



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

### 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**.

## THE LINES

Six at the beginning means:

Pushing upward that meets with confidence  
Brings great good fortune.

This is the situation at the **beginning** of ascent.  
Just as

- **wood draws** strength for its upward push from the root, which in itself is in the lowest place,
- so
- the power to **rise comes** from this low and obscure station.
  - But there is a **spiritual affinity** with the rulers above, and
  - this **solidarity** creates the confidence needed to accomplish something.

## **MOVING HEXAGRAM**

### **Hexagram 11 - T'ai - Peace**

Above K'UN            THE RECEPTIVE, EARTH  
Below CH'IEN        THE CREATIVE, HEAVEN

- The Receptive, which moves downward, stands above;
  - the Creative, which moves upward, is below.
- Hence their influences meet and are in harmony,  
so that all living things bloom and prosper.

This hexagram belongs to the first month (February-March), at which time the forces of nature prepare the new spring.

### **THE JUDGMENT**

PEACE.

- The small departs,
- The great approaches.

Good fortune.

Success.

This hexagram denotes a time in nature when heaven seems to be on earth. Heaven has placed itself **beneath** the earth, and so their **powers unite** in deep harmony.

Then **peace and blessing descend** upon all living things.

In the world of man it is a **time of social harmony**;

- those in high places show favor to the lowly, and

- the lowly and inferior in their turn are well disposed toward the highly placed.

There is an end to all feuds.

- Inside, at the center, in the key position, is the light principle;
- the dark principle is outside.

Thus

- the light has a powerful influence, while
- the dark is submissive.

In this way each receives its due.

- When
  - the good elements of society occupy a central position and are in control,
  - the evil elements come under their influence and change for the better.
- When
  - the spirit of heaven rules in man,
  - his animal nature also
    - comes under its influence and
    - takes its appropriate place.

The individual lines

- enter the hexagram from below and
- leave it again at the top.

Here

- the small, weak, and evil elements are about to take their departure, while
- the great, strong, and good elements are moving up.

This brings good fortune and success.

## THE IMAGE

Heaven and earth unite: the image Of PEACE.

Thus the ruler

- Divides and
- completes

the course of heaven and earth;

He

- furthers and regulates the gifts of heaven and earth, And so
- aids the people.

Heaven and earth are in contact and combine their influences, producing a time of universal flowering and prosperity.

This stream of energy must be regulated by the ruler of men.

It is done by a process of division.

Thus men

- divide the uniform flow of time into the seasons, according to the succession of natural phenomena, and
- mark off infinite space by the points of the compass.

In this way

nature in its overwhelming profusion of phenomena is

- bounded and
- controlled.

On the other hand,  
nature must be **furthered** in her productiveness.

This is done by adjusting the products to

- the right time and
- the right place,

which increases the natural yield.

**This controlling and furthering activity of man in his relation to nature is the work on nature that rewards him.**