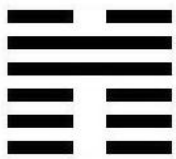


Hexagram 45 Coming Together



Coming together.

Sacredness.

Imagine possessing a temple within.

Benefit from viewing the sacredness within self and others.

Living sacredness. Harmonious interactions. Persevere through danger.

Seek sacred guidance to know how to offer one's life to further life on Earth.

Benefit from acting upon sacred guidance.

Meanings of ideogram: gather, assemble, collect, cluster; tight group of people, animals, things; bunch, crowd; literally – bunchgrasses.

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

The sacred dwells within all life. All beings know the sacredness of life and the sacred within their lives. All beings center on the sacred and the sacred command to care for each other so that life may continue on Earth. Life benefits from perceiving the sacred within all. Interbeing arises from life centering their lives on the sacred. Life that lives sacredness comes together to interbe.

We feel drawn to the sacred and come together with the sacred through living our sacredness. The more we part from our harmful conditioned views and ways, the stronger this attraction grows. When we forget the sacred and our sacredness, we become disrespectful of others and have the cruel willingness to harm them for self-benefit.

The trigram imaging harmonious interactions with others (☰) and the trigram ☷☷, imaging devotion to sacred guidance, form the hexagram. Good feelings for each other encourage us to come together. The gathering centers on the sacred to fulfill the sacred command of life to further life on Earth.

We imagine having a temple within, the place of making great sacrifices to the sacred. Within this holy place, we sacrifice our willingness to harm others and the Earth for self-benefit by thought, word, or deed. We surrender our ignorant self-centered beliefs and pray for sacred direction of our lives to further life on Earth.

Because we know our ignorance in knowing how to live on Earth in ways that cause all life and the Earth to thrive, we turn inward to receive sacred guidance. Once we know what to do to further life on Earth, we act upon that knowing.

From within this temple, we contemplate our having good feelings for others and humbly submitting to sacred guidance. We contemplate how other beings interbe through mutually beneficial interactions, manifesting the good feelings of life within an interdependent reality. We contemplate the many ways that life harmonizes with the ways of sacredness that permit life to interbe through humble submission and acceptance of sacred guidance.¹ All life centers on the sacred, the source of life and what causes life to endure.

¹ **Ways of sacredness to further life on Earth:** manifesting the sacred purpose to further life on Earth; awakening to sacred knowing; wisdom of living sacredness; harmonious and respectful interactions; devotion to the sacred; humble submission to the sacred ways of change, interdependence, causality, and equality; responding to the suffering of others; restoring and preserving a balanced life.

The ignorance of a harmful culture that willingly harms others for self-benefit stubbornly blocks manifesting sacredness. In such a culture, we have difficulties in communicating with others about the sacred and sacredness as the culture has strongly repressed knowing the sacred and the sacredness of life. It has twisted furthering life on Earth into furthering Earth and life's destruction for the power and wealth of a privileged few.

Nobody can stop us from living our devotion to the sacred and the ways of sacredness, the means of how we come together with life to interbe and further life on Earth. Within our daily interactions, we respond in ways that manifest sacredness without explaining ourselves. Our holy work in the world creates opportunities for others to witness what we do, which may open to involving them in the transformative effort. We respond to the needs of the sacredness within others to be touched, to be known. In these and other unfolding ways, we live our sacredness, influencing others to do the same.

The sacred does not force beings into living sacredness and gives each of us a choice to live in ways that further life or destroy it. On the sacred path, we voluntarily come together with all life to interbe and center on the sacred. We voluntarily align ourselves with the ways of sacredness to further the survival of life on Earth. By correcting ourselves, we overcome the harmful conditions that obstruct our knowing sacredness. Through responding to the needs of others in caring ways, having respect for all as our equals, interacting with good feelings for others, acting upon sacred guidance, we live our sacredness.

We tread upon the holy ground of experience on the sacred path, step by step, to live sacredness and come together to interbe with all life on Earth, never forgetting our sacred origin.

Line 1: The line has a sincere desire to come together with the sacred and sacredness. However, it does not yet have the capacities to overcome its harmful urges and influences that disturb its stability. It cries out for sacred support and receives guidance, turning its sorrow into joy.

Line 2: The weak line feels drawn to the sacred and its sacredness. It persists in distancing itself from harmful ways, and the sacred attraction grows stronger. The line need not strive for union but prepare itself for it.

Line 3: The line ignorantly strives for union with other beings on its own but fails. Despite feeling shamed by its arrogance, the line cuts through its beliefs in its superiority and humbly submits to sacred guidance to overcome what keeps it from coming together to further life on Earth.

Line 4: The strong humble line lives sacredness and does the holy work of furthering life on Earth as a servant of the sacred.

Line 5: The line lives sacredness and interbes, influencing others to want to do the same. The line's influence strengthens as it perseveres on the sacred path to further life on Earth.

Line 6: The line has sought union with others to protect life and Earth in mercenary ways. The futility of its ignorant efforts causes it great sorrow. If it should distance itself from the ways of its harmful culture and turn toward the ways of sacredness and sacred for guidance, it may yet come together with other beings to further life on Earth.