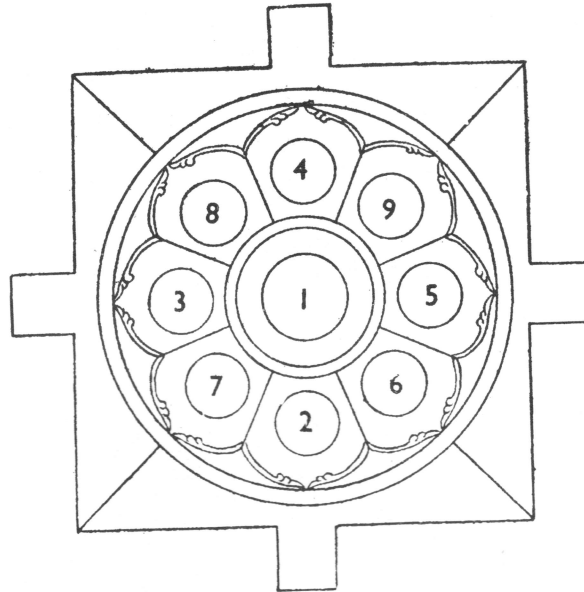


8. Maṇḍala of 9deity Heruka



The central deity of the maṇḍala as depicted herein is the Sixteen-armed (Ṣoḍaśabhuja) 9deity Heruka (Dgyes pa rdo rje¹) surrounded by the eight goddesses Gauri², Cauri³, Vetāli⁴, Ghasmari⁵, Pukkasi⁶, Śabari⁷, Caṇḍāli⁸, and Ḍombi⁹ who have already appeared in maṇḍala 5 (see this for Tibetan names).

Variations: The Niṣpannayogāvali gives three further types distinguished by the number of their arms, Prajñā and other characteristics. The Two-armed Heruka is embraced by Nairātma, the Four-armed Heruka by Vajravārahi, and the Six-armed by Vajra-śṛṅkhālā.

References: Niṣpannayogāvali p. 42, Skt. p. 20, Tib. 130b5, 500 Gods R 19b, Samuccaya 182a7, TPS. p. 579, IBI. p. 155.