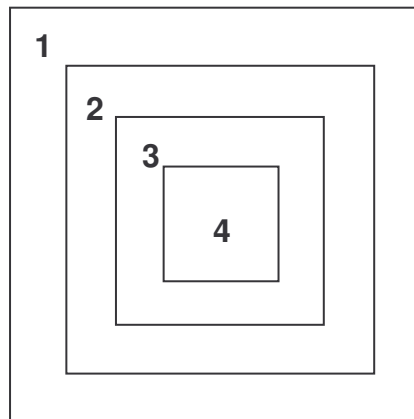


KOODAM

The concept of a "Koodam" can be understood through the following ideas. Firstly, the root word associated with "Koodam" means meeting together or togetherness. Secondly, in the Vaastu concept of design, a large central open space (suarish) along with a temple forms the heart of a town. This space has no definition unlike the other town quarters which are specific to professions. An individual who lived in the town had roles to play that made him distinct from others but every evening (or on festival days) he went to the temple, cast away his differences in front of the godhead, came to the common area and mingled with others in total equality. Some times listening to a story teller, at other times listening to music or watching a dance, he heard or saw the epics being narrated and enacted. Great upanishadic insights were revealed in artistic form through this process. Refreshed and renewed as a person, he went back home. This daily movement into and out of roles does not happen in organisations today. The individual dwelling also had a similar structure. Spaces for transaction, spaces for living, spaces for togetherness and celebration, spaces for a divine presence.



1. Area for transactions exchange of goods dealing with "outsiders"
2. Area of habitation, work and individual dwelling, but linked to role and profession
3. Space for "role less" collectives celebration dialogue etc.
4. Space for the divine - completely open except for divine objects, living or man made.