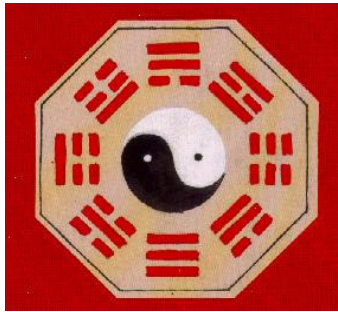


Mirror of the Present



An oracular seminar
with Shantena Augusto Sabbadini

The I Ching is a formidable psychological system that endeavours to organize the play of archetypes... into a certain pattern, so that a reading becomes possible. (C.G. Jung)

The *I Ching* is an ancient Chinese oracle, rooted in a shamanic tradition almost four thousand years old. Its images are a map of the dynamics of archetypal energies in and around us.

The most effective way to come to understand this map and become familiar with it is by using it as a mirror, by opening a dialogue with it about a concrete situation we are presently involved in. We shall read the images the oracle reflects back to us as if they were a dream offered in connection with the specific question we have asked. This will allow hidden symbolic dimensions of our situation to emerge to consciousness - and this enlarged perspective will help us align our choices with the flow of the "great river", with the movement of Tao, and to act in a more aware and responsible way.

The work consists of:

- An introduction to the I Ching and to the concept of synchronicity.
- Formulating individual questions to the oracle
- Learning the yarrow stalk consultation procedure
- Interrogating the oracle
- Reading the answers

The text we shall use is *The Original I Ching Oracle*, translated by Rudolf Ritsema and myself (Watkins Publishing, 2005), the result of half a century of *I Ching* scholarship by Rudolf Ritsema and of a decade of oracular studies conducted through the Round Table Sessions at Eranos, Ascona, Switzerland.

Shantena Augusto Sabbadini (www.shantena.com) worked as a theoretical physicist at the University of Milan, Italy, and the University of California. He was involved in research on the foundations of quantum physics and in the first identification of a black hole. In the 1990's and early 2000's he helped organize the Eranos Round Table Sessions and lectured at Eranos about the *I Ching*, physics and philosophy. He is associate director of the Pari Center for New Learning (www.paricenter.com).