

中華字經注釋本

Chinese Character Canon Commentary

第一冊

Volume One

中華字經國際書院

The Miktam of Chinese International Inc

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第 1 課 天文

Lesson One Astronomy

乾坤有序 宇宙無疆

乾[qián]坤[kūn]: 中國最大的，也是最重要的一對哲學範疇。《周易》六十四卦的第一卦和第二卦。是促使萬物發生變化的兩種截然相反的物質的性質。**乾**之象為天，表示陽性，**坤**之象為地，表示陰性。**乾坤**強調的不是相互對立，而是相輔相成。**乾**始物，**坤**成物，**乾**和**坤**兩種物質相互交感才能推動事物發生變化。因此**乾坤**又引申為天地、日月、男女、父母等。

乾[qián]坤[kūn] is the supreme and most important pair of philosophical concepts in China. These two characters are the first and second hexagrams in **周[zhōu]易[yì]**, also known as *Changes of the Zhou*. They are two diametrically different natures of matter that prompt creatures to change. The phenomenon of **乾[qián]** is Heaven, representing **陽[yáng]**; while the phenomenon of **坤[kūn]** is Earth, representing **陰[yīn]**. **乾[qián]** and **坤[kūn]** are not focusing on opposite but complementary. **乾[qián]** gives birth to creatures and **坤[kūn]** nourishes them. The very interaction between them gives impetus to the changes of creatures. In this sense, **乾[qián]坤[kūn]** can refer to Heaven and Earth, Sun and Moon, man and woman, father and mother, etc. **有[yǒu]**: 1. have 2. there is. **序[xù]**: 次序、順序; sequence, succession; order.

宇[yǔ]宙[zhòu]: 空間與時間的總和。宇指空間，宙指時間; the summation of space and time. **宇[yǔ]** means space and **宙[zhòu]** means time. **無[wú]**: 1.without 2.nil; nothing **疆[jiāng]**: 邊界 boundary.

天地啊，你化育萬物，包羅萬象，運行然而有序。宇宙啊，你無始無終，無邊無際，哪兒都沒有界疆！

Oh, Heaven and Earth! You are all-inclusive, producing and nourishing creatures, yet running in order. Oh, the Cosmos! You know no beginning and end, no boundaries and even no limits!

星辰密佈 斗柄指航

星[xīng]辰[chén]: 是天體的總稱; the general term for celestial bodies. **星[xīng]**: 是發亮的天體; Star(s), a luminous celestial body. **辰[chén]**: 是比星暗的天體; Celestial bodies darker than stars. **星[xīng]**按物理性質和運動狀態分為恒星、行星、衛星、小行星、彗星和流星。太陽是恒星，月亮是衛星，人類居住的地球是行星; According to physical nature and state of motion, **星[xīng]** includes fixed stars, planets, satellites, asteroids, comets and meteors. The sun is a fixed star. The moon is a satellite, and the earth on which humans live is a planet. **密[mì]**: dense; close; thick; numerous. **佈[bù]**:陳列、鋪開; distribution and spreading.

斗[dǒu]: a kind of volume measure. **柄[bǐng]**: handle. **斗[dǒu]柄[bǐng]**:北斗七星，即大熊星座。北斗七星排列形狀如一把杓子，故民間又稱為“杓子星”。人們從斗柄所指方向，分季節、辨農時; **斗[dǒu]柄[bǐng]** (or the Handle of Ladle): Big Dipper, namely, Triones. The array of the Dipper is distributed like a spoon and thereby it is also termed “Ladle Star” or “Milk Dipper”. With reference to the direction **斗[dǒu]柄[bǐng]** guides, people can distinguish between different seasons and identify farming seasons.

指[zhǐ]: 1. to point, direct or guide 2. to indicate 3. a finger. **航[háng]**: 1. to navigate (by air or by water) 2. a

voyage 3. a boat; a ship. 指[zhǐ]航[háng]: 指示航向; a guide or an indication to direction for navigation.

閃爍的星辰密密麻麻地佈滿天空，北斗星在太空中為地球指明了方向。句文既指出地球在宇宙中與其他星球的相對位置，又暗示地球上任何規律都要符合宇宙天地發生發展的根本規律。

Thickly dotted in the sky are twinkling stars, among which, the Big Dipper, in space, points out directions for the earth. This sentence not only indicates that the stars show the position of the earth relative to other celestial bodies in the universe, but also implies that any rule whatsoever on the earth should be in accordance with basic creation and development rules of the universe.

晝白夜黑 日明月亮

晝[zhòu]: 白天。地球對著太陽的一面所處的時間; daytime, the time for the part of the earth facing the sun. 白[bái]: white. 夜[yè]: 黑夜，地球背著太陽的一面所處的時間; night, the time for the other part of the earth facing away from the sun. 黑[hēi]: black; dark.

日[rì]: 太陽的簡稱，也是太陽系的中心天體; the abbreviation of the sun. It is also the central celestial body in the solar system. 明[míng]: bright; clear-sighted. 月[yuè]: 月球的簡稱，舊稱“太陰”。地球的天然衛星; the abbreviation of the moon. It is also referred to “太[tài]陰[yīn]” in old times, a natural satellite to the earth. 亮[liàng]: shine, bright.

句文描寫了日出日落、晝夜交替，月缺月圓、歲月流逝的天象。

The sentence describes the celestial phenomena that the sun rises and sets, day and night alternate, the moon waxes and wanes, and the time passes by.

風馳雪舞 電閃雷響
雲騰致雨 露結晨霜
虹霓霞輝 霧沉雹降

風[fēng]: 空氣流動形成風，氣象上常用風向和風力表示風的方向和強度大小; wind, the result of air movement. 馳[chí]: speed; gallop. 雪[xuě]: 雨遇寒氣凝結成六角形白色結晶體，漂落而下叫雪，空氣中所含水汽多少和溫度高低等不同，所形成的雪花形狀、雪片大小也就不同. Snow: a precipitation in the form of ice crystals, mainly of intricately branched, hexagonal form and often agglomerated into snowflakes, formed directly from the freezing of the water vapor in the air. Along with the different water vapor density in the air and different temperature, the shape and size of the snowflakes may differ. 舞[wǔ]: dance

電[diàn]: electricity. 閃[shǎn]: flash or lightning. 電[diàn]閃[shǎn]: 雲團與空氣摩擦而生電，閃電則是雲層間、雲地間或雲和空氣間的電位差增大到一定程度時的猛烈放電現象. The electricity is generated through friction between cloud clusters and air. 閃[shǎn]電[diàn] or lightning is a brilliant electric spark discharge in the atmosphere, caused by increase of electric potential difference between clouds or between a cloud and the ground or air. 雷[léi]: 空中激電而發出的聲響即是雷; thunder, a loud, explosive noise produced by the explosive expansion of air heated by a lightning discharge. 響[xiǎng]: roar, sound, echo.

雲[yún]: 雲，地面的濕空氣升至高處，遇冷而凝成無數細微水點，成團浮游空中，即為雲。雲狀演變

常能表明大氣結構情況和天氣的變化。Cloud, the humid air on the ground becomes a block of cloud and floats in the air as it ascends to a high place and is then condensed into numerous tiny droplets when coming across cold air. 騰[téng]: jump, rise. 致[zhi]: result in. 雨[yǔ]: 雲中的微小水點積重增大到上升氣流無力支持時，下落而為雨。Rain: water that is condensed from the aqueous vapor in the atmosphere and falls to earth in drops.

露[lù]: 接近地面的水汽遇冷凝為水點是露，常見於晴朗無風的夜間或清晨。Dew; moist air near the surface of the earth condenses, on cool clear nights, as dew on the ground in the early morning. 結[jié]: grow to be, result. 晨[chén]: morning. 霜[shuāng]: 空氣中水汽因地面或地物表面散發熱量而凝華在其上的白色結晶微粒是霜。Frost, the specks of white crystals condensed by radiation of heat by the moisture in the air onto the ground or onto surfaces of objects

虹[hóng]霓[ní]: 虹霓，是太陽光線與水汽相映，出現在天空的彩暈。Rainbow: a bow or arc of prismatic colors appearing in the heavens opposite the sun and caused by the refraction and reflection of the sun's rays in drops of rain. 虹[hóng]: 主虹為虹， refers to the primary rainbow, 霓[ní]: 副虹為霓，霓位於虹外側，常出現於雨後; the secondary rainbow which always sets outside the primary rainbow and often appears after raining. 霞[xiá]: 是因日光斜射而呈現赤色的彩雲。Rosy clouds, red clouds caused by the oblique incidence of sunshine. 輝[huī]: glitters, brilliant.

霧[wù]: 空氣中的水汽凝成細水點或冰晶，象雲煙一樣瀰漫在空中則是霧。Fog: a cloudlike mass or layer of minute water droplets or ice crystals near the surface of the earth. 沉[chén]: fall or sink. 雹[báo]: 雹，雨遇冷氣凝結成大小不一的冰塊隨雨降下，便是冰雹。Hail, showery precipitation in the form of irregular pellets or balls of ice. 降[jiàng]: drop, descend.

這幾句說自然氣候現象，及其之間的相互作用和聯繫。

The aforesaid sentences refer to the phenomena of natural climates, as well as the interaction and relationship among them.

春生夏長 秋收冬藏

農曆一年分為四季，春[chūn]: 春，是第一季，夏[xià]: 夏，是第二季，秋[qiū]: 秋，是第三季，冬[dōng]: 冬，是第四季。農曆一至三月為春季，四至六月為夏季，七至九月為秋季，十至十二月為冬季。春天是萬物萌生的季節，夏天是它們迅速成長的季節，秋天是收穫果實的季節，冬天是植物貞藏的季節。

In the lunar calendar, each year is divided into four seasons. 春[chūn]: Spring, the first season. 夏[xià]: Summer, the second season. 秋[qiū]: Autumn, the third season and 冬[dōng]: Winter, the fourth season. In the lunar calendar, spring lasts from January to March, summer lasts from April to June, autumn lasts from July to September and winter lasts from October to December. Spring is the season during which everything on the earth starts to grow. Summer is the season in which the foregoing grows rapidly. Autumn is the season of harvest and winter is the season to store crops. 春[chūn]節[jié]: *The Chinese New Year's Day or The Spring Festival is the January First in the Chinese lunar calendar.*

生[shēng]: give birth to, bring forth. 長[zhǎng]: grow, develop. 收[shōu]: collect, gather. 藏[cáng]: store, hide.

此二句是說植物和農作物在春天播種萌生，夏天生長，秋天成熟，冬天儲藏的自然規律。

The two sentences indicate the order of nature that plants and crops are planted in spring, grow in summer, and later become ripe in autumn and finally are stored in winter.

時令應候 寒來暑往

時[shí]: time; season; hour; when. 令[ling]: order; command. 時[shí]令[ling]: 時令, 歲時節令; times, seasons.

中國農曆按季節氣候變化將一年分為二十四個節氣, 從春至冬依次為立春、雨水、驚蟄、春分、清明、穀雨、立夏、小滿、芒種、夏至、小暑、大暑、立秋、處暑、白露、秋分、寒露、霜降、立冬、小雪、大雪、冬至、小寒、大寒。

In the Chinese lunar calendar, a year is divided into 24 solar terms with changes of seasons and climates. And they are classified, in turn, from the beginning of spring to winter as the following in sequence: the Beginning of Spring, Rain Water, the Waking of Insects, the Spring Equinox, Pure Brightness, Grain Rain, the Beginning of Summer, Lesser Fullness of Grain, Grain in Beard, the Summer Solstice, Lesser Heat, Greater Heat, the Beginning of Autumn, the End of Heat, White Dew, the Autumn Equinox, Cold Dew, Frost's Descent, the Beginning of Winter, Lesser Snow, Greater Snow, the Winter Solstice, Lesser Cold and Greater Cold.

應[yìng]: 1. answer 2. accept 3. ought to; 候[hòu]: 1. wait (for), expect 2. time; season 應[yìng]候[hòu]: 根據季節、氣候變化; Change of seasons and climates. 寒[hán]: 冷。此指寒冷的季節; Cold. Here it means cold season. 來[lái]: come 暑[shǔ]: 熱。此指炎熱的季節。 Hot or heat. Here it means scorching season. 往[wǎng]: go away

寒[hán]來[lái]暑[shǔ]往[wǎng]: 指四時相代, 季節交替。The cold season goes past and the hot one comes, which indicates the alternation of four seasons.

句文大意說歲時節令啊, 就是應天候而作, 這才有冷與熱的迴圈, 寒與暑的來往。

The aforesaid sentences roughly mean that weather changes with the times and seasons, which result in alternation of coldness and hotness.