



6		T	T	T		2	2	2		6
5		H	H	T		3	3	2		8
4		H	H	T		3	3	2		8
3		H	T	T		3	2	2		7
2		T	T	T		2	2	2		6
1		H	T	T		3	2	2		7

### HEXAGRAM 36 - Ming I - Darkening of the Light

Above K'UN THE RECEPTIVE, EARTH  
 Below LI THE CLINGING, FIRE

Here the sun

- has sunk under the earth and
- is therefore darkened.

The name of the hexagram means literally "wounding of the bright"; hence the individual lines contain frequent references to wounding.

The situation is the exact opposite of that in the foregoing hexagram.

In the latter

- a wise man at the head of affairs
  - has able helpers, and in company with them
  - makes progress;

here

- a man of dark nature
  - is in a position of authority and
  - brings harm to the wise and able man.

## THE JUDGMENT

DARKENING OF THE LIGHT.

In adversity

It furthers one to be persevering.

One

- must not unresistingly let himself be swept along by unfavorable circumstances,
- nor permit his steadfastness to be shaken.

He can avoid this by

- maintaining his inner light, while
- remaining outwardly yielding and tractable.

With this attitude

he can overcome even the greatest adversities.

In some situations indeed a man

- must hide his light, in order to
- make his will prevail in spite of difficulties in his immediate environment.

Perseverance

- must dwell in inmost consciousness and
- should not be discernible from without.

Only thus is

a man able to maintain his will in the face of difficulties.

## THE IMAGE

The light has sunk into the earth: The image of DARKENING OF THE LIGHT.

Thus does

- the superior man live with the great mass:
- He
  - veils his light,
  - yet still shines.

In a time of darkness it is essential to be

- cautious and
- reserved.

One should not needlessly awaken overwhelming enmity by inconsiderate behavior.

In such times

- one ought not to fall in with the practices of others;
- neither should one drag them censoriously into the light.

In social intercourse

- one should not try to be all-knowing.
- One should let many things pass, without being duped.

## THE LINES

0 Six in the second place means:

Darkening of the light injures him in the left thigh.

He gives aid with the strength of a horse.

Good fortune.

Here the Lord of Light

- is in a subordinate place and
- is wounded by the Lord of Darkness.

But the injury is not fatal;

it is only a hindrance.

Rescue is still possible.

- The wounded man gives no thought to himself;
- he thinks only of saving the others who are also in danger.

Therefore

he tries with all his strength to save all that can be saved.

There is good fortune in thus acting according to duty.

Six at the top means:

Not light but darkness.

- First he climbed up to heaven,
- Then he plunged into the depths of the earth.

Here the climax of the darkening is reached.

- The dark power at first held so high a place that
- it could wound all who were on the side of good and of the light.

But in the end

- it perishes of its own darkness,
- for evil
  - must itself fall at the very moment when
- it
  - has wholly overcome the good, and thus
  - consumed the energy to which it owed its duration.

## MOVING HEXAGRAM

## HEXAGRAM 26 - Ta Ch'u - The Taming Power of the Great

Above KEN                    KEEPING STILL, MOUNTAIN  
Below CH'IEN                THE CREATIVE, HEAVEN

The Creative is tamed by Ken, Keeping Still.  
This produces great power,  
a situation in contrast to that of the ninth hexagram, Hsiao Ch'u, THE TAMING POWER OF THE SMALL,  
in which the Creative is tamed by the Gentle alone.

- There
- one weak line must tame five strong lines, but
- here
- four strong lines are restrained by two weak lines;
- in addition to a minister,  
there is a prince, and
- the restraining power  
therefore is far stronger.

The hexagram has a threefold meaning, expressing different aspects of the concept Holding firm.

1. Heaven within the mountain  
gives the idea of holding firm in the sense of holding together;
2. the trigram Ken, which holds the trigram Ch'ien still,  
gives the idea of holding firm in the sense of holding back;
3. the third idea is  
that of holding firm in the sense of caring for and nourishing.
  - This last is suggested by the fact that a strong line at the top, which is the ruler of the hexagram, is honored and tended as a sage.
  - The third of these meanings also attaches specifically to this strong line at the top, which represents the sage.

### THE JUDGMENT

THE TAMING POWER OF THE GREAT.  
Perseverance furthers.  
Not eating at home brings good fortune.  
It furthers one to cross the great water.

- To
- hold firmly to great creative powers and
  - store them up, as set forth in this hexagram,  
there is need of

a strong, clearheaded man who is honored by the ruler.

- The trigram Ch'ien points to strong creative power;
- Ken indicates firmness and truth.

Both point

- to light and clarity and
- to the daily renewal of character.

Only through such daily self-renewal

can a man continue at the height of his powers.

- Force of habit helps to keep order in quiet times; but in periods when there is a great storing up of energy,
- everything depends on the power of the personality.

However, since the worthy are honored,

as in the case of the strong personality entrusted with leadership by the ruler, it is an advantage

- not to eat at home but rather
- to earn one's bread by entering upon public office.

Such a man is in harmony with heaven;

therefore even great and difficult undertakings, such as crossing the great water, succeed.

## THE IMAGE

Heaven within the mountain:

The image of THE TAMING POWER OF THE GREAT.

Thus the superior man acquaints himself with

- many sayings of antiquity And
- many deeds of the past,

In order to strengthen his character thereby.

Heaven within the mountain points to hidden treasures.

In the words and deeds of the past there lies hidden a treasure that men may use to

strengthen and elevate their own characters.

The way to study the past is

- not to confine oneself to mere knowledge of history but, through application of this knowledge,
- to give actuality to the past.