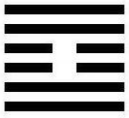


Hexagram 61 Living Sacredness



*Living sacredness. Transforming ignorance, belief in superiority, and wanting to dominate.
Benefit from overcoming what harms life on Earth.
Benefit from perseverance.*

Structure: Nurturing ☵ above and beneficial interactions ☷ below. Firm lines above and below an empty in the center. Each trigram has a firm line in the middle, representing the influential force of sacredness.

The sacred causes life and endows life with sacredness. Sacredness indwells within all life, represented by the empty center. Through an emptiness of imposing our will, we open to the sacred influence moving our lives.

Our ignorance, deluded beliefs in our superiority, and wanting to dominate others and situations obscure knowing and living our sacredness, separating us from others and the sacred. The trustworthy powers of our inner sacredness urge us to dispel our wanting to have our way. Sacredness empowers us to overcome our willingness to harm others and the Earth for self-benefit and then ignore the suffering we cause. The humility of a heart empty of wanting to self-benefit opens to sacredness.

Living sacredness provides the supports we need to finally subdue our ignorance by accepting uncertainty, seeing through wrong views, and overcoming imposing our will upon experience. By responding to the needs of others with understanding, care, and kindness, we live sacredness and further life on Earth.

Living sacredness arises when we have aligned our will to bring to life the ways of sacredness.¹ As a result of an arduous and gradual effort, we empty ourselves of self-centeredness and willingness to harm others for self-benefit, represented by the inner emptiness of the hexagram, a void that sacredness fills. Our strong will now centers on living the ways of sacredness, imaged in the hexagram by the strong lines surrounding emptiness. Awakening to sacredness and nurturing our living sacredness, we yield to the sacred and respond to the needs of the moment.

We know the sacredness of all beings and bring that sacred knowing to life. All life knows that to live within an interdependent reality, we must alleviate suffering of others. For life to survive, all life has the responsibility to further life on Earth by correcting their harmful ways and views. Because all life has a humble respect for the equality of all beings, we refrain from imposing our will on others to correct others or to have our way. We yield to living the ways of sacredness to interdependently interbe.

Living sacredness unites all life with the sacred. Living sacredness to further life on Earth overcomes all dangers. The power of sacredness transforms us into interbeings.

Line 1: Living sacredness is a great responsibility and challenging. The line centers its will upon overcoming what separates it from living its sacredness and furthering life on Earth. It guards itself from its ignorance, belief in its superiority, and wanting to impose its will upon others and situations.

¹ **Ways of sacredness:** worshipping the sacred by how we live within an interdependent reality to further life on Earth; living the sacredness and moral interdependence of life and Earth; fulfilling our moral obligation to respond to the suffering of others and all life; surrendering to the sacred will what to do; the equality of mutually beneficial interactions; the equality of equitable sharing of Earth's abundance; keeping still when ignorant; willingness to make the effort to do the harder but right thing to do.

Line 2: The line responds to the sacred call to living sacredness. Loving unites the line with the overflowing sacred love.

Line 3: Its vulnerability to harmful ways and views diminishes the line's capacity to live sacredness. It ignorantly and arrogantly imposes its will upon others and situations for self-benefit.

Line 4: The line moves toward living sacredness. It has freed itself from depending upon others to do its holy work that only it can do for itself and from comparing its efforts with those of others. It humbly submits to sacred guidance on its path and bears the burden of its responsibilities without concern whether others do the same.

Line 5: The line, free of all inner obstacles and delusions, lives its sacredness as an interbeing.

Line 6: The line wants to soar to the highest spiritual realm but depends on mere words to do so. Those who talk about living sacredness without making the effort to do so endanger themselves.