



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

HEXAGRAM 47 - K'un - Oppression (Exhaustion)

Above TUI THE JOYOUS, LAKE
Below K'AN THE ABYSMAL, WATER

1. The lake is above, water below; the lake is **empty, dried** up. (1)
Exhaustion is expressed in yet another way:
2. **at the top**, a dark line is **holding down** two light lines;
below, a light line is hemmed in between two dark ones.
3. The upper trigram belongs to the **principle of darkness**,
the lower to the **principle of light**.

Thus everywhere superior men are oppressed and held in restraint by inferior men.

THE JUDGMENT

OPPRESSION.

Success.

Perseverance.

The great man brings about good fortune.

No blame.

When one has something to say,
It is not believed.

- Times of adversity are the reverse of times of success,
but
- they can lead to success if they befall the right man.

When

a strong man meets with adversity,

- he remains cheerful despite all danger,
and
- this cheerfulness is the source of later successes;
it is that stability which is stronger than fate.

He who

- lets his spirit be broken by exhaustion certainly
- has no success.

But

if adversity only bends a man,

- it creates in him a power to react that is bound in time to manifest itself.
No inferior man is capable of this.

Only the great man

- brings about good fortune
and
- remains blameless.

It is true that for the time being outward influence is denied him,
because his words have no effect.

Therefore in times of adversity

it is important to be

- strong within
and
- sparing of words.

THE IMAGE

There is no water in the lake:

Thus

the superior man

stakes his life

On following his will.

When the water has flowed out below,
the lake must

- dry up
and
- become exhausted.

That is fate.

This symbolizes an adverse fate in human life.

In such times there is nothing a man can do

but

- acquiesce in his fate

and

- remain true to himself.

This concerns the deepest stratum of his being,
for this alone is superior to all external fate.