

## OUR FOUR DIRECTIONS

*(Lenape)*

Among the Lenape, we honor four directions:

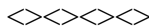
Muxumsa Lowane'wank (Moo-khoom-fthah Lo-wu-nay'wunk), Our Grandfather in the North. He was placed there to control the power of rock. He gave forth solidity and physical form to the Creator's thoughts in His vision of Creation. North Grandfather gives us the winter time, ice, snow and cold, also he gives us our bodies, the rocks, the trees and all we see around us.

Muxumsa Wapane'wank (Moo-khoom-fthah Wah-pu-nay'wunk), Our Grandfather in the East. He was placed there to control the power of the wind. He gives forth breath and mind to the Creator's vision. He gives the spring time, the breath of life, birth and new beginnings and brings forth the light (sun rises in the east), the winds, our minds, creativity, knowledge, music and song.

Huma Shawane'wank (Hoo-mah Shah-wu-nay'wunk), our Grandmother in the south. She was placed there to control the power of fire. She gave forth spirit, life and growth to the vision of the Creator. She gives the summer, warmth, growth and maturity, our inner fire and spirit, and gives fire to the sun.

Muxumsa Wunchene'wank (Moo-khoom-fthah Woon-che-nay'wunk), our Grandfather in the west. He was placed there to control the power of water. He brought a watery and softening influence to the Creator's vision. He gives us the autumn, gives us death and readies us for renewal and gives us the waters, our life's blood, healing, intuition, emotions, dreams and visions and rain.

It was through these four Spirit Beings, the Keepers of the Creation, that did help the Creator to make the stars, the sun, the moon and the earth.



**Neweneit Na Ahas**  
*The Fourth Crow*

*As told by Robert Red Hawk Ruth  
Translated by Shelley DePaul*

Lomewe, luwe na okwes xu laxakwihele xkwithakamika.  
*Long ago it was said a fox it will be loosened on the earth.*

Ok nen luwe, newa ahasak xu peyok.  
*Also it was said four crows they will come.*

Netami na ahas kenthu li guttitehewagan wichi  
*The first crow he flew the way of harmony with*

Kishelemukonk. Nisheneit na ahas kwechi pilitu entalelemukonk,  
*Creator. The second crow he tried to clean it the world.*

shek palsu ok ankela. Nexeneit na ahas weneyoo  
*but he became sick and he died. The third crow he saw him*

ankelek xansa ok koshiphuwe. Neweneit na ahas kenthu  
*dead his brother and he hid. The fourth crow he flew*

li guttetehehewagan lapi wichi Kishelemukonk.  
*the way of harmony again with Creator.*

Kenahkihechik xu withatuwak xkwithakamika.  
*Caretakers they will live together on the earth.*

*We now know that the First Crow was the Lenape before the coming of the Europeans. The Second Crow symbolized the death and destruction of our culture. The Third Crow was our people going underground and hiding. The Fourth Crow was the Lenape becoming caretakers again and working with everybody to restore this land.*

*--Bob Red Hawk*

