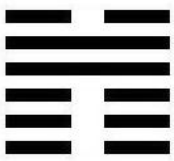


Hexagram 45 Gathering



Gathering.

Growing.

Sacred unity through the Earth Interbeing

Benefit from viewing the sacredness within others.

Nurturing. Benefiting, Persevering.

Make great sacrifices in harmony with the sacred time.

Benefit from furthering life on Earth.

Image Tradition

Structure: Joyful above ☰ and devotion within ☷. Joyful devotion.

The sacred dwells within all life. All beings know the sacredness of life and center their lives on the sacred. Through our sacredness, we joyfully and devotedly gather in sacred unity with the Earth Interbeing, the basis of gathering. When we center our beings upon the sacred, we harmonize with all beings.

We benefit from viewing the sacredness within all life to interbe as equals among equals, equitably sharing the abundance of the Earth in ways that further life on Earth. The sacred draws all life into unity. Those who adhere to the ways of the sacred and the Earth Interbeing have the open receptivity to surrender to the pull of the sacred within their lives, like the pull of gravity draws all towards Earth.

Great sacrifices harmonize us with the sacred. We reverently offer our self-centered willingness to harm for self-benefit and joyfully surrender our will to the sacred will. By giving up what keeps us apart from the sacred, we grow into union as interbeings. We and all life benefit from furthering life on Earth.

We have the models close at hand of how to live in union with the sacred and within the Earth Interbeing. As we are of the Earth, we can know its humble ways. The Earth fully expresses its sacredness by completely surrendering to the sacred will. The Earth has no purpose other than to make visible the sacred purpose. The Earth's constant and unerring manifestation of the sacred emerges out of its receptivity, humbleness, and strength.

The Earth Interbeing centers on the sacred. The Earth Interbeing is not a thing but a process of life constantly surrendering to the sacred will to further life on Earth. As living beings, we follow the harmonious and equitable ways of the Earth Interbeing. Our devotion to caring for the Earth Interbeing become so integrated into our being that nothing can destroy it. When we know our relationship to others within the Earth Interbeing, all relationships become clear.

Centering on the sacred binds all life and the Earth together. When we commune with the sacred, we know our holy work to further life on Earth. Through the offering of our will, our highest value, to the sacred, the sacred moves us to bring our holy work to completion. We live our lives as an offering.

Only a collective moral force to further life on Earth can unite us with all life and the sacred. Living our sacredness and as an interbeing becomes ordinary, just the way we live. In this way of living, life on Earth thrives.

When values and aspirations align, people move powerfully in the same direction. The offering of reverent and devoted action to the sacred becomes the community's shrine and refuge. When the

gathered remain steadfast, always holding to the sacred Earth Interbeing, a communion with the sacred arises. Within the cosmos, all turn to the sacred.

Line 1: The line longs for union with the sacred and to further life on Earth but does not make the effort to do so. Its confusions and doubts make it indecisive as it swings between furthering life on Earth and a reluctance to change its harmful ways. The line has yet to stabilize its centering on the sacred. Then, as if a sacred calling, it surrenders its will to the sacred and commits to furthering life on Earth.

Line 2: It takes a long time for the line to overcome its willingness to harm others for self-benefit, an important and necessary step to interbeing. As a sacrifice, it persistently disciplines itself to move away from harming and toward what benefits all, a process that transforms beings into interbeings.

Line 3: Obstructions frustrate the line from becoming an interbeing and serving the Earth Interbeing, causing the line sorrow. The line gives up imposing a direction upon how it should interbe and yields to the sacred knowing of what to do.

Line 4: The line has a clear and grounded purpose to further life on Earth in ways that benefit all. It centers on the sacred Earth Interbeing rather than on itself. It disciplines itself to remain open and receptive to the sacred.

Line 5: The line forces itself to conform to the ways of the Earth Interbeing for union with the sacred and Earth Interbeing. Coerced efforts do not endure. The line needs to deepen its devotion to the sacred and overcome temptations to impose its will.

Line 6: The line does not yet have capacities to open to the sacred and further life on Earth, but its good-hearted intentions keep it on the path to doing so.