Images of the Guardians of the Four Directions (Gyal Chen Zhi) appear at the entrances of important public buildings in Bhutan. Each guardian (North, South, East, and West) holds an object that he uses to protect the world from harm. The tradition of the Guardians of the Four Directions comes from ancient Mongolian culture.

The Guardian of the West (Chenmizang) holds a golden chorten (container for relics) in his right hand. His large, round, and bulging eyes indicate his awareness of evil. Chenmizang holds a green snake in his left hand, signifying his control over the serpent demons.