Summary of Chapter 10 of the Líng Shū

Jīng Mài – On Channels

Introduction

This chapter explains the pathways of the main meridians, the diseases of these meridians and how to treat them. It does the same for the collaterals. This information can also be found in textbooks like the one of Deadman, *A Manual of Acupuncture* [3]. This chapter is important for acupuncturists as well as herbalists.

During the lessons prof. dr. Li Jie explained the difference between the words 'channel' and 'meridian'. A channel is something you can see. A meridian is an imaginary line. Compare the meridians of the earth. Therefore meridian is the preferred choice.

Sun Si-miao said:
- If you don't know TCM diagnosis, then you cannot be a TCM doctor.
- If you don't know Jīng-Lùò, then every needle is wrong (incl. technique).
- If you don't know needling techniques, then you're not an acupuncturist (there are around 100 techniques described).

Reading the Chinese text

In order to read classic Chinese texts like this one, a few characters are very handy to know. The table below gives the list of these characters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Pīnyīn</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>别</td>
<td>Bié</td>
<td>to come out another branch (character like in Jīng Bié)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>出</td>
<td>Chú</td>
<td>to go out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>抵</td>
<td>Dǐ</td>
<td>arrive at, reach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>贯</td>
<td>Guàn</td>
<td>pass through</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>过</td>
<td>Guò</td>
<td>to pass by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>合</td>
<td>Hé</td>
<td>join (two meridians come to one)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>横</td>
<td>Héng</td>
<td>horizontal movement, from east to west or from west to east</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>还</td>
<td>Huán</td>
<td>to return, to turn back/to come back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>环</td>
<td>Huán</td>
<td>around</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>会</td>
<td>Huì</td>
<td>meeting (character like in Bāihuì – DU-20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>夹</td>
<td>Jiā</td>
<td>‘in between’/ between two sides</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 加
 Jiā  to join (above) / (character like in Jiāchē – ST-6)

### 交
 Jiāo  cross each other

### 连
 Liān  to connect

### 洛
 Luò  coupling (meridian)

### 起
 Qǐ  to start

### 屈
 Qū  bended, curve (character like in Qūchí – LI-11)

### 却
 Què  go backward

### 入
 Rù  to go in

### 散
 Sǎn  scattered, come loose, fall apart, spread

### 上
 Shàng  to go up (from down to up)

### 属
 Shǔ  to belong to

### 系
 Xì  to relate/link, to belong to, relate to

### 下
 Xià  to go down (from up to down)

### 行
 Xíng  to pass by (next to)

### 循
 Xún  to follow (a certain) direction

### 直
 Zhí  straight on

### Bibliography

