

BIM design should be based on Feng Shui

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Contemporary architecture using BIM has made it possible for designers to incorporate multidisciplinary and multi-layers by merging with informatics. Designers must create ideal images based on design, structure, economic efficiency, and environmental impacts where computers can produce a theoretical consistent model. No matter how complicated the design is given, the structure design can be determined. In the era of such virtual constructions, Roma Agrawal presented one way of thinking against contemporary structural engineering (1,2). She tries to integrate social and cultural anthropological stories into contemporary structural engineering(1,2).

In China and Japan (at least in Japan before AC 7C), many philosophers and architects had incorporated "Feng Shui (Suzaku, Genbu, Blue Dragon, White Tiger)" model for designing cities and buildings(3,4). Cities including Nara (Heijokyo) and Kyoto (Heiankyo) are representative examples(3). Feng Shui has been adopted in the city development around the Tokyo railway station and the Imperial Palace. When designing the structure, Miyadaiku (shrine/temple carpenters) considered our human body as the ultimate structure(5). Based on human body building structures, many buildings have survived against big earthquakes for long time. Feng Shui is based on designing and/or controlling the flow of "Qi" from the positional relationships of things(4). Qi and objects are regarded as "information". Feng Shui is a methodology to design the relationship between "information" and "information". When observing the buildings created by philosophers (Kukai etc) and Miyadaiku, we still feel them impressive.

Not only designs/structures/functions but also a life field of relations and transformations of every "information" should be embedded in virtual constructions and modern architectures. Economy-oriented architectures may have a short life with energy waste in the long run. Nature and gentle "relationship" with the surroundings should be emphasized in architecture design.

References:

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