

## Hexagram 55 - Fullness of Action with Wisdom



*Fullness of action with wisdom.  
Growing.  
The sage envisions it.  
No grief.  
Properly wisdom in the center.*

### Image Tradition

*Fullness of action with wisdom, fulfilling the great purpose indeed.  
Wisdom makes use of action.  
The cause of the fullness of action with wisdom.*

*The sage envisions it.  
Honoring the great purpose indeed.  
No grief for the decline of fullness.  
Wisdom now properly radiant in the center.  
Properly illuminating all on Earth indeed.*

*Action with wisdom now at the highest leads to its decline.  
Just as the fullness of the moon comes before its emptying.  
The sacred time of overfilling the emptiness of all.  
The sacred within the pause between and end and another beginning.  
Even more true the sacred within the Earth Interbeing.  
Even more true the sacred within our being.*

### Patterns of Wisdom

*Arousing power and wisdom culminate in acting wisely.  
Fullness of action with wisdom.  
The sage separates itself from the willingness to harm.*

### Structure:

- Arousing action above ☳. Wisdom below ☴. Acting through wisdom.
- Like the rising sun, wisdom surges upward with arousing action, an image of great power.

We have wisdom when the willingness to harm others for self-benefit does not obstruct our perception of what we experience. We can see the sacred behind what appears. Wisdom allows us to know how to respond to whatever arises in experience within the ways of wholeness.<sup>1</sup> When we

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<sup>1</sup> **Ways of the Wholeness of the Earth Interbeing:** We worship the sacred through fulfilling the great sacred command to care for and further the Earth Interbeing. We interbe with the Wholeness of the Earth Interbeing, interacting with all through equality, respect, and care so that life continues and thrives on Earth. We know and follow the sacred ways for all life may continue to interbe on Earth in ways that benefit all. We know and respond to the mutual neediness of life in ways that further the harmony of Earth Interbeing. We know and care for our place as the ground upon which we preserve the balance of Earth Interbeing by reciprocating for what we take through our stewardship of the Earth

wisely know what to do, free of self-centeredness, and act upon that knowing, we act wisely. Wisdom strengthens when we diminish our willingness to harm while cultivating compassion. We need compassionate wisdom to effectively act in ways that bring forth wholeness. The interaction of wisdom and action moves us toward wholeness.

Sages bring about a time of fullness within the world because they single-mindedly bring to life the sacred ways, like the sun that shines on all. Knowing alone cannot produce fullness; we must apply what we know. When we act with wisdom, we have no worry as we wisely act according to the needs of the time with balanced firmness and flexibility. Sages act in the world when they clearly know the path forward.

We practice and test our wisdom through action. We waste our time if we do not put into action what we have learned. Knowing without action has no use. We need to act upon our clear understanding of how to overcome what harms life and the Earth and bring forth what benefits all. Effort and wisdom working together restore the balance and harmony of the Earth Interbeing, which self-centeredness has spoiled. Wisdom within and action in the world produce fullness.

When they no longer know how to act wisely, sages stop and retreat. Knowing when to retreat from acting in the world preserves their spiritual path. Their inaction completes and proves their understanding of knowing. Even within the time of fullness, the sage knows that its knowing will dim.

Our influence in the world naturally ebbs and flows. When we experience disharmony and imbalance, our influence wanes. When our uncertainty grows about the way forward, our knowing dims. Sages do not struggle against changing times but they rather turn inward toward the sacred for rest and renewal. In this way, they prepare for when once again they can act wisely, bringing to life the sacred within the world and influencing others to further the ways of wholeness. They have the certainty that the time of fullness of wisdom and action will come again in the same way they know the sun will rise again. Such mutability might cause some to despair, but the sage, free of sorrow, radiates the fullness of action with wisdom when it can.

**Line 1:** This line represents the beginning of acting with wisdom, the union of knowing and energetic movement. They cooperate and bring about the time of fullness, a time that endures for as long as action knows wisely what to do. The line stops acting once its knowing dims. Acting without wisdom leads to danger.

**Line 2:** The wise line does not act when ignorance and doubt shrouds its knowing how to act. It waits for the situation to unfold until it can again know how to respond. By its nonaction, the line proves its self-discipline and resolve to fulfill the great purpose in the ways of wholeness.

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Interbeing. We live within interbeing's moral boundaries and Earth limits and learn from our life lessons how to overcome what keeps us apart. We respond to whatever we experience in the ways of the Earth Interbeing and hold ourselves accountable for our actions. We honor and submit to the sacred ways. 04/29/25)

**Line 3:** A great confusion prevents the line's knowing how to respond to a situation. The does not act when it does not know.

**Line 4:** The powerful line knows enough not to act without knowing how to act. However, it yields to its inner sacred wisdom and acts with wisdom. When wisdom complements the line's energy, the interrelated elements come together and accomplish what the line sought. Wisdom reaches into the world through action.

**Line 5:** Wholeness comes. The sage line attains fullness of acting through wisdom and furthers the Earth Interbeing. It receives the blessings of the sacred.

**Line 6:** The line does not act even though it has the wisdom to know how to act. It isolates itself from acting in the world and does not further the Earth Interbeing.