

A Summary of Trigram Qualities

☰ **Qian:** Heaven, the Creative. Strong, firm./ Active, transforming, opening and expanding. Pure yang. *The trigram of infinite relations.*

☷ **Kun:** Earth, the Receptive. Devoted, yielding./ Quiet, nurturing, closing and coalescing. Pure yin. *The trigram of the fertile matrix.*

☳ **Zhen:** Thunder, the Arousing. Movement./ Stimulating, instantaneous action. *The trigram of the triggering impulse.*

☵ **Kan:** Water, the Abysmal. Danger/ Treacherous, naturally fortified. *The trigram of unpredictable flow.*

☶ **Gen:** Mountain, the Unmoving. Keeping Still./ Accumulation, stable formation, imprinting./ *The trigram of the residue of action.*

☱ **Dui:** Marsh, the Joyous. Ebullience./ Lushness, abundance, teeming life. *The trigram of self-offered richness.*

☲ **Li:** Fire, the Clinging. Brightness./ Patterns, culture, vision. *The trigram of (highlighted) finite relations.*

☴ **Xun:** Wind, Wood, the Penetrating. Gentleness./ Balance, coherent growth, subtle adjustment. *The trigram of the homeostatic field.*

Some associations mentioned in the “Treatise on Trigrams”: Qian---dragon, father, roundness; Kun---fabric, kettle, multitude; Zhen---new growth, a broad road, the foot; Kan---blood, ambush, thief; Gen---bypath, little stones, hand; Dui---speech, shamaness, bursting open; Li---sun, dryness, weapons and armor; Xun---work, a plumb line, advance and retreat ;

“God comes forth in the sign of the Arousing; he brings all things to completion in the sign of the Gentle; he causes creatures to perceive one another in the sign of the Clinging(light); he causes them to serve one another in the sign of the Receptive. He gives them joy in the sign of the Joyous; he battles in the sign of the Creative; he toils in the sign of the Abysmal; he brings them to perfection in the sign of Keeping Still.” (from the “Treatise on the Trigrams”)