



YELE'U UNIVERSITY

THE HISTORICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MAR-KTU

Dennysaurus539, No.Eight, Dregunflight

based on the events of
/r/CivWorldPowers

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Foreword

To the astute reader, it should already be obvious that neither Yele'u University nor Mar-Ktu actually exist. For that matter, not one person or place mentioned in this book is to be found in the real world, unless something has changed very drastically since this book was penned. *The Historical Encyclopedia of Mar-Ktu* is an orderly and itemized breakdown of the most critical concepts, people, and powers of a fictional world, written by nostalgic moderators and players of the now-defunct roleplaying subreddit /r/CivWorldPowers. In these pages, we the authors endeavor to expand and elaborate on the events of a nationbuilding play-by-post we still remember fondly, while simultaneously improving on the original to achieve a more cohesive world and more intricate detail. As we do this, we also try our hardest to remain completely in character.

Once you have finished this brief preamble, the entire book is written to resemble an actual publication in the field of World History from the esteemed Yele'u University in Pylona. This work has, of course, been translated from its original [LUX Creole] to English for your enjoyment and ease of reading. We hope you find the peoples, places, cultures, and conflicts of Mar-Ktu to be as interesting as we do. After all, they gripped us enough that we sat down to write a book. Two, in fact.

As a final note to readers, *The Historical Encyclopedia of Mar-Ktu* exists as a companion piece to *The History of Mar-Ktu*. While this book provides one with focused and consolidated information on individual topics of interest, the *History* provides one with a chronological narrative that serves as a useful overview of this world's history. As this world is fabricated in its entirety, readers may find reading first through the *History*, while searching for information on people and places here as the need should arise, to be a fast and effective way of acquiring a deeper comprehension of the subject matter than this book can provide alone. For this reason, we recommend perusing both books in conjunction.

And now, without further ado, we hope you enjoy a look into the itemized history of a world both very much—and yet in many ways nothing—like our own.

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Introduction

Bambania

Enki & Thoth

Ma'at

Pangu

Silvonia

Ullr

Vinayaka

Tz'amtanak'al

Tz'amtanak'al (Other Language Information) is a semi-autonomous City-State within Lu'um Utz-Xib. Tz'amtanak'al is one of the largest and most historically significant cities in Vinayaka, and is commonly considered to be among the oldest Tetsk'in City-States. Even today, Tz'amtanak'al's population is majority Tetsk'in.

Mythology

In Tetsk'in Mythology, the Founding of Tz'amtanak'al occurred shortly after the Tetsk'in were delivered to the world by the heavens. According to myth, the Tetsk'in were drawn to the future site of the city, a pristine marsh in the exact center of the world. The Tetsk'in were drawn to this place due to their resonance with heaven, as it is said that above this spot the sun is directly overhead.

After the Tetsk'in had begun to live around the marsh, a great man measuring a full head taller than the tallest among them arrived, and it is said he broadcast the same warmth and radiance as the sun. Known

as the Heavenly Ajaw [Name Needed], this man invited the Tetsk'in to live atop the marsh, where they might be as close as possible to heaven. This Ajaw oversaw the foundation of the city atop that marsh, and also the creation of Tz'amtanak'al's Pyramid of the Sun.

Once the city was complete, the Heavenly Ajaw pronounced it Tz'amtanak'al, meaning Throne in the Marsh, then departed from the world, instructing the people of his city to unify their brothers and drive out the barbarians living on the edges of the world.

Tetsk'in mythology glorifying Tz'amtanak'al is not unique to the city itself; many Tetsk'in throughout West Vinayaka hold the city in high esteem or even reverence, and this myth is part of the standard mythology for much of the region. This mythologized view of Tz'amtanak'al has led to it becoming an object of pilgrimage and of desire, even to the modern day. This has led to multiple conflicts over control of the city, most notably the Siege of Tz'amtanak'al in the Tetsk'in Civil War. It is only a slight exaggeration to call Tz'amtanak'al the holy city of Tetsk'in folk religion.

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