

## A CONSOLIDATED SYMBOL OF COSMOLOGY

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A symbol of cosmology is presented showing the cosmic elements with their main qualities connected together with thick lines. Qualities are shown as mirror images of their cosmic elements. Elements reveal mutation. As symbol of an element is turned at right angles towards the right, it yields the symbol of another element. There are four elements with their four main qualities. Element and main quality are shown connected with a thick line as forming a pair.

Creation has been standardised as consisting of eight items. They are four cosmic elements and four cosmic qualities. These eight would be Air, Earth, Fire, Water and Heat, Cold, Moisture and Dryness. The Chinese symbolize them calling them *Pa-Qua*, meaning eight designs. It is expected that a consolidated symbol of Greek-Islamic cosmology may also be offered. There is so far no symbolic representation of cosmic elements with the special qualities of each. In the previous article (1989), the cosmic elements and their qualities are depicted separately. Thus, there is need for improvement.

Now according to ancient view one element can mutate into another and further each has a quality most characteristic of it. Thus, fire is hot first and only next it is dry. All this is well known and what is now required is a consolidated symbol of cosmology.

Modern history of magic squares begins with Jabir ibn-Hayyan and he selected the symbol offered here as Fig. 1 further marked as E.7 for Earth. Its main quality is dryness indicated by D2 suggesting Dryness. It is to be realized that for the first time Earth and its quality appear close to each other.

Now Earth can produce Water indicated as W.3. The Chinese assume Heaven (Air) and Earth produced Water and it is the first substance to have been created. Heaven, Earth and Water are called *San-Pao*, three primordial entities. An arrow beneath the symbol E. points to Water, W. further marked as no. 1, now if fire is not water, as its opposite is cold. This quality of water is shown by being marked as C. and numbered 6. Water mutates easily into the air marked A. and numbered 3. The quality assigned to Air is moisture, marked M. and numbered n. Prof. Antonoff (1953), a former Professor of Chemistry at Karachi University, has shown how the air of atmosphere is charged with moisture. As a result the symbol of cosmology, Fig. 1 here, depicts earth and its quality as dryness, D, water, W. alongwith cold, C., air A. with moisture M. and fire F. with heat, H.

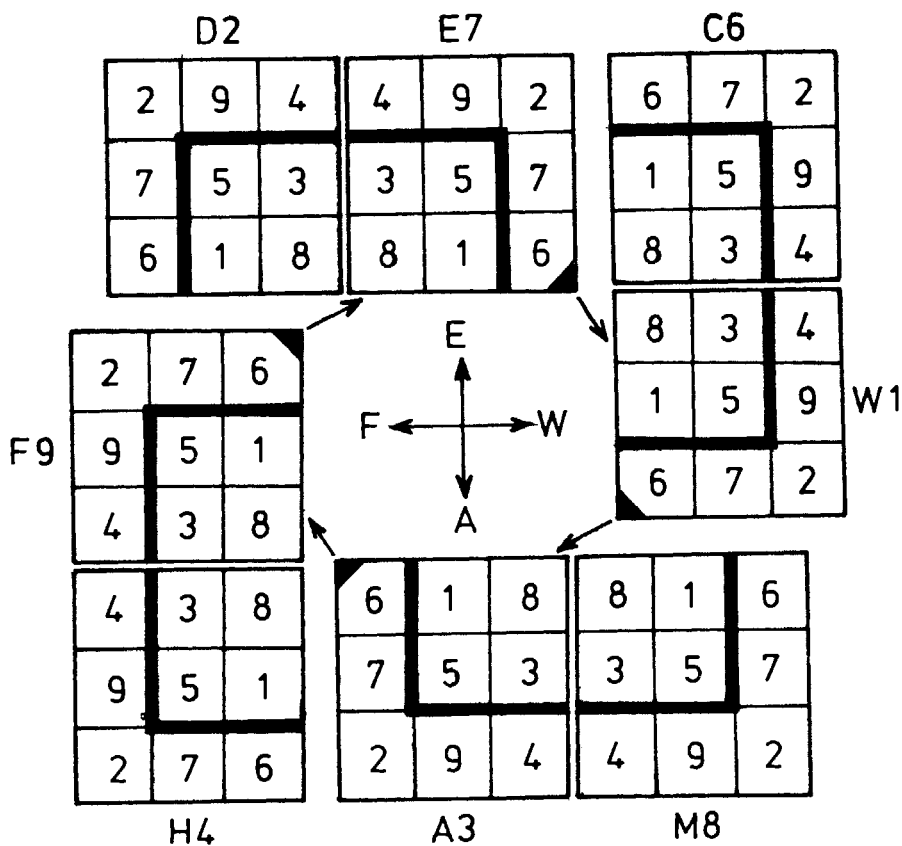


Fig. 1

D = Dryness, E = Earth, C = Cold, W = Water,  
 M = Moisture, A = Air, H = Heat, F = Fire.

Cosmic elements bear odd numbers and Qualities even numbers.

Further, the question arises how one element is depicted as having been derived from another. The first element or rather its symbol is turned at right angle towards the right. Thus, the symbol of Earth, E turned towards the right gives the symbol of Water, W and so do the other symbols of the cosmic elements. Then there are the symbols of qualities. They are assumed as being mirror images of cosmic elements, e.g. A represents air. Its mirror image on the right is M, the quality moisture. Thus, the symbols of qualities are derived as mirror images of their cosmic elements.

Fig. 1 is provided with thick lines connecting a cosmic element with its quality as mirror image, which facilitates understanding their connection. Altogether Fig.1 is self-explanatory as the symbol of cosmology.

#### REFERENCES

- <sup>1</sup>Antonoff, George "The condensation of atmospheric moisture", *Pak. J. Forestry*, 3 (2), 70-73, 1953.
- <sup>2</sup>Mahdi Hassan, S. "Symbolic representation of cosmic elements and their qualities", *Hamdard Medicus*, 32 (2), 32-34, 1989.