

Canon of Changes Solution

Answer: GOTTFRIED LEIBNIZ

Puzzle by Walker Anderson. Special thanks to Professors Tristan G. Brown, Anne McCants, and Erica Zimmer for their assistance with this puzzle.

















You're intended to read the linked website:













[<https://pages.ucsd.edu/~dkjordan/chin/Baguah.html>]. (This serves as the history foundation for the puzzle.) The mention of the Yī Jīng, the quote in the flavortext, and the image of the Fúxī arrangement are also included to confirm that this page is correct. Here, solvers are intended to read the page and learn about the trigrams on the page: specifically, that trigrams are read from bottom to top, and that each of the 64 pairs of trigrams corresponds to a unique hexagram. The flavortext references semaphore to let solvers know that they should be looking for pairs of trigrams that correspond with two directions on the Fúxī arrangement.

Looking up hexagrams should bring solvers to this Wikipedia page [[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hexagram_\(I_Ching\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hexagram_(I_Ching))] which lists English names for each of the 64 hexagrams. The critical aha in this puzzle is that each image is meant to represent one of the hexagram names. The numbers on each image describe the length of each word in the hexagram names. After pairing an image with a hexagram name, you can find its two trigrams on the Fúxī arrangement, and decode their positions using semaphore to get a letter. Reading the letters spells BINARY INVENTOR, referring to **GOTTFRIED LEIBNIZ**. It's believed that Leibniz's binary was based on the Chinese trigrams and hexagrams:

<https://www.inverse.com/article/46593-gottfried-wilhelm-leibniz-i-ching-binary-system?fbclid=IwAR0AvR5u8bthAo12A1wcKwqABzKnzoKk7oLRezBS9uCNWie0VLM59DuzNrw>

The full list of decoded images is on the next page.

Picture #	Hexagram Name	Trigrams	Semaphore
1	Intelligence Hidden		 B / 2
2	Following		 I / 9
3	Swallowing		 N
4	Returning		 A / 1
5	Already Fording		 R
6	Confining		 Y
7	Converting the Maiden		 I / 9
8	Small Exceeding		 N

9	Retiring		 V
10	Ascending		 E / 5
11	Swallowing		 N
12	Displacement		 T
13	Polarising		 O
14	Before Completion		 R