



6		H	H	H		3	3	3		9
5		H	H	T		3	3	2		8
4		H	H	H		3	3	3		9
3		H	T	T		3	2	2		7
2		T	T	T		2	2	2		6
1		H	H	H		3	3	3		9

### HEXAGRAM 30 – Li - THE CLINGING, FIRE

Above LI THE CLINGING, FIRE

Below LI THE CLINGING, FIRE

This hexagram is another **double sign**.

The trigram Li **means**

- "to cling to something,"
- "to be conditioned,
- to depend or rest on something," and also
- "brightness".

A dark line **clings to** two light lines,

- one above and
- one below –

the **image** of an empty space between two strong lines, whereby the two strong lines are made **bright**.

The trigram **represents** the middle daughter.

The Creative has **incorporated** the central line of the Receptive, and thus Li develops.

As **an image**, it is fire.

Fire

- has no definite form but
- **clings to** the burning object and thus is bright.

As water pours down from heaven, so fire flames up from the earth.

- While K'an **means** the soul shut within the body,
- Li **stands for** nature in its radiance.

## THE JUDGMENT

THE CLINGING.

Perseverance furthers.

It brings success.

Care of the cow brings good fortune.

What is dark **clings**

- to what is light and so
- **enhances the brightness of the latter.**

A luminous thing giving out light must have within itself something that perseveres; otherwise it will in time burn itself out.

Everything that gives light

is **dependent** on something to which it clings, in order that it may **continue** to shine.

Thus

- sun and moon cling to heaven, and
- grain, grass, and trees cling to the earth.

So too

the twofold clarity of the dedicated man

- **clings to what is right and thereby**
- **can shape the world.**

Human life on earth is conditioned and unfree, and, when man

- **recognizes this limitation and**
- **makes himself dependent upon the harmonious and beneficent forces of the cosmos,**

he achieves success.

The cow is the **symbol** of extreme docility.

By **cultivating in himself an attitude of**

- **compliance and**
- **voluntary dependence,**

man

- acquires clarity without sharpness and
- finds his place in the world. 1

## THE IMAGE

That which is bright rises twice: The image of FIRE.

Thus the great man, by perpetuating this brightness, Illumines the four quarters of the world.

Each of the two trigrams represents the sun in the course of a day.

The two together represent the repeated movement of the sun, the function of light with respect to time.

The great man continues the work of nature in the human world.

Through the clarity of his nature

he causes the light

- to spread farther and farther and
- to penetrate the nature of man ever more deeply.

## THE LINES

Nine at the beginning means:

The footprints run crisscross.

If one is seriously intent, no blame.

It is early morning and work begins.

The mind has been closed to the outside world in sleep;

now its connections with the world begin again.

The traces of one's impressions run crisscross.

Activity and haste prevail.

It is important then

- to preserve inner composure and
- not to allow oneself to be swept along by the bustle of life.

If

- one is serious and composed,
- he can acquire the clarity of mind needed for
  - coming to terms with the innumerable impressions that pour in.
- It is precisely at the beginning that serious concentration is important,
  - because the beginning holds the seed of all that is to follow.

0 Six in the second place means:

Yellow light.

Supreme good fortune.

Midday has come;

the sun shines with a yellow light.

- Yellow is the color of measure and mean.
- Yellow light is therefore a symbol of the highest culture and art,

- whose consummate harmony consists in **holding** to the mean.

Nine in the fourth place means:

Its coming is sudden;

It

- flames up,
  - dies down,
  - is thrown away.
- 
- Clarity of mind has the same relation to life that
  - fire has to wood.

**Fire**

- clings to wood, but also
- consumes it.

Clarity of mind

- is rooted in life but
- can also consume it.

**Everything depends upon how the clarity functions.**

Here the **image** used is that of a meteor or a straw fire.

A man who is excitable and restless

- may rise quickly to prominence but
- produces no lasting effects.

Thus matters end badly when

a man

- spends himself too rapidly and
- consumes himself like a meteor.

Nine at the top means:

The king uses him to

- march forth and
- chastise.

Then it is best to

- kill the leaders And
- take captive the followers.

No blame.

**It is not the purpose of chastisement**

- to impose punishment blindly
- but to create discipline.

Evil must be cured at its roots.

To eradicate evil in political life,

it is best to

- kill the ringleaders and
- spare the followers.

In educating oneself it is best to

- root out bad habits and

- tolerate those that are harmless.
- For asceticism that is too strict,  
like sentences of undue severity,  
fails in its purpose.

## MOVING HEXAGRAM

### Hexagram 46 – Sheng - Pushing Upward

Above K'UN THE RECEPTIVE, EARTH  
Below SUN THE GENTLE, WIND, WOOD

- The lower trigram, Sun, represents wood, and
  - the upper, K'un, means the earth.
- Linked with this is the idea that wood in the earth grows upward.  
In contrast to the meaning of Chin, PROGRESS (35),  
this pushing upward is associated with effort,  
just as a plant needs energy for pushing upward through the earth.  
That is why this hexagram, although it is connected with success, is associated with effort of the will.
- In PROGRESS the emphasis is on expansion;
  - PUSHING UPWARD indicates rather a vertical ascent - direct rise
    - from obscurity and lowliness
    - to power and influence.

### THE JUDGMENT

PUSHING UPWARD  
has supreme success.  
One must see the great man.  
Fear not.  
Departure toward the south  
Brings good fortune.

The pushing upward of the good elements

- encounters no obstruction and
- is therefore accompanied by great success.

The pushing upward is made possible

- not by violence
- but by modesty and adaptability.

Since the individual is borne along by the propitiousness of the time,  
he advances.  
He must go to see authoritative people.

He need not be afraid to do this, because success is assured.

But

he must set to work, for activity (this is the meaning of "the south") brings good fortune.

## **THE IMAGE**

Within the earth, wood grows: The image of PUSHING UPWARD.

Thus the superior man of devoted character

Heaps up small things

In order to achieve something high and great.

- Adapting itself to obstacles and bending around them, wood in the earth grows upward without haste and without rest.

Thus too

- the superior man
  - is devoted in character and
  - never pauses in his progress.