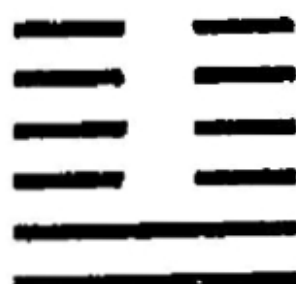


HEXAGRAM 19

LIN APPROACH



Component trigrams:

Below: TUI, a body of water, pool, marsh, joy.

Above: K'UN, earth, female, passive, etc.

TEXT Approach. Sublime success! Righteous persistence brings reward. However, when the eighth month¹ is reached, misfortune will befall.

COMMENTARY ON THE TEXT In this hexagram, the strong is well watered and grows large; joy and willing acceptance are conjoined.² The firm line central (to the lower trigram) finds response (from the other lines). Great success is won in rectifying things, which is the way of heaven. But that misfortune will follow in the eighth month indicates that this success will soon begin to wane.

SYMBOL This hexagram symbolizes land rising above a marsh.³ The Superior Man's teaching and his affection for his juniors are inexhaustible. Nothing hinders him in his care for the people.

The Lines

9 FOR THE BOTTOM PLACE All approach⁴—righteous persistence will bring good fortune! **COMMENTARY** This is because what is willed is carried out in righteous ways.

9 FOR THE SECOND PLACE All approach⁴—good fortune! Nothing is unfavourable. **COMMENTARY** This indicates that there is nevertheless some disobedience.

6 FOR THE THIRD PLACE A willing approach, but there is nowhere towards which it would be advantageous to set out.⁵ Feeling regret on that account involves no error. **COMMENTARY** The foregoing

is indicated by the unsuitable position of this line. However, if we grieve for it, we shall not be involved in error for long.⁵

6 FOR THE FOURTH PLACE A perfect approach—no error! **COMMENTARY** This is indicated by the suitable position of this line.

6 FOR THE FIFTH PLACE A wise approach suited to a great prince—good fortune! **COMMENTARY** This is a way of saying that we must keep to the middle path.⁶

6 FOR THE SIXTH PLACE A magnanimous approach—good fortune, no error. **COMMENTARY** This good fortune arises from concealing our will within our hearts.⁷

NOTES (1) The eighth moon of the lunar calendar corresponds approximately to September. (2) This is a reference to the component trigrams. The fertilizing effect of the water symbolizes rectification of the earth by the Superior Man's ministrations. (3) The lower component trigram suggests the nourishment which the Superior Man gives joyfully to others. The upper trigram symbolizes the great bulk of those who benefit. (4) All approach can be taken to mean that all things desirable are converging upon us. (5) At present, there is no goal or destination towards which it would be profitable to move; however, if we sincerely regret this, it will not be long before we emerge from the rut. (6) This is a reference to the central position of this line in the upper trigram. (7) This would seem to mean that, for the present, we should gladly accord with others and carefully conceal our aims.