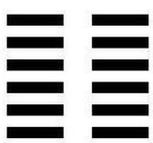


## Hexagram 2 – Earth



*Earth.*

*Wholeness of the sacred Earth.*

*A sage has the purpose of furthering life on Earth.*

*Beforehand delusion, afterwards fulfillment.*

*Benefits from the source of wisdom.*

*Overcoming obstacles to wholeness in fellowship with others.*

*Accountability for the end and beginning in solitude.*

*The wisdom of a tranquil spiritual path.*

### Image Tradition

*The Earth fully actualizes the sacred command to care for all.*

*Giving birth to all life.*

*By yielding it receives the sacred.*

*Earth: abundantly bearing and supporting all beings.*

*Furthering life harmonizes without limits.*

*Embodying generosity: the glory of furthering life.*

*All the kinds of beings interbe, growing.*

*Wholeness of the sacred powers of the Earth appears through its diversity.*

*Furthering what appears on it without limits.*

*Spiritual transformation benefits from flexibility and yielding.*

*A sage moves toward wholeness.*

*Beforehand delusion: refusing to further life.*

*Afterwards yielding: going through obstacles to live the sacred command.*

*Overcoming obstacles to wholeness in fellowship with other beings.*

*Thereupon mutual caring according to kind.*

*Accountability for the end and beginning in solitude.*

*Completing the path's cycle receives sacred blessings.*

*The wisdom of a tranquil spiritual path.*

*That harmonizes with the ways of the Earth Interbeing without limits.*

### Patterns of Wisdom

*Power of the Earth.*

*A sage abundantly brings to life the sacred ways by bearing and supporting all beings.*

**Structure:** The open lines represent the Earth's primal power of yielding.

**Time:** In the Chinese calendar, the hexagram marks the 10<sup>th</sup> month (November – December), when increasing darkness brings an end to the year.

### The Earth

The Earth fully materializes the sacred.

The Earth gives birth to all life. All life is made of Earth. With life arises the wholeness of Earth Interbeing.

The Earth fully actualizes the sacred command to care for all and yields to the ways of the Sacred. The Earth has no other purpose. It neither adds to nor takes away from its purpose to manifest the sacred. By yielding to the sacred command and caring for all, the Earth opens to the sacred.

The Earth bears and supports all life. It serves as the enduring ground for life. The Earth's holding quality allows all life to realize their potential within the sacred ways.

Furthering life through caring and generosity harmonizes Earth and life limits. The Earth causes life to flourish through its care and generosity, causing life to flourish on Earth.

Wholeness of the sacred powers of the Earth Interbeing emerges from the harmonious interactions of Earth with diverse beings. Diversity strengthens wholeness. Wholeness has no limits to the care and harmony that furthers life on Earth.

### **The Sage**

A sage brings to life the sacred ways by bearing and supporting all beings to further life on Earth. We become sages by constantly surrendering our self-benefit to benefit others. Through a compassionate understanding the needs of others, we relieve the suffering of others and work to transform the conditions that cause suffering. In this way, we move toward wholeness.

Those who live in a hierarchic, privileged culture have the willingness to harm others for self-benefit. We ignore the suffering of others and refuse to further life on Earth. We impose our will upon others or upon an unfolding situation. Taking the lead, we go astray. Pursuing self-benefit obscures the spirit. When we abandon our devotion to the sacred and hold ourselves equal in power to the sacred, when we seek to rule and serve ourselves or group alone, we conflict with the sacred. When a culture opposes the ways of the sacred, it causes much suffering and greatly harms life and the Earth.

Yet we can choose to further life by overcoming our harmful cultural conditioning and learn to live the sacred ways of caring for others as equals and furthering life on Earth.<sup>1</sup> Overcoming our harmful beliefs and behaviors opens us to the fellowship of beneficially interacting and interbeing with all life and the Earth. We perceive how interbeings mutually care for each other in the ways of their being and learn from them how we can do the same.

Each of us has the responsibility for each step of our spiritual path. Alone, we are accountable to the sacred for how we have fulfilled the sacred command to care for all life and the Earth. With the successful completion of each step that moves us closer to wholeness with the Earth Interbeing, we

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<sup>1</sup> **The Ways of the Wholeness of Earth Interbeing:** We center our lives on the sacred, our refuge, support and teacher. We yield to the sacred command to care for each other and the Earth by furthering life on Earth. We have the compassionate wisdom to know how to further life on Earth as a being and an interbeing. We know the equality of all life on Earth and compassionately care for all. We give back to the Earth Interbeing for what we take. We self-discipline to overcome what keeps us apart and to embody the sacred Earth Interbeing ways of wholeness. We act responsibly to prove our wisdom by compassionately responding to suffering and by transforming the conditions that cause suffering. We hold ourselves accountable to living the sacred ways of furthering life on Earth. (Rev. 6/8/25)

receive sacred blessings. Sages follow the tranquil path of the Earth to support and bear all life, the spiritual path that harmonizes with the ways of the sacred Earth without limits.

**Line 1:** The line passively yields to whatever others demands of it, losing its capacities to interact in beneficial ways. Its spiritual path can no longer transform it into wholeness and hardens into a ritual rather than a way of life. The wise compassionately discern how to respond to the needs of whatever it experiences in ways that relieves suffering and benefits all. The spiritual path of the wise becomes way of life and transforms them into sages.

**Line 2:** Inwardly and outwardly, the line overcomes what keeps it from wholeness and interacts in ways that care for all and the Earth. By following the sacred ways, the line, without error or hesitation, fulfills life's great purpose to further life.

**Line 3:** Becoming whole transforms the line. The line has no purpose beyond fulfilling the sacred command to further life. If the line chooses to act within the world, it does so when the time comes for action. Its sacred path has no end, and the line becomes a sage.

**Line 4:** The time calls for the strictest reticence and patience. When the wise cannot discern the way forward, they do not act rashly. Any degree of making known one's purpose leads either to resistance or to unwanted recognition, displacing the line's focus on furthering life. The wise patiently wait for situation to unfold.

**Line 5:** The line manifests the sacred purpose to further life on Earth. The line embodies and lives the ways of wholeness.

**Line 6:** The line ignores its responsibilities to care for others, all life, and the Earth. It even imagines itself greater than the sacred. People cannot dominate the Earth Interbeing. By sacred command, our personal agendas must yield to the ways that further life on Earth. When people ignore their responsibilities to the Earth Interbeing and assume unfettered dominion over the Earth and all life, the power of the sacred Earth Interbeing comes forward to assert its power against those who have violated its ways. In this struggle, people, all life, and the Earth suffer.