Textual bonding in early Chinese manuscripts

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Paul Ricoeur: The Model of the Text: Meaningful Action Considered as Text

- Social Research, Vol. 38, No. 3 (1971): 529-562
 - Stable URL: https://www.jstor.org/stable/40970072
- New Literary History, Vol. 5, No. 1, What Is Literature? (1973): 91-117
 - Stable URL: https://www.jstor.org/stable/468410
- Chapter 8 of Paul Ricoeur, Hermeneutics and the Human Sciences Essays on Language, Action and Interpretation, Editions de la Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in France and Cambridge University Press in the United States, 1981. Repr. with a preface by Charles Taylor by Cambridge University Press (Cambridge Philosophy Classics), 2016.

Differences in speaking and writing

Spoken Discourse

Written Discourse

1. Fleeting event

a) Locutionary act

b) Illocutionary act

c) Perlocutionary act

2. Subject and meaning identical

3. Commonly shared situation

4. Interlocutor present

Fixed "said", objectification

Author different from text meaning

Commonality: being-in-the-world

Reader can be anyone

Consequence: plurivocity.

Consequence: plurivocity

This in turn requires:

- explanation, verification, validation in explanatory procedures
- not random, hermeneutic circle is not vicious
- criteria of relative superiority reduce ambiguity and make the text a "limited field of possible constructions"

Writing in ritual contexts

- Dialogue
- "Text act"
- Records with binding character requiring commitment
- Oracle bone inscriptions
 - preface (and postface), charge, crack number, crack notation, prognostication and verification
- Bronze inscriptions
 - date and place notation, event notation, gift list and dedication

Structure composed of building blocks

- ABCDE
- Possible variants: ABCE, ADE, ACCCCE, ABBEEE. Not: ACBD
- AC₁C₂C₃C₄E could also be AC₁C₄C₂C₃E

Shift of texts

Texts commonly shared by present interlocutors bound by the texts to commitment through a common understanding of the "text act"



Unsituated texts addressed to readers and their various interpretations of the texts' potential plurivocity

How to limit the "the field of possible constructions"?

Identify:

- individual building blocks or units in a section
- their mutual relationships

By means of

- Connective particles (故, 今, 夫, 哉, 乎, 也, 耶 etc.)
- Literary forms (figures of the textual body)
 - Law of Similarity: similar appearance in the **visual form** of graphs, **parallel arrangements** in time (text as a temporary sequence) or in space (text as an arrangement of characters in space) and similar **sounds** (rhymes, paranomasia) can be taken as indicators of similar meaning.
- Punctuation?

Shijing 詩經, 下武 (Mao 243), 8th cent BCE

下武維周、世有哲王。 三后在天、王配于京。 王配于京、世德作求。 永言配命、成王之孚。 成王之孚、下土之式。 永言孝思、孝思維則。 媚茲一人、應侯順德。 永言孝思、昭哉嗣服。 昭茲來許、繩其祖武。 於萬斯年、受天之祜。 受天之祜、四方來賀。 於萬斯年、不遐有佐。

Shijing 詩經, 下武 (Mao 243), 8th cent BCE

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媚茲一人、應侯順德。 永言孝思、昭哉嗣服。 昭茲來許、繩其祖武。 於萬斯年、受天之祜。 受天之祜、四方來賀。 於萬斯年、不遐有佐 下武維周、世有哲王。 三后在天、王配于京。 王配于京、世德作求。

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For generations there had been wise kings;
The three sovereigns were in heaven;
And king [Wu] was their worthy successor in his capital.

King [Wu] was their worthy successor in his capital,
Rousing himself to seek for the hereditary virtue,
Always striving to accord with the will [of Heaven];
And thus he secured the confidence due to a king.

He secured the confidence due to a king, And became a pattern of all below him. Ever thinking how to be filial, His filial mind was the model [which he supplied].

Successors tread in the steps [of their predecessors] in our Zhou.

媚茲一人、應侯順德。 永言孝思、昭哉嗣服。 昭茲來許、繩其祖武。 於萬斯年、受天之祜。 受天之祜、四方來賀。 於萬斯年、不遐有佐。 Men loved him, the One man, And responded [to his example] with a docile virtue. Ever thinking how to be filial, He brilliantly continued the doings [of his fathers].

Brilliantly! and his posterity, Continuing to walk in the steps of their forefathers, For myriads of years,

Will receive the blessing of Heaven.

They will receive the blessing of Heaven. And from the four quarters [of the kingdom] will felicitations come to them. For myriads of years,

Will there not be their helpers?

下武維周、世有哲王。

王配于京、世德作求。

成王之孚、下土之式。

媚茲一人、應侯順德。

昭茲來許、繩其祖武。

受天之祜、四方來賀。

三后在天、王配于京。

永言配命、成王之孚。

永言孝思、孝思維則。

永言孝思、昭哉嗣服。

於萬斯年、受天之祜。

於萬斯年、不遐有佐。

下武維周、世有哲王。

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永言孝思、孝思維則。

永言孝思、昭哉嗣服。

於萬斯年、受天之祜。

於萬斯年、不遐有佐。

下武維周、世有哲王。*gwan	(陽)	三后在天、王配于京。*kraŋ	(陽)
王配于京、世德作求。*gu	(幽)	永言配命、成王之孚。*pu	(幽)
成王之孚、下土之式。*lˌək	(職)	永言孝思、孝思維則。*ts ^ç ək	(職)
媚茲一人、應侯順德。*t ^ç ək	(職)	永言孝思、昭哉嗣服。*bək	(職)
昭茲來許、繩其祖武。*ma?	(魚)	於萬斯年、受天之祜。*g ^ç a?	(魚)
受天之祜、四方來賀。*g [ົ] aj	(歌)	於萬斯年、不遐有佐。*ts ^ç ar?-s	(歌)

下武維周、世有哲王。*gwan	(陽)	三后在天、 <mark>王配于京</mark> 。*kraŋ	(陽)
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昭茲來許、繩其祖武。*ma?	(魚)	於萬斯年、受天之祜。*g ^ç a?	(魚)
受天之祜、四方來賀。*g ^ç aj	(歌)	於萬斯年、不遐有佐。*ts ^ç ar?-s	(歌)

Ĺ Ĺ	王配于京、	世有哲王。 世德作求。 下土之式。	*gu	(陽) 三后在天、 (幽) 永言配命、 (職) 永言孝思、	成王之孚。	*pu	(陽) (幽) (<mark>職</mark>)	1 0
O L L	昭茲來許、	應侯順德。 繩其祖武。 四方來賀。	*ma?	(<mark>職</mark>) 永言孝思、 (魚) 於萬斯年、 (歌) 於萬斯年、	受天之祜。	*g ^s a?	(職) (魚) (歌)	1

Lunyu 16.9

孔子曰:生而知之者,上也;學而知之者,次也;困而學之,又次也;困而不學,民斯為下矣。

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孔子曰:
生而知之者,上也;
學而知之者,次也;
困而學之,又次也;
困而不學,民斯為下矣。
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Guōdiàn *Lǎozi* A.2

江海所以為百谷王。以其能為百谷下。是以能為百谷王。聖人之在 民前也,以身後之。其在民上也,以言下之。其在民上也,民弗厚 也。其在民前也,民弗害也。天下樂進而弗厭。以其不爭也。故天 下莫能與之爭。

Guōdiàn Lǎozǐ A.2

Analytical presentation:

江海所以為百谷王。以其能為百谷下。是以能為百谷王。

la 聖人之 在民前也, b 以身後之。

2a **其 在民上也**, b 以言下之。

3a 其 在民上也, b 民弗厚也。

4a 其 在民前也, b 民弗害也。

天下樂進而弗厭。以其不爭也。故天下莫能與之爭。

That by which rivers and seas are kings over the many mountain streams is their ability to be below the many mountain streams. For this reason they are able to act as kings over the many mountain streams.

1a The sage *stands in front of the people*, b <u>because he puts</u> himself behind them.

2a **He** stands on top of the people, b because he puts his speech below them.

3a **He** stands on top of the people, b <u>but the people don't</u> admire him.

4a He stands in front of the people, b but the people don't harm him.

All under Heaven enjoys bringing him forward without getting tired of it. Because he is someone who does not compete. This is why in all under Heaven nobody is able to compete with him.

Guōdiàn *Lǎozi* A.2

Analytical presentation:

江海所以為百谷王。以其能為百谷下。是以能為百谷王。

la 聖人之 在民前也, b 以身後之。

 \updownarrow

2a **其 在民上也**, b 以言下之。

3a 其 在民上也 , b 民弗厚也。

 \uparrow

4a 其 在民前也, b 民弗害也。

天下樂進而弗厭。 以其不爭也。 故天下莫能與之爭。

Chapter 66 of Wáng Bì (226–249) version Analytical presentation:

江海所以能為百谷王者,<mark>以其善下之。 故能為百谷王。</mark> 是以

la 欲上民, b 必以言下之。

2a 欲先民, b 必以身後之。

是以

3a 聖人處上 b 而民不重。

4a 處前 b 而民不害。

是以

天下樂推而不厭。 以其不爭, 故天下莫與之爭。

Comparison core part of Guodian A2 and chapter 66 of Wáng Bì

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la 聖人之 在民前也,b以身後之。
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2a 其 在民上也,b 以言下之。

3a 其 在民上也,b 民弗厚也。

4a 其 在民前也, b 民弗害也。

1a 欲 上民, b 必以言下之。

2a 欲 先民, b 必以身後之。

3a 聖人 處上 b 而民不重。

4a 處前 b而民不害。

Chapter 66 of Wáng Bì (226–249) version Analytical presentation:

Chapter 66 of Wáng Bì (226–249) version Analytical presentation:

江海所以能為百谷王者,以其善下之。故能為百谷王。 是以

la 欲上民, b 必以言下之。

2a 欲先民, b 必以身後之。

是以聖人

3a 處上 b 而民不重。

4a 處前 b 而民不害。

是以

天下樂推而不厭。以其不爭,故天下莫與之爭。

- 1 上士聞道, 勤而行之;
- 2 中士聞道, 若存若亡;
- 3 下士聞道,大笑。不笑,不足以爲道。
- 4 故建言有之:
- 5 明道若昧,
- 6 進道若退,
- 7 夷道若類,
- 8 上德若谷,
- 9 大白若辱,
- 10 廣德若不足,
- 11 建德若偷,
- 12 質真若渝,
- 13 大方無隅,
- 14大器晚成,
- 15 大音希聲,
- 16 大象無形,
- 17道隱無名。
- 18 夫唯道, 善貸且成。

Laozi 41

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1上士聞道,勤而行之;
2中士聞道,若存若亡;
3下士聞道,大笑。不笑,不足以爲道。
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These lines are always translated in the following sense:

If superior men hear about the Way, they diligently put it into practice. If middling men hear about the Way, they sometimes retain it, and sometimes lose it. If inferior men hear about the Way, they laugh out loud. If they didn't laugh, it would not be worth being considered as the Way.

OC rhymes (Baxter & Sagart 2013)

567	明道若昧,	*m ^c ut-s	(微)
	進道若退,	*n ^c əp-s	(微)
	夷道若類,	*rut-s	(微)
8	上德若谷,	*C.q ^c ok	(屋)
9	大白若辱,	*nok	(屋)
10	廣德若不足,	*tsok	(屋)
11 12	建 <mark>德若</mark> 偷, 質真若渝, ◆	*	(侯) (侯)
13	→ 大方無隅, 	*ŋo	(侯)
14	大器晚成,	*m-deŋ	(耕) (耕)
15	大音希聲,	*len	(耕)
16	大象無形,	*e ^c en	(耕)
17	道隱無名。	*C.meŋ	(耕)
18 夫 唯道,	善貸且成。	*m-deŋ	(耕)
地。	ᄆᆽᄓᄊᅆ	iii acij	\ 471 /

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4 故建言有之:
                         This is why an established saying goes:
   5 明道若昧,
                         The dag when bright
                                                               is as if it were dark,
   6 進道若退,
                                                               is as if it were retreating,
                         the dao when advancing
   7夷道若類,
                         the dao when level
                                                               is as if it were uneven.
                                                               is as if it were a glen,
   8上德若谷,
                         the moral power when great
   9大白若辱,
                                                               is as if it were grimy,
                         a Great white
   10 廣德若不足,
11 建德若偷,
                         the moral power when ample
                                                               is as if it were insufficient,
                         the moral power when erected
                                                               is as if it were low,
   12 質真若渝,
                         plain truth
                                                               is as if it were changing,
   13 大方無隅,
                         a Great place
                                                               has no borders,
   14 大器晚成,
                         a Great vessel
                                                               can hardly be completed,
   15 大音希聲,
                         a Great tone
                                                               has a soft sound,
   16大象無形,
                         a Great image
                                                               has no form,
   17 道隱無名。
                         the dao
                                                               has no name.
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18 夫唯道,善貸且成。 Actually, the dag alone bestows and accomplishes.

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1 上士聞道, 勤而行之;
                                       *g<sup>r</sup>an-s [陽]
2 中士聞道, 若存若亡;
                                               [陽]
                                       *maŋ
3 下士聞道, 大笑。不笑, 不足以爲道。 *s-law-s/ *lˤuʔ-s [宵/幽]
4 故建言有之:
               明道若昧,
                                       *m<sup>c</sup>ut-s
5
               進道若退,
                                       *n°əp-s
6
               夷道若類,
                                       *rut-s
7
               上德若谷,
                                       *C.q<sup>c</sup>ok
8
                                                   Laozi 41
               大白若辱,
9
                                       *nok
               廣德若不足,
                                       *tsok
10
               建德若偷,
                                       *[°0
11
               質真若渝,
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12
                  \updownarrow
               大方無隅,
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14
               大器晚成,
                                       *m-den
               大音希聲,
15
                                       *leŋ
               大象無形,
16
                                       *gˤeŋ
               道隱無名。
                                       *C.meŋ
17
18 夫唯道,
               善貸且成。
                                       *m-den
```

Shangshu "Duo fang"《尚書·多方》passage

王若曰: 誥告爾多方, 非天庸釋有夏, 非天庸釋有殷; 乃惟爾辟, 以爾多方, 大淫圖天之命, 屑辭。乃惟有夏, 圖厥政, 不集于享; 天降時喪, 有邦間之。乃惟爾商後王, 逸厥逸, 圖厥政, 不蠲烝; 天惟降時喪。惟聖罔念作狂, 惟狂克念作聖。天惟五年須暇之子孫, 誕作民主; 罔可念聽。天惟求爾多方, 大動以威, 開厥顧天。惟爾多士, 罔堪顧之。惟我周王, 靈承于旅, 克堪用德, 惟典神天。天惟式教我用休, 簡畀殷命, 尹爾多方。

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1 王若曰:
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- 2 誥告 爾多方,
- 3 非天庸 釋有夏,
- 4 非天庸 釋有殷;
- 5 乃惟爾辟,以爾多方,大淫圖天之命,屑辭。
- 6 乃惟 有夏, 圖厥政,不集于享; 天 降時喪,有邦間之。
- 7 乃惟爾商後王,逸厥逸, 圖厥政,不蠲烝, 天惟降時喪。
- 8 惟聖罔念作狂,
 - X
- 9 惟狂克念作聖。
- 10 天惟五年 須暇之子孫, 誕作民主; 罔可念聽。
- 11 天惟求 爾多方, 大動以威, 開厥顧天。
- 12 惟 爾多士, 罔堪顧之。
- -----X ------
- 13 惟 我周王, 靈承于旅, 克堪用德, 惟典神天。
- 14 天惟式教 我用休, 簡畀殷命, 尹爾多方。

- 1 The king spoke to the effect:
- 2 I announce and declare to you [from the] numerous regions,
- 3 It is not that Heaven wanted to abolish the ruler of Xia,
- 4 It is not that Heaven wanted to abolish the ruler of Yin,
- 5 But indeed your ruler, with your numerous regions, behaved excessively, and when it came to attending to the Heavenly Mandate, he made trifling retreats.
- 5 But indeed the ruler of Xia, when it came to attending his governance, did not assemble for sacrifices. 62 Heaven sent down this ruin, and a ruler of one of the states intermitted it.
- 7 But indeed your last Shang king indulged in his leisure, and when it came to attending to his governance, he did not make the sacrifices illustrious. Heaven thereupon sent down this ruin.
- 8 Indeed, even the sages when incapable of thinking will become savages;
- 9 Indeed, even the savages when capable of thinking will become sages.
- 10 Heaven indeed then allowed five years for successors who might be adequate rulers to be produced, but none of them could be appreciated.
- 11 Heaven indeed then searched in your numerous regions, rousing people greatly by means of its majesty to encourage someone to attend Heaven.
- 12 But indeed of you [from the] numerous regions nobody was able to attend it.
- 13 But indeed our Zhou kings efficaciously received the splendid blessings, 63 were able to adequately make use of their virtue, and properly carried out the sacrifices to spirits and Heaven.
- 14 Heaven indeed thereupon provided patterns for instruction, and as we used them propitiously it chose us to confer Yin's Mandate to us and to rule over your numerous regions.



Tsinghua Bamboo slips:

> "Tang zai Chimen" 湯在啻門

ca 300 BCE



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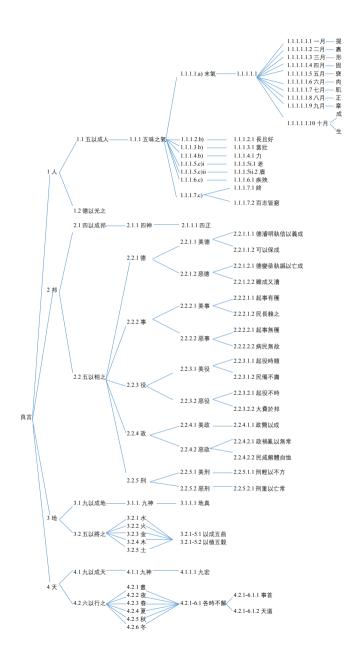
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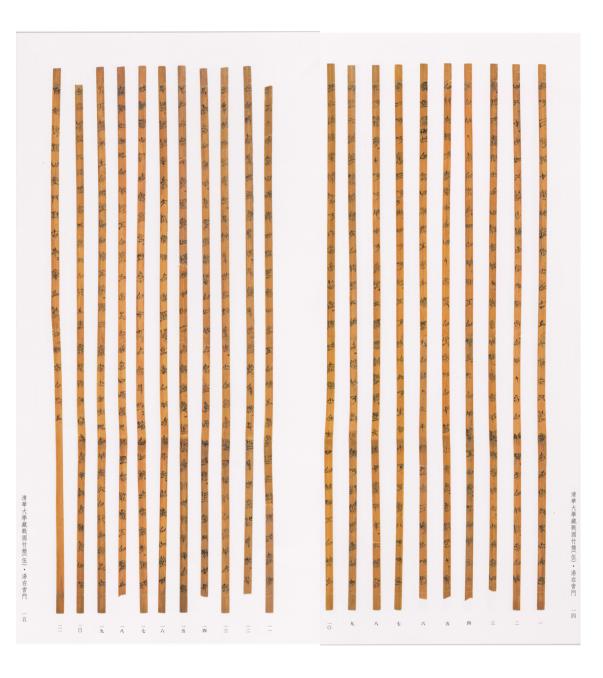
1 問於小臣: 古之先帝亦有良言請至於今平? 小臣答曰: 有哉。如無有良言請至於今,則 何以成人? 何以成邦? 何以成地? 何以成天? 2 湯又問於小臣曰: 幾言成人? 幾言成邦? 幾言成地? 幾言成天? 五以成人. 德以光之;[陽部] 小臣答曰: 四以成邦, 五以相之;[陽部] 九以成地, 五以將之;[陽部] 九以成天,六以<mark>行</mark>之。[陽部] 3 湯又問於小臣曰: 何得以生? 何多以長? 孰少而老? 胡猷是人. 而一惡一好? 小臣答曰:唯彼五味之氣,是哉以為人。 其末氣. 是謂玉種, 一月始孕, 二月乃裹, 三月乃形, 四月乃固, 五月又裦. 六月生肉, 七月乃肌, 八月乃正, 九月繲章. 十月乃成,

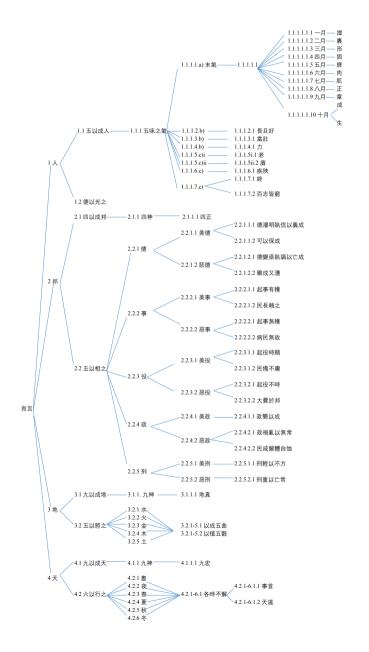
民乃時生。

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其氣朁歜發治,
                  是其為長且好哉。
       其氣奮昌,
                  是其為當壯。
       氣融交以備,
                  是其為力。
                      氣蹙乃老.
                      氣徐乃猷.
       氣逆亂以方.
                  是其為疾 殃。
                      氣屈乃終、百志皆窮。
4 湯又問於小臣:夫「四以成邦, 五以相之」, 何也?
小臣答曰:"唯彼四神,是謂四正;「五以相之」:德、事、役、政、刑。
     5 湯又問於小臣:
                  美德奚若?惡德奚若?
                  美事奚若?惡事奚若?
                  美役奚若?惡役奚若?
                  美政奚若?惡政奚若?
                  美刑奚若?惡刑奚若?
     小臣答:
                  德濬明執信以義成,
                                        此謂美德, 可以保成
                  德變亟執譌以亡成.
                                        此謂惡德,雖成又渝。
                  起事有穫.
                             民長賴之.
                                        此謂美事;
                  起事無穫,
                             病民無故.
                                        此謂惡事。
                  起役時順,
                             民備不俑.
                                        此謂美役;
                  起役不時,
                             大費於邦.
                                        此謂惡役。
                  政簡以成,
                                        此謂美政;
                  政譁亂以無常,
                             民咸解體自卹,
                                        此謂惡政。
                  刑情以不方,
                                        此謂美刑;
                  刑泰以亡常.
                                        此謂惡刑。
6 湯又問於小臣:「九以成地, 五以將之」, 何也?
小臣答曰:"<u>唯彼九</u>神,<u>是謂</u>地真,「五以將之」:<u>水、火、金、木、土</u>,以成五曲,
                                        以植五穀。
7 湯又問於小臣:夫「九以成天、六以行之」、何也?
小臣答曰:"<u>唯彼九</u>神,<u>是謂九</u>宏,「六以行之」:<u>書、夜、春、夏、秋、冬</u>,
                                        各時不解.
                                        此惟事首,
                                        亦惟天道。
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8 湯曰:天尹, 唯古之先帝之良言, 則何以改之!







貞月己咳湯才啻門問於少臣古之先帝亦有良言青至於今虎少臣 【1】曰又才。女亡又良言清至於今則可以成人可以成邦。可以成地。可以成【2】天。湯或問於少臣曰幾言成人。幾言成邦。幾言成地。幾言成天。少臣會曰【3】五以成人惠以光之。四以成邦五以相之。九以成地五以將之九。以成天六【4】以行之。湯或問於少臣曰人可得以生。可多以長孰少而老。胡猷是人而【5】一亞一好。少臣會曰唯皮五味之炁是哉以為人亓末炁是胃玉穜一月始【6】揚二月乃裹三月乃刑。四月乃胡。五月或收六月生肉七月乃肌。八月乃正【7】九月繲章。十月乃成。民乃時生亓炁瞀歜發治是亓為長且好才。亓炁奮【8】昌是亓為當壯炁融交以備是亓為力。炁戚乃老炁徐乃猷炁逆亂以方【9】是亓為疾央炁屈乃冬百志皆窮。湯或問於少臣夫四以成邦五以相之【10】可也。少臣會曰唯皮四神是胃四正五以相之惠事役正型。湯或問於【11】少臣媺惠奚若亞惠奚若。微事奚若亞事奚若。微復奚若亞役奚若亞役系之。微【12】正奚若亞正奚若。微型奚若亞型奚若。少臣會惠濬明執信以義成此胃【13】微惠可以保成。惠變亟執譌以亡成此胃亞惠唯成或渝。起事又穫民長【14】萬之此胃微事。起事亡穫病民亡古此胃亞事。起役時訓民備不俑此胃【15】微役。起役不時大弼於邦此胃亞役。正柬以成此胃微正。正譁亂以亡常民【16】咸解體自卹此胃亞正。型情以不方此胃微型。型泰以亡常此胃亞型。湯或【17】問於少臣九以成地五以將之可也。少臣會曰唯皮九神是胃地真五以將之【18】水火金木土以成五曲以植五穀。湯或問於少臣夫九以成天六以行之可也。少【19】臣會曰唯皮九神是胃九宏六以行之晝夜苍夏秋冬各時不解此往事首亦【20】往天道。湯曰天尹唯古之先帝之良言則可以改之。【21】

Li Shoukui 李守奎. "Tang zai Chi Men shiwen zhushi" 湯在啻門釋文注釋, in: Li Xueqin 李學勤 ed., *Qinghua daxue cang Zhanguo zhujian* (vol 5) 清 華大學藏戰國竹簡 (伍), Shanghai: Zhongxi shuju, 2015, pp. 142-148.

門問於少 (亥) 湯才 (在) 啻 (帝) (小) 臣古之先帝亦有良言青 (情) 至於今虎 (平) 少(小)臣畣(答) (有) 良言清 (情) 至於今則可(何) 以成人可 (有) 才 女 (如) 亡 (無) 又 (1可) 以成邦。可 (何) 以 幾言成邦。幾言成地。 以成【2】 (又) 問於少(小)臣曰幾言成人。 似光之。四以成邦五以相之。九以成地五以將之。九以成天六【4】以行之。湯或 曰【3】五以成人悳(德) 多以長孰少而老。胡猷 (猷) 是人而 得以生。可 **[5]** 一亞 (惡) 少(小)臣曰人可 (何) 是哉以為人亓 末炁(<mark>氣</mark>)是胃(謂)玉穜(種)一月始【6】 六月生肉七月乃肌。八月乃正【7】九月繲章。 (其) 五月或 (衰) 是亓 為長且好才 (哉) 【8】昌是亓 (其) (其) 炁 。亓 是亓 乃老炁 徐乃猷炁 (氣) 逆亂以方【9】 為疾央 (氣) (其) 問於少 。湯或 (小) 臣夫四以成邦五以相之【10】可 也。 臣富曰唯皮 (又) (何) 少 湯或 問於【11】少 (小) 臣媺 四正五以相之悳 事役正 (政)型(刑) (美) 0 ?微(美) (惡) 役奚若。微 事奚若亞 事奚若 役奚若亞 奚若亞 (美 [12] 正 奚若。 少) 奚若亞 型 臣富 濬明執信以義成此胃 (惡) 悳 成或 可以保成。 變亟執譌以亡成此胃 亞 (惡) (雖) (德) 悳 唯 悳 (德) 微 穫病民亡(無)古 此胃 (賴) 之此胃 (美) 事。起事亡 (無) (故) 亞 (美) 役。起役不時大弼 【15】微 於邦此胃 役。正 (費) (惡) (政) 柬 (順) (謂) 亞 (簡 (無) 常民【16】咸解體自卹此胃 (謂) 亞 微(美) 譁亂以亡 (惡) 正(政)。 正 (政) 正 (刑() (政) 型 泰以亡常此胃 (刑) 湯或 (型) (刑) (謂) 亞 型 (惡) 【17】問於少 0 0 九神是胃 (小) 臣富 (答) 曰唯皮 臣夫九以成天六以行之可 (彼 地真五以將之 (謂) 【18】水火 (答) (何) 也。少 【19】臣畣 曰唯皮 $(/|1\rangle$ 事首亦【20】隹 天道。湯曰天尹唯古之先帝之良言則可 (惟) (惟) [21]

[3] 常民 天道。 [21]

590 characters, 151 phonetic loans (25,6%)

正月己亥,湯在啻門,問於小臣:古之先帝亦有良言情至於今乎?小臣答曰:有哉。如無有良言 情至於今,則何以成人?何以成邦?何以成地?何以成天?湯又問於小臣曰:幾言成人?幾言成 邦?幾言成地?幾言成天?小臣答曰:五以成人,德以光之;四以成邦,五以相之;九以成地。 五以將之;九以成天,六以行之。湯又問於小臣曰:人何得以生?何多以長?孰少而老?胡猷是 人,而一惡一好?小臣答曰:唯彼五味之氣,是哉以為人。其末氣,是謂玉種, 乃裹,三月乃形,四月乃固,五月又褎,六月生肉,七月乃肌,八月乃正,九月繲章,十月乃 成,民乃時生。其氣朁歜發治,是其為長且好哉。其氣奮昌,是其為當壯。氣融交以備,是其為 力。氣蹙乃老,氣徐乃猷,氣逆亂以方,是其為疾殃。氣屈乃終,百志皆窮。湯又問於小臣: 何也?小臣答曰:"唯彼四神,是謂四正;五以相之: 政、刑。湯又問於小臣:美德奚若?惡德奚若?美事奚若?惡事奚若?美役奚若?惡役奚若?美 政奚若?惡政奚若?美刑奚若?惡刑奚若?小臣答:德濬明執信以義成,此謂美德, 德變亟執譌以亡成,此謂惡德, 雖成又渝。起事有穫,民長賴之,此謂美事;起事無穫,病民無 故,此謂惡事。起役時順,民備不俑,此謂美役;起役不時,大費於邦,此謂惡役。政簡以成, 此謂美政;政譁亂以無常,民咸解體自卹,此謂惡政。刑情以不方,此謂美刑;刑泰以亡常, 此謂惡刑。湯又問於小臣:九以成地,五以將之,何也?小臣答曰: "唯彼力.神 以將之:水、火、金、木、土,以成五曲,以植五穀。湯又問於小臣:夫九以成天,六以行之, 何也?小臣答曰:"唯彼九神,是謂九宏,六以行之:晝、夜、春、夏、秋、冬,各時不解,此 惟事首,亦惟天道。湯曰:天尹,唯古之先帝之良言,則何以改之

1. Dialogical form

1正月己亥, 湯在啻門,

2 問於小臣: 古之先帝亦有良言情至於今平?

小臣答曰:有哉。如無有良言情至於今,則何以成人?何以成邦?何以成地?何以成天?

3 湯又問於小臣曰:幾言成人?幾言成邦?幾言成地?幾言成天?

小臣答曰: 五以成人, 德以光之; 四以成邦, 五以相之; 九以成地, 五以將之; 九以成天, 六以行之。

4 湯又問於小臣曰:人何得以生?何多以長?孰少而老?胡猷是人,而一惡一好?

小臣答曰:唯彼五味之氣,是哉以為人。其末氣,是謂玉種,一月始孕,二月乃裹,三月乃形,四月乃固,五月又褎,六月生肉,七月乃肌,八月乃正,九月繲章,十月乃成,民乃時生。其氣朁歜發治,是其為長且好哉。其氣奮昌,是其為當壯。氣融交以備,是其為力。氣蹙乃老,氣徐乃猷,氣逆亂以方,是其為疾殃。氣屈乃終,百志皆窮。

5 湯又問於小臣: 夫四以成邦, 五以相之, 何也?

小臣答曰:"唯彼四神,是謂四正;五以相之:德、事、役、政、刑。

6 <mark>湯又問於小臣</mark>:美德奚若?惡德奚若?美事奚若?惡事奚若?美役奚若?惡役奚若?美政奚若?惡政奚若?美刑奚若?惡刑奚若? 若?惡刑奚若?

小臣答:德濬明執信以義成,此謂美德,可以保成;德變亟執譌以亡成,此謂惡德,雖成又渝。起事有穫,民長賴之,此謂美事;起事無穫,病民無故,此謂惡事。起役時順,民備不俑,此謂美役;起役不時,大費於邦,此謂惡役。政簡以成,此謂美政;政譁亂以無常,民咸解體自卹,此謂惡政。刑情以不方,此謂美刑;刑泰以亡常,此謂惡刑。

7 湯又問於小臣:九以成地,五以將之,何也?

小臣答曰:"唯彼九神,是謂地真,五以將之:水、火、金、木、土,以成五曲,以植五穀。

8 湯又問於小臣: 夫九以成天, 六以行之, 何也?

小臣答曰:"唯彼九神,是謂九宏,六以行之:晝、夜、春、夏、秋、冬,各時不解,此惟事首,亦惟天道。

9湯曰:天尹,唯古之先帝之良言,則何以改之!

1

First month, day jihai (36th day), Tang dwelling at the Chi Gate

2.

asked his young minister (Yi Yin 伊尹): "surely there are excellent words from the former rulers of antiquity the truth of which extends until today?"

The young minister responded and said: "There are indeed! If there were no excellent words the truth of which extends until today, how would we then achieve [the life of] true humans? How would we achieve [the governance of] a true state? How would we achieve [the cultivation of] true lands? How would we achieve [the path of] true heaven?"

3.

Tang asked his young minister again and said: "How many words of this kind are there regarding the achievement of [the life of] true humans? How many words of this kind are there regarding the achievement of [the governance of] a true state? How many words of this kind are there regarding the achievement of [the cultivation of] true lands? How many words of this kind are there regarding the achievement of [the path of] true heaven?"

The young minister responded and said: "Five by means of which [the life of] true humans is achieved and moral integrity to make it shine forth. Four by means of which [the governance of] a true state is achieved and five [modes] to support it. Nine by means of which [the cultivation of] true lands is achieved and five [modes] to cultivate them. Nine by means of which [the path of] true heaven is achieved and six [modes] to array it."

4.

Tang asked his young minister again and said: "As to humans, what do they obtain that brings them to life? What is increasing that makes them grow? How does it decrease so that they get old? This certainly is still the same human life yet one part is hated and one is loved."

The young minister responded and said: "Indeed, it is by the five flavoured qi, by this, that one becomes a human.

Its onset qi is called the jade seed. In the first month it starts to rise, in the second month it becomes enclosed, in the third month it takes shape, in the fourth month it becomes firm, in the fifth month it slightly stirs, in the sixth month it grows some flesh, in the seventh month there are muscles, in the eighth month it is proper, in the ninth month its constitution becomes apparent, in the tenth month [its process of taking human shape] is finally complete and at this time the people are born.

When their (humans') qi ascends to abundance and expands into something regulated, this is when they grow and moreover develop appetitiveness! When their qi vigorously flourishes, this is when they are properly robust. When the qi mixes and exchanges so that it is fully complete, this is when they are strong. When the qi is reduced then they become old, when the qi slows down then they decay. When the qi is inverse and in disorder so that it becomes uneven, this is when they become ill and misfortunate. When the qi is used up, then they die, and all volitions are exhausted."

5

Tang asked his young minister again and said: "So, as a matter of fact, what are these 'Four by which means states are accomplished and five [modes] to support it'?"

The young minister responded and said: "Indeed, it is the four spirits that are called the four proper ones; the 'five [modes] to support it' are moral conduct, administrative service, labour service, governance and punishment."

6.

Tang asked his young minister again and said: "What is good moral conduct like? What is bad moral conduct like? What is good administrative service like? What is bad administrative service like? What is good labour service like? What is bad labour service like? What is good governance like? What is bad governance like? What is good punishment like? What is bad punishment like?"

The young minister responded: "If moral conduct is profound and bright, sticks to trustworthiness and thereby accomplishes righteousness, then this is what is called good moral conduct. You can use this to maintain things and bring them to perfection. If moral conduct is erratic and transient, sticks to falsity and thereby accomplishes loss, then this is what is called bad moral conduct, and even if it accomplishes something it is still contemptible. Setting up an administrative service that reaps benefits on which the people can sustainably rely, this is what is called a good administrative service. Setting up an administrative service. Setting up an administrative service that does not reap benefits and that harms the people without any good reason, this is what is called a bad administrative service. Setting up a labour service with appropriate seasonal timing where people are tired but do not grind away, this is a good labour service. Setting up a labour service that is not properly timed and that is a great waste for the state, this is a bad labour service. If governance accomplishes [matters] by simple means, then this is good governance. If governance by faults and disorder creates instability and the people are all socially disintegrated and only worried about themselves, then this is bad governance. If punishment is light so that it is impartial, then this is good punishment. If punishment is heavy so that it is without standard, then this is bad punishment."

7.

Tang asked his young minister again and said: "What are these 'nine by which means earth is accomplished and five [modes] to cultivate it'?"

The young minister responded: "Indeed, it is the nine spirits that are called the perfected of the earth. The 'five [modes] to cultivate it' are water, fire, metal, wood and soil, by which means the five sprouts are accomplished and the five grains are grown."

8.

Tang asked his young minister again and said: "As a matter of fact, what are these 'nine by which means heaven is accomplished and six [modes] to array it'?"

The young minister responded: "Indeed, it is the nine spirits that are called the nine magnificent. The 'six [modes] to array it' are day, night, spring, summer, autumn and winter. If each of these seasons is not displaced from its proper sequential position then this indeed marks the proper beginning of events and it is indeed also Heaven's way."

9.

Tang said: "Heavenly Yin, these are indeed excellent words from the former rulers of antiquity, so why change them!"

2. Catalogues

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1 正月己亥. 湯在啻門.
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2 問於小臣: 古之先帝亦有良言情至於今平?

小臣答曰:有哉。如無有良言情至於今.則 何以成人?

何以成邦?

何以成地?

何以成天?

3 湯又問於小臣曰: 幾言成人?

幾言成邦?

幾言成地?

幾言成天?

小臣答曰: 五以成人,德以<mark>光</mark>之, [陽部]

> 四以成邦,五以<mark>相</mark>之; [陽部]

> 九以成地,五以<mark>將</mark>之; [陽部] 九以成天、六以<mark>行</mark>之。 [陽部]

4 湯又問於小臣曰:

何得以生? [耕部]

何多以長? [陽部]

孰少而<mark>老</mark>? [幽部]

固猷是人,而罷惡罷<mark>好</mark>? [幽部]

小臣答曰:<u>唯彼五</u>味之氣,<u>是</u>哉以為人。

其末氣, 是謂玉種,

一月始提.

二月乃裹.

三月乃形,

四月乃固,

五月又褎.

六月生肉,

七月乃肌,

八月乃正,

力.月繲章.

十月乃成,

民乃時生。

[之部]

[幽部]

其氣朁歜發<mark>治</mark> 是其為長且好<mark>哉</mark>。

其氣奮昌, 是其為當<mark>壯</mark>。 [陽部]

[職部]

氣融交以備 是其為<mark>力</mark>。

氣促乃老 氣徐乃猷!

氣逆亂以方, 是其為疾<mark>殃</mark>。 [陽部]

氣屈乃終. 百志皆窮。 [終部] 5 湯又問於小臣:夫「四以成邦, 五以相之」, 何也?

小臣答曰:"唯彼四神,是謂四正; 「五以相之」:德、事、役、政、刑。

6 湯又問於小臣: 美德奚若?惡德奚若?

美事奚若?惡事奚若?

美役奚若?惡役奚若?

美政奚若?惡政奚若?

美刑奚若?惡刑奚若?

小臣答: 德濬明執信以義成. 此謂美德,可以保成;

> 德變亟執譌以亡成. 此謂惡德,雖成又濟。

民長賴之. 此謂美事; 起事有穫, 起事無穫, 病民無故. 此謂惡事。 起役時順. 民備不庸 此:謂美役;

起役不時, 大費於邦, 此謂惡役。

政簡以成, 此謂美政; 政禍亂以無常. 民 成 解體 自恤. 此謂惡政。

刑輕以不方. 此謂美刑;

刑重以亡常. 此謂惡刑。

7 湯又問於小臣:「九以成地, 五以將之」, 何也?

小臣答曰:"<u>唯彼九<mark>神</mark>,是謂地<mark>真</mark>[真部];「五以將之」:<u>水、火、金、木、土</u></u>

以成五<mark>曲</mark>, [侯部]

以植五<mark>穀</mark>。 [侯部]

8 湯又問於小臣:夫「九以成天、六以行之」、何也?

晝、夜、春、夏、秋、冬, 小臣答曰:"唯彼九神,是謂九宏, 「六以行之|:

各時不解,

此惟事首, [幽部]

亦惟天道。 [幽部]

9 湯曰:天尹,唯古之先帝之良言,則何以改之!

² The reading digi ^地衹 that has been proposed by Mo Silang 暮四郎 (aka Huang Jie 黃傑) and Wang Jinfeng

Catalogues

•人、邦、地、天

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道、天、地、將、法 (Sunzi)
道、天、地、王 (Laozi)
人、地、天、道、自然 (Laozi)
天、地、民 (San de)
天、地、人 (Heguanzi etc.)
身、家、國、天下 ("Daxue" and Mengzi 4A5)
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Catalogues

• 德、事、役、政、刑

子曰:

道之以政,齊之以刑,民免而無恥; 道之以德,齊之以禮,有恥且格。 (Lunyu 2.3)

- 一月始提,二月乃裹,三月乃形,四月乃固,五月或褎,六月生肉,七月乃肌,八月乃正,九月顯章,十月乃成。(QDYS)
- 一月而膏,二月而胅,三月而胎,四月而肌,五月而筋,六月而骨,七月而成,八月而動,九月而躁,十月而生。(HNZ)
- 一月而膏,二月血脈,三月而噠,四月而胎,五月而筋,六月而骨,七月而成形,八月而動,九月而躁,十月而生。(Wenzi)

《武穆解》

成之以口和, 咸康于民, 卿格維時, 監于列辟, 敬惟三事, 永有休哉。

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曰若稽古,曰:
                 Yi Zhoushu, chap. 33: "Wumu jie" 武穆解
昭天之道,
熙帝之載,
揆民之任,
夷德之用,
總之以咸殷,
等之以□禁,
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三事: 一倡德, 二和亂, 三終齊。

> 德有七倫, 亂有五遂, 齊有五備。

> > 五備: 一同往路, 以揆遠邇,

二明要醜友德, 以眾爾庸,

三明辟章遠, 以肅民教,

四明義倡爾眾, 教之以服,

五要權文德,不畏強寵。

五遂: 一道其通, 以決其雍,

二絕□無赦不疑,

三挫銳無赦不危,

四閑兵無用不害,

五復尊離群不敵。

七倫: 一毀城寡守不路,

二通道不戰,

三小國不凶不伐,

四正維昌靜不疑,

五睦忍寧于百姓,

六禁害求濟民,

七一德訓民, 民乃章。

欽哉!欽哉!余夙夜求之無射。

3. Parallelisms

3. Parallelisms

- Strict parallelisms

 - 美德奚若?惡德奚若? 美事奚若?惡事奚若?
 - 美役奚若?惡役奚若?
- Parallelisms of identical members
 - 二月乃裹,
 - 三月乃形,
 - 四月乃固,
- Identical metre (tetrasyllabic units)
 - 何得以生
 - 何多以長
 - 孰少而老
 - 固猶是人

4. Punctuation

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1 正月己亥. 湯在啻門.
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2 問於小臣: 古之先帝亦有良言情至於今平?

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何以成邦?

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何以成天?

3 湯又問於小臣曰: 幾言成人?

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小臣答曰: 五以成人,德以<mark>光</mark>之, [陽部]

> 四以成邦,五以<mark>相</mark>之; [陽部]

> 九以成地,五以<mark>將</mark>之; [陽部] 九以成天、六以<mark>行</mark>之。 [陽部]

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十月乃成,

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[之部]

[幽部]

其氣朁歜發<mark>治</mark> 是其為長且好<mark>哉</mark>。

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[職部]

氣融交以備 是其為<mark>力</mark>。

氣促乃老 氣徐乃猷!

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美政奚若?惡政奚若?

美刑奚若?惡刑奚若?

小臣答: 德濬明執信以義成. 此謂美德,可以保成;

> 德變亟執譌以亡成. 此謂惡德,雖成又濟。

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政簡以成, 此謂美政; 政禍亂以無常. 民 成 解體 自恤. 此謂惡政。

刑輕以不方. 此謂美刑;

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7 湯又問於小臣:「九以成地, 五以將之」, 何也?

小臣答曰:"<u>唯彼九<mark>神</mark>,是謂地<mark>真</mark>[真部];「五以將之」:<u>水、火、金、木、土</u></u>

以成五<mark>曲</mark>, [侯部]

以植五<mark>穀</mark>。 [侯部]

8 湯又問於小臣:夫「九以成天、六以行之」、何也?

晝、夜、春、夏、秋、冬, 小臣答曰:"唯彼九神,是謂九宏, 「六以行之|:

各時不解,

此惟事首, [幽部]

亦惟天道。 [幽部]

9 湯曰:天尹,唯古之先帝之良言,則何以改之!

² The reading digi ^地衹 that has been proposed by Mo Silang 暮四郎 (aka Huang Jie 黃傑) and Wang Jinfeng

5. Rhyme

五以成人,德以光之; [**k-^san* 陽部] 四以成邦,五以相之; [**[s]an* 陽部] 九以成地,五以將之; [**[ts]an* 陽部] 九以成天,六以行之。 [**C.[g]^sran* 陽部]

以成五<mark>曲</mark> [侯部] 以植五穀 [侯部]

何得以生? [*sren 耕部] 何多以長? [*tran? 陽部] 孰少而老? [*C.rs u? 幽部] 固猷是人,而一惡一好? [*ghs u? 幽部]

此惟事<mark>首</mark> [幽部] 亦惟天<mark>道</mark> [幽部]

是其為長且好哉。 其氣朁歜發治, [之部] 其氣奮昌, 是其為當壯。 [陽部] 是其為力。 氣融交以備, [職部] 氣促乃<mark>老</mark>, 氣徐乃<mark>唐5</mark>, [幽部] 氣逆亂以<mark>方</mark>, [陽部] 是其為疾殃。 氣屈乃<mark>終</mark>, 百志皆窮。 [終部]

[之部] [陽部] [職部] [幽部] [陽部]

Rhyme

dark vowel uŋ

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light vowel a
neutral middle vowel an
light vowel ak
dark vowel u
neutral middle vowel an
third (dark) life stage of ageing
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其氣朁歜發 <mark>治</mark> , 其氣奮 <mark>昌</mark> , 氣融交以 <mark>備</mark> , 氣促乃 <mark>老</mark> , 氣逆亂以 <mark>方</mark> , 氣屈乃終,	[之部] [陽部] [職部] [幽部] [陽部] [終部]	是其為長且好 <mark>哉</mark> 。 是其為當壯。 是其為力。 氣徐乃 <mark>庮</mark> [°] , 是其為疾殃。 百志皆窮。	[之部] [陽部] [職部] [幽部] [陽部]
氣屈乃 <mark>終</mark> ,	[終部]	百志皆 <mark>窮。</mark>	[終部]

Rhyme and graphs

- 以成五曲 [侯部]
- 以植五穀 [侯部]

- 此惟事首 [幽部]
- 亦惟天道 [幽部]





6. Interlocked composition

Section 4 about human life span

1 其末氣,	是謂玉種,

a) 一月始提
b) 二月乃裹
c) 三月乃形
d) 四月乃固
e) 五月又褎
f) 六月生肉
g) 七月乃肌
h) 八月乃正
i) 九月繲章
j) 十月乃成
民乃時生

2 k) 其氣朁歜發治, 是其為長且好哉。
3 l) 其氣奮昌, 是其為當壯。
4 m) 氣融交以備, 是其為力。

n) 氣促乃老, 氣徐乃**盾**, 5 o) 氣逆亂以方, 是其為疾 殃。 p) 氣屈乃終, 百志皆窮。

·**毕窮**。

生

[之部] 長

[陽部]

[職部]

[幽部] 老

[陽部]

[終部]

7. Frame

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1 正月己亥. 湯在啻門.
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2 問於小臣: 古之先帝亦有良言情至於今平?

小臣答曰:有哉。如無有良言情至於今.則 何以成人?

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小臣答曰: 五以成人,德以<mark>光</mark>之, [陽部]

> 四以成邦,五以<mark>相</mark>之; [陽部]

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五月又褎.

六月生肉,

七月乃肌,

八月乃正,

力.月繲章.

十月乃成,

民乃時生。

[之部]

[幽部]

其氣朁歜發<mark>治</mark> 是其為長且好<mark>哉</mark>。

其氣奮昌, 是其為當<mark>壯</mark>。 [陽部]

[職部]

氣融交以備 是其為<mark>力</mark>。

氣促乃老 氣徐乃猷!

氣逆亂以方, 是其為疾<mark>殃</mark>。 [陽部]

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美役奚若?惡役奚若?

美政奚若?惡政奚若?

美刑奚若?惡刑奚若?

小臣答: 德濬明執信以義成. 此謂美德,可以保成;

> 德變亟執譌以亡成. 此謂惡德,雖成又濟。

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起役不時, 大費於邦, 此謂惡役。

政簡以成, 此謂美政; 政禍亂以無常. 民 成 解體 自恤. 此謂惡政。

刑輕以不方. 此謂美刑;

刑重以亡常. 此謂惡刑。

7 湯又問於小臣:「九以成地, 五以將之」, 何也?

小臣答曰:"<u>唯彼九<mark>神</mark>,是謂地<mark>真</mark>[真部];「五以將之」:<u>水、火、金、木、土</u></u>

以成五<mark>曲</mark>, [侯部]

以植五<mark>穀</mark>。 [侯部]

8 湯又問於小臣:夫「九以成天、六以行之」、何也?

晝、夜、春、夏、秋、冬, 小臣答曰:"唯彼九神,是謂九宏, 「六以行之|:

各時不解,

此惟事首, [幽部]

亦惟天道。 [幽部]

9 湯曰:天尹,唯古之先帝之良言,則何以改之!

² The reading digi ^地衹 that has been proposed by Mo Silang 暮四郎 (aka Huang Jie 黃傑) and Wang Jinfeng

