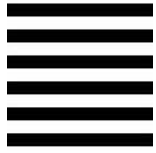


Hexagram 1 – Sacred Power



Sacred power

Originating, influencing that pervades and nourishes all beings, furthering, persevering.

The whole of wholes.

Ideogram: The firmament, the manifestation of the sacred image. **Meanings of Ideogram:** The great oneness, the subtle breath of the cosmos.

Structure: Lower trigram represents the sacred's power within being. The upper trigram represents the sacred's power within the cosmos, the sacred universe.

The hexagram marks the fourth month in the Chinese calendar, May to June, when the light-giving power of the sun grows the strongest on the summer solstice.

Origin

The sacred causes cause.

The sacred causes interdependence, the fundamental structure of reality. Reality interdepends. Everything interdepends and converges completely at every point with everything.

The sacred causes reality, experience, phenomenal existence, life. The sacred causes everything to constantly change in sacred time. Change occurs constantly and mostly imperceptibly. Through the accumulation of myriad incremental changes, the sacred transforms what its causes. All life gradually changes until transformed by the sacred into their destined manifestation. Beings unfold their lives in stages and complete themselves as interbeings.

The sacred causes the sacredness of reality, the sacred within everything. Life knows its sacredness. Interbeings live their sacredness. We approach the sacred through the guidance of our sacredness.

The sacred causes the equality and unity of life. Life and all we experience manifest as parts of the whole, the sacred, the one. The whole exceeds the sum of its parts. Through the equality of life emerges the unity of the Earth Interbeing. We come to live sacredness within the sacredness of an interdependent reality as an interdependent interbeing within the interdependent Earth Interbeing. Life interdepends as equals within a unified sacred whole.

The unconditioned sacred causes causal conditions. All the sacred causes become causal conditions of change. We respond to the whole field of causal conditions of other beings and circumstances, which influence us to act in a certain way. Through our actions, we become causal conditions within interdependence, influencing the cosmos to respond in a certain way. Our actions influence the interdependent reality to respond in a certain way. The ways of sacredness identify the causal conditions of interbeing.¹

¹ **Ways of sacredness to further the wellbeing of life on Earth (work in progress):** devotion to the sacred by furthering the wellbeing of life on Earth; living the sacredness and moral interdependence of life and Earth; compassionately responding to the moral obligation of interdependence to respond to suffering of life; surrendering to the sacred will to know how to

Equality and Unity through Harmonizing

Good feelings make it possible for beings to interact in harmonious and mutually beneficial ways with each other and with the Earth. Caring for others and furthering life on Earth also depends upon beings having good feelings for one another. With good feelings, we yield to the sacred and interbe, the Earth Interbeing.

When we have good feelings, we forget the difficulties of our work. Good feelings allow us to confront great dangers and hardships, dispelling despair and dread. Good feelings encourage us to do the harder but right thing to do. The sacred encourages life to hold to the sacred ways through our sacredness.

The sacred furthers the diversity of interdependent life on Earth by causing the equality of life. By perceiving the sacredness within others, we know our equality with all beings, out of which unity and the Great Harmony arise. Within interdependence, we find no hierarchy of who has power over whom or has more worthiness than others. Mutually beneficial interactions occur through the mutual respect, common neediness, and good feelings among equals.

The mutual sharing of gifts requires knowing that all beings uniquely have within themselves what everyone else needs for living in an interdependent reality. Living our equality within diversity furthers the Great Harmony.

Furthering Life on Earth

All life has the urge to live and for their children to live. The sacred furthers life and the Earth to flourish in the infinite ways. All life benefits from the sacred furthering. The sacred furthers the flourishing of individual beings and for the whole of the Earth Interbeing as well. The potential for the furthering life on Earth goes beyond our imagination.

Out of life's sacredness, interdependence, and equality flows the sacred command that life participates in furthering life on Earth. All life responds in ways unique to their beings aligned with the ways of sacredness. Interbeings willingly cultivate and nourish the conditions for life to flourish, the holy work the sacred gives interbeings to further life on Earth. We dismantle anything that would obstruct equal access of all beings to what they need to live and to flourish. We live in ways that do not diminish the lives of others.

Diverse beings each have their own ways to further life on Earth. Out of the interdependent needs of diverse beings for other beings and the Earth emerges the Earth interbeing. The myriad beings align with the ways of sacredness as their wellbeing depends upon the furthering life on Earth.

Perseverance in Caring for Others

All beings have the moral obligation to respond to the suffering of others caused by disharmony and inequality. An interdependent reality requires beings to care for others. The suffering of one affects everyone everywhere and at any time within an interdependent reality.

respond to suffering of life; equality of mutually beneficial and harmonious interactions; equality of equitable sharing of Earth's abundance; preserving a balance living within a world of change and our sacredness; willingness to make the effort to do the harder but right thing to do.

Interbeings persevere in changing their harmful ways and in making amends for the suffering they cause through reciprocity, the recovery of wholeness. Interbeings respond to the suffering of others whatever the cause and work to influence the conditions that cause suffering. We have the responsibility to dismantle the ways we obstruct equality and unity from flowing unimpeded within sacred reality. By persevering in making the effort to diminish the causes of suffering, we further life on Earth and bring life into greater harmony and flourishing.

The sacred causes life to know what harms and what furthers life. By necessity, interbeings perseveringly adhere to the sacred ways of an interdependent reality to reduce suffering and to fulfill their moral obligation to care for others, the ground of all moral action. Caring for others endures and manifests sacredness.

The Lines

The sacred transforms beings into interbeing through transformations, as represented in the six positions of the hexagram's lines.

Line 1: The has nearly ripened into an interbeing but remains hidden and unrecognized. Outward success or failure does not influence the line. It has confidence in its strength to live the ways of sacredness. However, it has not yet received its holy work within the world and waits patiently for the sacred time to fulfill itself. It refrains from acting prematurely to obtain by force something that has yet to ripen.

Line 2: The line has received its holy work. The influences of living the ways of sacredness begin to manifest. While it remains among its peers, it distinguishes itself by its seriousness of purpose, unqualified reliability, and its unconscious influence upon others.

Line 3: The influence of the line widens. Sacred energies match the line's growing responsibilities. However, it remains vulnerable to impose its will upon others, acting upon its ambitions and not the sacred will. Thus, it remains vigilant. It has the strength to avoid indulging the temptations of self-benefit.

Line 4: The line has reached a place of transition. It has the choice between solitude or leadership, the way of the hero or the sage. The line chooses according to the inner law of its being. Either way, the line remains true to the ways of sacredness.

Line 5: The line attains the sphere of interbeings, drawing other interbeings to it. It has delivered itself from what harms and extends to others through its holy work the spiritual blessings it has received.

Line 6: The line imagines itself greater than the sacred and the Earth Interbeing. It imposes its will harshly and without concern for the harms it inflicts. Such an unnatural path dooms itself. Those who seek to climb so high that they hold themselves above all and the sacred necessarily fail.