

# RELATIONALITY

Living in a World of Consequence

Dr. Mohammad Rajabali Nejad

# RELATIONALITY

Living in a World of Consequence

Author: Dr. Mohammad Rajabali Nejad

ISBN: *9789465381749*

Copyright © 2025 Dr. Mohammad Rajabali Nejad

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the copyright holders, except for brief quotations in academic, educational, or review contexts.

PRINTED IN THE NETHERLANDS

# Preface

This book does not introduce a theory.

This book is not intended to persuade, but to attune.

It does not propose a method, define a framework, or argue for a particular solution. It does not offer guidance on how systems should be designed, governed, or optimised. Those concerns belong elsewhere.

Instead, this book attends to a condition.

It begins from the observation that many of the difficulties faced in contemporary systems—failures of safety, breakdowns of sustainability, conflicts of responsibility, and tensions between freedom and control—persist even when intentions are good, expertise is present, and procedures are followed.

Rather than addressing these difficulties directly, the chapters that follow step back. They ask what kind of world makes such situations possible in the first place.

The answer offered here is not moral or technical, but ontological. It concerns how existence unfolds through relation, how actions persist beyond intention, and how influence propagates without coordination or design.

The aim of this book is orientation.

By tracing ordinary situations—reasonable decisions, delayed consequences, absence of error, persistence beyond presence—it seeks to make visible a condition that is usually unnoticed precisely because it is always present.

This condition is named relationality.

Relationality is not presented as an ideal, a goal, or a value. It is not something to be achieved or corrected. It is the medium in which action takes place, the background against which safety, sustainability, responsibility, harmony, and freedom acquire meaning.

Readers looking for solutions may find this book unsettling. It offers none. Readers looking for clarity may find it demanding. It requires attention rather than agreement.

The hope is that by recognising the condition described here, later discussions of design, governance, and integration can proceed with greater realism—aware not only of what is intended, but of what inevitably follows from participation in a relational world.

This book is therefore placed deliberately before theory and before method.

It is written for those who sense that something essential precedes safety, sustainability, and responsibility, and who are willing to pause long enough to recognise it.



# Contents

I	Before We Act	1
1	Nothing Happened	3
2	The Reasonable Choice	5
3	When Consequences Arrive Late	7
4	The Absence of Error	9
5	Why Blame Feels Inadequate	11
6	What Continues After We Leave	13
II	Exposure	15
7	Existing Among Others	17
8	Influence Without Intention	19
9	The Persistence of Decisions	21
10	Being Affected Before Choosing	23
11	The Silent Field	25
III	Naming the Condition	27
12	A Condition, Not a Choice	29
13	Relationality	31
14	Why Isolation Is an Illusion	33

<b>IV</b>	<b>Preparing the Ground</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Why Protection Becomes Necessary</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Why Continuation Becomes a Question</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>The Traces We Leave</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Why Responsibility Emerges</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Why Balance Matters</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Why Freedom Requires Awareness</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>Living Within the Condition</b>	<b>49</b>
	<b>Relationality in an Ordinary System</b>	<b>53</b>

# I Before We Act