

THE HIERARCHY OF CENTERS

The carpet will appear coherent to the degree that it is composed of smaller centers: the more centers it contains within itself the more significant it will itself be as a center. And the same is true of every element within the carpet. To the extent that any given center is itself made up of further smaller centers, this center is powerful and significant. A given center becomes stronger and stronger, and more and more significant, to the extent that it is, indeed, a center — and it becomes a center to the degree that it is composed of other, interacting centers.

Thus there is a curious, almost circular, proposition at the basis of this phenomenon. Centers are made up of other centers. A center is an organization of other centers. It achieves its significance to the degree that each of these other centers of which it is made is itself significant, and an entire carpet, being merely yet another center in the endless hierarchy of centers, also achieves its significance to the degree that it itself is also made of other centers which are significant.

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