

# The Classic of Changes in Yi Minority in China

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## Abstract

Few non-Han Chinese ethnic groups within China's borders developed a more distinctive *Yijing* culture than the Yi did. Many *Yijing*-related concepts and images can be found in ancient Yi culture. The Yi people were particularly interested in the numbers and images of the *Yijing* and developed their own theories and uses. Based largely on Yi primary sources, this study examines the reception of the *Yijing* in Yi history and culture and the characteristics of Yi scholarship of the *Yijing*. It challenges the Han Chinese-centered view that sees China as the place of origin and the center for the dissemination of the *Yijing*. A historical overview of the *Yijing* in the Yi community has demonstrated that the *Yijing* did not come from the Han Chinese alone and that the Yi also played an important role in the making of the ancient *Yijing*. It contributes to the understanding of the popularization and localization of the *Yijing* on China's ethnic frontiers and peripheries.

**Keywords:** The Yi ethnic group, *Classic of Changes*, Origins of ancient Chinese culture, *Yijing* diagrams, Yi history and culture