Idiom by Lon Yan

zheng1 ri4 shang4 is “江河日下” (jiang1 he2 ri4 xia4). “江” (jiang1) and “河” (he2) both means “river,” “日” (ri4) “a day” and “下” (xia4) is down.

“江河日下” (jiang1 he2 ri4 xia4), literally, is “going down day by day, like the rivers.” It means “to go from bad to worse,” “to be on the decline,” “to decline steadily.”

When a company keeps losing customers, its business must be “江河日下” (jiang1 he2 ri4 xia4).

“江河日下” (jiang1 he2 ri4 xia4) is not something you would wish on anyone, unless if you want to pick a fight or make a lifelong enemy.

Terms containing the character “上” (shang4) include:

上課 (shang4 ke4) – to attend class
上司 (shang4 si1) – superior; boss
上網 (shang4 wang3) – to go on the internet
上水 (shang3 shui3) – Sheung Shui