

Lions of the Desert

A Spirit of Hyperboria Adventure

King Meritep ul Grat, the Suzerain of Kesh, has long suffered the predations of rebels from the nearby protectorate of Nabo – led by none other than Prince Pembatep, the king’s own brother... but no longer! He has offered fabulous wealth and immense power to anyone who can capture the rebel leader and lay him before the Lion Throne. Several heroes have heard his call, and have come answering...

That Which Everyone Knows

King Meritep ul Grat, Suzerain of Kesh: Assumed the Lion Throne about twenty years ago, after the untimely death of his parents. Married to Queen Allara.

“ul Grat” means “the Great” in Keshite. Among the Naboans he is often called “ul Graat” – Naboan for “the Fat.” Both descriptions are fitting.

Prince Pembatep, Rebel Leader: Exiled by his brother at his coronation. Married to Princess Nianki, a Naboan. Leads the Naboan rebels in daring cavalry raids.

Kesh: A once-powerful kingdom, now in decline, but still exerting control over protectorates like Nabo and Inkan. It might unkindly be described as having fallen into decadence, corruption, and debauchery. Unkindly, and accurately.

Nabo: A large but largely-empty province, consisting mostly of desert and hard plains. Home to numerous nomadic tribes, some of which have banded together to fight Kesh under Pembatep’s banner.

Hethor: The new matron goddess of Kesh; under Meritep, the country has turned from the worship of Mitra to follow this new, local goddess.

The Lion’s Tooth: An ancient sword, embedded in stone near the Lion Throne. Tradition holds that it is the badge of Keshite royalty; none may rule without it.

Languages of the Region

Keshite: Spoken by the Keshites, and many other peoples besides, in various local dialects.

Old Keshite: Used primarily by priests and astrologers for their rituals; sometimes found in old books.

Naboan: Spoken by the Naboans, even those who are Keshite slaves.

Old Naboan: Almost extinct and found only among tribes in remote oases. It has no written form.

Enkan: The ancient root language for both Old Naboan and Old Keshite. Only of interest to the scholars of antiquities and those who would converse with demons.