



The Friends of the Pagoda Association
PO BOX 232 MOOROOKA BRISBANE QLD AUSTRALIA 4105
<http://www.foundationexpo88.org/friendsofthepagoda/>

INFORMATION SHEET FOUR THE NEPAL PEACE PAGODA SOUTH BANK PARKLANDS BRISBANE

THE GUARDIAN LIONS AND ELEPHANTS AND THE PAGODA FORECOURT STONE STAIRWELL

Some Pagodas in Nepal are three-tiered, five-tiered, seven-tiered and more. And correspondingly, the stone stairwell that leads to the Pagoda Forecourt is correspondingly complex and impressive, with each stairwell level guarded by a pair of auspicious sculptures. For the Brisbane Nepal Peace Pagoda there are two sets of stairs that lead to the Pagoda's forecourt, with the front stairwell guarded by a pair of stone lions, and the second stairwell guarded at left and right with a pair of stone elephants.

With several-stairwell Pagodas it is more complex, i.e. a pair of Giants as Guards for the front stairwell, then a pair of lions, a pair of elephants, and so on. The power relationship between each set of guardians is in mathematical proportion to the set of guardians before. i.e. the pair of lions is ten times stronger than the pair of giants, and the pair of elephants is ten times stronger than the pair of lions.

This is also the case for the Brisbane Nepal Peace Pagoda. The set of elephants at the second stairwell represents a force ten times stronger than the set of lions before.

The original stone stairwell of the Pagoda during World Expo '88 is still visitable at the front of the South Bank Railway Station, at the very southern corner of South Bank. You will note that the graduation of the stone stairwell entrance to the Pagoda was much steeper than the stone stairwell at the Pagoda's new riverfront location.