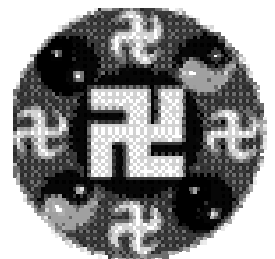


# The Fylfot, Wan Dz, or Svastika

## Some facts about this old, venerated religious symbol

- 1) The Swastika was originally a sign of peace. It comes from the word "Svasti", which means "well-being", so has Nepalese and Indian origins from thousands of years ago. [The name is derived from the Sanskrit language, from "su," meaning "good," and "vasti"," meaning "being"] In India, it is used as a fertility and good luck charm.  
我們熟知的納粹黨記號，原先其實是和平的象徵。「Swastika」來自千年前尼泊爾印度地區「Svasti」這個字，擁有安康喜樂的意思。(本字源於古梵文，Su 表示良善、好，然後 vasti 表示生命及存在)，在印度，這個符號常被用來象徵或祝福人能擁有豐富及好運。
- 2) The right-turning or clockwise Indian swastika symbolizes the sun and positive energy, and is most commonly associated with the deity Ganesh, a God of prosperity and wealth. Some Indians regard an anti-clockwise swastika as an opposing, dark force- a symbol of the goddess Kali. Together, the two can be regarded as symbolically similar to the Yin Yang symbol of Taoism, or the two Pillars of Kabbalah.  
向右或是以順時針模式呈現的印度 Swastika 符號，象徵太陽與正向能量。通常都與掌管財富與健康的神 Ganesh 相關。有些印度人認為逆時針呈現的 Swastika 則是順時針模式的相反，象徵黑暗邪惡力量的女神 Kali。統整來說，這兩種方式的呈現跟道教的陰陽概念，或是 Kabbalah 的兩極概念類似。
- 3) It was a sacred symbol to Hindu, Jain, and Buddhist religions, as well as in Norse, Basque, Baltic, and Celtic Paganism.  
它也是神聖的宗教性象徵，例如像印度教、耆那教、佛教等等，而在挪威、巴司克、波羅地海以及凱爾特教派也是。
- 4) In the Jain religion, it is a symbol of the seventh Jina (Saint), the Tirthankara Suparsva.  
在耆那教中，Swastika 是七聖人的象徵。
- 5) The **swastika** is an archetypal, universal human religious symbol. It appears on every continent and is as old as humankind. A marker of the sun's travels, it can be seen on Pictish rock carvings, adorning ancient Greek pottery, and on ancient Norse weapons and implements. It was scratched on cave walls in France seven thousand years ago. A swastika marks the beginning of many Buddhist scriptures, and is often incised on the soles of the feet of the Buddha in statuary.  
Swastika 是典型的、通用的人類宗教象徵符號。地球上的每一個大陸都曾出現這個符號的蹤跡，而且年代就跟人類出現在這個世上的時間一樣老。例如太陽移動的軌跡，這曾出現在匹克特石雕、古希臘裝飾陶瓷以及挪威古代武器及工具上。Swastika 也曾被書寫在七千年前法國洞穴的牆上。這個符號更標記在許多佛教典籍的開端，而且通常被刻畫在塑像中當作佛祖腳印的特別特徵。
- 6) In pre-Christian Pagan Europe, the swastika was generally a solar symbol, but in many cases, its use dates so far back in history that its original meaning is obscured. In Baltic regions, the swastika is sometimes called the "thunder cross," and is associated with the Thunder God Perkons (Perkunis).  
在西元前(基督教產生前)的歐洲，Swastika 原是太陽的象徵，但是在很多情況下，他在遠古時代被用來紀錄日期以至於他的定義常曖昧不明，在波羅地海地區，Swastika 有時候被稱為「Thunder cross」，作為雷神 Perkons(Perkunis)的關聯符號。
- 7) The swastika is a type of solar cross, with arms bent at right angles, suggesting a whirling or turning motion.  
Swastika 是一種太陽十字的型態，向右轉的角度，表現迴旋與翻轉的律動。
- 8) It forms a combination of four "Ls", which stand for Luck, Light, Love and Life.  
這個符號結合了四個 L，代表幸運，光明，愛，與生命。
- 9) It is called a "fylfot" (meaning "four feet") in English.



在英文中，這個符號稱為”Fylfot”（四隻腳的意思）。

- 10) The fylfot has been found on ancient Byzantine buildings, Buddhist inscriptions, Celtic monuments, and Greek coins.

Fylfot 的符號曾在拜占庭時代的建築物、佛教的銘刻、凱爾特遺址以及古希臘錢幣中被發現。

- 11) It is part of the footprint of the Buddha, and embodies good fortune and virtue.

他也是佛祖腳印的一部份，是好運以及美德的具像化象徵

- 12) The swastika was used by the American Indians, as well as ancient cultures before them, as a symbol of life.

Swastika 從前也被美洲的印地安人使用，正如更古老的文化，當作生命的象徵。

- 13) American Indian tribes used to use the fylfot as a symbol of good luck, harkening back to their ancestry and origins from the Far East. It was the symbol for the Thunderbird, also known as the Phoenix. It also symbolized the sun, the four directions, and the four seasons.

美國印地安人部落用 fylfot 當作好運的象徵，也是傾聽祖先以及遠東的源頭意思。它是雷鳥也就是鳳凰的象徵。也代表太陽、四方位以及四季。

- 14) In the written Chinese language, the fylfot is commonly used to represent the number 10,000.

在中國文字當中，fylfot 常被使用來代表數字一萬。

- 15) In America, they have been used in school hallways (Hibbing, Minnesota) as a sign of friendship.

在美國，這個符號也被使用於學校的玄關(明尼蘇達州)當作是友誼的記號。

- 16) The International Automobile Museum in Reno, Nevada, has some 1920's era cars with fylfots on the radiators-the symbols are white on a black background.

在內華達州里諾城的國際自動車博物館，有一些 20 年代的車子的散熱器上繪有 fylfot 的符號，以黑底白色線條顯示。

- 17) The Nazi-era swastika is always shown tilted and reversed (right-handed or clockwise), whereas the original fylfot is shown sitting squarely and is left-handed or counter-clockwise. It became co-opted as an emblem of Hitler's Nazi party.

在納粹時代，Swastika 總是以傾斜以及稍微旋轉(向右旋或是順時間旋轉)的模式呈現，然而原始的 Fylfot 是正正方方的模式，而且四個方位是向左旋或逆時針方向表現。修改之後的符號變成了希特勒時代納粹黨的象徵。

- 18) The swastika is also known for its uses in heraldry as the tetraskelion, the fylfot cross (fylfot meaning 'four feet,' a term used in European heraldry), the cross gammadion (because it resembles four Greek letter 'gammas.'), and the hakenkreuz (German, *hooked cross*).

Swastika 也常被用於徽章之上，這個特殊的十字交叉 fylfot (在歐洲這個字表示四隻腳)，也被稱為萬字形(因為他相近於德文字中的 gammas)，以及 Hakenkreuz(德文,鉤十字形)。

- 19) The swastika used in Buddhist art and scripture is known as a *Manji*, and represents Dharma, universal harmony, and the balance of opposites. When facing left, it is the Omote (front) Manji, representing love and mercy. Facing right, it represents strength and intelligence, and is called the Ura (rear facing) Omoje. Balanced *Manji* are often found at the beginning and end of Buddhist scriptures.

Swastika 符號在佛教藝術及典籍的使用上被大家稱為 Manji，用來代表戒條，天地宇宙的和諧以及對等的平衡，當它朝向左邊，他是 Omote Manji (正萬字), 代表愛與慈悲。如果朝向右邊，表示力量與智慧，又稱做 Ura(反向)Omoje. 不朝任何方向偏斜，正正方方的萬字形常在佛教典籍中的開頭及結尾被發現。

