

60 Articulating the Crossings JIE



Sense the right time; measure, limit; articulate speech and thought; chapters, intervals, music and ceremonies; loyal and true.

MYTHS FOR CHANGE: THE STORY OF THE TIME

Charge to the Oracle: *You cannot continually scatter the radiance. Articulate the Crossings. Accept this and use the energy of Articulating.*

Articulating refers primarily to a joint or juncture in time, a crossing point of Heaven and Earth, of the horizontal and the vertical. It is used to indicate acupuncture points that give access to the meridians and the flow of energies in the body. It represents the critical moments in time through which things can be affected and movement harmonized with the Way. The root is bamboo: nodes or joints on the plant, the strips of bamboo used for books, a bamboo flute and its natural measures or intervals. It is a chapter, a paragraph, an interval, a key or significant detail, a tablet attesting a mandate, the annual or seasonal feasts and rituals that articulate sacred time. Through these 'crossings' or 'joints', the energy that animates the Myriad Beings condenses and displays itself as symbols (*xiang*), symbols of transformation that in turn give access to primal energy or Way, joyous words from the other shore. The roots of the pair Dispersing and Articulating are water and bamboo. Together they signify the sprouts of virtue and the second birth, the spirit that grows in the heart.

THE RESPONSE

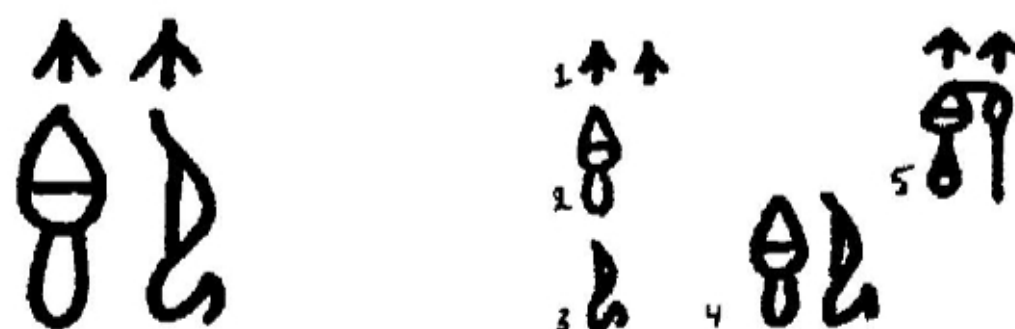
Articulating the Crossings. Make an offering and you will succeed.

Bitter articulation will not allow Trial.

Articulate, JIE: Distinguish and join things; express ideas in speech; section, chapter, interval, unit of time; rhythm; months of the year, signs of the zodiac; limits, regulations, ceremonies, feasts, rituals, holidays; token of authority; measure, economise, moderate, temper; firm, loyal, true; degrees, classes, levels; the 24 periods of



the solar calendar, marking the changes of the four seasons. The old character shows two bamboo sprouts and a person kneeling in front of a vessel of cooked food.



JIE (1450/118) shows a person (3) kneeling before a pot of food (2) and two bamboo segments or nodes (1). 4 and 5 are variant forms.

Articulating describes your situation in terms of the relations between things. The way to deal with it is to articulate and make the connections clear. Express your thoughts. Separate and distinguish things. Make chapters, sections and units of time. Create a whole in which each thing has its place. This is pleasing to the spirits. Through it they will give you success, effective power and the capacity to bring the situation to maturity. But don't harm yourself or others. Limitations that are bitter and harsh will prevent you from putting your ideas to the trial.

THE SCHOLAR SPEAKS

The hexagram figure shows expression Articulating the stream of events. Above the mists is the stream. Take the situation in and provide what is needed. Things can't simply spread out. They must be articulated. Articulating means holding things in. Cut things to size and calculate the measures. Think about what realising the Way means before taking action. Articulating is pleasing to the spirits. Through it they will give you success, effective power and the capacity to bring the situation to maturity. Apportion the supple and the solid. Keep the strong at the centre. Harsh limits will prevent you from putting your ideas to the trial. Your Way will be exhausted. Express things, take action and take risks. This is the right time to articulate your situation. Correct excess, stay in the centre and communicate with others. Heaven and Earth articulate and the four seasons accomplish their aims. By using Articulating to shape the measures and the times, property will not be injured and the people will not be harmed.

THE SHAMAN SPEAKS

Above Stream, the Mists. Articulating the Crossings.

This is a time when Noble One uses measure, number and rules, deliberating power and virtue to move.

Spirit rewards those toiling in the Pit, speaking through the Intermediaries. Joyous Dancer is working with the Ghost River. Rushing Water above dissolves direction and shape, flowing on through toil and danger, while Mists rising from below stimulate and fertilize, joyous words cheer and inspire. This is Water over Metal: inspiring words from within that articulate the stream of events. The ideal Realising Person reflects this by creating measures and models of action that engender the ability to realise the Way. Work through joyous words to bring the spirit to expression. Eliminate oppressive structures.

TRANSFORMING LINES: CHANGE AT WORK

INITIAL NINE

Articulating the Crossings.

Don't come out of the inner door and chamber.

This is not a mistake.

This means knowing when to interpenetrate and when it is blocked. This is not a time to act. Stay in your place within. Contemplate what is important to you. This is not a mistake.

Direction: You are facing a dangerous situation. Take things in. Be open and provide what is needed.

NINE AT SECOND

Articulating the Crossings.

Not coming out of the outer gate and chamber,

Trap! The Way closes.

This is letting go of the right time's ending. This is a time to act. Leave your habitual ways of thought and enter the new time. If you don't, you will surely regret it. The Way will close and you will be on the outside looking in.

Direction: A new time is beginning. Give everything a place to grow. Strip away old ideas. Be open and provide what is needed.

SIX AT THIRD

60

Articulating the Crossings.

If it is not like Articulating, it will be like lamenting!

This is not a mistake.

Lamenting. Whose fault is this? This is the time to set limits and create order. If you don't, you will always end up being sorry. Everything will dissolve in a flood of tears. If you articulate things now, you will make no mistake.

Direction: Wait for the right moment to act. Turn conflict into creative tension. The situation is already changing.



ARTICULATING

SIX AT FOURTH

Articulating the Crossings.

Quiet articulating, peaceful and secure.

Make an offering and you will succeed.

This is receiving the Way above. Articulate your ideas and feelings quietly and peacefully and you meet a warm response. This creates success and inspires friends to join you.

Direction: Express yourself and inspire others. Find supportive friends. Gather energy for a decisive new move.

NINE AT FIFTH

Articulating the Crossings.

Sweet Articulating. Wise Words! The Way is open.

Going on like this brings honour and reward.

Stay in the centre of the situation. Articulate your thoughts and feelings with sweetness, grace and delight. The Way is open. You meet with honour and esteem. This is a significant time for all.

Direction: A significant connection is approaching. Something important returns. Be open and provide what is needed.

SIX ABOVE

Bitter Articulating.

Trial: Trap! The Way closes.

Repent this and sorrow disappears.

Its Way is exhausted. You want to impose harsh measures through bitter speech. Don't do it. You will do nothing but harm. If you will only give up your bitterness, the cause for sorrow will disappear.
Direction: Connect your inner and outer lives. Take things in. Be open and provide what is needed.