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否卦 Pi Hexagram

pi guà tiān dì
12 否卦(天地)
Pi Hexagram (Heaven Earth)

pi guà (阻塞) 由下坤☷(地) 上乾☰(天) 组成, 又称 ‘天地

否’。乾上坤下, 代表天(阳气)和地(阴气)各自安稳在自己的位置, 互相不往来。阴气与阳气无法交汇而使万物难以生长。

这意味着领导层办事都按照自己的方式, 不与基层沟通合作, 这使得小人当道, 而君子处于不利状态, 所谓 ‘小人道长, 君子道消’。否卦将会分析当我们处在这种不利条件下, 应该如何避免灾害, 走出困境。

卦辞: “否之匪人, 不利君子贞, 大往小来。” 否卦违背人的需求, 不利于君子的发展, 失去的多而得到的少。否卦是天(阳气)也代表领导层, 而地(阴气)地代表基层人员。由于领导高高在上, 自以为是, 不与员工合作, 这样是不利于一个君子的发展。当处在这样不利的环境里, 否卦提醒你不要急于求取功名, 炫耀才能; 应该隐蔽自己, 养德修身, 避免灾难, 等待时机。

初六, “拔茅茹以其汇。贞吉, 亨。” 拔取茅草, 要连根茎牵连的同类也拔出, 整固吉祥, 亨通。爻辞提醒你: 现在你处的位置

jiào dī bù lì yú nǐ shī zhǎn bào fù , bù yào máng mù qián xíng ; nǐ chú le yào yǐn tuì , zì wǒ
较低，不利于你施展抱负，不要盲目前行；你除了要隐退，自我
xiū shēn yǎng dé wài , hái yào jié jiāo péng yǒu , tuán jié shēn biān dì lì liáng , dāng nǐ yǒu xū yào shí tā
修身养德外，还要结交朋友，团结身边的力量，当你有需要时，他
men huì jìn lì bāng zhù nǐ , zhè yàng cái huì zhuǎn fǒu wéi tài 。
们会尽力帮助你，这样才会转否为泰。

liù èr , “ bāo chéng , xiǎo rén jí , dà rén fǒu 。 hēng 。 ” bāo róng chéng shòu (xiǎo rén) , xiǎo rén
六二，“包承，小人吉，大人否。亨。”包容承受(小人)，小人
jí xiáng , dà rén bì sāi , tōng dá 。 yóu yú fǒu guà jiǎng shù liǎo dà huán jìng shǐ xiǎo rén dé lì huò
吉祥，大人闭塞，通达。由于否卦讲述了大环境使小人得利获
yì , ér jūn zǐ què nán yǐ shī zhǎn cái huá 。 liù èr gào jiè jūn zǐ : xiàn zài de shí jī bù lì yú
益，而君子却难以施展才华。六二告诫君子：现在的时机不利于
nǐ de fā zhǎn , dàn bù yào tóng liú hé wū , zhǐ yào jiān shǒu zhèng dào , rěn rǔ fù zhòng , jiù néng bì
你的发展，但不要同流合污，只要坚守正道，忍辱负重，就能避
guò zǔ sāi qī , shí jī lái shí nǐ cái huì dà xiǎn shēn shǒu , shī zhǎn bào fù 。
过阻塞期，时机来时你才会大显身手，施展抱负。

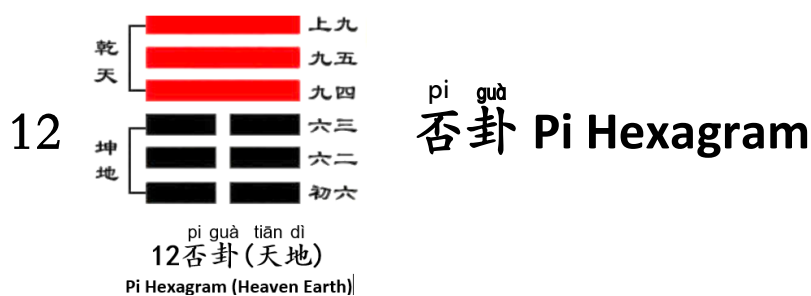
liù sān , “ bāo xiū ’ 。 bāo róng xiū chǐ 。 yóu yú zì jǐ chù zài bù lì shí qī , nǐ huì zāo dào
六三，‘包羞’。包容羞耻。由于自己处在不利时期，你会遭到
xiū rǔ 。 liù sān gào sù nǐ : yào bāo róng xiǎo rén de xíng wéi , jiāng xiū rǔ yǐn cáng yú nèi xīn , bù
羞辱。六三告诉你：要包容小人的行为，将羞辱隐藏于内心，不
yào jì jiào dé shī ; jiān chí zhèng xiàng sī wéi , nǔ lì zuò hào běn fēn , tiáo zhěng rén jì guān xì , yǔ
要计较得失；坚持正向思维，努力做好本分，调整人际关系，与
tóng shì hé mù xiāng chù , cái huì zǒu chū kùn jìng 。
同事和睦相处，才会走出困境。

jiǔ sì , “ yǒu mìng , wú jù , chóu lí zhǐ ” 。 yǒu suǒ shòu mìng , méi yǒu zāi hài , zhòng rén yī
九四，“有命，无咎，畴离祉”。有所受命，没有灾害，众人依
fù ér dé fú 。 yóu yú qián miàn yǐn tuì xiū shēn yǎng dé , jī xù lì liáng , xiàn zài lái dào le shàng
附而得福。由于前面隐退修身养德，积蓄力量，现在来到了上
yāo , huán jìng hǎo zhuǎn , bù dàn dé dào shàng sī shǎng shí shòu mìng , yě néng zào fú yú zhòng rén , shì dà
爻，环境好转，不但得到上司赏识受命，也能造福于众人，是大
xiǎn shēn shǒu de hǎo shí jī 。
显身手的好时机。

九五， “休否，大人吉。其亡其亡，系于苞桑”。闭塞不通的局面结束了，大人得到吉祥，重获当政，但是要居安思危，要以‘随时会灭亡’的心态来提醒自己，建立牢固的根基象系在桑树上一样。阻塞不通的环境已过，你终于走出困境，重回正轨，可以实现自己的心愿，但是要从前面阻碍中吸取教训，不能掉以轻心，时常警惕自己，保持忧患意识，才能持久发展。

上九， “倾否，先否后喜。” 闭塞不通之苦已过，先苦后甜。根据《易经》 物极必反的变化的理念，这里来到了上爻，不利的环境已到了尽头，顺畅通达的条件已具备，是你大显身手，充分发挥才能，实现理想的好时机。

否卦的前一卦是‘泰卦’。所谓‘泰极否来’反之‘否极泰来’。这也告诉我们任何局面发展到一定的程度都会受到阻碍。当你处在阻碍和困境中，否卦建议你：坚持正固，与人合作，自我修养，等待时机（记住：否极泰来）。这也体现了《易经》的主旨‘穷则变，变则通，变则久’的自然变化规律。



Pi Hexagram (obstruction) is combined with Kun 坤 (☷) at the bottom and Qian 乾 (☰) above. Kun represents the Earth and the energy of Yin, while Qian represents Heaven and the energy of Yang. Kun at the bottom and Qian above symbolize there is no connection between Heaven and Earth, as the nature of yang energy rises, and Yin energy descends bringing difficulty lack of harmony among people and nations. Each line will analyse and give us suggestions of how to perform under the obstruction and circumstances brought about by the *Pi* hexagram and to overcome difficult situations.

The **Judgment**: ‘*Pi* does not meet people’s needs, does not profit Junzi-true gentleman’ steadfast, loss great and receive small.’ *Pi* hexagram shows Heaven is over the Earth and represents a leader who shows outward strength but inward weakness. This leader is dominant, self-righteous, and has no connection with one’s team members. Under this leadership, society lacks justice and truth and where a Junzi (a true gentleman) cannot progress. When you face these circumstances *Pi* advises you: to not rush to obtain fame and show off your abilities; you should hide your talents and focus on self-cultivation to avoid disaster, and seek or wait for a good leader to emerge.

Chu-Liu, ‘Reeds are pulled up with the roots in clumps. It is steadfast and auspicious, fortune.’ This Yaoci reminds you that you are currently in a low position which is not conducive to your ambition and you should not blindly

move forward. Rather you should retreat within yourself and cultivate your morality and ability. You may also need to make friends and unite the forces around you (reeds in a clump) so that they may try their best to help you in need. These measures can turn around obstruction and stagnation.

Liu-Er, 'Tolerance and acceptance [of the small man], this is auspicious for the small man; obstruction leads to fortune for great man'. When confronted with obstruction, poor leaders tolerate and accept interference from those 'small men' who lack justice and truth. This is not good for Junzi (uphold justice) to fulfill their ideal solution for society. This line guides Junzi to not be deluded by the behaviour of those lacking truth and justice; maintain your inner strength; bear humiliation to overcome the obstruction, and then fortune can be achieved when opportunities arrive.

Liu-San, 'Accept shame'. As you are placed at the obstruction period, a small man may not feel the shame of one's incorrect practice, but as a Junzi you must be humiliated by pursuing your correct desire. This line advises you to accept the small man's behaviour and does not show disgust; continue positive thinking and continue your duty in an appropriate manner; adjust relationships with those around you and seek harmony with them. This approach will help you to get out of the obstructive predicament.

Jiu-Si, 'An order, no harm, companions share blessing'. This line comes to the upper trigram, things start to change, the leaders have reflected their mistakes of pain for pleasure and started to give order to Junzi. If you had constrained and veiled by your desire during the obstruction period, it is the time for you to fulfill your dream. You are not just be appreciated and ordered by your leader but also benefit for many people (companion share blessing) as you were maintained to

righteous, self-cultivation and accumulate your energy over the obstruction time.

Jiu-Wu, 'Obstruction is ended, this is auspicious for a great man. Keep the danger firmly in your mind just like the leaves bound in the mulberry tree.' The period of obstruction has ended, and you have navigated through hardship and are centered on the right path. It is a great time for you to achieve your goal and in order to make sustainable achievement, you need to maintain steadfastness, be mindful of the danger, and remember and learn from what you have lost from your past journey.

Shang-Jiu, 'Obstruction is overthrown and happiness after the painfulness'. The concept of *I Ching* is change where adversity and opportunity always follow one another. Everything that has reached its pinnacle will fall and that which has fallen will again rise. Shang-Jiu is the last line of obstruction and represents that adversity has passed and opportunity will soon come. It is a great time for a Junzi to show your talent and bring benefit to your community and fulfill your dreams.

The *Pi* (obstruction) and *Tai* (grandeur) hexagrams illustrate the I-Ching cycle of change*. There is a saying '*Tai* reaches to the topmost is *Pi*'. We can take this as meaning when we reach *Tai*, we will soon be at *Pi* as *Pi* always follows *Tai*. When facing *Pi* situations, this hexagram provides us with suggestions to bear *Pi*: be steadfast, cooperative with others, self-cultivate, and wait for opportunities (as remember, *Tai* will follow *Pi*). This encapsulates a key principle of *I Ching*: 'Poverty demands change, change carries development and permanence follows development'.

*For more on the *Tai* hexagram, see my previous entry.