

A man should minister to his friends as the Northern direction:

1. by gifts;
2. by kindly words;
3. by looking after their welfare;
4. by treating them like himself;
5. by keeping his word.

Friends and companions, thus ministered to, will reciprocate:

1. by looking after him when he is inattentive;
2. by looking after his property when he is inattentive;
3. by being a refuge when he is afraid;
4. by not deserting him when he is in trouble;
5. by showing concern for his children.

A man should minister to ascetics and brahmins as the Zenith:

1. by kindness in bodily deed;
2. by kindness in speech;
3. by kindness in thought;
4. by keeping open house for them;
5. by supplying their bodily needs.

Teachers, thus ministered to, will reciprocate:

1. they will restrain him from evil;
2. they will encourage him to do good;
3. they will be benevolently compassionate towards him;
4. they will teach him what he has not heard;
5. they will point out to him the way to heaven.

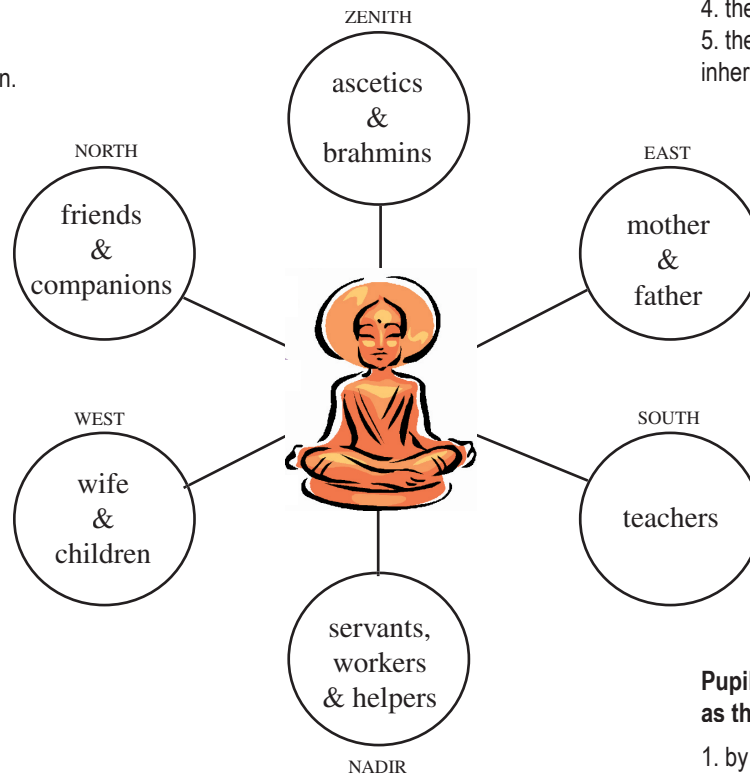
A son should minister to his mother and father as the Eastern direction:

1. "Having been supported by them, I will support them.
2. I will perform their duties for them.
3. I will keep up the family tradition.
4. I will be worthy of my heritage.
5. After my parents' deaths I will distribute gifts on their behalf."

Mothers and fathers, thus ministered to, will reciprocate:

1. they will restrain him from evil;
2. they will support him in doing good;
3. they will teach him some skill;
4. they will find him a suitable wife;
5. they will in due time, hand over his inheritance to him.

The Mandala of Social Relations



A person becomes safe and free from fear by protecting the six directions. By such practice, all will go well with him in this world and the next.

Sigalaka Sutta (Digha 31)

A husband should minister to his wife as the Western direction:

1. by honoring her;
2. by not disparaging her;
3. by not being unfaithful to her;
4. by giving authority to her;
5. by providing her with adornments.

A wife, thus ministered to, will reciprocate:

1. by properly organizing her work;
2. by being kind to the servants;
3. by not being unfaithful;
4. by protecting stores;
5. by being skilful and diligent in all she has to do.

A man should minister to his servants and workpeople as the Nadir:

1. by arranging their work according to their strength;
2. by supplying them with food and wages;
3. by looking after them when they are ill;
4. by sharing special delicacies with them;
5. by letting them off work at the right time.

Servants and workpeople, thus ministered to, will reciprocate:

1. they will get up before him;
2. they will go to bed after him;
3. they will take only what they are given;
4. they will do their work properly;
5. they will be bearers of his praise and good repute.

Pupils should minister to teachers as the Southern direction:

1. by rising to greet them;
2. by waiting on them;
3. by being attentive;
4. by serving them;
5. by mastering the skills they teach.

Teachers, thus ministered to, will reciprocate:

1. they will give thorough instruction;
2. they will make sure they have grasped what they should have duly grasped;
3. they will give them a thorough grounding in all skills;
4. they will recommend them to their friends and colleagues;
5. they will provide them with security in all directions.