


OPEN PEER REVIEW

# Application of Taoist Principles and Feng Shui in Urban Spaces (Landscaping and Garden Design)

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Received: 2023-05-01

Revised: 2023-06-15


Accepted: 2023-06-19

Published: 2023-07-01

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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

In the introduction, where you discuss the historical background of Taoism ("Chinese tradition dates back to 2700 BCE..."), consider providing more context or citations to support the statement about the influence of the "Hundred Schools of Thought." This will help to anchor the historical claims in the broader philosophical context.

The manuscript includes various tables and figures, such as Table 1 on "Taoist Symbols in Chinese Landscape Elements." Consider integrating these figures more closely with the text, referencing them explicitly where their content is discussed to ensure they support your argument effectively.

The literature review is comprehensive, yet it could benefit from addressing recent developments in urban design theory that incorporate or critique Taoist principles, to demonstrate the contemporary relevance of your study.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

### 1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The research question posed in the introduction is somewhat broad. I recommend refining it to specify the particular aspects of urban space design you intend to focus on. For instance, are you more concerned with aesthetic elements, structural planning, or psychological impacts?

In the paragraph discussing the philosophical underpinnings of Taoism (e.g., "Taoism emphasizes principles such as harmony and peace with the dynamic and infinite quality of nature..."), it would be beneficial to expand on how these principles are operationalized within the context of Feng Shui, possibly with examples from existing urban designs.

The methodology section needs more detail, particularly regarding how the analytical-descriptive approach was applied. For example, did you analyze specific case studies of urban spaces, or was the analysis more conceptual? Clarifying this will enhance the study's reproducibility.

In the section discussing the application of the Five Elements in Feng Shui garden design, terms like "Qi" and "Tehya" are used frequently. Consider providing a brief, clear definition of these terms when they are first introduced, as they are critical to understanding your arguments.

The manuscript would benefit from the inclusion of specific examples or case studies of urban spaces that have successfully integrated Taoist principles and Feng Shui. This would help to ground the theoretical discussion in practical applications.

The discussion on the impact of Taoist elements on urban dwellers is intriguing. However, it would be strengthened by referencing empirical studies or surveys that quantify these effects, providing evidence-based support for your claims.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

## 2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.