

Chapter 19

**Trump XIII or 13:**

**Death**

**Dynamism**

**Holy Joining of Above and Below**

**The Yin of Heaven**



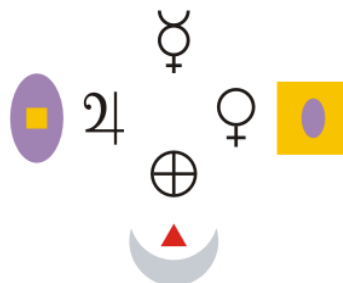
The number 13 is a very holy number, life on Earth is more directly influenced by the dynamics of the Moon than by the Sun. The Moon year consists of 13 Moons, plus one day dedicated to the worship of the Creator, of Creation, of God or the Gods. Thus chapter 13 of the Buddhist Dhammapada, recording the words of Buddha, is called: "Arise! Watch!". It calls attention to the universal dynamism ruling the Microcosm as much as the Macrocosm.



With Trump 13 we will turn the symbolism around, just as the scythe of death performs a circular movement. As mentioned within Trump 11, the dynamism associated with Trump 13 opens the way for a further choice: a possible parting of the ways. This is no easy symbolism, for number 13 implies an extension of the mental sphere of Mercury. Therefore it is within Trump 13 that the "wheels" of the psychic-astral or vital-emotional and the mental-noetic touch. By not acceding to the higher aspect of Man, the mental-noetic, the "inner Boddhisattva" remains but an embryo, the mental body of Man is not developed,

becomes rigid and is statically frozen in time (awaiting another reincarnation to develop). This is unfortunately the "normal" state of the vast majority of human beings alive within this age. Thus an enormous mass of "prescriptions" has been lanced upon mankind, all systems of "self-awareness", popular Yoga (Hatha Yoga), "instructions for meditation", "work on self-perfection", the religious customs and traditions, etc., all meant in fact to make Man aware that there is "more to life" than simply the physical and psychic body. Of course, even the existence of the astral body had to be "hammered in", by all religions, at least to make Man aware that death is nothing to be feared, that Man is born with higher faculties, to "remind Man that he is not only matter".

As all these systems are man-made, very human, they are fraught with fallacies and limitations. Within the Tarot, this may be seen by the symbolism "traditionally" attached to Trump 13: it is not Mercury but the high mental-noetic sphere of Saturn, it is Scorpio as a poisonous, treacherous, very earthly symbol. Both reflect matter and density. So these symbols in fact relate to equate number 13 with "6 plus 7", a densification of the Earth-Sphere. Still, these symbols are not wholly wrong, they are only limitative. For the "Fire of Water" of Scorpio is relevant to the alchemic process of putrefaction and decomposition, and so is correctly associated with Trump 13. But this does not show the way of dynamic change in the positive sense of filtering and extracting, thus rejuvenating and leading to new life. The limitations of single symbols result mainly from once more ignoring the primary fact that Earth is solidly bound into a Earth-Moon-Belt-Zone of physical, astral and mental qualities. But 13 is 10 (material creation) plus 3 (the universal trinity corresponding to the mental-noetic sphere, closest of all to Akasha). With Man, it is the Law of Three expanded, it is Mercury - the divine messenger, associated with Trump 12 - who creates the link between the astral and mental spheres. Included within the sphere of the three inner planets circling the Sun, with Jupiter its strongest "outer" reflection, the position of Trump 13 may also be shown as:



We have pointed out before that the 78 cards of the Tarot are linked to number 13 by the multiplication of  $2 \times 3 \times 13$ , just as the divine number 72 is linked to the 12 by  $2 \times 3 \times 12$ . Also, the numeric equivalent of the word Jehova is 26, or  $13 \times 2$ , and 78 is also  $3 \times 26$ , plus 13

x 6. Thus universal dynamism remains in motion, another "akashic" impulse is brought to bear upon the binary Earth-Moon-Sphere.

13 is a prime number. Its core numbers, by division through all numbers from 1 to 9, all add up to nine each time. This, among the lower prime numbers up to 41, is unique. It "proves" in numeric code that the dynamic change symbolised by Trump 9 is here carried even further. What was there limited to the physical and astral planes is now extended to include the mental plane. Thus "change", dynamic movement, obtains an all-encompassing value. Within the Trumps, only Trump 21 - another extension of the Law of Three - is associated with yet another sphere of dynamic flux. Here it is already encompassing all planets of the solar system, then it will involve cosmic change of galactic dimension.

163	66	151	54	139	42	127	30	115	18	103	6	91
78	150	53	138	41	126	29	114	17	102	5	90	162
149	65	137	40	125	28	113	16	101	4	89	161	77
64	136	52	124	27	112	15	100	3	88	160	76	148
135	51	123	39	111	14	99	2	87	159	75	147	63
50	122	38	110	26	98	1	86	158	74	146	62	134
121	37	109	25	97	13	85	157	73	145	61	133	49
36	108	24	96	12	84	169	72	144	60	132	48	120
107	23	95	11	83	168	71	156	59	131	47	119	35
22	94	10	82	167	70	155	58	143	46	118	34	106
93	9	81	166	69	154	57	142	45	130	33	105	21
8	80	165	68	153	56	141	44	129	32	117	20	92
79	164	67	152	55	140	43	128	31	116	19	104	7

Horizontals, verticals and diagonals each add up to 1105, i.e. quabb.: 7. The central number is 85, and thus 13 - as was to be expected. The only other major computation of prime number 13 consists of: 100 : 13 = 7,692307692307....., which is quabb.: 27 or 3 x 3 x 3.

Via the Moon calendar of the 13 Moons (plus a 30 hour "day of God"), the number 13 is directly related with number 9, the holy number of the Moon. As the Moon, by magic square, is the most complex and dense sphere of the solar system (whose core-number is also a prime number: 41), the sphere of Trump 13 is shown to encompass all dynamic change from the most complex to the most refined ethereal and simple.

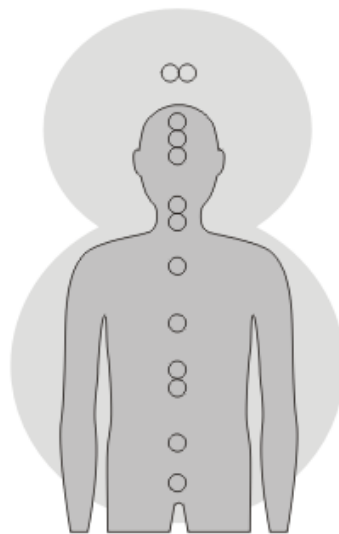
If number 12 stood for static harmony, then 13 stands for dynamic harmony. If this includes destruction, then it concerns only rigid structures - physical, astral and mental - which cannot bend and bow in the changing stream of time. Nature, by contrast, takes a large part of its very life force from this dynamism. Were there no wind, then all higher plants would break with the slightest breeze, the sea would not churn, the clouds not accumulate and distribute rain. The sprouting strength of spring is only possible via the decay, putrefaction and decomposition of fall and winter. Thus we find here also a major factor of Alchemy: putrefaction and decomposition. The filtering of the pure elixir through the fallout of decay. Wine only becomes drinkable when the floating particles have settled and been drawn off.

Death then is a normal process, indeed the central process of the Wheel of Dharma running from life to death to life. It also symbolises the throwing off of something worn and old, having become rigid and burdensome. This may include Man's whole character-structure, his "old self". More often it points to the realisation that the physical-astral (or rather emotional) individual "body" is only a limited vehicle. Should it not disintegrate without the individuals' intervention, by "fate" alone, then the person realises that something must be done. The impulse is to take the reigns of ones' life within ones' own hands. As mentioned above the Buddha says: "Arise ! Watch !". In this, Trump 13 is indeed linked to The Chariot, Trump 7, whose driver must finally realise that it is he or she who runs the vehicle and not blind fate. Thus a rejuvenation is indicated. This is certainly the central meaning of Trump 13. The "spring of life", finally found, must also be tasted, its life-giving qualities integrated, otherwise no change is possible. Theory must eventually turn into practice, otherwise the words purification and maturing are only of academic value.

The Buddha says: "Arise! Walk on the right path. Thus you have joy in this world and the world beyond. Follow the right path, follow not the wrong path."

The Bhagavad Gita, the Song of the Lord, reiterates, for chapter 13 is called: "The Discrimination between Matter and Spirit." Trump 13 shows more than the other Trumps how important the prime numbers are, at least in symbolism. All other numbers show more or less intermediary stages, "dual positions". Within the Tarot, numbers 3 (Triangle, one-sided Pyramid), 5 (number of Man, Pentead, Pentagram and Grail chalice, visible Pyramid), 7 (universal emanation, Law of Seven, the complete Grail chalice, the whole Pyramid as a crystal), 11 (Polarity, the center of the Rotae of Tarot, the psychic-astral wheel), 13 (Dynamism, Flux), 17 (Higher Dharma, the mental-noetic wheel), are the seats of the central

emanations. The Chakras, which are all wheels encompassing various spheres, are centered between the prime numbers, though for "lack of space" some are associated with uneven numbers. In fact, it here becomes clear that the 22 Trumps are a symbolic limitation of the whole book of wisdom, which consists of 78 pages. Thus the 22 Trumps, in all, should only stand for the lower three Chakras. This, as symbolism is already a difficult language in this limitative age, would then surpass even the wisdom of the most wise today. Virtue, intelligence and wisdom, in this dark age of Kali Yuga, are only developed by one fourth. And so even the significance of the Major Arcana, the 22 Trumps, largely escapes most Men. Were Trumps 1 to 7, only, really understood and integrated, would a man or woman follow this path of purification, meditation, integration just up to this stage, he or she would today already count as a "perfected being". In fact, even the Alchemy of Trump 5, the sphere of Mars, and less even the Alchemic Wedding of Trump 6, are ever realised in one life in this time. Still, the sages, seers and prophets, the accomplished magicians and alchemists of all times, have ever said that theoretic knowledge is better than none, for it paves the way into an ever brighter future. This type of knowledge is not lost with death, it undergoes changes and is sublimed, and it will resurface in other circumstances, hopefully to be really lived, appreciated and integrated.



13-poni Chakra system, projected on physical body.

What now do we see as images, as the hieroglyphic message of Trump 13? We return to the first stage of Masonic initiation, where the Neophyte is left alone to ponder death and the transience of all manifestation. Then we realise that mind indeed stands above and beyond matter. Urged onwards, from without or within, the Neophyte becomes a true seeker for truth. At one point he or she realises that all true search is an inner process, an inner ripening and purification. Otherwise the transient world of appearances has caught another

victim and no further development is possible. Turning to Magic as a guide, he or she passes through the webs of the dense spheres, the binary Earth-Moon-Sphere. This brings some illumination, and the fallacy of limited existence is revealed. Inner strength and purpose grow, ripened maturity replaces the furtive steps of the "searcher in the dark". Arriving at the perception of the glory and beauty of all manifestation, the eternal Wheel of Dharma, he or she is also confronted by the discrepancy of what actually is and how it has been turned within the turning of the ages. Thus the fallacy of Man is revealed, Creation has not meant him to be what Man shows himself to be today. There is a "reality-shock". Only the sage hermits and recluses, the "escapees" from the material world order, can dispel the actual state of affairs as a passing dream (or rather: a passing nightmare). Some beginnings of an harmonious order have managed to establish themselves during the last 50 years or so. This is a tiny fraction of historic time. A very frail vessel, within which mighty powers and forces of tradition and rigidity still hold sway. When searched out fully, the advancing student realises that all that has been built up in the past has undergone a process of petrification, the old impulses have frozen, the new impulses are hindered and handicapped. Some changes have lately occurred. The world has become gayer and more colourful. Yet one third of humanity suffers in unimaginable conditions of poverty and hunger. There, Man has truly fallen to the lowest level possible. The developed occidental world is also confronted with this, yet hides it from the masses, misuses its structures to create an illusion of justice, safety and comfort. Little is done to alleviate the burdens of mankind. Nothing in a way of global peace and prosperity is done. This is desperate. Yet Man, at this present stage, is also heavily involved in his own fall into misery. The parasitic multiplication of the sheer number of human beings makes a solution impossible. Strange forces were at work to bring this about, even the wisest men despair and see only one tangible "reason" for Man's fall into animal behavior, thus prompting an overpopulation that must needs be eliminate itself in order to survive. This one reason is, positively seen (for everywhere and in all Polarity rules creation), is the living incarnation of every single soul ever having inhabited planet Earth, now, in our time. Thus, "all in one bag" so to say, real karmic judgment can be meted out to all, to everyone, now or soon, for there is a limit. This limit consists of the finite amount of souls, human souls, ever created.

This, as pointed out, is "positive", for it makes no distinction, "there are no escapees, no survivors", "justice" is handed out on a global scale.

The other side of the argument, which the wise and accomplished do not wish to see, less even to admit as reality, is the possibility that the Magic of the potentates, the high and mighty, of the kings, popes, generals and wealthy - at least for the last 3.000 years - has had this overpopulation as "side effect". There is no doubt that Magic, practical, applied Magic,

has underlain all political and temporal development. It was, in all secrecy, divided among the religious and the temporal rulers. It has underlain all major decisions, indeed all wars also, during this latter time-span. Advancing and becoming more adept at its use, this type of temporal, material Magic has grown to encompass the whole globe with its political, juridical, "humanitarian" and financial systems. This is high practical Magic indeed. Bent to material ends. What does it base itself on? The hidden wisdom of the ages, the self-same Book of Wisdom as we are studying within this treatise. The same symbols, albeit "turned" and "rearranged" to serve very earthly, material quests. Thus the evils of Black Magic(k), of perverted sexual magic, of indoctrination and mind control are based upon the same foundations as the "white" Magic of Wisdom. Indeed, it represents a theft of wisdom. The "needs of war" thus led to a stimulus to reproduce. This, if viewed with objective impartiality, must first have occurred to the Mongol invaders and war-lords of the 12th and 13th centuries, for their peoples were not numerous to begin with, and yet over two thirds of Asia had to be conquered and ruled. But, in historical (i.e. academically acceptable) time, the conscious stimulus to reproduce was a product of the Occident, and unfortunately "spilled over" upon the unwary, largely innocent and uncomprehending minds of the "Third World". In both cases, Magic practice and indoctrination were at the root of overpopulation. Further, as an "illicit opening of the astral sphere", as propounded by Aleister Crowley, his pupils and followers, and by many others (mainly of Germanic persuasion), via anal sexual practices (Magick), "spilled out" over the unminded population, the extreme growth of homosexual practices suddenly "arrived". This continues up to this day. Again, a magic practice is at the origin, not a "self-revealing" of bisexual attitudes, an "opening up" to the inner truth. This may be true of the individual, but to a very high degree it is the result of magic practice put into effect way outside the view of any observers. Thus also the apparition of luciferic worship, satanic "cults", etc. This is still, actually more and more, "spilling over" into the minds of the unsuspecting masses.

Within Trump 13, Man has this choice: by furthering this active poisoning of the whole planets' "atmosphere", actually its physical and psychic-astral sphere, a revolution of global reach is actively accelerated. The higher dimensions cannot allow the whole Earth-Moon-Belt-Zone to become polluted beyond a certain degree. Already, many processes of electromagnetic "transformation of waves or cosmic emanations" do not function anymore. They are inhibited by "electro-smog", the unknown multiplicity of artificial waves being carelessly sent into the atmosphere, indeed actively inhibited by those "in control" of these and other emissions. They mainly run counter to the divine, inspirational emanations, and have a tendency to further aggressiveness or unminded docility. Thus, for an accomplished, even integral human being, there is here a choice: evil, demoniac entities of confusion may

also be confounded. This has always been the excuse of evil adepts: that in fact they only attempted to confound the confounding agents. This was rarely, if ever, the truth. Satanism, its highly dynamic - really explosive - magic practices, exert a lure that few can resist once they have seen the very tangible results of terrestrial power and riches. Yet an exception is always possible. Many of the hard-core Nazis that dabbled in Black Magic(k) went unrepentant to the gallows. Not all were deluded victims of evil device. The central core of this magical grouping held fast the idea that they had actually accelerated the pace of evolution, that things might have been and still be now a lot worse had they not intervened by the worst of all bad practices. This is certainly totally out of keeping with the spirit of this study, it is certainly not a way anyone can advocate. Spiritual misery, languishing sickness and death await most practitioners of this, the "left-handed way". Yet an Avatar is an Avatar, Buddha defeated the demon legions of his time with their own weapons. So also did the patron saint of Tibet, Padmasambhava, who consciously entered the demoniac realms to weed them out for ever, or at least subdue them to utter subservience. Seen in this way, a highly sane, fully accomplished true Adept may "confound the forces of confusion", dictate to the Demons his will, turn them into use. King Salomon is said to have subjugated the evil entity called Asmodeus in order to help him build the temple at Jerusalem. It is not advocated at all, yet within a certain sphere of mastery it is possible. In all cases, what we then find practically is the "use" or evokation of the Moon-Sphere, coupled with an evokation of Mars, "magnified" by an "evokative" use of the Sun-Sphere. In symbols, we find the Pentagram as it is known (the stars of the USA, Soviet Union, China, etc.), in its sense of symbolism for the "holy number of Mars", and the Hexagram as the "Star of David", for the holy number of the Sun, and the Moon via all its appropriate symbolism.

Thus, again: *"Arise! Watch."* And: *"Discriminate between Matter and Spirit."*

We shall return to our faith in the natural "Holy Joining of the Above with the Below", that is trust in the dynamics of the divine emanations pervading the whole universe. If on Earth we are subject to a violent dynamism, then the solar system is still very young, developing rapidly, needy of rapid change, even to the extent of allowing the forces of polarity to play out their game to the extreme.

In this sense then, we turn to the next unfolding Hexagram of the I Ching. From Trumps 1 to 6 we have created a Yang-Yin-Yang and Yin-Yang-Yin Hexagram, thus: Water over Fire.

From Trumps 7 to 12 we added a second Hexagram composed of Yang-Yin-Yin and Yang-Yang-Yang, thus: Heaven over Thunder. This was and is our tentative choice within the dynamics which necessarily enjoin the I Ching and the Tarot.



From all that has been said above regarding Trump 13, we advise the course of receptivity, for only by remaining open to all possibilities, all occurrences of fate and flux, by being able to bend under the uncontrollable "wind of time", by correctly choosing to either concur or restrain (not oppose), can Man truly advance. In a way this means that the possibility of Bakhti Yoga should never entirely be dismissed, it has served so many truthful and honest seekers in the past, it should not be discarded now. Jnana Yoga, the Yoga of Wisdom, and Rhaja Yoga, the Yoga of Accomplishment, may stand foremost, yet at the end of the path, in final synthesis, they all blend. Thus we propose a Yin as symbolic of Trump 13. Within the high dynamism of Trumps 13, 14 and 15, where the psychic-astral or vital-emotional "wheel", sphere or field touches and interlinks with the higher mental-noetic equivalent, steadfastness is suggested. We may not be able to partake of the whole spectrum of intertwining, cross-reflecting and deeply searching forces in motion, yet we should "accept what we cannot change". Death may mean many things to the individual, a heightened awareness of the interconnecting forces of Mercury and the Moon, their astral and mental interplay, is fascinating, indeed "the stars fall, the heavens turn", as is said in the Edda.

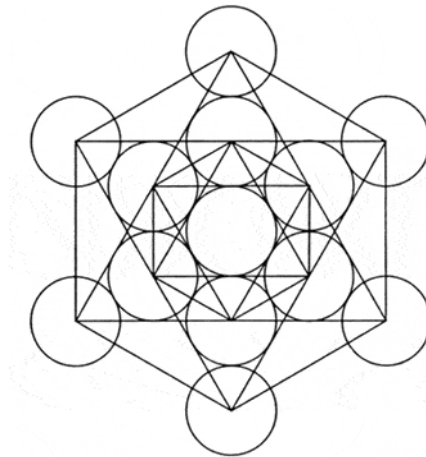
Yin will give rise to a Yin-Yin-Yang Trigram, thus symbolising Mountain, solid steadfastness. If we "create" another whole picture of Man, the human being, then the alchemic message is brought forth in I Ching sign 31: Marriage or Sensitivity (or: Mutual Attraction). In that case, the lowest line, Yin, would stand for the toes, followed by the calf, the thigh, the solar plexus, the back, and finally the mouth and tongue. Thus, with Trump 18, we arrive at the "higher seat" or "reflective double" of the 5th Chakra, the Visuddha or Throat Chakra. Thus "The Moon" reflects the Earth, namely Trump 10, wherein the 5th Chakra is placed. This, though Ajna Chakra, the "Third Eye" may have been opened and developed earlier (on the steady advancing path "upwards"), the full force of the 5th Chakra will find its whole scope and employment, the commanding force of speech.

Within I Ching sign 31 is it said that "things constantly change, and even the human mentality may vanish forever". The scope of "total Man" is to purify him/herself from "human mentality", at least in the meaning of this necessarily being limited. Going forth from

Trump 13, Man enters the mental-noetic field. It is not new, for it stands for the "densest part of Akasha", i.e. the "most akashic", which had been reflected by all other Trumps up to here and will remain so until expressing itself totally as "Divine Will", pure Akasha, in Trump 21.

The 5th Chakra, Ajna Chakra, the Third Eye, or astral and mental vision, should slowly be unfolding now. Were this the case, no further obstacles remain, no further sphere may interrupt or hinder the students' path. At least inner vision should be developed enough to serve as an intuitive guide. The mental-noetic sphere is the region of intuition. It may not be explored by psychic-astral sight alone. The alchemic process in operation is closed to simply inquisitive minds, it lies open only to the true participant.

The dynamism of Trump 13, the fact that it constitutes a point of harmonic convergence with the upper mental-noetic or vital-emotional wheel - Rota - leads to a reconsideration of the Mer-Ka-Ba, the whole "vehicle of Man", already discussed within Trumps 7, 8 and 9. This is geometrically symbolised by the "Flower of Life". The subtle, four-dimensional star-tetraeder which envelops Man as a double-luminous being, able also to create a "boddhisattvic body" (as described within Trumps 15, 16 and 17), can be shown as a "morphogenetic mandala". The simplest one, of 7 circles, forms one "flower". It was shown within Trump 7. Now we accede to the mandala of 13 circles, which is called the "Fruit of Life". 13 circles are set within a hexaeder, the alternative form of the hexagram. There is also a cubic form, known as octaeder, which encloses 7 circles and has seven circles placed outside. We here show the two possibilities:



Octaeder with Cube of Metatron

This Mer-Ka-Ba symbolism expands to include a Chakra system of 13 points. This is highly interesting, for by itself and by the Tarot associations, the dynamic interflow of the Trumps, a whole set of otherwise hidden correspondences can be visibly imagined. In its


simplest form, not grouped and set into a cross-relationship, the system of 13 Chakras presents itself graphically in this way:

Thus we see the upwards and downwards flowing energies of Shakti through the main channels, in Hindu: Nadi.

The "extension" of the mental sphere of Mercury is the main planetary reference (from Trump 12 to 13). Number 13 also quabbalistically adds up to 4, thus the sphere of Jupiter. This is in keeping with the alchemist operation and significance of putrefaction and decomposition, for Fire and Water here produce the gases associated with this process. Thus the Tattwas of Akasha (Mercury), Air (Jupiter) are associated with Fire and Water. It was mainly for this reason that the proposed analogy with Saturn and Scorpio was relegated, though not entirely refused. If Scorpio stands for the Fire of Water necessary for the process, then it is apt. Akasha and the mental sphere rule, they have no proper analogy within the Zodiac, except by combinations.

Therefore Scorpio cannot stand alone and must be joined by an air-sign. This we leave wholly open to individual investigation, for it must reveal itself by association, "death" and "rejuvenation", dynamic change, being the main signifiers.

The reader, if he or she has followed our reasoning from the beginning, will have noticed our mounting reluctance to ascribe Hebrew letters to single Tarot cards. This is due to the ever-accruing dynamics, where no single letter or symbol really suffices.

Hebrew letter Nun, values 50 and 700, has been suggested. We may say: why not? It is associated with Scorpio and the fish. That barely signifies the "inner value" of Trump 13. It is tempting to suggest A'ain: , values 70 and 26 (2 x 13), associated with Capricorn and the eye. This is traditionally ascribed to Trump 15, The Devil. But the "temptation" does not lie within the sphere of Trump 15 (other than by evocation of 3 x 5 = triple Mars-Sphere), so, as the alchemy described within Trump13 still happens on Earth, and Capricorn being the Air of Earth, it could fit together with Scorpio. Nun, as analogous of number 24 (i.e. 6), at least cannot stand alone. A'ain, as the "number of Jehova": 26 or 2 x 13, fits well.

In fine, and the student will understand our reasons, we prefer to "open another Tetragrammaton formula of Yod He Vau He", in parallel to the old ascriptions. Thus we have Yod - Fire - associated with Nun or A'ain. Another chapter opens, another impulse enters the Tarot. Now the Tetragrammaton is no longer physical and astral, it is the mental analogy of the elements upon the terrestrial plane. The entire formula for Trump 13 then reads:

Mercury, Jupiter, Scorpio, Capricorn (or an air-sign), Yod/Nun or Yod/A'ain, Yin at first place within Trigram Yin-Yin-Yang: Mountain.

