

The Logistics of the World Calendar

The calendar year consists of 360 days, evenly divided into 10 months. The months are framed around agricultural production (i.e. fallow, planting, growing, and harvesting) and there are four seasons: Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter. Months 10-2 are Fallow. Months 3-4 are Planting. Months 5-7 are Growing. Months 8-9 are Harvest. The last six days of each month is a holiday, usually celebrated with food, drink, and rest, and typically coincides with one of the moons being full. A date may be written as "10.35.800.3A" to mean the 35th day of the 10th month of the year 800 in the third age. Often, the age is added later by scholars to make archives more accessible.

An age consists of 1,000 years. Scholars claim the world is presently in the fourth age, with recorded history beginning near the middle of the second age. The first known written language is Elvish though its appearance has since changed. Elvish became the formal language for magical script and evocation, save for the primordial spoken languages of early peoples. Many attribute preternatural qualities to Elves for this reason. Others still suggest that other magical languages are derivatives of Elvish.

Written languages were standardized in the late third age and formal uses of dating appeared in official documents beginning in the fourth age when the College of Lore was founded at Ipsen. The library there holds the longest chronicle of recorded history in the Known World, owing to the change of its mission after its magical documents and artifacts were destroyed when threatened by the prevailing kingdom. Scholars, kingdom advisers, and other intelligentsia study at Ipsen, often times without magical pursuits. Owing to their long lifespans, Elves are given great authority over transcribing and cataloging historical records or documents, spurring great admiration as well as distrust about the objectivity of such records.