
SHAMANIC QABALAH

A Mystical Path to Uniting the Tree of Life & the Great Work

Ritual Item Guide

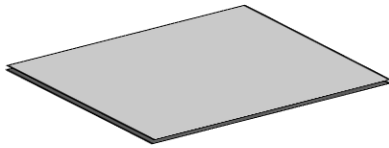
This guide is a step-by-step manual for collecting the ritual items with which to build your altar for pathworking in the Tree of Life. Your altar is your control panel to the cosmos, the intermediary between you and the spirit world. As such, the elements are essential components to understanding shamanic magic and mysticism. As once written by the esoteric adept Franz Bardon: “Everything that has been created came into being through the effects of the elements.” (*Initiation into Hermetics*, p.25). This is the key to shamanic magic: tapping into the natural powers of creation to become creators ourselves.

Since the essence of *Shamanic Qabalah* is about the blending of traditions, the next few pages show you what is required from a Western Mystery Tradition (WMT) and a Pachakuti Mesa Tradition (PMT) perspective. Each page will be broken out into the respective element to have represented in the altar, as well as the base/foundation of the altar itself. Make sure, above all else, the altar reflects your personality and soul more than the tradition you are utilizing. Finally, have fun!!!

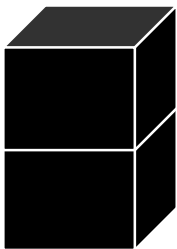
SHAMANIC QABALAH: Ritual Item Guide

The Altar

Every altar needs a foundation, so your first step is to decide what you would like to use as the under-girding of your ritual operations. Here are some examples:



In the PMT, a *manta* is used as the foundation of a mesa altar. The *manta* is traditionally a Peruvian textile which is either laid directly on the ground or a table. They are usually designed in the Quechua or Aymara style but what is important is that is a design that you appreciate and connect with. In the PMT lineage the altar normally faces north, with the practitioner positioned in the south.



In the WMT, the altar is usually a raised table or double cube. The purpose of the double cube is that one level represents the microcosm and the other the macrocosm of the universe. It is traditionally painted black. In the WMT lineage, the altar normally faces east, with the practitioner positioned in the west.

SHAMANIC QABALAH: Ritual Item Guide

Representing Earth

The first item you should collect (intuitively, if you can) is an item to represent Earth on your altar. Earth is characteristic not only of our collective home planet, but is emblematic of our physical existence in reality. Therefore, the item representing Earth on your altar will serve more material functions of ceremony.



In the PMT, a stone or a crystal is normally selected to represent Earth, which embodies *Pachamama* (Mother Earth). You should find this item in nature with the intention to seek it out for the particular purpose of using it for your mesa. This item will be placed in the south of the PMT altar.



In the WMT, a pentacle is used to represent Earth. The pentacle is a disc bearing a symbol important to the practitioner's work in the world (a pentagram, Eye of Horus, etc.). This item will be placed in the north of the WMT altar.

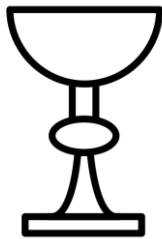
SHAMANIC QABALAH: Ritual Item Guide

Representing Water

The next item you should collect is the item to represent water on your altar. Water is characteristic not only of the waters on our beloved planet, but is emblematic of our emotional existence in reality. Therefore, the item representing water on your altar will serve more intuitive functions of ceremony.



In the PMT, a shell or bowl of water is normally selected to represent water, which embodies *Mamakilla* (Grandmother Moon) who has much influence upon the waters of the planet. The bowl or shell can be literally filled with water, if desired. This item will be placed in the west of the PMT altar.



In the WMT, a cup or chalice is used to represent water. The chalice is a symbol of the feminine in us all, a container to receive the blessings of Spirit. This item will be placed in the west of the WMT altar.

SHAMANIC QABALAH: Ritual Item Guide

Representing Air

The next item you should collect is the item to represent air on your altar. Air is characteristic not only of the very oxygen we breathe to produce life, but is emblematic of our spiritual existence in reality. Therefore, the item representing air on your altar will serve more devotional functions of ceremony.



In the PMT, a feather is normally selected to represent air, which embodies *Wiracocha* (Great Spirit) who is the source of all Creation. The feather should ideally be found in nature, coming from an eagle or condor if possible. This item will be placed in the north of the PMT altar.



In the WMT, a sword or dagger is used to represent air. The sword is used as a reservoir of strength and energy for the practitioner, a symbol of chivalry to defend yourself and others. This item will be placed in the east of the WMT altar.

SHAMANIC QABALAH: Ritual Item Guide

Representing Fire

The next item you should collect is the item to represent fire on your altar. Fire is characteristic not only of the very oxygen we breathe to produce life, but is emblematic of our mental existence in reality. Therefore, the item representing fire on your altar will serve more intellectual functions of ceremony.



In the PMT, a white candle is normally selected to represent fire, which embodies *Inti Tayta* (Father Sun) who brings light into our days. The candle exudes the clarity of wisdom we ourselves should emulate in the darkness. This item will be placed in the east of the PMT altar.

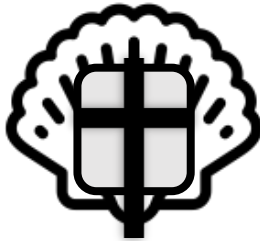


In the WMT, a wand or rod is used to represent fire. The wand is a symbol of the masculine in us all; it is an extension of the Will of the practitioner. This item will be placed in the south of the WMT altar.

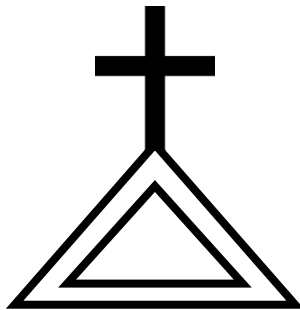
SHAMANIC QABALAH: Ritual Item Guide

Representing Unity

The final item you should collect is the item to represent unity on your altar, a harmonization of all the elemental powers thus far contained. This item will serve the function of binding the elements together as an embodiment of the soul's ability to express itself in this reality, normally situated in the center of the altar.



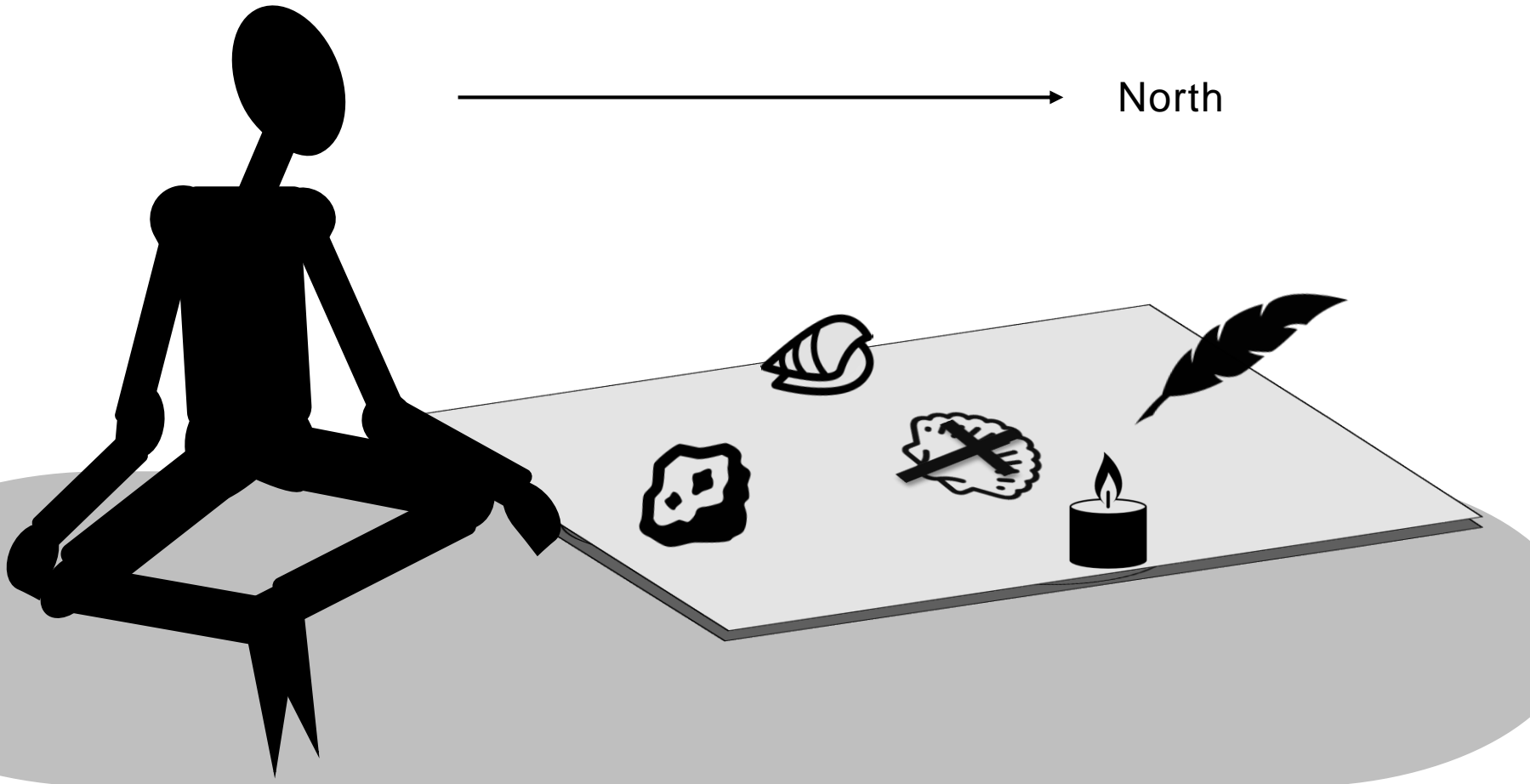
In the PMT, the center is depicted as *K'yuchi* (literally meaning “rainbow”), known as the *mesarumi* ritual piece. The *mesarumi* can be exhibited as the practitioner's most sacred ritual item, or the traditional *mesarumi*: a three-piece set containing a scallop shell, flat stone, and cross. The three items depict the three things most needed to create life, respectively: blood, body, and spirit.



In the WMT, and most especially the Golden Dawn tradition, the Cross and Triangle is oftentimes used. The cross (normally red) illustrates the unfolding of light coming from Spirit, and the triangle (white) is the form in which that light unfolds into manifestation. Together, they create the dawning sun (Golden Dawn).

SHAMANIC QABALAH: Ritual Item Guide

The Pachakuti Mesa Tradition (PMT) Altar



SHAMANIC QABALAH: Ritual Item Guide

The Western Mystery Tradition (WMT) Altar

