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SHĒNG

RISING

Rising.
Rising is blessed.
Do not be afraid
to go to see someone big.
It is auspicious to march south.

He rises high in the service of a great ruler. South is the direction of the sun, which symbolizes the great ruler.

Lines

first line/6 — — Trusted and rising.
Great good fortune.

He is able to rise from this low position because his ruler has faith in him.

line two/9 — Allegiance makes even a small offering effective.
He comes to no harm.

Even a meager contribution becomes effective when it is joined to the great resources of the ruler. Line two is the place of the subordinate. Compare with line two of CUI (45) GATHERING AROUND.

line three/9 — Rising in an empty city.

He rises, but in the service of a failing ruler. Line three is the place of adversity.

line four/6 — — The king makes offering on Mount Qi.
Auspicious. No harm.

Line four is the place of the officer, who has the privilege of taking part in the king's ceremonial sacrifices to his ancestors and sharing in the great feast that follows. Mount Qi was the site of the ancestral temple of the lords of Zhou. It lies about 100 kilometers northwest of the present-day city of Xi'an (Sian) in northwest China.

line five/6 — — It is auspicious to keep on.
He ascends the steps.

He rises to the king's side. Line five is the place of the ruler. The passive line (— —) and passive upper trigram (☶) suggest that the ruler accepts his advance.

top line/6 — — Rising into darkness.
Continue without pause.

Even though he cannot see what lies ahead, he should keep on. The top line is above the line of the ruler and therefore often involves conflict between a subject and his ruler. In this case, there will either be no conflict or the rising subject will prevail.

STRUCTURE ☶ ☵ Kūn Acquiescent (accepting, weak)
☶ ☴ Xùn Kneel in Submission

The lower trigram represents a submissive subject (☶) and the upper trigram an accepting lord (☶). The lower trigram kneels to the upper, which accepts it, allowing it to rise. The two strong solid lines (==) rise easily through the three broken lines above them (☶). This structure of strong lines below weak lines is analogous to the trigram Zhèn ☳ Thunderbolt, which symbolizes rushing forward.