dun Jia can be applied to help improve chance of successes and resolving obstacles. I just pick two more example to demonstrate such functions.

The following example is handling of a legal case. The client Peter is consulting the possibility of winning a legal case at this moment of time 15.48pm 21/3/2017.

Hour	Day	Month	Year
丁	丁	癸	丁
Fire	Fire	Water	Fire
未	未	卯	酉
Earth	Earth	Wood	Metal

Peter – Yin Fire 丁 in South sector (9) Fire

Judge – Open door in E sector (3) - wood supports Peter

Opponent – Month Heavenly stem Yin Water 癸 NW (6) – metal conquered by Peter

Lawyer – Injury Door in SW (2) – earth exhausts Peter

Evidence – View door NW (6) – metal under control by Peter

Prosecutor – Tiger W (7) – metal controlled by Peter’s Fire

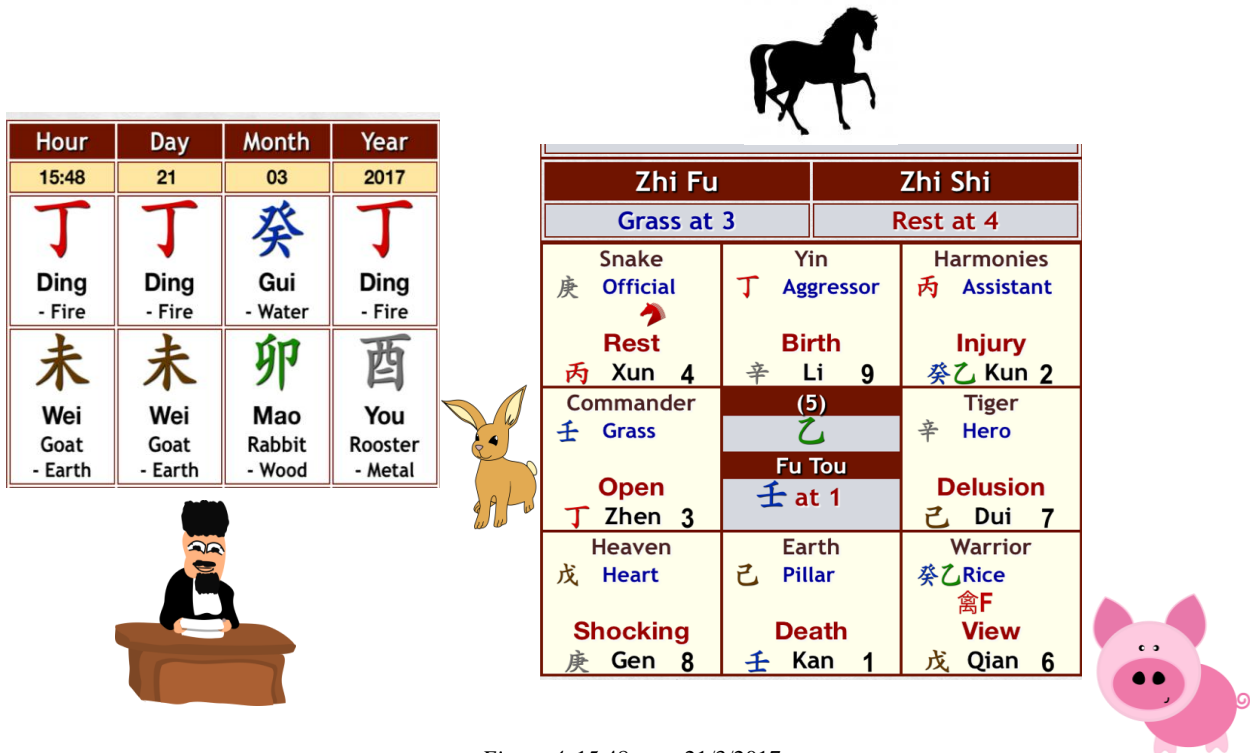


Figure 4. 15.48 p.m. 21/3/2017.

Examining the qi men chart of this moment, our focus is Peter – represented by Yin Fire in S sector which is fire element. The most important aspect is the Judge in E sector which is wood element, as wood supports fire, it is a good sign, meaning Peter will get support from the Judge. Looking at other aspects, the opponent is yin water in NW which is metal can be conquered by Peter's Fire. Also Lawyer not helpful but prosecutor is under control. So it is a favorable situation to the advantage of Peter. To further enhance his chance of winning, the Daoist Yin Dun Jia method is to enhance the favorable sectors by burning the animal talismans. These are Horse in the S sector (Peter), Pig in the NW sector (opponent) and Rabbit in the E sector (Judge).

Modern Application – Handling ex marital affair

Let us examine one more example. This is the case of a worried wife asking about husband's romantic affair with a mistress. The question was raised at this moment 11.09am 16/8/2017

Hour	Day	Month	Year
壬	乙	戊	丁
Water	Wood	Earth	Fire
午	亥	申	酉
Fire	Water	Metal	Metal

Jane – the wife – Yin Wood 乙 NE (8) Earth

Husband – Yang Metal 庚 S (9) Fire - the idea is yang metal and yin wood combine, so yang metal is Husband of yin wood.

Mistress – Yin Fire 丁 in E sector (3) wood

Hour				Zhi Fu		Zhi Shi	
Day				Pillar at 4		Shocking at 8	
Month				Commander	Heaven	Earth	
Year				己 Pillar	庚 Heart	丙 Grass	
11:09	16	08	2017	Rest	Birth	Injury	
壬	乙	戊	丁	壬 Xun 4	乙 Li 9	丁 辛 Kun 2	
Ren	Yi	Wu	Ding	Snake	(5)	Warrior	
+ Water	- Wood	+ Earth	- Fire	丁 辛 Rice	辛	戊 Official	
				禽 F	Fu Tou	Delusion	
				Open	己 at 7	己 Dui 7	
午	亥	申	酉	癸 Zhen 3	Harmonies	Tiger	
Wu	Hai	Shen	You	Yin	士 Assistant	癸 Aggressor	
Horse	Pig	Monkey	Rooster	乙 Hero	Death	View	
+ Fire	- Water	+ Metal	- Metal	戊 Gen 8	丙 Kan 1	庚 Qian 6	



Figure 5. 11.09 a.m. 16/8/2017.

The chart shows husband in S fire sector supports wife yin wood in NE earth sector, means husband still loves wife. However, the mistress yin fire in E wood sector supports husband in fire sector. This means the mistress also loves the husband. How do we handle this. This is the technique of look forward to a future date with a favorable Qi Men chart and enhance the energy of that future chart to solve the problem. Now let us examine a future chart base on the moment of 13:09 pm 21/9/2017.

Hour	Day	Month	Year
乙	辛	己	丁
Wood	Metal	Earth	Fire
未	亥	酉	酉
Earth	Water	Metal	Metal

In this Four Pillars:

Jane – the wife is yin metal 辛 in North sector (water)

Husband – yang fire 丙 in West sector (7) metal

Mistress - Yin Fire 丁 in SE sector (4) wood

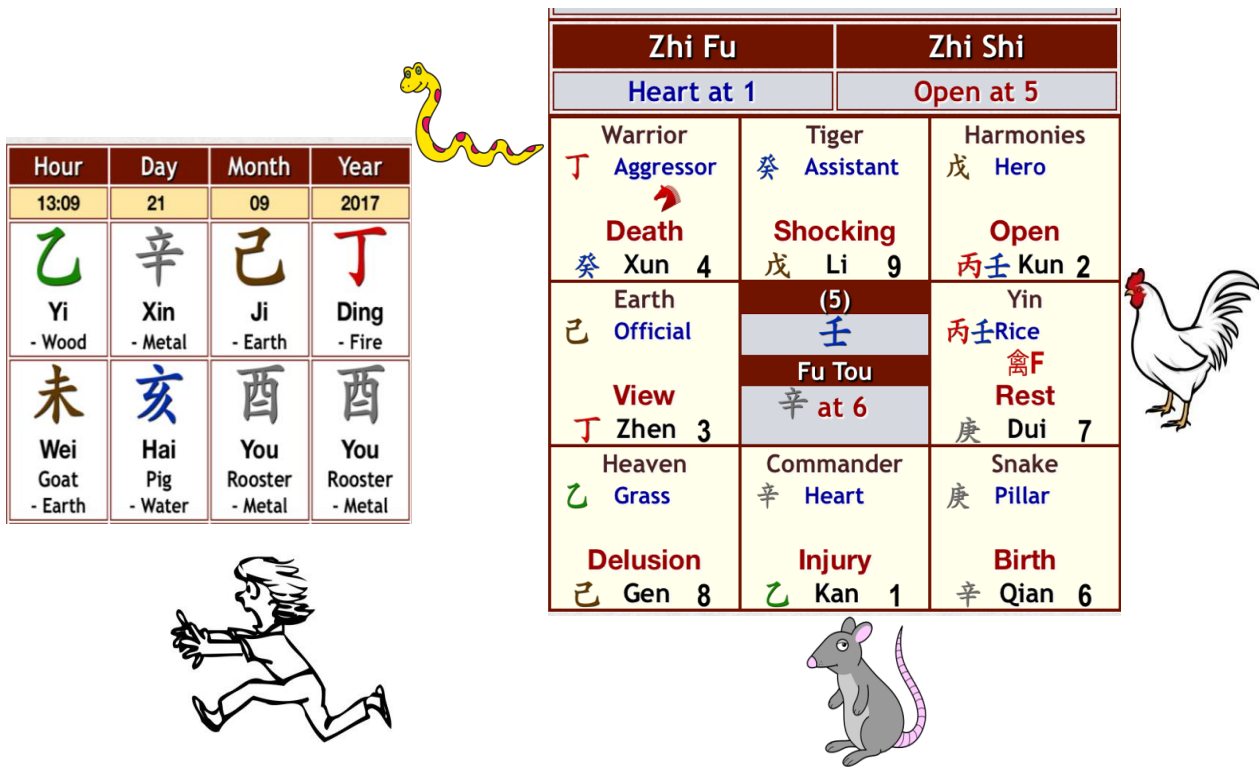


Figure 6. 13.09 p.m. 21/9/2017.

This chart is favorable to the wife as Husband in metal sector supports wife in water sector. It is not favorable to the mistress as Husband in metal sector conquers mistress in SE wood sector. In addition, the SE sector is void and travelling Horse in the hour of wood Goat. This also helps the mistress to leave the husband. To further enhance the energy of this chart, one can also burn the talismans of Rooster in the West (Husband), Rat in the North (wife) and Snake in the SE (mistress) within 9 days from the date of the chart.

References

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