

20.

Kuan

Contemplation.

Upper Trigram: Sun; Gentle Penetration,
Mildness, Wind, Wood.

Lower Trigram: K'un; Passive Principle, Earth.

Governing Rulers: Nine in the fifth place.
Nine in the top-most place.

The Image:

The trigram for earth, and that for wind moving above it; these form Kuan.

The ancient kings, in accordance with this, examined the different regions of the kingdom, to see the ways of the people, and set forth their instructions.

Miscellaneous Signs:

(19)

Kuan seeks, Lin gives, such are their themes.

The Judgement:

Contemplation.

He whom it represents should be like a worshipper who has made his ablutions, but not yet presented his offerings; with sincerity and an appearance of dignity commanding reverent regard.

Commentary:

The great Manifester occupies an upper place in the hexagram, which consists of the trigrams whose attributes are penetration and docility. He is in the central position and his correct place, and thus exhibits his lessons to all under heaven.

Kuan shows its subject 'like a worshipper who has made his ablutions, but not yet presented his offerings; with sincerity and an appearance of dignity commanding reverent regard': all beneath look up to him and are transformed.

When we contemplate the spirit-like way of Heaven, we see the four seasons

proceed without error. The sages, in accordance with the spirit-like way, laid down their instructions, and all under heaven yield submission to them.

The Lines:

Six in the bottom place:

Showing the looking of a lad; not blamable in men of inferior rank, but a matter for regret in superior men.

Six in the second place:

Showing one peeping out from a door. It would be advantageous if it were merely the firm correctness of a female.

Six in the third place:

Looking at the course of one's own life, to advance or recede accordingly.

Six in the fourth place:

Showing its subject contemplating the glory of the kingdom. It would be advantageous for him, such as he is, to seek to be a guest of the king.

Nine in the fifth place:

○

Showing its subject contemplating the course of his own life. A superior man, he will thus fall into no error.

Top-most nine:

○

Showing its subject contemplating his character to see if it be indeed that of a superior man. He will fall into no error.

Commentaries:

Six in the bottom place:

The 'looking of a lad' indicates the way of the inferior people.

Six in the second place:

The 'firm correctness of a woman, in peeping out from a door', is also a thing to be ashamed of in a superior man.

Six in the third place:

'He looks at the course of his own life, to advance or recede accordingly'; he will not err in the path to be pursued.

Six in the fourth place:

'He contemplates the glory of the kingdom', thence arises his wish to be a guest at the court.

Nine in the fifth place:

'Contemplating the course of his own life': he should, for this purpose, contemplate the condition of the people.

Top-most nine:

'He contemplates his own character': he cannot even yet let his mind be at rest.
