

GLOSSARY OF SOME DIVINATION-RELATED TERMS

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NOTE: The six online glossaries for *Fathoming the Cosmos and Ordering the World: The Yijing (I-Ching, or Classic of Changes) and Its Evolution in China* (more than sixty single-spaced pages in all) can be found at: <http://history.rice.edu/Yijing>. They are:

- A. Names (People, Places, etc.)
- B. Titles (Books, Chapters, etc.)
- C. Terms and Expressions
- D. Hexagram Glossary (Alphabetical)
- E. Hexagram Glossary (Received Text Order)
- F. Mawangdui Hexagram Glossary (Alphabetical)

SOME BASIC DIVINATION-RELATED TERMS

[Cf. the translated terms in Bent Nielsen's *A Companion to Yi jing Numerology and Cosmology: Chinese Studies of Images and Numbers from Han 202 BCE–220 CE) to Song (960–1279 CE)*, which is organized by Pinyin transliterations. The page numbers in brackets following the items in the “Translation(s)” column refer to Nielsen's indispensable work.]

Pinyin	Wade-Giles	Chinese	Translation(s)*
Bagong	Pa-kung	八宮	Eight palaces [pp.1-6]
Bagua	Pa-kua	八卦	Eight trigrams [pp. 6-7]
Bazi	Pa-tzu	八字	Eight [natal] characters
Beijiao	Pei-chiao	杯琰	Divining Blocks
Bu	Pu	卜	Divine
Bingzhan	Ping-chan	兵占	Military divination
Bushi	Pu-shih	卜筮	Divination by milfoil (see <i>shi</i>)
Cezi	Ts'e-tzu	測字	Fathoming characters
Chaizi	Ch'ai-tzu	拆字	Dissecting characters
Dao	Tao	道	[The] Way [pp. 45-46]
Di	Ti	帝	Lord [on High]; Emperor
Di	Ti	地	Earth [p. 48]
Chunniu	Ch'un-niu	春牛	Spring Ox
Dizhi	Ti-chih	地支	Earthly branches
Dunjia	Tun-chia	遁甲	Evasive Techniques (aka Qimen Dunjia)
Fangji	Fang-chi	方技	Technicians
Fangshi	Fang-shih	方士	Masters of the occult
Fangshu	Fang-shu	方術	Predictive and prescriptive arts
Feifu	Fei-fu	飛伏	Flying and hidden lines/trigrams [pp. 59-62]

Fengjiao	Feng-chiao	風角	Wind angles (based on sounds)
Fengshui	Feng-shui	風水	Geomancy, siting, etc. (aka Kanyu)
Fenye	Fen-yeh	分野	Allocated fields, Field allocation
Fuji	Fu-chi	扶乩, 扶箕	Spirit-writing (aka Fuluan)
Fuluan	Fu-luan	扶鸞	Spirit-writing
Gan	Kan	干	Stem (see also Tiangan)
Ganying	Kan-ying	感應	Stimulus and response
Ganzhi	Kan-chih	干支	Stems and branches [pp. 67-69]
Gua	Kua	卦	Trigram/Hexagram [pp. 72-74]
Guaci	Kua-tz'u	卦辭	Judgment (aka Tuan)
Guaqi	Kua-ch'i	卦氣	Hexagram breaths [pp. 75-80]
Guashu	Kua-shu	卦數	Hexagram numbers [pp. 80-82]
Guazhu	Kua-chu	卦主	Hexagram ruler [pp. 85-92]
Gui	Kuei	鬼	Ghost, yin spirit
Hetu	Ho-t'u	河圖	[Yellow] River Chart [pp. 103-05]
Houqi	Ho-ch'i	候氣	Watching for the qi
Hou Tian	Hou T'ien	後天	Later Heaven [sequence] [pp. 107-110]
Huangli	Huang-li	皇曆	Almanac (see also Tongshu)
Huti	Hu-t'i	互體	Overlapping trigrams [pp. 111-115]
Hugua	Hu-kua	互卦	Overlapping trigrams (see directly above)
Huozhulin	Huo-chu-lin	火珠林	Coin-tossing [pp. 121-22]
Ji	Chi	機	Trigger, pivot, incipient moment
Ji	Chi	吉	Auspicious, good fortune
Jiemeng	Chieh-meng	解夢	Interpret dreams
Jieqi	Chieh-ch'i	節氣	Calendrical divisions
Jingshen	Ching-shen	精神	Spirit
Jishu	Chi-shu	技術	Techniques
Jitan	Chi-t'an	乩壇	Spirit-writing altar
Jitong	Chi-t'ong	乩童	Shaman (male)
Jixiong	Chi-hsiung	吉凶	Good and bad fortune
Jueyi	Chueh-i	決疑	Resolve doubts
Kanming	K'an-ming	看命	Physiognomy
Kanren	K'an-jen	看人	Physiognomy
Kanxiang	K'an-hsiang	看相	Physiognomy
Kanyu	K'an-yü	堪輿	Geomancy, siting (see also fengshui)
Kanzhang	K'an-chang	看掌	Physiognomy (palm-reading)
Liangyi	Liang-i	兩儀	The two poles (of yin and yang)
Lingqian	Ling-ch'ien	靈籤, 靈簽	Spiritual sticks (for divination)
Liming	Li-ming	立命	Establish fate
Liuhe	Liu-ho	六合	Six directions
Liulü	Liu-lü	六律	Six notes

Liuren	Liu-jen	六壬	Six Waters divination (aka Taiyi liuren)
Luojing	Lo-ching	羅經	Geomantic compass
Luopan	Lo-p'an	羅盤	Geomantic compass
Luoshu	Lo-shu	洛書	Luo [River] Writing [pp. 169-71]
Mengzhan	Meng-chan	夢占	Dream divination (aka Zhanmeng)
Ming	Ming	命	Fate, destiny, mandate, etc.
Mixin	Mi-hsin	迷信	"Superstition"
Najia	Na-chia	納甲	Contained stem [pp. 180-83]
Nayin	Na-yin	納音	Contained note [p. 184]
Neidan	Nei-tan	內丹	Inner alchemy
Nüwu	Nü-wu	女巫	Sorceress
Qi	Ch'i	氣	Energy, material force, pneuma [pp. 188-89]
Qianbu	Ch'ien-pu	錢卜	Divining with coins
Qianzhi	Ch'ien-chih	前知	Foreknowledge
Qimen dunjia	Ch'i-men tun-chia	奇門遁甲	Wondrous Gate Evasive Techniques
Qimeng	Ch'i-meng	祈夢	Pray for dreams
Qiyao	Ch'i-yao	七耀	Seven luminaries
Sha	Sha	煞	Evil spirit
Shangdi	Shang-ti	上帝	Lord on High
Shen	Shen	神	Spirit, spirituality, numinous etc.
Shi	Shih	時	Time or situation
Shi	Shih	式	Divining board
Shi	Shih	著	Milfoil, yarrow stalks
Shixian li	Shih-hsien-li	時憲曆	Official State Calendar (Qing)
Shixian shu	Shih-hsien-shu	時憲書	Official State Calendar (Qing)
Shiyi	Shih-i	十翼	Ten Wings [of the <i>Yijing</i>] [pp. 211-12]
Shouming	Shou-ming	受命	Fate received from Heaven
Shu	Shu	數	Numbers, calculations [p. 213]
Shushu	Shu-shu	數術	Arts of calculation, numerology
Shuxue	Shu-hsueh	數學	Calculations, numerology, etc.
Sizhu	Ssu-chu	四柱	Four pillars of fate calculation
Suanming	Suan-ming	算命	Fortune-telling
Suiming	Sui-ming	隨命	Fate following behavior
Taiji	T'ai-chi	太極	Supreme Ultimate [pp. 227-28]
Taiji tu	T'ai-chi t'u	太極圖	Diagram of the Supreme Ultimate
Taiyi	Tai-i	太一	Supreme [First] One [p. 229]
Taiyi	Tai-i	太乙	Supreme One (see above)
Taiyi Liuren	Tai-i Liu-jen	太乙六壬	Supreme One Six Waters (aka Liuren)
Tian	T'ien	天	Heaven [p. 232]
Tiangan	T'ien-kan	天干	Heavenly stem (aka Gan)
Tianyun	T'ien-yün	天運	Heavenly destiny

Tongshu	T'ung-shu	通書	Almanac (see also Huangli)
Tuan	T'uan	彖	Judgments (aka Guaci) [p. 238]
Tuibu	T'ui-pu	推步	Fate extrapolation
Tuiming	T'ui-ming	推命	Fate extrapolation
Tuisuan	T'ui-suan	推算	Fate extrapolation
Waidan	Wai-tan	外丹	Outer alchemy
Wangqi	Wang-ch'i	望氣	Watching for the qi
Weishu	Wei-shu	緯書	Apocrypha [p. 248, 306]
Wen Wang ke	Wen Wang k'o	文王課	Diving with coins [p. 250]
Wu	Wu	巫	Magician, sorcerer
Wupo	Wu-p'o	巫婆	Sorceress
Wuxing	Wu-hsing	五行	Five Activities, Agents, etc. [pp. 254-57]
Wuxing	Wu-hsing	五星	Five stars or planets
Wuyin	Wu-yin	五音	Five Sounds
Xian Tian	Hsien T'ien	先天	Former Heaven (sequence) [pp. 264-68]
Xiang	Hsiang	相	To observe (forms and patterns)
Xiang	Hsiang	象	Image, Figure, Emblem [pp. 268-69]
Xiang	Hsiang	祥	Good fortune, auspicious
Xiangke	Hsiang-k'o	相克, 相剋	Mutual conquest [p. 270]
Xiangsheng	Hsiang-sheng	相勝	Mutual conquest [p. 271]
Xiangsheng	Hsiang-sheng	相生	Mutual production [p. 270]
Xiangying	Hsiang-ying	相應	Mutual response
Xiangzi	Hsiang-tzu	相字	Character divination
Xing er shang	Hsing erh shang	形而上	Below form (manifest)
Xing er xia	Hsing erh hsia	形而下	Above form (not yet manifest)
Xingbu	Hsing-pu	星卜	Astrology
Xingming	Hsing-ming	星命	Astrology (aka Xingzhan, Zhanxing)
Xingzhan	Hsing-chan	星占	Astrology (aka Xingming, Zhanxing)
Xiong	Hsiung	凶	Inauspicious
Xipo	Hsi-p'o	覡婆	Sorceress
Xiu	Hsiu	宿	Lunar lodge, asterism, constellation
Xuanze	Hsuan-tse	選擇	Picking auspicious dates and times
Xue	Hsüeh	穴	Lair in geomancy; site in medicine
Yaoci	Yao-tz'u	爻辭	Hexagram line statements [pp. 293-94]
Yi	I	宜	Proper, appropriate, advantageous, etc.
Yi	I	疑	Doubt, suspicion
Yi	I	易	Changes (also refers to the Yijing)
Yibu	I-pu	醫卜	Doctor/diviner; medicine and divination
Yinyang	Yin-yang	陰陽	Complementary opposites
Ying	Ying	應	Correspondence, resonance
Yuan	Yüan	元	Origin, great, fundamental, the sun

Yuan	Yüan	緣	Destiny
Yuanfen	Yüan-fen	緣分	Predestined affinity
Yun	Yün	運	Fate, revolution (in a cycle)
Yunhui	Yün-hui	運會	Rhythms of fate
Zai	Tsai	災	Calamity, disaster
Zaiyi	Tsai-i	災異	Disasters and anomalies
Zeri	Tse-rih	擇日	Day selection (for auspicious times)
Zhanhou	Chan-hou	占候	Meteorological divination
Zhanmeng	Chan-meng	占夢	Dream divination
Zhanqi	Chan-ch'i	占氣	Divining qi
Zhanxing	Chan-hsing	占星	Astrology
Zhengming	Cheng-ming	正命	"Regular" fate
Zhi	Chih	支	Branches (aka Dizhi)
Zhili	Chih-li	治曆	Regulate the calendar
Zhiming	Chih-ming	知命	Know fate
Zongheng tu	Tsung-heng t'u	縱橫圖	Magic squares