

THE ENERGY FOUNDATION: CATALYZING AND ADAPTING NETWORKS IN CHINA



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A CHINESE MYTH AND HERO
STORY



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Exposition

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- In the first version of the story, a massive flood occurs in China due to natural causes.
- Silt and sediment build-up on the bottom of the Yellow River prevented normal discharge, and the waters began to rise.

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Exposition

- In the second (more supernatural) version of the story, an evil dragon wished to test humanity's ability and will to survive.
- To do so, he opened several holes in the heaven to "release the inudating waters."

Gun's Failure

- Gun was called upon by the emperor of China to help stop the rising waters.
- Gun used dirt to construct levees and flood walls in order to block the waters.
- However, these dams only made the floods worse when the walls broke.
- His efforts were considered a massive failure, and Gun was executed as a result.

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Yu's Efforts

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Yu's Plan

- Yu was determined to stop the flooding.
- He consulted with the semi-mythical Chinese agriculturalist HouJi in order to devise a method to stop the flood.
- In other versions of the myth, Yu recieved help from other mythical creatures such as the Dragon.