



YELE'U UNIVERSITY

# THE HISTORICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MAR-KTU

*Dennysaurus539, No.Eight, Dregunflight, Lime*

*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

## Ujiteru

The islands of Ujiteru is an archipelago off the western coast of Ma'at. Fractitious since its early days, it is well known in history for being the seat where Sodai Kokenjin managed his empire.

## Soda, Kokenjini

Sodai Kokenjin - sometimes known as Niruwatum, meaning 'Tiger of Light' - was a daimyo and later a shogun in Ujiteru and the founder of the Toran Empire. He was born in [BIRTH YEAR] before the Year of the Conclave, as a child of Daimyo [FATHER'S NAME] of the Sodai Clan and a noble woman of the [Yadayadayada denny take care of this pls I suck at this]. His childhood was spent in [place], where he learned the teachings of Aumwen, the belief system which he would adhere to for the rest of his life and spread throughout his conquests.

**Accession to the throne**

**Unification of Ujiteru**

**Conquest of the Trinity**

**Conquest of Qian**

**Conquest of Al-Eru**

**Betrayal**

## Bulkhai - Tinar Era

### Tinar Mubarat (cir. 20 - 196)

The establishment and rise of the Bulkhai Sahinate began with the emergence of the Tinar tribe cir. 20, and ended in 196 with the establishment of the Bulkhai Sahinate. This period of history was marked by the decline of Valona, the decline and fall of the Firiik Mubarat Confederation, and the fall of the Lashnar Mubarat. The Tinar Mubarat expanded throughout the Arberesh region, managing to defeat and best its surrounding powers over its two-hundred year history: Valona in the Tinar-Valonan War of 119, Firiir in the Fourth Lashnar-Firiir War, and Lashnar following the Battle of Burk in 178. The Tinar Mubarat also managed to improve its relations with Valona following the Tinar unification of the peninsula after the Skudar Campaigns of 181-193, and managed to politically unify the Tinar Mubarat with Valona in 194. Following the Babuas' Coup of the Mubarat in 196, the Mubarat was transformed into the Bulkhai Sahinate,

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<sup>1</sup>Mar Pionjin, *History of the Dregunist Faith*, 671 AC

establishing the foundation for the regional superpower it would become.

### **Tinarlar I (cir.20 - 54 AC)**

*“Tinarlar I (11 BC - 54 AC) was the first leader of the Tinar Mubarat, who acted as the next major step in the spread of Dregunism across the Bulkhan Peninsula.”*<sup>1</sup>

At the turn of the millenia, the Bulkhan Peninsula was a world in turmoil. The First Firiik-Lashnar War (15 - 17 AC) had ended disastrously for the Firiik Mubarat Confederation following the Battle of Uloshank, and saw the Lashnar Mubarat sweeping across the western Bulkhan coastline. The Confederation which had reigned supreme on the peninsula for almost five hundred years was beginning its hundred-year long decline. Following the loss, the Skudar and Burk Mubarats relinquished their hold on the Jurizid region, while the Allogron Mubarat began a process of removing its advisors and soldiers from the Arberesh region, beginning the removal of the Arberesh region from the Confederation's governing. Although the eastern Mubarats were confident in their ability to maintain their territories (unlike the western Mubarats, which were falling piecemeal to the rising Lashnar Mubarat), The Mubarat of Allogron, Erudazir (29 BC - 31 AC), made the decision to release the Arberesh region from Firiik control. This loss of authority made it possible for the Fistins of the region to rise up and craft their own independent states, and began the almost century long period of warfare and bloodshed that would eventually be ended by the Tinar Mubarat's consolidation of Arberesh in 120 AC.

The Arberesh region, situated between the southern Mubarat Confederation and the northern Valona Navalire, gave way to the unilateral rule of independent Fistin leaders (Fis) who ruled over small tracts of land. One of these Fis was named Tinarlar, now

known as Tinarlar I and father of the Tinar Dynasty. The history of the Arberesh region has often been seen by curious historians as a difficult hurdle to jump over. During the three hundred years of nominal Firiik rule over the Arberesh region, few written records remain. Firiik influence over the region was light-handed, with the Confederation only demanding tribute every few years and intervening against Fistins growing too powerful if the need occurred. Because of this, the tradition of documentation characteristic of the Firiik Mubarats, the later Tinar Mubarat, and the Bulkhai Sahinate is absent in the Arberesh region for much of its early history. As a result, little is known about Tinarlar's origins, his early life, or his lineage prior to the founding of the Tinar Fistin. Despite these difficulties, there are several facts that have been widely accepted among historians.

Tinarlar himself claimed Firiik ancestry. Between the years 150 and 40 BC, the Firiik Mubarat Confederation had attempted to extend Firiik influence into the Arberesh region by sending Firiik "colonizers" to settle in the barbaric lands. The new Mubarats were initially successful, able to settle and expand four minor Mubarats north of the Mubarat River. However, continuous raids from the Arberesh against the new Mubarats finally proved too much to handle for the Confederation, which withdrew support for the northern Mubarats in 53 BC. The Firiik in the north formally dissolved them in the year 40 BC. Tinarlar claimed that he, through his mother's lineage, contained Firiik blood dating back to the last of the Firiik Mubarats north of the Mubarat River, Romain, and claimed to be directly related to the last ruler of the Mubarat, Illintok II. Whether this claim was true is doubted among historians: Tinarlar would likely have lacked the ability to know whether he was related to the lost Mubarats due to the lack of familial records following the loss of the final Mubarats. However, what is factual is that

he claimed Firiik ancestry, and was able to use this claim to exert authority over the surrounding, emerging Fistins. It would not be until the early 50s AC that this claim would truly come to help the emerging Tinar Fistin, when the Tinar Fistin gained the support of the minor Mubarat, Kilibir.

Much of what is known about Tinarlar and the early Tinar Fistin comes from records written in the Kilibir Mubarat about Tinarlar's expansion and exploits. In the year 22 AC, Tinarlar I fought against the Fistin of Maliri at the Battle of Maliri, emerging victorious and establishing Tinar control over the Fistin. This victory was important for several reasons. Maliri was the holder of the holy Dregunist mountain of Malietr, and its position as the holder of Malietr had been backed by the Firiik Confederation for roughly 120 years. Tinarlar's victory over Malietr not only showed his prowess over stronger powers, but also highlighted a growing apathy in Firiik towards its northern provinces. The Confederation, at this time, seemed more focused on maintaining its current way of life and society than it was respecting the borders that it was responsible for upholding. Additionally, Tinar's conquest of the holy mountain of Malietr allowed Tinarlar to claim himself as the next ruler of the Dregunist faith. This claim was nominal more than anything else, as Tinar lacked the strength to back up this claim. Following Tinarlar's victory over Malietr, he turned east towards the Lower Mubarat River. Here, too, Tinarlar I won another victory against the Deggestin Fistin in 26 AC and extending his control further along the Mubarat River.

Following Tinar's expansion and subjugation off the Deggesting and Malietr Fistins, Tinarlar slowed his conquests. Over the next roughly 30 years of his rule over Tinar, he would only go to war two more times. Tinarlar instead worked to consolidate his power over the subjugated Fistins, managing

to bring the Fistins together and in line behind Tinar's will. Tinarlar also worked diligently to improve Tinar's position with the Kilibir Mubarat.

Following the Firiik loss in the First Lashnar-Firiik War, many of the minor Mubarats found themselves placed in an awkward position. The Confederation, while defeated, was still a strong power. The remaining Mubarats - particularly the major Mubarats of Allogron, Kurfin, Durris, and Maidan - become closer and more intertwined. Together they demanded more payments and tributes from the minor Mubarats under their authority, citing the ineffectiveness of the minor Mubarats during the war against the upstart ex-slave empire and blaming the loss on them. The law was passed in Allogron following a unanimous declaration among the major Mubarats in the year 19 AC, upsetting several minor Mubarats. Additionally, following the Firiik loss there was a string of cancelled marriage plans between the major Mubarats and the minor. Several of the larger Mubarats - particularly Allogron and Kurfin - felt it would be politically safer to increase the relations between themselves and other major Mubarats, and not the minor ones. This marks a continuing shift in thinking for the major Mubarats, which over the past century had increasingly seen the minor Mubarats as subjects rather than less-powerful equals. These movements angered many of the minor Mubarats and were the main reasons for the distancing of the Kilibir Mubarat away from the Confederation and towards new possibilities.

Disillusioned with the Confederation, the Kilibir Mubarat looked elsewhere for diplomacy. While maintaining relations with the Mubarats of the Confederation, the Kilibir Mubarat Firtik looked elsewhere. Following Tinarlar's victory against Malietr, Mubarat Firtik accepted Tinarlar's offer for diplomacy. Intrigued by the small Fistin's rapid

gains and Tinarlar's claim to Firiik ancestry, Firtik saw in Tinarlar an opportunity for a politically safe partnership of sorts. It was Kilibir's support which allowed Tinarlar to rebound from his victory at Malietr and continue east against the Deggestin. While Kilibir continuously denied Tinarlar's offers for a unification through a marriage, the Mubarat nonetheless remained a vital ally for Tinar.

By Tinarlar's death in 54, the nascent Tinar Fistin had expanded across much of the northern bank of the Mubarat River and had found a powerful friend in the Kilibir Mubarat.

### **Clintir (54 - 87 AC)**

Tinarlar's death in 54 AC saw the succession of his eldest son, Clintir, to the title of Fis. Clintir seemed to follow in his father's footsteps of diplomacy and alliance-forging, favoring the use of his words over his sword during the earlier period of his reign. However, following the year 65 AC, pressure from his advisors and councillors would see him begin several campaigns to the north against the emerging Arberesh Fistins and Mubarats.

Clintir's most important contribution to the success of the Tinar Fistin was his inclusion of foreign intellectuals and scholars. In particular, he opened Tinar's doors to Firiik refugees and emigrants. These Firiik scholars and councillors largely came through the Kilibir Mubarat in the late 50s, but by the 70s and 80s AC the Tinar Fistin was attracting Firiik emigrants from the Sixth Firiik Mubarat itself. Through these Firiik immigrants, the Tinar Fistin began to develop "proper" temples, writing systems and language, and learned from the immense archives of Firiik military history on how to better conduct its military affairs. Beginning in Clintir's reign, Tinar began to imitate Firiik architecture, writing, culture, and arts. The Dregunism of Firiir, while sparsely spread throughout the Arberesh region, be-

came mandatory under the Tinar Fistin. It is through the Tinar Mubarat (and the subsequent Bulkhai Sahinate) that Dregunism would see itself become a staple of the peninsula. Work began on a Tinar central temple to Dregunism in the year 76, which would go on to become the immense Grand Temple as subsequent generations continued to build upon it. Finally, the Firiik language was made mandatory for all high-government positions during Clintir's final years in the mid 80s: partly due to continued Firiik imitation and partly due to an easier communication between the high-ranking Firiik immigrants and the documents they brought with them.

Clintir's reign also focused on a major expansion of Tinar's territorial borders. To the south of the Mubarat River, Clintir cooperated with the Kilibir Mubarat to increase both Kilibir's and Tinar's holdings south of the Mubarat River. Tinar's holdings south of the Mubarat River were lined mainly along the river banks, as Clintir was wary of the giant Firiik Mubarat which, while in decline, still posed a powerful threat to the upstart Fistin should it wake. To the north, Clintir focused Tinar's full brutality. His northern campaigns did not begin until the year 69 AC, and began with the conquest of the Zid Fistin and a tentative alliance between Tinar and two other Fistins, Peirat and Alin. By the year 75 AC, Tinar had extended its territorial holdings along the Bulkhan Sea coastline, managing to reach the Suri River southern bank as well as extending inland to its first main rival, the Dunavidin Mubarat. The Dunavidin Mubarat controlled a large swath of land bordering the Valonan tributaries to the north and surpassing the strength of the Tinar Mubarat. Under Clintir, Tinar began continuous raids against its northern rival around the year 83, emerging successful on many and returning with greater prestige when victorious. His successes were numerous enough that several smaller Arberesh Fistins rallied

to Tinar's flag by Clintir's death in 87, most notably the Laimejtjan. It is important to note this was mostly just a nominal cooperation against Dunavidin and not any formal alliance or subjugation.

### **Tinef (87 - 101 AC)**

Tinef succeeded his father in 87, coming to the head of an exceptionally large Fistin with several other Fistin's following his lead. His first two years were marred with complications when a man who claimed to be the bastard son of Clintir, Iskott, arrived to challenge Tinef's right to the Fis of Tinar. While Tinef was eventually successful, this early crisis was a cause for concern so early on in his reign. However, his victory over his supposed half-brother Iskott, restored the faith in him and allowed Tinef to lay the foundations for his own successful rule.

Following Iskott's failed claim to power, the Fistin of Tinar had its hand in many regional affairs and was involved in numerous border conflicts with the Dunavidin Fistin. Tinef began following in his grandfather's and father's steps, continuing to create a complex web of marriages and alliances between Tinar, its subjects, and its friends. Tinef's main goal was to link Tinar and Kilibir by marriage so that Tinar could formally claim the title of Mubarat and the prestige and authority that came with such power. While the backing of Kilibir had been enough for Tinar to command respect from its neighbors, the support of a southern Mubarat meant less as Tinar's ambitions grew further and further away from it. In particular, the northern Arberesh holdings required more Tinar intervention than not to maintain order under Tinar's flag. His ambitions were useful and his actions would be a major reason for Tinar's continued success later on: in 93, Tinef's wife died of disease and he managed to secure a marriage for himself and a Kilibir high-ranking woman, doing the same with his son. This marriage

and the birth of three children over the next four years would firmly establish Tinar as a Mubarat. Additionally, the expansive links Tinef was able to create would go on to expand the Tinarlar dynasty throughout much of the Arberesh region throughout the next century.

During this time, the conflicts between Tinar and Dunavidin had trickled and almost stopped. While raids started by either were common, they rarely ventured further than the borders and never conclusively altered the balance of power between the two. Tinef's time focused on the south had also turned him blind to the advances of Dunavidin in the north, who by the turn of the century expanded its hold on the northern Arberesh Fistins and Mubarats. However, the Dunavidin faced their own problems at the end of the century. Fas Vabbila Dur, the Fis of Dunavidin, had recently established Dunavidin authority over two smaller Fistins, Zinda and Eliamer. Fas Vabbila Dur was almost eighty years old at the year 96, and divided the Dunavidin Fistin among his twin sons to avoid conflict following his death. He died soon after in the year 98, at which point his two sons were immediately at one another's throats for control of the entirety of the Dunavidin Fistin. One son, Fas Dur Moliki, asked for aid from Tinef and the Tinar Mubarat. Tinef wisely accepted to support Fas Dur Moliki against his twin brother, Fas Dur Moliko. The war lasted until the year 100, with the Tinar backed Fas Dur Moliki emerging victorious with full control over the Dunavidin lands. It was at this point that Tinef and his allies enacted their own covert plan, assassinating Fas Dur Moliki only three days after his official victory over his brother and installing Moliki's infant son as the ruler of Dunavidin. The Tinar Mubarat quickly executed Moliki's old advisors without even an Arberesh trial, accusing them of committing the assassination and conspiring against Dunavidin;

Tinef then appointed advisors from Tinar to almost every position of importance in Dunavudin. Seemingly overnight, Tinar's biggest rival had been turned into a quiet puppet state under Tinef's thumb.

Tinef would die soon after, but his legacy would live on as the most eventful ruler of Tinar since Tinarlar I. It is during his reign that we see a significant uptick in Firiik documents regarding the Tinar Mubarat, especially following the union between Tinar and Kilibir and the official formation of the Tinar Mubarat in 94 AC. Following this time, the number of Firiik emigrants - particularly those from higher positions in the Firiik Mubarat - rose tremendously. So, too, did Firiik interest in Tinar. Many of the documents dated to this time period come from both Firiik scholars within and without Tinar. The Firiik Mubarat Confederation's interest leaned more towards worry of the emerging "strong-man" just north of their borders, which had managed to unify with a Firiik Mubarat and bring over half of the Arberesh region under its control.

### **Gezuar I (101 - 135 AC)**

Gezuar I succeeded his father as the second true Mubar of Tinar. Similarly to his father, his early reign was marred with complications. Upon hearing of the death of the Mubar Tinef, the Firiik Mubarat Confederation brought together an army for a campaign against Tinar, hoping to crush them during the early years of Gezuar's succession. The new Mubar managed to use Firiik's overconfidence against them and led Tinar to several victories, culminating in major Battle of Halif towards the end of 102 AC. While Gezuar's military prowess aided Tinar to victory, the contribution of the Kilibir Mubarat cannot be understated. Kilibir's decision to side with Tinar over the Confederation that it was a part of marked another major stake in the Firiik Mubarat Confederation. The desertion of its members and allies as the

Confederation declined would further drive the Confederation into the ground leading up to the Second, Third, and Fourth Lashnar-Firiik Wars.

Tinar's union with the Kilibir Mubarat remained intact due to his marriage in 94 AC, which ensured continued cooperation between Tinar and Kilibir. Following the Tinar-Kilibir victory over the Firiik Mubarat Confederation, Kilibir left the Confederation and extended its control to the south by bringing several smaller Mubarats in line behind it. Evidence points to the Kilibir expansion worrying Tinar (hypocritically), however no major tensions rose due to this expansion as the "areas of importance" for Tinar and Kilibir differed: Kilibir wished to extend its influence to the south, over the members of the Firiik Mubarat Confederation, seeing the Arberesh Fists and Mubarats as barbaric (save for Tinar); Tinar wished to exert control over the Fists of the Arberesh region.

Tinar's dominance over the former Kilibir lands remained sure due to Gezuar's marriage to a Kilibir high lady, and so Tinar's continued power in the region south of the Mubarat River remained intact. His father's conquests to the north were a different story. While the lands of the former Duvadan had been subdued, many of the remaining tribes in the north began coalescing into a single organization dedicating to stopping the continuous expansion of the Tinar Mubarat. They formed the League of Arber in 107, and began raids on Tinar's northern frontier lands. Gezuar understood that letting these raids happen with impunity would only hurt his and Tinar's claim on the northern lands of Arber, which were already tenuous at best. Gezuar then launched a series of attacks on the northern tribes over the next ten years, with the intent being to terrorize and not to conquer. He would lead small armies into the homelands of several of these tribes, pillage and plunder and the lands setting fire to

whatever they could, and then leaving with several hundred prisoners and slaves. His attacks in the northern tribes eventually had the intended effect, with the League of Arber dissolving in 114, but they also earned Gezuar the name "the Vile".

Gezuar had other things to worry about than his name. In the north, the sleeping Valonan beast which for so long had ignored Tinar's expansions and authority in the region finally turned its attention to its southwest. Having Tinar raiders and warriors on Valona's southern borders became to omuch of a threat to Valona, particularly after the Valonan Council learned of an increased Firiir presence in the Mubarat. Under Gezuar's reign, not only Firiir scholars and intellectuals, but Firiir refugees, workers, and farmes all flocked north to the Mubarat. Firiir's continual losses at the hands of the Lashnar Mubarat caused many to begin the journey north, and the formal declaration of the Fourth Lashnar-Firiir War caused many on the frontier lands to flee north. This "Firiir Diaspora" was not immediate, but took place over the 100 years since the first Lashnar-Firiir War. While this movement of intellectuals north had been happening for decades, the time period between 95-160 marked the first major wave of immigration from the rural class of Firiir people.

Because of this, Valonan Councillors were worried of Tinar's strength and its possible claim of the title of a new Firiir. Valona first tried in vain to reform the League of Arber with Valona at the head in 117, but Gezuar "the Vile"'s actions had frightened many into neutrality, as most of the tribal people which currently made up the lands had been alive during Gezuar's reign of terror in the region. Instead, Valona relied on mercenaries and men from its eastern holdings in the Dunavan Lowlands. In 118, Valona began preparations for a Tinar-Valonan war and began to secretly plan with one of the

few remaining tribes willing to fight against Tinar, Bagyar.

Gezuar managed to get word of the Valonan preparations ahead of time and preemptively launched a devastating campaign into Valona in early 119. The coastal city of Dati was captured later that year, and the Valonan capital was under siege by early 120. While Tinar lacked the capacity to fully siege the gigantic city, the quick push north into the Valonan heartland had the desired effect and Gezuar forced Valona into a peace treaty which gave Tinar all Valonan lands south of the Purtukkal River. The victory over the giant of Valona not only gave Tinar firm legitimacy and power in the Arber region, but once and for all settled the question of the north's major power as Tinar had unseated even the sleeping giant of Valona. By Gezuar's death in 135, Tinar had complete control over the Arber region, either directly from its seat in in Tinar or indirectly through small tribal councils. The direct control of the Arber region would come in 162.

### **Zetnep (135 - 149 AC)**

The reign of Zetnep saw Tinar as, for the first time, a major power and force to be reckoned with on the Bulkhan Peninsula. Its victory over Valona in the Tinar-Valonan War of 119-120 saw Valona fall by the wayside in both prestige and authority, and the three great powers of the region became the Firiir Confederation, the Lashnar Mubarat, and the Tinar Mubarat. In 136, the tide of power on the peninsula began its next major change in the Fourth Lashnar-Firiir War where the Lashnar Mubarat launched what it hoped to be a final and decisive blow to the Firiir Confederation. Lashnar's declaration brought about uncertainty in Tinar: it was an obvious attempt to not only defeat Firiir, but to also conquer the ancient city and claim the title of the "next Firiir" for itself. Zetnep had decided that he wanted the title for his Mubarat, and did not believe

that that Lashnar deserved it over his own Mubarat.

Zetnep began preparations for a campaign against Firiir in 136 after hearing of the Lashnar invasion, and in late 137 felt prepared enough to launch his campaign. Sweeping through the unsuspecting northern Firiir towns, Zetnep did his best to curtail his soldiers from pillaging and vandalising the towns and peoples, hoping to win his claim to the lands both by the people and by his conquests. He arrived in Firiir and began his siege in early 138, which lasted only a week after a revolt from the inside overthrew the Firiir Mubar and the people of the city proclaimed Zetnep and Tinar the rulers of the city. Zetnep, now in legal control of Firiir's lands, felt obligated to defend his newly conquered lands from Lashnar, and marched west to meet Lashnar. They met at San, and emerged victorious after the day-long Battle of San. The Battle of San marked the first ever defeat of a Lashnar army by a foreign one of comparable size. Following his victory, Zetnep made the decision to not continue marching into Lashnar territories and instead decided to return home to begin rule of both Tinar and Firiir. However, his victory at the Battle of San also began a forty-year long series of conflicts between the Tinar Mubarat and Lashnar which would eventually end following a Tinar victory at the Battle of Burk and the dissolution of the Lashnar Mubarat and the division of its lands under the Tinar Mubarat.

### **Nurir (149 - 163 AC)**

The conflict between Lashnar and Tinar was tense following the Tinar capture of Firiir and the Lashnar defeat at the Battle of San. Nurir's main priority during his reign was not one of conquest, as had been his father's, but one of consolidation and decisive ruling. Tinar's hold on Firiir, while backed by the city of Firiir, was still tenuous at Zetnep's death despite his attempts to better incor-

porate Firiir. Nurir continued his father's efforts of consolidation by dividing Firiir into several different provinces, called Pulllums, and assigning Firiir born men to their positions. Nurir hoped that by giving Firiir autonomy under the Tinar rule, Nurir could better focus on suppressing revolts in the north and defending against Lashnar raids in the west. Nurir's strategy worked for a long time, although in the late 2nd century it led to a short-lived coalition and revolt against the Tinar Mubarat.

Nurir's rule remained relatively peaceful and free from any major insurrections, and even saw decisive victories over the Lashnar Mubarat resulting in gains in land following the Battles of Traktar, Fiktir, and Calinki. In 162, Nurir cemented direct Tinar rule over the remaining tribes of Arber which had been ruled indirectly for over three decades by the Mubarat.

### **Falir I (163 - 186 AC)**

Falir I was the Mubar of Tinar who led the final war against Lashnar, which resulted in the defeat of the Lashnar Mubarat and the final, undisputed rule of Tinar over the Bulkhan Peninsula. The Battle of Calinki in 162 was the last battle between Tinar and Lashnar led by Nurir, and it would not be until 178 that the armies of Tinar and Lashnar would meet again in such an official manner. Relations between the two Mubarats remained relatively peaceful following the Battle of Calinki, although both would order raids into the other's lands from time to time.

Despite their weaker position, the Lashnar Mubarat began conspiring with several tribal leaders of Skudar tribes to coordinate an attack on Tinar. The Lashnar Mubarat would lead an army into Tinar's Firiir holdings by marching along the southern Bulkhan coast, while the Skudar tribes would lead an invasion across the mountains into the Tinar heartland. Despite the disunity and disorganization of the Skudar tribes, Lash-



nar managed to bring several together by promising them wealth from the looting of Tinar. Following Falir's discovery of the plan against his Mubarat, he immediately planned for a counter-attack. Instead of marching across the flatlands of the Bulkhan Peninsula's southern coast, he marched his armed directly across the Mali Mountains and began an invasion of Lashnar's bread-basket, the Burk region. Here they began their Seige of Burk. The Lashnar Mubarat was able to mobilize its army meant for the south and rerouted it north to meet the invading Tinar forces, meeting at the Battle of Burk. The battle was a decisive Tinar victory, resulting in the complete annihilation of the Lashnar military. Tinar quickly sieged down Burk and made their way unimpeded to the Lashnar capital, where they forced a surrender and ended the forty years of continuous conflict between the two Mubarats.

However, Falir's movements through Burk and northern Lashnar invited attacks from his foes in the north, and plunder-hungry tribal raiders from Skudar. Several towns in the northern regions of the Tinar Mubarat fell to revolting tribespeople, while three tribes from Skudar which had been prepared for an assault on Tinar with Lashnar's help decided to go ahead and invade anyway. They marched across the Mali Mountains, capturing the holy village of Mali and several towns which they promptly looted and sacked. Mali in particular was heavily damaged, with many priceless works of Firiik art and historical records being destroyed in the attack.

Falir's revenge would come back on the Skudar tribesmen tenfold, as he vowed that his line would annihilate the tribes responsible for the attack on Mali and promised revenge on the revolters in the north. He held on to his promise, snuffing out the northern rebellion upon his return to Tinar. Although not living to see the end of them, Falir began the Skudar campaigns which lasted from 181-

193 and saw the complete absorption of the Skudar tribes and highlands into the greater Tinar Mubarat.

### **Gezuar II (186 - 196 AC)**

Gezuar II came into power upon his father's death, which occurred in a battle against Vradifost, a minor Skudar tribal leader. Gezuar famously rode to his father's corpse, took the helmet off of his father's head and replaced his own with it. Not wishing to dishearten those who had witnessed the death of the Mubar, he declared that the Mubar still lived - referring to himself, as he was now the Mubar - and launched his army forward to crush Vradifost and his forces.

Gezuar reigned through a relatively prosperous period in the Mubarat's history. Disregarding the campaigns against the Skudar tribesmen, Tinar did not see itself embroiled in any major conflicts (especially conflicts which threatened its own sovereignty) for the first time since the Battle of San and the fall of the Lashnar Mubarat. Gezuar also spearheaded a movement to improve relations with Valona, so much so that there was even a proposition of political unity between Tinar and Valona.

Valona had undergone several disastrous defeats at the hands of its revolting subjects in the east. Its loss of the Dunavan lowlands and the prosperous trade contacts that went with them left Valona a shell of its once great and expansive empire, and hemorrhaging money. Gezuar knew this, of course, and had been preparing to put an end to Valona under his boot. But the Council of Valona instead came with the unprecedented offer of what amounted to a voluntary vassalization under Tinar: Valona would be freed of its debts to the Tokkan states as Tinar would pay them off; Valona would provide money and soldiers to the Tinar army, while Tinar would promise Valona protection.

Gezuar accepted and Tinar and Valona unified in 193. However, Gezuar reneged

on his promise and instead overthrew the Councilship of Valona in the Night of the Dancing Swords, a bloody coup which ended with Gezuar reforming Valona into a separate province of the Tinar Mubarat and placing his own man at the head of it, Jar-raner. Several surviving members of the Night of the Dancing Swords vowed revenge on Gezuar's empty promise, and conspired with the religious order of Tinar, the Babuas, to themselves orchestrate a coup to replace the Mubar. The Babuas decided to overthrow Gezuar and form a Sahinate, a type of government where the political leaders are chosen by the religious order, which are themselves instructed by God to make their decision.

The coup against Gezuar occurred in early 196. Although records of the time proclaim this date to be the first day of the year, it is highly unlikely that the coup occurred on the said date and more likely that it occurred in the fourth or fifth month of the year as the weather became colder. The Babuas were successful largely due to the backing of Gezuar's personal guard, which had become convinced that Gezuar was not chosen by God to be the leader of the Bulkhan people. The Babuas proclaimed that, now that the peninsula had become unified under a single entity, God was able to proclaim the Bulkhan as his chosen people and now had the ability to assign a leader of them through the Babuas. Despite Gezuar's anger, his hands were forced against action: to inflict violence upon the sacred order would damn him for all eternity and seal his fate amongst the people. Alas, that happened regardless, as many in Tinar believed the Babuas to be right and began the Revolt against Gezuar, which ended quickly as Gezuar's own guards turned against him.

Gezuar was given a choice: abdication or execution. Gezuar chose the latter, and was executed in early 196. The Babuas then set about reforming the Mubarat and choosing their own leader. They decided that, be-

cause Tinar had been the one to unify the peninsula, God would only allow someone from Tinar to rule the Bulkhan. So they proclaimed that God picked one of Gezuar's sons, Halur, as the new Sahin (the new title, meaning "Chosen") of the newly proclaimed Bulkhai. Many believe that the Babuas made the choice to promote Gezuar's son in order to stem any revolts that may have occurred from those backing Gezuar as the Mubarat. Additionally, Halur was not the eldest but the fourth son of Gezuar, and had been sent to be raised in the Babua's temple. The Babuas likely decided upon Halur as the new Sahin because they could more easily manipulate him into doing their bidding, and thus they could maintain their control over the Sahinate indirectly. Although the role of the Babuas would diminish over the Sahinate's history, particularly following Enver's War of 360-361, they would maintain their ceremonial role in the Sahinate and would continue to be the selectors of the new Sahin until the Sahinate's dissolution in 717.

Gezuar's death did not go over peacefully, and the next decade saw the new Bulkhai Sahinate embroiled in a major succession crisis which saw each of Gezuar's three sons declare their own Mubarat against their youngest brother, saw several Skudar tribes attempt to break free, and saw a minor Lashnar rebellion. The Babua's coup has been a long debated and poorly understood topic in Bulkhan history, as the reasons behind their coup, their overwhelming success in overthrowing the Mubarat and establishing the Sahinate, and their ability to maintain the Sahinate under their grip all have very few records and little documentation behind them.

Regardless, the Babua's coup ushered in a new age for the peninsula. Following the Succession Wars, Halur would come out victorious against each of his three brothers and would go on to lead the Sahinate into its new chapter in history.

Pangu



**Silvonia**



# Ullr

## Id

The Kingdom of Id is a large nationstate encompassing the majority of Northern Ullr, comprised of an expansive and complex hierarchy of provinces ruled by local lords, and assembled into a parliamentary monarchy. Its terrain is poor for farming though rich in mineral and natural wealth, as it is mountainous, heavily wooded, and cold. Some of the farthest northern Iddish Lords remain tribal chiefs, though most of Id has since modernized into a feudal, then imperial, and finally metropolitan society.

## Iddish History

For much of its history, Id has seemed to be a monolithic entity, inscrutable to outside eye and violent beyond all restraint. The latter claims are exaggeration while the former is an outright fabrication. While Iddish history has been marked with violence due in part to the scarcity of their land and large systems of familial alliances, Id is in no way a singular entity beyond being coalesced under a single overarching government. From the beginning of their known history, Id has been fragmented, and it is only in the modern era that the nation has somewhat solidified.

## Early History

From when mankind first entered the Iddish realms, they were confronted with inhospitable terrain. The ground is rocky, and a large portion of the realm is densely forested,

rugged, and generally difficult to grow crops in. Most importantly, the winters of Id are quite severe, tending towards blizzard and deep freeze. Early Iddish life would have been extremely difficult, and when the first cities were first flourishing the Iddiat were still hunting and gathering.

While their lands were poor, the Iddiat became very proficient at archery, hunting, and survival. Taking refuge in caves, usually hot spring caves that Id is known for, the Early Iddiat managed to build their first tribal communities. These tribes were heavily patriarchal, and relied on dogsleds and archery in order to hunt game such as elk, moose, and occasionally bear. The lack of Iddish coast or river precluded fishing, but the Iddiat continued to live within the Northern Ullr Expanse.

Early Id was marked with endemic warfare due to scarcity of game and fruit. Tribes would frequently raid in search of food, either other Iddiat tribes or any traders taking advantage of the central Iddish Expanse as an easier route between East and West Ullr. In Iddiat society, anyone who was not related to a tribe was considered a fair target for that tribe's raids.

Late in the Iddish Early History, these tribes began to mark out their territories as areas near where their wintering caves. Cave art depicting territorial maps have been found in since abandoned Iddiat Wintering Caves, as well as some other spiritual art, depicting animistic gods and mountain deities to the far north. Drawings of stellar con-

stellations, such as the Ice Bear, or the Sky Tree, have also been found in their early art. Iddiat society began to settle down, and Ancient Skadunism took root within their society. To describe this, notable Iddish historian Alexei Burgensen has said "The Early Iddiat did not believe in their superstitions. They feared them."

## Introduction of Agriculture

Proximity to Bialka lead to a number of imported concepts and customs from Bialkan culture, the first of which being agriculture. Though millet and sorghum are the crops native to Ullr, they grow poorly in the boreal Iddish realm, and thus never became a major crop. As the rest of the world proceeded into an Agricultural revolution, the Iddiat were stuck hunting and gathering. They populated modern Iddish lands only sparsely.

However, with the spread of potatoes, rye, and various other grains from Ma'at, the Iddiat were no longer restricted by a lack of food. Although Id has no major rivers, the hot springs in their caves were used to irrigate their new farmlands. Their number grew exponentially due to hardier crop, and the mountain complexes became all the more vital. However, the increase in population meant that even these new crops were not enough to satisfy the food requirements of the Iddiat population.

## Iddiat Clans and Raiding of Bialka

The increase in population meant that the Iddiat communities could grow larger and more powerful, but also that they needed more food in order to survive. Though permanent mountain complexes for farming began to form, most men of a clan would embark on long raiding expeditions on dogsled to retrieve more food for the winter. The targets of these raids were usually other Iddiat Clans, but groups on the southeastern fringe of Iddish territory would often conduct raids

into Bialkan territory.

These raids brought back not only food but Bialkan customs. Rather than basic pictograms, the Iddiat began to write in the Bialkan form, and use the ore they excavated from their mountain complexes in order to forge iron instruments and weapons. Quickly, the most powerful Iddiat clans became the southeastern ones due to their technological advantage and greater food supply recovered from raids into fertile Bialkan territory.

Most notable of these clans was the Beliskner clan. Reaching its apex in power in the year [GIVE ME A FUCKING YEAR], it was one of the first of the tribes to adopt the formal system. Khan Harald Beliskner proudly inscribed a monument to his greatness before the mountain complex of Khan-Beylik. He notes on his achievements the tribute of eleven other more minor clans, and his ability to summon a host numbering in the thousands. His monument is one of the best preserved examples of its kind. Generally speaking, these monuments proclaim the achievements and the abilities of an Iddiat patriarch, in addition to their formal inscription of key parts of the Law of Taboo.



## **The Iddish Crusades**

### **Iddiat Participation in Skadunist Crusades**

### **Creation of Hearths**

### **Demirbjorn Revolution and Iddish High Kings**

### **Conspiracy of Id**

### **First Dissonance**

### **Reformative Era**

### **Kupperstar and Panserna Dynasties**

### **Second Dissonance**

### **Empire of Great Id**

### **Third Dissonance**

### **First Parliamentary Era**

### **Fourth Dissonance and Second Parliamentary Era**

### **Millennial Id and the Millennium War**

### **Modern Id**

### **Ancient Iddiat Customs**

### **Iddiat Houses and Tribes**

The Iddiat Houses and Tribes were the adoptive familial groups that were headed by a patriarchal 'Father', and whose decisionmaking were largely dominated by the advice of said Father's 'sons', both adopted and biological. These sons would usually be ranked by age, with the eldest sons being considered more powerful and more intelligent than the younger. However, sons with proven aptitude could be considered spiritually older than their biologically older counterparts.

When an Iddiat Tribe settles in and becomes the de facto owner of a cave system, it was generally accepted that they had become a House, and that they should be afforded the respect deserving of one. Iddiat Houses were held to higher standards, being

allowed less leniency in violation of Taboo due to their greater political power. Fathers of Iddiat Houses were also to be given gifts of higher worth, and their sons being expected to be more honorable in their exploits. Women of Iddiat houses were also of a greater marital value than those of Iddiat Tribes.

The women of Iddiat society were given a submissive role. Their duties were held in place by the Law of Taboo, and were relegated to most of the same duties as men but without the ability to intervene in the decision-making process. Women were also forbidden from being warriors or knights, and were otherwise relegated to being marital stock.

The collapse of a House or a Tribe can be brought about by the elimination of the Father and majority of high ranking sons, or the breakage of Taboo on multiple levels. Rarely does the breakage of Taboo occur. Should a House or Tribe collapse, its constituent members will be considered orphaned, and therefore not protected by most Taboo law. However, many tribes adopted orphans out of pity, though some orphans chose to leave the Iddish Realm entirely.

### **Law of Taboo**

The Law of Taboo is a fundamental component of Iddiat and Modern Iddish society. Though some portions of Taboo were later codified, they were originally a set of unwritten rules and customs agreed upon by all Iddish Tribes and Houses, entirely informal in nature.

Taboo is formulated in a way that describes how the ideal Father, the ideal Son, and the ideal Brother should act. A wide variety of beliefs from prehistoric Iddiat society are believed to have sanctified in Taboo. Usually taught in an ad hoc format, Taboo is passed down from Father to Son, and frequently communicated between tribesmen. In early days, this meant that Taboo var-

ied widely in teaching, though as trans-iddish communication became easier and the importance of Taboo grew, these variations shrank. This coincided with several All-Fathers using their power to codify the most important Laws of Taboo.

No penalties were described in the Law of Taboo, beyond violators of the law would no longer be protected by it, and thus were free to be dealt with however other Iddiat saw fit. If a violation of Taboo was not punished, that violation would itself become a part of the Law. Large archives and records of major events in Iddish History were compiled so that Fathers would know what had and had not been permitted by Sanctified Violations, as well as dissertations on what constituted a violation.

### **Filial Retinue**

Iddiat and later Iddish familial groups were dominated by males, either taking a Father role or a Son role. The Father, being the patriarch of the group, was expected to act righteously and honorably with Taboo in mind. As the Iddiat tribes grew into Houses, this burden became too great for a singular man to bear, and Fathers began entrusting their Sons with these tasks.

Sons were expected to act righteously and honorably with Taboo in mind as well, effectively becoming administrators, generals, guardians, and advisors to their Fathers, while acting as Fathers themselves to their sons. Brothers were not permitted to command any of their brothers, no matter

younger or elder, but Fathers were permitted to command Sons.

A man with more able bodied sons was considered a more powerful Father than one who had fewer. Smaller tribes may have only had five or six sons, while the most powerful Fathers had sons numbering in the thousands. Most famously, Allfather Iorek Che-likhan Anderssen boasted regularly of having well over ten thousand direct sons himself, with over half being biological.

### **Marital Negotiation**

Entrance into a tribe would be done through marriage and ritual adoption. When a marriage was being negotiated, both of the Iddiat Patriarchs would come to an agreement of how the two tribes would merge. Usually, this could result in either of the two fathers gaining a gift while the other absorbs the son, and any of that son's subservients, into his family, or the two tribes integrating into one, with the two patriarchs becoming sworn brothers. These are the first traces of the infamous Iddiat Houses.

### **Ancient Iddish Mythology**

#### **Iddiat Dogsleds**

#### **Modernity**

#### **Iddish Houses**

#### **Modern Iddish Society**

#### **Iddish Culture**

# 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 Tetk'in City-States. Even today, Tz'amtanak'al's population is majority Tetk'in.

## Mythology

In Tetk'in Mythology, the Founding of Tz'amtanak'al occurred shortly after the Tetk'in were delivered to the world by the heavens. According to myth, the Tetk'in were drawn to the future site of the city, a pristine marsh in the exact center of the world. The Tetk'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 Tetk'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 Tetk'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.

Tetk'in mythology glorifying Tz'amtanak'al is not unique to the city itself; many Tetk'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 Tetk'in Civil War. It is only a slight exaggeration to call Tz'amtanak'al the holy city of Tetk'in folk religion.



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