

| 6 |  | H | H | T |  | 3 | 3 | 2 |  | 8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 5 |  | H | T | T |  | 3 | 2 | 2 |  | 7 |
| 4 |  | T | T | T |  | 2 | 2 | 2 |  | 6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  | H | T | T |  | 3 | 2 | 2 |  | 7 |
| 2 |  | H | H | T |  | 3 | 3 | 2 |  | 8 |
| 1 |  | T | T | T |  | 2 | 2 | 2 |  | 6 |

## HEXAGRAM 39 - Chien - Obstruction

## Above K'AN THE ABYSMAL, WATER <br> Below KEN KEEPING STILL, MOUNTAIN

The hexagram pictures

- a dangerous abyss lying before us and
- a steep, inaccessible mountain rising behind us.

We are surrounded by obstacles;
at the same time,
since the mountain has the attribute of keeping still, there is implicit a hint as to how we can extricate ourselves.
The hexagram represents obstructions
that appear in the course of time but that can and should be overcome.
Therefore
all the instruction given is directed to overcoming them.

## THE JUDGMENT

OBSTRUCCION.

- The southwest furthers.
- The northeast does not further.
- It furthers one to see the great man.

Perseverance brings good fortune.
The southwest is the region of retreat, the northeast that of advance.
Here
an individual is confronted by obstacles that
cannot be overcome directly.
In such a situation
it is wise

- to pause in view of the danger and
- to retreat.

However,
this is merely a preparation for overcoming the obstructions.
One must

- join forces with friends of like mind and
- put himself under the leadership of a man equal to the situation:
then
one will succeed in removing the obstacles.
This requires the will to persevere
just when
one apparently must do something that leads away from his goal.
This unswerving inner purpose brings good fortune in the end.
An obstruction that lasts only for a time is useful for self-development.
This is the value of adversity.


## THE IMAGE

Water on the mountain:
The image of OBSTRUCTION.
Thus the superior man

- turns his attention to himself And
- molds his character.

Difficulties and obstructions throw a man back upon himself.
While

- the inferior man
- seeks to put the blame on other persons, bewailing his fate,
- the superior man
- seeks the error within himself, and
through this introspection
- the external obstacle becomes for him an occasion for
- inner enrichment and
- education.


## THE LINES

Six at the beginning means:

- Going leads to obstructions.
- Coming meets with praise.

When one encounters an obstruction, the important thing is to reflect on how best to deal with it. When threatened with danger,

- one should not strive blindly to go ahead, for this only leads to complications.
The correct thing is, on the contrary,
- to retreat for the time being,
- not in order to give up the struggle
- but to await the right moment for action.

Six in the fourth place means:
Going leads to obstructions, Coming leads to union.

This too describes a situation that cannot be managed single-handed.
In such a case
the direct way is not the shortest.
If a person were to forge ahead

- on his own strength and
- without the necessary preparations,
he
- would not find the support he needs and
- would realize too late that he has been mistaken in his calculations, inasmuch as the conditions on which
he hoped he could rely would prove to be inadequate.
In this case it is better, therefore,
- to hold back for the time being and
- to gather together trustworthy companions who can be counted upon for help in overcoming the obstructions.

MOVING HEXAGRAM

## HEXAGRAM 49 - Ko - Revolution (Molting)

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Above TUI THE JOYOUS, LAKE
Below LI THE CLINGING, FIRE
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The Chinese character for this hexagram means in its original sense an animal's pelt, which is changed in the course of the year by molting. From this the word is carried over to apply to

- the "molting" in political life,
- the great revolutions connected with changes of governments.

The two trigram making up the hexagram are
the same two that appear in K'uei, OPPOSITION (38), that is, the two younger daughters, Li and Tui.
But while
there

- the elder of the two daughters is above, and
- what results is essentially only an opposition of tendencies,
here
- the younger daughter is above.
- The influences are in actual conflict, and
- the forces combat each other like fire and water (lake), each trying to destroy the other.
Hence the idea of revolution.


## THE JUDGMENT

## REVOLUTION

On your own day
You are believed.
Supreme success,
Furthering through perseverance.
Remorse disappears.
Political revolutions are extremely grave matters.
They should be undertaken

- only under stress of direst necessity,
- when there is no way out.
- Not everyone is called to this task,
- but only the man who has the confidence of the people, and even he only when the time is ripe.
- He must then proceed in the right way, so that
- he
- gladdens the people and, by enlightening them,
- prevents excesses.

Furthermore,
he

- must be quite free of selfish aims and
- must really relieve the need of the people.

Only then does he have nothing to regret.
Times change, and with them their demands.

- Thus the seasons change in the course of the year.

In the world cycle also

- there are spring and autumn in the life of peoples and nations, and
- these call for social transformations.


## THE IMAGE

Fire in the lake: the image of REVOLUTION.
Thus the superior man

- Sets the calendar in order And
- makes the seasons clear.

Fire below and the lake above combat and destroy each other.
So too in the course of the year a combat takes place between

- the forces of light and
- the forces of darkness,
- eventuating in the revolution of the seasons.

Man masters these changes in nature by

- noting their regularity and
- marking off the passage of time accordingly.

In this way

- order and clarity appear in the apparently chaotic changes of the seasons, and
- man is able to adjust himself in advance to the demands of the different times.

