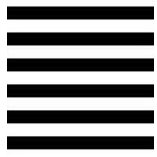


## Hexagram 1 – Creative



*Unceasing power.*

*Boundless.*

*Entire.*

**Structure:** Lower trigram represents the Creative’s power within being. The upper trigram represents the Creative’s power within the cosmos, the sacred universe.

**Time:** The hexagram marks the fourth month in the Chinese calendar, May to June, when the light-giving power grows the strongest.

The hexagram represents the Creative and its powers. No fixed condition within the universe bounds the Creative. As the all-encompassing Creative power, we call it sacred. As the sacred within life, we call it spirit.

The Creative has no form. It makes itself known through its all-powerful creativity. Its great laws subject the sacred Earth Interbeing to its sacred ways

We experience the Creative as the mystery, the unknowable yet known. We have no way to apprehend the Creative except through the power of its laws, its deep love and beauty, and our sacred relationship. It has no form nor measurement. We have no language to speak of the Creative, yet it speaks to us within our hearts.

The Creative extends and transforms, causing all things to flourish. We experience the never ceasing flux of the creation as change. Change does not impede but serves as the means to make the potential actual. The stages of change unfold in a clear sequence: first the manifestation of the Creative and then the conservation of Creation. The Creative powers the cyclic forces of change on which life on Earth depends

The Creative acts through sages, those who awaken and nurture the spiritual being of others. Sages live the ways of the sacred in the world, bringing to life the spiritual laws of harmony and balance that govern all of Creation’s interrelationships. Our spiritual love becomes one with the spirit through Earth Interbeing.

Sages see the mysteries of the Creative inherent in the end and beginning, in death and in life, in dissolution and growth. They know how the self destructively separates us from the spirit and how the ways of the spirit reunite. Sages transcend the limits of the transitory, the realm of cause and effect. Mindful of the stages of growth that unfold in a clear sequence, they use changes to make visible the spirit within the world. The sage draws strength from the spirit so that from each action a new one follows without cease.

The ceaseless strength of the Creative begets wholeness. We access this ever-present strength within every moment of experience when we freely choose to benefit all. In doing so, the sage abides in truth, avoids self-cherishing and hostility for others, promotes justice, and persists. Great sages bring peace and

security to the world by living the ways of the spirit within the world. In this way, sages make themselves strong and enduring.

### **Attribute of Transcendent Sacredness**

#### **Virtue of Love**

The Creative causes the beginning of all things and being. As the first cause, it causes itself. Nothing conditions the Creative. The Creative brings forth the good and the great, and underlies all that we experience. The beginning of all things and possibilities lies beyond in the realm of mystery and unfolds according to the ways of the Creative.

We experience this aspect of the Creative as love, the most important and inclusive attribute, which inheres in all things. Love links all to each other and to the Creative.

### **Attribute of Actualizing the Potential**

#### **Virtue of Earth and Moral Limits**

The sacred laws of change bring forth all phenomena. The Creative causes all life to grow and flourish within its laws of balance and harmony, reducing what harms and increasing what benefits all, regulating and organizing the sacred expressions of love.

Sages practice Earth and moral limits, which includes such behaviors as humility, simplicity, respect, reciprocity, honesty, and compassion. These behaviors give form to the continuous flux of creativity. Sages apprehend and bring to life the ways of the spirit by practicing Earth and moral limits to shape the conditions needed for the actualization of the potential. Earth and moral limits make the spirit's love and ways of the spirit understandable to others and extends the ways of the spirit to all relationships.

The sage voluntarily adheres to the ways of the spirit, the path which makes harmonious and balanced relationships possible within all our interactions. The sage brings about conditions that allow others to fulfill themselves. Nothing binds people more firmly together than deeply rooted Earth and moral behaviors because it appears to everyone as something worth achieving for themselves.

### **Attribute of Furtherance**

#### **Virtue of Justice**

The Creative never rests but continuously differentiates form. Through this power, the Creative brings forth the potential of each being. All life has the urge for fulfillment.

Among people, the virtue of justice creates the conditions within the world through which each receives what accords to its being and needs to actualize its potential. A sage brings about just conditions to further all beings, bringing them into harmony with the ways of the spirit. Justice provides the greatest possible freedoms and advantages for all.

### **Attribute of Perseverance**

#### **Virtue of Wisdom**

The Creative has the power to hold each being within an interrelationship among all beings, the Earth Interbeing. The creative transforms all beings so that each finds its form in relationship with other beings and supports the well-being of all, causing a great and lasting loving harmony to arise. People call this sacred attribute wisdom.

Within the human realm, wisdom points to the established and enduring path that accords with Earth and moral limits. Sages cultivate the conditions that make it possible for everything to thrive in their place, which brings about the balance and harmony of the Earth Interbeing.

### **The Lines**

All six lines act consistently and have a strong character without weakness. The lines have a relation to one another, a stairway of sequential change. The lower trigram depicts the developing influence of a sage's creative power; in the upper trigram, the sage brings forth the ways of the spirit within the world. The two lowest line stand for the Earth, the middle two lines for the world of people, and the upper lines for the spiritual realm.

**Line 1:** The sage does not yet act in the world but rather deepens its spiritual path in obscurity. It waits for the proper time to bring forth the ways of the spirit in the world.

**Line 2:** The sage appears in its chosen field of activity and influences others to follow the spiritual path. All benefit from the influences of a sage.

**Line 3:** The sage's abundant energy matches its increased activity in the world. At the end of the day, it considers the influence it has had upon others to learn how to become free of blame. The sage remains in touch with the dawning time and its demands.

**Line 4:** The line has reached a place of transition. It can freely choose between the way of the holy sage who seeks solitude or actively engages with the world. No general law favors one path over the other. Sages remain true to the path and manifest the spirit in ways most suited to them.

**Line 5:** The sage has entered the spiritual realm. The sage has delivered itself from what harms and extends to others its blessings and wisdom.

**Line 6:** The line imagines itself greater than the spirit and Creation. It enforces its will harshly without concern for the harms it inflicts. Such an unnatural path dooms itself. Those who seek to climb so high that they hold themselves above all necessarily fail.