



6		H	H	T		3	3	2		8
5		H	H	T		3	3	2		8
4		H	T	T		3	2	2		7
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 55 – Feng - Abundance (Fullness)**

Above CHEN THE AROUSING, THUNDER  
 Below LI THE CLINGING, FLAME

- Chen is movement;
- Li is flame, whose attribute is clarity.

- Clarity within,
- movement without –  
 this produces greatness and abundance.

The hexagram pictures a period of advanced civilization. However, the fact that development has reached a peak suggests that this extraordinary condition of abundance cannot be maintained permanently.

**THE JUDGMENT**

ABUNDANCE has success.  
The king attains abundance.  
Be not sad.  
Be like the sun at midday.

It is not given to every mortal to bring about a time of

- outstanding greatness and
- abundance.

Only a born ruler of men is able to do it,  
because his will is directed to what is great.  
Such a time of abundance is usually brief.

Therefore

a sage might well feel sad in view of the decline that must follow.  
But such sadness does not befit him.

Only a man who is inwardly free of sorrow and care  
can lead in a time of abundance.

He must be like the sun at midday,  
illuminating and gladdening everything under heaven.

## THE IMAGE

Both thunder and lightning come: The image of ABUNDANCE.

Thus

the superior man

- decides lawsuits And
- carries out punishments.

This hexagram has a certain connection with Shih Ho, BITING THROUGH (21),  
in which thunder and lightning similarly appear together,  
but in the reverse order.

- In BITING THROUGH, laws are laid down;
- here they are applied and enforced.

- Clarity [Li] within makes it possible to investigate the facts exactly, and
- shock [Chen] without ensures a strict and precise carrying out of punishments.

## THE LINES

Six in the second place means:

The curtain is of such fullness

That the polestars can be seen at noon.

Through going one meets with mistrust and hate.

If one rouses him through truth,

Good fortune comes.

It often happens that

plots and party intrigues,  
which have the darkening effect of an eclipse of the sun,  
come between

- a ruler intent on great achievement and
- the man who could effect great undertakings.

Then, instead of the sun,

we see the northern stars in the sky.

The ruler is overshadowed by a party that has usurped power.

If

a man at such a time were to try to take energetic measures,  
he would encounter only mistrust and envy,  
which would prohibit all movement.

The essential thing then is  
to hold inwardly to the power of truth,  
which in the end is so strong that  
it exerts an invisible influence on the ruler,  
so that all goes well.

## **MOVING HEXAGRAM**

### **HEXAGRAM 34 - Ta Chuang - The Power of the Great**

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

The great lines, that is, the light, strong lines, are **powerful**.

Four light lines

- have entered the hexagram from below and
- are about to ascend higher.
  
- The upper trigram is Chen, the Arousing;
- the lower is Ch'ien, the Creative.
  
- Ch'ien is strong,
- Chen produces movement.

The union of movement and strength **gives** the meaning of THE POWER OF THE GREAT.

The hexagram is **linked with** the second month (March April).

### **THE JUDGMENT**

THE POWER OF THE GREAT.

Perseverance furthers.

The hexagram points to a time when inner worth

- mounts with great force and
- comes to power.

But its strength has already passed beyond the median line, hence there is danger that one

- may rely entirely on one's own power and
- forget to ask what is right.

There is danger too that, being intent on movement, we may not wait for the right time.

Therefore the added statement that perseverance furthers.

For that is truly great power

- which does not degenerate into mere force
- but remains inwardly united with the fundamental principles of right and of justice.

When we understand this point –

namely, that greatness and justice must be indissoluble united – we understand the true meaning of all that happens in heaven and on earth.

## THE IMAGE

Thunder in heaven above: The image of THE POWER OF THE GREAT.

Thus the superior man

does not tread upon paths

That do not accord with established order.

Thunder - electrical energy - mounts upward in the spring.

The direction of this movement is in harmony with that of the movement of heaven.

It is therefore a movement in accord with heaven, producing great power.

However,

true greatness depends on being in harmony with what is right.

Therefore in times of great power

the superior man avoids doing anything

that is not in harmony with the established order.