

Illuminating the Pedestal

The Chapter is opened in the normal way, but without the candles lit.

MEZ asks the DC to illuminate the Pedestal

If The DC and ADC are carrying out the work they will move to the West together. If others are doing the work the Companions involved will move to the West where the DC or PS will light the tapers and retire.

The Companions give a court bow and via the North and South move to the East keeping in step. When parallel with the Pedestal stop - pause - then turn inwards and pause.

The Companions should now be facing each other. They bring the tapers in front of their faces and then before proceeding

MEZ- THE ORIGIN OF THIS CEREMONY IS FOUND IN THE CHALDEAN RITE OF LIGHT AND PARAPHRASING THE LENGTHY RITE IT SAYS "AND THE PRIESTS COMMANDED THE PEOPLE TO GATHER AND TURN TO THE EAST". THE 2 SMALL CANDLES IN THE NORTH AND SOUTH ARE LIT REPRESENTING THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE. (The 2 Companions do so.)

MEZ - "THEN DID LIGHT COME OVER THE EASTERN HORIZON AND STRETCHED ITS RAYS AFAR EVEN UNTO THE WESTERN HORIZON" THE LARGE CANDLE IN THE EAST AND THE SMALL CANDLE IN THE WEST ARE NOW LIT TO REPRESENT THE SPREAD OF THE RAYS. (The 2 Companions do so).

MEZ- "AND THE LIGHT SHONE ALL Around" {The 2 Companions light the 2 remaining candles}.

The 2 Companions now take one pace back - blow the tapers out together - turn to the West - pause - then in unison return to the West of the Columns - stop - turn to the East and make a court bow to the Principals and then return to their places.