

Hexagram 60 Articulating Parts of the Whole



*Articulating parts of a whole.
Spiritual influence pervading all.
Unbearable restrictions not permitted*

Structure: Water ☵ above lake ☱, danger over harmoniously interacting. Harmoniously Interacting despite danger.

Articulating means dividing a whole into restricted and identifiable parts in ways that preserve the interconnectedness of the parts and the integrity of the whole. We divide the year into restricted and identifiable seasons while preserving the interconnections among the parts and our understanding of a year.

Self-centered oppressors deny the existence of the sacredness of life and Earth. Using wealth and power over others as their measure, they divide the Earth Interbeing according to what benefits them and what harms them. As oppressors deny the wholeness of the Earth Interbeing, they destroy the whole through their pillage of its interconnected parts.

Our wrong views have separated us from the sacred and wholeness with the Earth Interbeing. To recover our wholeness, we overcome believing in our superiority over all other beings, our right to have power over others, and the right to have more than others. We stop oppressing the Earth Interbeing. To do that, we humble ourselves.

We come to the sacred path as we do not want others to suffer from our wrong doings. Our love for life on Earth moves us to further the wellbeing of all. Those on the sacred path discern what furthers and what harms life on Earth, using the balance of unity and equality as our measure. To recover and preserve our balance with the whole, we have the responsibility to not harm the Earth Interbeing. As we know our interdependence, we learn how to harmoniously interact with other beings and to equitably share the abundance of the Earth with other beings.

To discern our imbalances with the Earth Interbeing, we center our being within the sacred to know the sacred love and our sacredness. We surrender to the sacred knowing of how to further life and the Earth and the sacredness of our relationships with other beings, the beloved Earth Interbeing.

We articulate our harmful ways from our capacities to further life. Rather than treating the symptoms, we uproot the harmful ways of views of a self-centered oppressor willing to harm the Earth Interbeing for self-benefit. We learn how to master our harmful ways through self-discipline and by harmoniously interacting with others.

However, we do not focus on our harmful ways and force ourselves to change. Harsh self-discipline that focuses on stopping harmful behaviors can become a self-punishment, which the integrity of our being will not endure. Rather, we bear the burdens of changing ourselves by keeping our focus on how our discipline alleviates the suffering of our beloved Earth Interbeing. We can bear any hardship if we understand it will move us toward fulfilling a valued purpose.

Through self-discipline, we mildly and gently pare away our harmful ways and views for our interbeingness to emerge. We take care that we do not cut too deep in our paring to avoid injuring the integrity of our being, our sacredness and the sacred ways.¹ Our love for the beloved Earth Interbeing flows through articulating our harmful ways and views and then changing them.

Before we can know what we can do to further life on Earth, we must stop ourselves from harming it. When we stop ourselves from oppressing life on Earth and willfully harming others for self-benefit, we will have recovered our capacities to further life on Earth. By persistently bringing to life the sacred ways, we endure on the path to further life on Earth. Even though we may live within oppressive circumstances, we can always choose to live the sacred ways.

Line 1: The line discerns how its harmful ways and views prevent it from knowing how to further life on Earth. It wisely withdraws inward and quietly works on overcoming what keeps it apart from the sacred and the Earth Interbeing.

Line 2: The line has overcome its harmful ways and knows what it can do to further life on Earth, yet it does not act upon its sacred knowing. Anxious hesitation to act upon the sacred knowing leads to regret because of a missed opportunity.

Line 3: Those who persist in living in ways that unbalance the Earth Interbeing will suffer the consequences.

Line 4: The line mildly and gently overcomes how it harms the Earth Interbeing, the sacred way.

Line 5: The line overcomes how it harms the Earth Interbeing through harmonious interactions, the sacred way.

Line 6: In an efforts to overcome its separation from the whole, the line inflicts a severe discipline upon itself. While the line stops its harmful ways, it loses the will to follow the extreme path of joyless asceticism.

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 what to do, firm discipline, harmonious interactions, equitable sharing, and a balanced wellbeing.