

Aspen Group Inc ASPU under CEO Michael Mathews



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

HEXAGRAM 25 - Wu Wang - Innocence (The Unexpected)

Above CH'IEN THE CREATIVE, HEAVEN
 Below CHEN THE AROUSING, THUNDER

- Ch'ien, heaven, is above;
- Chen, movement, is below.

The lower trigram Chen is under the **influence** of the strong line it has **received** from above, from heaven.

When, in accord with this,

- **movement follows the law of heaven,**
- **man is**
 - **innocent and**
 - **without guile.**

His **mind** is

- **natural and true,**
- **unshadowed by reflection or ulterior designs.**

For

- **wherever conscious purpose is to be seen,**
- **there the truth and innocence of nature have been lost.**

Nature that is not directed by the spirit is

- not true
- but degenerate nature.

Starting out with the idea of the natural,

- the train of thought in part goes somewhat further and thus
- the hexagram includes also the idea of the unintentional or unexpected.

THE JUDGMENT

INNOCENCE. Supreme success.

Perseverance furthers.

If someone is not as he should be,

- He has misfortune,

And

- it does not further him To undertake anything.

Man has received from heaven a nature innately good,
to guide him in all his movements.

By devotion to this divine spirit within himself,
he attains an unsullied innocence that leads him to do right

- with instinctive sureness and
- without any ulterior thought of reward and personal advantage.

This instinctive certainty

- brings about supreme success and
- "furthers through perseverance."

However,

- not everything instinctive is nature in this higher sense of the word,
- but only that which is right and in accord with the will of heaven.

Without this quality of rightness,

an unreflecting, instinctive way of acting brings only misfortune.

Confucius says about this:

- "He who departs from innocence,
 - what does he come to?
- Heaven's will and blessing
 - do not go with his deeds."

THE IMAGE

Under heaven thunder rolls: All things attain the natural state of innocence.

Thus the kings of old,

- rich in virtue, and
- in harmony with the time,

Fostered and nourished all beings.

In springtime

when thunder, life energy, begins to move again under the heavens,

- everything sprouts and grows, and
- all beings receive from the creative activity of nature

the childlike innocence of their original state.
So it is with the **good rulers** of mankind:

drawing on the spiritual wealth at their command,
they

- take care of all forms of life and all forms of culture and
- do everything to further them, and at the proper time.

THE LINES

Six in the second place means:

If one

does not count

- on the harvest while plowing,
- Nor on the use of the ground while clearing it,
It furthers one to undertake something.

We should do every task

- for its own sake as time and place demand and
- not with an eye to the result.

Then

- each task turns out well, and
- anything we undertake succeeds.

Six in the third place means:

Undeserved misfortune.

The cow that was tethered by someone

Is

- the wanderer's gain,
- the citizen's loss.

Sometimes

undeserved misfortune befalls a man at the hands of another,
as for instance when someone

- passes by and
- takes a tethered cow along with him.

His gain is the owner's loss.

In all transactions, no matter how innocent,
we must

- accommodate ourselves to the demands of the time,
- otherwise unexpected misfortune overtakes us.

MOVING HEXAGRAM

HEXAGRAM 01 – Chien - The Creative

Above THE CREATIVE, HEAVEN
Below THE CREATIVE, HEAVEN

The first hexagram is made up of six unbroken lines.
These unbroken lines stand for the primal power, which is

- light giving,
- active,
- strong, and of
- the spirit.

The hexagram is consistently strong, in character, and since it is without weakness, its essence is power or energy. Its image is heaven.

Its energy

- is represented as unrestricted by any fixed conditions in space and
- is therefore conceived of as **motion**.

Time is regarded as the basis of this motion.

Thus the hexagram includes also

- **the power of time and**
- **the power of persisting in time, that is, duration.**

The power represented by the hexagram is to be interpreted in a dual sense - in terms of

- its action on the universe and of
- its action on the world of men.

- In relation to the universe, the hexagram expresses the strong, creative action of the Deity.
- In relation to the human world, it denotes the creative action of the holy man or sage, of the ruler or leader of men, who through his power awakens and develops their higher nature. 1

THE JUDGMENT

THE CREATIVE works sublime success,
Furthering through perseverance. 2

According to the original meaning, the attributes (sublimity, potentiality of success, power to further, perseverance) are paired.

When an individual draws this oracle, it means

- **that success come to him from the primal depths of the universe and**
- **that everything depends upon his seeking his happiness and that of others in one way only, that is, by perseverance in what is right.**

The specific meanings of the four attributes became the subject of speculation at an early date.

The Chinese word here rendered by "sublime" means literally "head," "origin," "great."

This is why Confucius says in explaining it:

"Great indeed is the generating power of the Creative; all beings owe their beginning to it. This power permeates all heaven. 3 For this attribute inheres in the other three as well.

The beginning of all things lies still in the beyond in the form of ideas that have yet to become real.

But the Creative furthermore has power to lend form to these archetypes of ideas.

- This is indicated in the word success, and
- the process is represented by an image from nature: "The clouds pass and the rain does its work, and all individual beings flow into their forms." 4

Applied to the human world, these attributes show the great man the way to notable success:

"Because he sees with great clarity causes and effects, he

- completes the six steps at the right time and
- mounts toward heaven on them at the right time, as though of six dragons."

The six steps are the six different positions given in the hexagram, which are represented later by the dragon symbol.

Here it is shown that the way to success lies in

- apprehending understanding and
- giving actuality to the way of the universe (Tao), which, as a law running through end and beginning, brings about all phenomena in time.

Thus each step attained forthwith becomes a preparation for the next.

Time is no longer a hindrance but the means of making actual what is potential.

The act of creation having found expression in the two attributes - sublimity and success, the work of conservation is shown to be a continuous actualization and differentiation of form.

This is expressed in the two terms

- "furthering" (literally, "creating that which accords with the nature of a given being") and
- "persevering" (literally, "correct and firm").

"The course of the Creative alters and shapes beings until each attains its true, specific nature, then

it keeps them in conformity with the Great Harmony.

Thus does it show itself to further through perseverance."

In relation to the human sphere, this shows how

the great man brings peace and security to the world through his activity in creating order:

"He towers high above the multitude of beings, and all lands are united in peace."

Another line of speculation goes still further in separating the words "sublime," "success," "furthering" "perseverance," and parallels them with the four cardinal virtues in humanity.

1) To sublimity, which, as the fundamental principle, embraces all the other attributes, it links love.

2) To the attribute success are linked the mores, which regulate and organize the expressions of love and thereby make them successful. 5

3) The attribute furthering is correlated with justice, which creates the conditions in which each receives that which accords with his being, that which is due him and which constitutes his happiness.

4) The attribute perseverance is correlated with wisdom, which discerns the immutable laws of all that happens and can therefore bring about enduring conditions.

These speculations, already broached in the commentary called *Wen Yen*, 6 later formed the bridge connecting the philosophy of the "five stages (elements) of change," as laid down in the Book of History (*Shu Ching*) with the philosophy of the Book of Changes, which is based solely on the polarity of positive and negative principles. In the course of time this combination of the two systems of thought opened the way for an increasingly intricate number symbolism. 7

THE IMAGE

The movement of heaven is full of power.
Thus the superior man makes himself strong and untiring.

Since there is only one heaven, the doubling of the trigram Ch'ien, of which heaven is the image, indicates the movement of heaven.

One complete revolution of heaven makes a day, and the repetition of the trigram means that each day is followed by another.

This creates the idea of time.

Since it is the same heaven moving with untiring power, there is also created the idea of duration both in and beyond time, a movement that never stops nor slackens, just as one day follows another in an unending course.

This duration in time is the image of the power inherent in the Creative.

With this image as a model,
the sage learns how best to develop himself so that his influence may endure.

He must make himself strong in every way,
by consciously casting out all that is inferior and degrading.

Thus he attains that tirelessness,
which depends upon **consciously limiting the fields of his activity.**