

## Hexagram 32 – Persevering

*Persevering.*

*Living the ways.*

*Without fault.*

*Benefit from living the ways of the sacred Earth Interbeing*

*Benefit from furthering life on Earth.*

**Structure:** Outward movement ☰, inner gentleness and devotion ☷. The outward movement of duration depends upon an inner devotion.

**Meanings of ideogram:** persevere, continuing in the same way or spirit, constant, enduring, and self-renewing.

The sacred causes constant change. In our experience of constant change, only the sacred, the sacredness of life and Earth, and the sacred ways endure.<sup>1</sup> When we perseveringly live the sacred ways of furthering life on Earth, we enduringly further life on Earth. By living the sacred ways, our union with the sacred and the sacredness of life and the Earth persists.

The sacred path to further life on Earth lasts long. Our willingness to harm others and the Earth does not impede us on the path as we renew ourselves by overcoming its harmful ways and views. As we deepen knowing our sacredness, we empower ourselves to perseveringly further life on Earth. The sacred path spirals us into becoming interbeings. Yet even then, every ending opens to the beginning of another cycle, just as every exhalation turns into an inhalation.

We understand the behaviors of others when we know their enduring life purpose, what gives their lives meaning. What perseveres produces enduring effects. When we embody and live an enduring purpose, we shape the experience of our lives and the world. Those who embody furthering life on Earth present themselves as humble and morally responsible people who bring forth the necessary conditions to further life on Earth.

When we persevere in our sacred life purpose, we can confidently move through chaos. We correct ourselves rather than others to increase what we have to offer others. Persistently choosing to flexibly respond to experience in the sacred ways gives us continuity in change. By constantly rebalancing ourselves within the flux of change through responsible action and nonaction as circumstances require, we preserve the balance that we and the Earth Interbeing need to survive and further our shared wellbeing. The process becomes the goal.

**Line 1:** Whatever endures depends upon a persevering and gradual effort. The line ignorantly seeks to quickly establish an enduring condition and accomplishes nothing. Haste makes waste.

**Line 2:** The strong line restrains its impatience to bring a gradual process to a conclusion. It does not overstep the bounds of moderation and preserves the evolving balance of the process. The process becomes the purpose.

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<sup>1</sup> **Ways and values of the sacred path to further life on Earth (work in progress):** Love, patience, humble surrender to sacred knowing, discernment of what to do, firm discipline, harmonious interactions, equitable sharing, and a balanced wellbeing.

**Line 3:** The self-centered line does not have the capacity to perseveringly further life on Earth as it cannot tolerate what arises in experience. It remains at the mercy of hopes and fears aroused by the outer world, which leads to dangerous reactivity. The line cannot bear the burdens of life

**Line 4:** The line has an unachievable goal, and no amount of perseverance will achieve it. Sages persevere in bringing to fruition the ways of the sacred within their lives and in the world.

**Line 5:** The line perseveres in its purpose to further life on Earth. It has the wisdom to flexibly respond to changing conditions in ways that further life on Earth rather than being unyielding and stubborn. The line firmly restrains its reactivity.

**Line 6:** The restless line does not attain the capacity to bear the difficulties of furthering life on Earth. It moves from one effort to the next without persevering in any effort, mindlessly increasing the danger of the situation. Its efforts endure but the line accomplishes nothing.