



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

Click below to view the interpretations and cases:

<https://icic.com/?p=8930>

HEXAGRAM 29 - K'an - The Abysmal (Water)

Above K'AN THE ABYSMAL, WATER

Below K'AN THE ABYSMAL, WATER

This hexagram **consists of** a doubling of the trigram K'an. It is one of the eight hexagrams in which **doubling** occurs. The trigram K'an **means** a plunging in.

A yang line

- has **plunged** in between two yin lines and
- is **closed in** by them like water in a ravine.

The trigram K'an is **also** the middle son.

The Receptive

- **has obtained** the middle line of the Creative, and thus
- K'an **develops**.

As an image it **represents** water,

the water that

- comes from above and
- is in motion on earth in streams and rivers, giving rise to all life on earth.

In man's world K'an represents

- the heart,
- the soul locked up within the body,
- the principle of light inclosed in the dark - that is, reason.

The name of the hexagram, because the trigram is doubled, has the additional meaning, "repetition of danger."

Thus the hexagram is intended to designate

- an objective situation to which one must become accustomed,
- not a subjective attitude.

For danger due to a subjective attitude means either

- foolhardiness or
- guile.

Hence too a ravine is used to symbolize danger;

it is a situation in which a man is in the same pass as the water in a ravine, and, like the water,

- he can escape if
- he behaves correctly.

THE JUDGMENT

The Abysmal repeated.

If you are sincere,

- you have success in your heart, And
- whatever you do succeeds.

Through repetition of danger we grow accustomed to it.

Water sets the example for the right conduct under such circumstances.

- It
 - flows on and on, and
 - merely fills up all the places through which it flows;
- it
 - does not shrink from any dangerous spot nor from any plunge, and
 - nothing can make it lose its own essential nature.
- It
 - remains true to itself under all conditions.

Thus likewise,

- if one is sincere when confronted with difficulties,
 - the heart can penetrate the meaning of the situation.

And

- once we have gained inner mastery of a problem,

- it will come about naturally that the action we take will succeed.

In danger all that counts is really

- carrying out all that has to be done – thoroughness - and
- going forward, in order not to perish through tarrying in the danger.

Properly used,

danger can have an important meaning as a protective measure.

Thus

- heaven has its perilous height protecting it
 - against every attempt at invasion, and
- earth has its mountains and bodies of water,
 - separating countries by their dangers.

Thus also

rulers make use of danger to protect themselves

- against attacks from without and
- against turmoil within.

THE IMAGE

Water

- flows on uninterruptedly and
- reaches its goal:

The image of the Abysmal repeated.

Thus the superior man

- walks in lasting virtue And
- carries on the business of teaching.

Water reaches its goal by flowing continually.

It fills up every depression before it flows on.

The superior man follows its example;

he is concerned that goodness should be

- an established attribute of character rather than
- an accidental and isolated occurrence.

So likewise in teaching others everything depends on consistency,

for

it is only through repetition that

the pupil makes the material his own.

THE LINES

Six at the beginning means:

Repetition of the Abysmal.

In the abyss one falls into a pit.

Misfortune.

By growing used to what is dangerous,

a man can easily allow it to become part of him.

He

- is familiar with it and
- grows used to evil.

With this

- he has lost the right way, and
- misfortune is the natural result.

0 Nine in the second place means:

The abyss is dangerous.

One should strive to attain small things only.

When

we are in danger

we ought not to attempt to get out of it immediately,
regardless of circumstances;

at first

we must content ourselves with not being overcome by it.

We must

- calmly weigh the conditions of the time and
- be satisfied with small gains,
because for the time being a great success cannot be attained.

A spring

- flows only sparingly at first, and
- tarries for some time before it makes its way into the open.

0 Nine in the fifth place means:

The abyss is not filled to overflowing,

It is filled only to the rim.

No blame.

Danger comes because one is too ambitious.

In order to flow out of a ravine,

water does not rise higher than the lowest point of the rim.

So likewise

a man when in danger

has only to proceed along the line of least resistance; thus
he reaches the goal.

Great labors cannot be accomplished in such times;

it is enough to get out of the danger.

MOVING HEXAGRAM

Click below to view the interpretations and cases:

<https://icic.com/?p=8915>

HEXAGRAM 24 – Fu - Return (The Turning Point)

Above K'UN THE RECEPTIVE, EARTH
Below CHEN THE AROUSING, THUNDER

The **idea** of a turning point arises from the fact that

- after the dark lines have **pushed** all of the light lines upward and out of the hexagram,
- another light line **enters** the hexagram from below.

The time of darkness is past.

The winter solstice brings the victory of light.

This hexagram is **linked with** the eleventh month, the month of the **solstice** (December-January).

THE JUDGMENT

RETURN. Success.

- Going out and coming in without error.
- Friends come without blame.
- To and fro goes the way.
- On the seventh day comes return.
- It furthers one to have somewhere to go.

After a time of decay comes the turning point.

The powerful light that has been banished returns.

There is movement, but

it **is not** brought about by force.

The upper trigram K'un is **characterized** by devotion; thus the movement is **natural, arising** spontaneously.

For this reason the **transformation** of the old becomes easy.

- The old is discarded and
- the new is introduced.

Both measures **accord** with the time; therefore **no harm** results.

Societies of people sharing the same views are formed.

But since these groups

- come together in full public knowledge and
- are in harmony with the time,
- all selfish separatist tendencies are excluded, and
- no mistake is made.

The idea of RETURN is based on the course of nature.

- The movement is cyclic, and
- the course completes itself.

Therefore

it is not necessary to hasten anything artificially.
Everything comes of itself at the appointed time.
This is the meaning of heaven and earth.

All movements are accomplished in six stages, and
the seventh brings return.

Thus

- the Winter solstice, with which the decline of the year begins,
 - comes in the seventh month after the summer solstice;
- so too
- sunrise
 - comes in the seventh double hour after sunset.

Therefore

seven is the number of the young light, and
it arises when six, the number of the great darkness, is increased by one.

In this way

the state of rest gives place to movement.

THE IMAGE

Thunder within the earth: The image of THE TURNING POINT.

Thus

- the kings of antiquity closed the passes At the time of solstice.
- Merchants and strangers did not go about, And
- the ruler Did not travel through the provinces.

The winter solstice has always been celebrated in China as the resting time of the year –

a custom that survives in the time of rest observed at the new year.

In winter the life energy, symbolized by thunder, the Arousing is still underground.

Movement is just at its beginning;

therefore

it must be strengthened by rest,

so that it will not be dissipated by being used prematurely.

This principle, i.e., of allowing energy that is renewing itself to be reinforced by rest,

applies to all similar situations.

- The return of health after illness,
- the return of understanding after an estrangement:
everything must be treated tenderly and with care at the beginning,
so that the return may lead to a flowering.