

The Testament

The Gathering 1108– Closing Edition

A New Gathering Treaty

On the 24th Day of August 1108, a meeting was held by representatives of Factions and Guilds to discuss the Gathering Treaty.

It was a good natured, good thinking meeting of minds where everyone had an equal voice even if some were louder than others.

There were to be no cross words, no threats and no personal differences. This was achieved, perhaps due in part to the calming influence of the Great Library, where the meeting was held.

The participants gathered to talk. Their basic position being that it is better to sort out our differences here than at home on our own lands, where innocent people may be drawn in and their lives ruined. Sarison of the Bards Guild offered a draft Treaty to act as a framework for discussion.

All agreed that we needed to restrict any fighting to the 4 annual meetings, and that we needed to support each other.

It was stated, and agreed by most, that wars are caused by the death of one person and repercussions that follow.

The concept of honour battles does not work, it was decided that Terms of Engagement were required and that these should be negotiated by the aggrieved parties with mediation and assistance of neutral parties, such as the Guilds.

Although not included in the actual treaty, it was acknowledged and agreed that all diplomatic negotiation must be exhausted before escalations of hostilities.

During the discussions it was agreed that an element of trust was necessary, and that the creation of a treaty would engender this.

Regarding diplomats it was wholeheartedly agreed that any diplomat has the right of hospitality and courtesy in the factions and guilds.

Diplomats have freedom of movement between factions without danger to their lives or hindrance to their duties providing they follow the laws of the land they are in at the time.

There needs to be a differentiation between war and disagreements.

It was agreed that if any faction or Guild wishes to declare war on another, or to declare a state of hostilities, that they will do so publicly, and that their diplomats will inform other factions of the said declaration.

After a well tempered and well mannered meeting ably chaired by Cullen, the various elements of the treaty were agreed and it was written up to be signed by all Factions and Guilds on the evening of the 24th of August. It is hoped that a new era of tolerance and understanding will ensue. May it bring prosperity to all who sign the treaty.

First Battle of a New Era

In light of the signing of the new Gathering Treaty, the Vipers Faction invited the Bears Faction to face them on the field of battle to clear the air between the two factions following recent events.

As an additional incentive to the Vipers Faction, Lord Regent Stesha has declared that should the Vipers lose, permission would be granted to Laird Connall McAiden of clan Bruid to woo her.

Verrit Dead

On Saturday the Bards were tipped off that Verrit was planning an attack to be launched on our home turf. It was suggested she might be late for her own funeral (among other less savory suggestions) as we waited long past the overheard time of the alleged attack. However it did eventually happen, and Verrit did not disappoint. It was a brief battle, with no losses on our side, and we were able to gather a sufficiently large wedge to dismiss the demon possessing her.

We had hoped to question Verrit now that she was free from the Demon's influence, but information had come to light suggesting she may have been in league with the Demon for anything up to 15 years and possibly beyond.

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This seems very possible, as despite attempted healing of her unconscious form, and a pattern scan confirming that she should under normal circumstances be capable of conversation, she did not rouse, indeed without the Demonic possession her body was just a shell, with no mind left to reach. Most of the Guild were there as she deteriorated and eventually died. There was not even sufficient mind left to speak with her by ancestral means after death. Master Kianan performed last rights and the body was removed. Moving forward there are many unanswered questions and this conflict may well be far from over, but for now, EiKara's murderer has been brought to an end and we can but hope that some form of closure has been found for those who were close to her.

People died

This years Gathering of nations has been a bloody affair with many a brave pattern being spent in either brave battles or futile disagreements,

Despite requested for obituaries for the notable dead none have been provided to the guild so we are left saying we sympathies for any loss of existence that has happen this weekend and we salute those who ended their time on Erdreja in attempts to provide a safer longer existence to those left behind,

Our thanks.

Terranon Threat Ended

In a joint effort between the factions and guilds of the Heartlands, the ancestor devouring menace known as the Terranon was destroyed. Acting on information uncovered by the Scouts Guild, referring to the voice of the Dragon, teams from the hosting guilds ascertained that it should be possible to destroy the crystalline manifestation of the Terranon through harmonic resonance. While the assembled forces fought off the fearsome bloodwraiths, a small task force neutralized the outer nodes of the Terranon's physical manifestation, before the main outcropping was destroyed by the combined voices of all present.

The destruction of this menace comes as the result of co-operation between the Guilds and Factions, of a kind which will be necessary if the Heartlands are to weather the coming Akari storm.

What price a plan?

The answer is over 60 patterns.

The explanation is that on Saturday of the Gathering people of many nations Gathered as one to launch an attack on the Akari.

With the use of 3 rituals the brave souls managed to send a shock attack deep behind enemy lines and cause some damage to the forces of entropy.

The plan had for many been referred to as plan stupid betraying the concerns many held about the plan. But despite the misgivings these individuals have shown a new way to attack entropy.

With some luck the people of Erdreja will have learnt from the lessons so many lives have taught us and instead of allowing the cost to stall future actions they will is the sacrifices to encourage others to take a stand in less costly actions for the benefit of us all.