The Newar Stūpa has been infused with the Mahāyāna cosmology of the Five Buddhas, with Vairocana, the cosmic Buddha/embodiment of the Dharmakāya, at the center. It is a three dimensional manḍala.

The directional Buddhas each have their own niches, and the Vajrayāna tradition’s influence is seen in the additional placement of their consorts clockwise from their respective Buddhas.