

Hexagram 13 – Uniting



Uniting people tending toward nature.

Spiritual influence nourishing all.

Benefit from furthering life on Earth.

Benefit from the perseverance of a sage.

The sage's work to further life on Earth has the power to cause all beings to unite in a shared purpose to further life on Earth. Sages can do this work because they have humbled themselves to the sacred. Knowing their utter dependence upon the sacred for their being, sages remain persistently open to sacred knowing and guidance.

The sage serves as the yielding center of union in harmony both with the sacred and the Earth Interbeing. It brings about unity, not by the authority of its position but by its humble willingness to serve the sacred command to further life on Earth.

Sages serve the sacred wherever the sacred has planted them. Within their place, they humbly do the work of the sacred in the ways of the sacred.¹ They receive as blessings the sacred support they need to further their work. By surrendering themselves to sacred knowing of what to do, sages learn how to manifest the sacred will to further life on Earth.

Like the Earth, sages serve the sacred and work to further the sacred creation. With an unlimited and willing generosity to share its blessings, a sage manifests the sacred ways. It persistently serves the sacred by supporting and caring for all according to their nature as the Earth carries and supports all life.

The sage can do this sacred work because of its gentle and mile perseverance, a combination of an enduring devotion to the sacred and persistently surrendering to the sacred will. The perseverance of the sage in furthering life on Earth ultimately manifests the sacredness of life on Earth. The sage foregoes imposing its will upon life and the Earth. What perseveres in the ways of the sacred lasts long.

The work of sages brings about the conditions that cause people to share the same sacred purpose to further life on Earth, overcoming all self-centeredness and doubt. Only a humble sage can unite the purpose of all beings.

Line 1: The line, free of selfishness, seeks union and joins in furthering life on Earth.

Line 2: In this situation, people associate only with those based on the similarity of kind. They claim greater rights and privileges than those they deem less worthy than them, the path of shame and harm. Those on the sacred path renounce this way of relating with others.

¹ **Ways and values of the sacred path to further life on Earth (work in progress):** Love, patience, humble surrender to sacred knowing, discernment of how to best further life on Earth, firm discipline to avoid harming the Earth Interbeing, harmonious interactions, equitable sharing, and a balanced wellbeing.

Line 3: Hatred, dishonesty, and ambition consume this unbalanced line. It wants what it does not have the right to have; thus, it resorts to cunning, claiming what it wants by rights of privilege. As long as the line persists in this path, it isolates itself.

Line 4: Its ambitions and willingness to harm others separate the line from union with others. However, the line achieves a wider view and discerns the harms that imposing its will has upon others, causing it to come to its senses. The line recognizes it can no longer justify harming others and the Earth for self-benefit, marking a turn for the better.

Line 5: Difficulties and dangers cause sorrow and distress between people separated by different views but who know their need to unite. After a great struggle to overcome what separates them, they have the clarity to unite.

Line 6: The union to further life on Earth has only a partial success as it does not include everyone, but the time has not ripened for that possibility. Nevertheless, the line joins others of like-mind to further as they can the unity of life on Earth, bringing to life the ways of unity and harmony.