



For Crusader Kings III  
Release 2.2 The Shadow on the Sands

## Introduction

### Return of the Crusader King

From Matthew Alexi,

G'day and welcome to the Realms in Exile mod for Crusader Kings III, Paradox's great grand strategy game. I am part of an incredible team that has heeded the call for adventure into Middle-earth! Together we are brining the immersive world of Middle-earth to CK3, full of the diverse characters in J. R. R. Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings.

*"I wisely started with a map, and made the story fit (generally with meticulous care for distances)."* – J.R.R. Tolkien.

Realms 2.2 is a major release, the mapping scope has more than doubled the size of Middle-earth between releases. For that achievement into Far Harad, it is the work of the Realms development team. We were delighted to be awarded Top 5 New Mods of 2020-2021 and be placed in the Top 100 Mods of 2021 and are very grateful to the Realms community. Crusader Kings 3 is very deserving of recognition for its modding communities.

Realms in Exile refers to the kingdoms that formed after the destruction of the isle of Númenor. These are Arnor, Gondor, Umbar, Bellakar and Thôn an-Khârlôkh. Gondor features in the third book of The Lord of the Rings. It is ruled by the stewards of Minas Tirith, as their king was lost in a duel with the Witch King of Minas Morgul. Arnor is the lost realm of the north, Aragorn is chieftain of its few survivors. Umbar was once a city of the Númenóreans at the height of their power in Middle-earth, now it is a mighty haven of corsairs. Bellakar and Thôn an-Khârlôkh are former colonies, far to the south, and the books do not mention their names.

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Game Manual  
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## Realms 2.2

### The Shadow on the Sands

With the announcement of Royal Court and its sweeping changes to the culture systems in Crusader Kings III, and with our gargantuan exploration of the Far Haradwaith, this update has taken its sweet time under the southern sun to be released. Yet, with release there is now a great many lands, vast and bountiful for you to explore.

There is precious little known about Far Harad and its people, the region's name refers to it being the furthest lands of the south, very distant to the wars fought by the Free Peoples against the Dark Lord Sauron in the Third Age, and almost unknown to the writers and editors of The Red Book of Westmarch. What is known comes through stories of war, many of the Haradrim were subjugated by Sauron and forced to join his war against Gondor. In Harad we know there were many ethnicities and cultures, rich coastal cities, remnant kingdoms of the Númenóreans and great Haradrim empires.

We plan to release Realms 2.2 before the release of the Royal Court Expansion DLC, and after, release Realms 2.3 to provide compatibility with the newly released DLC.

## Characters

### Play as The Golden King of Abrakhân

- Subjugate the Far Haradwaith with missions and decisions unique to Sauron's principle servant in the South.
- Special buildings for Abrakhân: the Zekhetz Palace, Abrakhân Bazaar and the Grand Noria.
- Ground-breaking terrain features for CKIII: the alien landscape of the Mirror of Fire and the rocky deserts of Dârsalan.
- Mission illustrations by Angelique Shelley, DireImpulse. Thank you, Angelique, for your powerful influence on the design of Umbar for many artists through your Children of Harad Project.

[deviantart.com/direimpulse](https://deviantart.com/direimpulse)

[artstation.com/angeliqueshelley](https://artstation.com/angeliqueshelley)

- *The time grows late, Golden King, Third of the Nine. Your orders from Mordor are to subjugate the Dune Sea, Nâfarat and Mahûd, and after they have fallen, you shall continue your conquest of the Haradwaith.*





## Characters cont.

## Play as King Vâtalinar of Rây, the Jungle Paradise

- Rây sits in an uneasy quiet. The Solar Dynasty under Vâtalinar maintains their vice upon power, yet this realm strains in rebellion.
- 3d art for holdings: new sets for the Râyan, Nâfarati and Umbarean cultures.
- Extravagant Coat of Arms by Cryyc and Vierwood for Gondor and the realms of the Haradwaith.
- *“And the Gods, beholding the ruin of the designs of proud Vâtra, robbed of house and raiment of flesh and form, harkened to shining Ladnôca, whose light was gentler than his, and lordship more kindly...”* – Exerpt from the *Kât-Polozây*, the ancient divine epic of the Haradrim, preserved in Rây.

## Play as High King Nîlûhîn II of Bellakar, a Realm Diminished

- A dynamic and young ruler, proven in battle and in court. It falls to house Tumakveh, chosen of the Moon to shoulder the burden of the Free Peoples in Harad.
- **Strength in Diversity:** Born from the melding of Adûnai and Haradrim culture, the people of Bellakar made something new by uniting their diverse gifts and countless talents.
- **Partnership between the Expanded Mods Family and Realms** gives new crowns and clothing for the cultures of Far Harad.
- *Ordained by Ladnôca as her champions, the Tumakveh cannot rest quietly while Bellakar remains threatened by the Shadow. The guardians of Bellakar stand implacable as the mountains, and as unreachable as the moon high above.*

## Map Expansion

- Reworked the titles of Rohan and Near Harad. Edited the baronies of Osgiliath and Umbar.
- Greatly expanded the region of Haradwaith and added Far Haradwaith. Almost doubling the number of complete empires with five additions. Nineteen new kingdoms.
- Added the realms of Abrakhân, Rây, Bellakar, Tedjin and the Stormhost.







## Development Team, Credits & Acknowledgements

### Team Members

#### Lead Development Team

- Arsonium
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- Tatyar
- Toto the dwarf
- YD
- Otto von Bismark

## Acknowledgements

We do not own the rights to The Lord of the Rings, or anything owned by the Tolkien Estate, Middle Earth Enterprises or WETA. This is a fan-created project, we do not charge money for what we are creating.

This mod is not endorsed by Paradox Interactive or Steam or the copyright owners of LotR.

If any work is used and not given credit, please contact Matt Alexi on Discord and we apologise in advance.

Modders of Crusader Kings III and Imperator: Rome are free to use our CK3 work, please credit us with *Lord of the Rings: Realms in Exile* and a link to our Steam Workshop page.

## Credits

Angelique, Children of Harad Project

[deviantart.com/direimpulse](https://deviantart.com/direimpulse)  
[artstation.com/angeliqueshelley](https://artstation.com/angeliqueshelley)

T4N: Typical's Tributaries Framework by TypicalCrusader  
[steamcommunity.com/sharedfiles/filedetails/?id=2537163635](https://steamcommunity.com/sharedfiles/filedetails/?id=2537163635)

Res Publica by Caden335  
[steamcommunity.com/sharedfiles/filedetails/?id=2478356664](https://steamcommunity.com/sharedfiles/filedetails/?id=2478356664)

VIET Events - A Flavor and Immersion Event Mod by Cybrxkhan  
[steamcommunity.com/sharedfiles/filedetails/?id=2227658180](https://steamcommunity.com/sharedfiles/filedetails/?id=2227658180)

Unsplash, loading screens  
<https://unsplash.com/>

Pixabay, loading screens  
<https://pixabay.com/>

Tolkien Gateway, description text  
[http://tolkiengateway.net/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://tolkiengateway.net/wiki/Main_Page)

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<https://www.deviantart.com/starraven/art/Sketchy-Cartography-Brushes-198264358>

## Credits cont.

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 CK3 Mod Coop #shared-resources <https://discord.gg/apEvxDZ>

SatoriLotus, the Crest of House Cirdan  
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Istvan Straban, dark\_priestess event picture  
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- Pureon
- Blood Royal
- Arsonium

(and from the old Realms team)

- Owlcoholic/Rewinged
- QualitySalt
- Chrysl3l
- Matt Alexi “Legoman”

[steamcommunity.com/sharedfiles/filedetails/?id=1851278287](https://steamcommunity.com/sharedfiles/filedetails/?id=1851278287)

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[www.moddb.com/mods/ck2-middle-earth-project](http://www.moddb.com/mods/ck2-middle-earth-project)

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[www.moddb.com/mods/the-horse-lords-a-total-modification-for-bfme](http://www.moddb.com/mods/the-horse-lords-a-total-modification-for-bfme)

## Ethnicities &amp; Portraits Expanded

[steamcommunity.com/sharedfiles/filedetails/?id=2507209632](https://steamcommunity.com/sharedfiles/filedetails/?id=2507209632)





## Discord Servers

Special Thanks  
to these Discords

Thank you for modding support, lore research and advertising.

CK3 Mod Coop  
<https://discord.gg/apEvxDZ>

Age of the Ring Community  
<https://discord.gg/MB8Kj9N>

## Join the Realms Community

Join our Community Discord, you'll be able to speak with the developers of Realms, participate in challenges and surveys and receive our latest news.

<https://discord.gg/FKr4Zbr>



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