



The Lineages & Histories of
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*Being a full and accurate
companion to the conference*

GoTMUN2017

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Introduction

Welcome to GoTMUN 2017

The year is 212AL and after 16 years of peace the realm is in a perilous state. The Blackfyre Rebels may have been dealt with, but in the years since Westeros has been ravaged by plague, drought, Ironborn raids and kin-slaying within the royal family. Now King Aerys I sits in isolation in his study, leaving the governance of the realm to his Hand Brynden Rivers, the Bloodraven, and his brother Prince Maekar Targaryen. The Royal Court has proven impotent in the face of the murderous Ironborn King Dagon Greyjoy and the Great Houses along the western coast lose lives and wealth to the seareavers ever day. As rumours of King Aerys' ill health circulate and the royal household eye the sickly and insane heir Prince Rhaegel, the rest of Westeros look to their own affairs and begin to prepare. The Summer that began at the end of the Great Spring Sickness is now two years old and, as the days begin almost imperceptibly to shorten, the time comes when men across Westeros begin to mutter the words of House Stark: Winter is Coming.

Welcome to GoTMUN 2017, an attempt to bring the political tensions, feuding and diplomacy of George RR Martin's A Song of Ice and Fire series to the world of Model UN Crisis. Dreamt up by great fans of the books, the TV show and of MUN Crisis, we have put a lot of work into preparing this conference. You hold in your hand a guide to all of the publically known information about the Great Houses of Westeros, including public profiles for each one of you.

We have tried to stick to canon whenever possible in setting up this conference, but with over 50 noble houses represented and scores of delegates, there simply isn't sufficient information on each House in the year 212AL for everything to be deduced from the books. Some, such as House Targaryen, have a great deal of information available: others, such as House Sunglass, have literally none (other than a crest and a name). While a gaggle of MUN graduates can't hope to match the style, depth and art of George R.R. Martin's writing, we hope that what we have provided here will be enough to make GoTMUN an enjoyable and unforgettable experience.

Guide to Using this Book

First of all, don't panic! We don't expect you to read everything in this book. Consider this a reference guide, to provide you with information on other delegates and their capabilities without having to ask the Crisis Committee directly for information every time you wonder whether a political/dynastic marriage is possible.

Gathered in these pages is the sum total of public knowledge of Westeros and its inhabitants in the year 212AL. Each of you will be able to find your public profile here: as you should know from studying your own private profiles, the public profile of each delegate consists of what everyone knows about them... and as often as not what everyone knows about someone is wrong.

All delegates of noble birth will also find their family trees here. These show you your family, which other Houses you are already connected to by birth or marriage, how many family members you have, who is a viable candidate for a political marriage, etc.

As a general guide:

All profiles printed in **BLACK** are of individuals represented by delegates at the beginning of GoTMUN on the afternoon of Friday the 24th of November.

All profiles printed in **GREY** are of individuals who are either underage or who are not delegates at the start of the conference: should delegates be assassinated, killed in battle or otherwise disposed of over the course of the conference, they will be assigned a new profile, quite possibly one of those whose details are printed in grey in these pages.

Mechanics of GoTMUN

We cannot stress enough that this is not a normal MUN Crisis: when the People's Liberation Army and India's 99th Mountain Brigade clash in the Himalayas, the Minister of State Security isn't going to be among the dead. When the forces of Highgarden storm the Prince's Pass, members of House Hightower or House Blackmont may well be among the casualties. Should the SAS be ordered to kill the Foreign Secretary inside the Cabinet Room the world would be appalled: if the Kingsguard behead the Master of Whisperers in the Small Council Chamber it would merely be unseemly. The differences between a modern political cabinet and a medieval feudal lord's council are stark.

Tournaments, Feasts and Un-moderated Caucuses

You should also be aware that, as Lords and Ladies of a feudal society, you can call an un-moderated caucus at any time: these can take the form of tournaments (if you can afford them!), weddings or simply an unjustified social call. Anyone who has even a passing familiarity with the phrase "The Red Wedding" should know that the location of these events can be key, so if you wish to host or attend an un-moderated caucus you will need to tell us where you want it to be held.

Justice in Westeros

Justice in a Feudal Society is delivered by your liege lord. Smallfolk who believe themselves wronged before the law go straight to their local Lord, minor Lords go to Great Lords and Great Lords go to the Crown.

All knights and nobles (although not the unknighthed baseborn) have the right to Trial by Combat, which either party can demand. Once Trial by Combat is granted it must go ahead, or else the one who demands it is considered automatically guilty. Anyone entitled to Trial by Combat can demand a champion, and even name one. The champion must be willing to fight for them however: they cannot be forced. If no willing champion can be found, the accused must fight for themselves. See the section on Combat for full details.

We hope that the rest of this book provides all the information you need on the setting of GoTMUN 2017, the events leading up to the year 212AL in Westeros and the politics and rivalries of the great courts of the Seven Kingdoms. Above all we hope that you enjoy taking part in GoTMUN 2017 as much as we've enjoyed preparing it.

Remember: in the Game of Thrones, you Win or you Die!

Daniel Gindis, Robert Griffiths, Duncan Merren & Stephen Vanson
Crisis Directors, GoTMUN 2017

Combat in GoTMUN

Single Combat

Single combat has an important place in the politics of Westeros: formalised duels, Trial by Combat, two enemies finding each other in the heat of battle. As these duels – Jamie Lanister and Ned Stark, the Red Viper and the Mountain that Rides, Robert Baratheon and Rhaegar Targaryen – play such an important role in the politics and justice, we've created a system to allow delegates to duel each other. Every fight is a matter of fate... although skill does play an important part.

In a duel two factors are taken into account: most importantly your skill, but also your luck. Each character bio has a Martial Skill listed, ranging from Unskilled through Average and Skilled to Legendary. Those with no formal training in arms are Unskilled, while Jamie Lannister would rank as Legendary. These are ranked for medieval feudal lords: Average is still a lot more deadly than any peasant.

When a duel is fought, both parties roll five normal, six sided dice. They then select three of these dice as dictated by skill level:

Unskilled: Take the 3 lowest values

Average: Take the middle 3 values

Skilled: Take the top 3 values

Legendary: Take the top 3 values and re-roll any of those 3 dice which show a value lower than 3.

Each duellist will then add up the total value of their three dice. If the two duellists are of equal skill, no further changes are made. If both combatants hold different Martial Skills (e.g. Average vs Legendary) then the lesser-skilled combatant will lose a value of 1 for every level below their opponent.

Once these changes are made, the duellist with the higher score wins. If there is a difference of 10 or more, the loser is automatically killed. If the score difference is between 1 and 10, the winner decides whether the loser lives or dies.

Duels can be triggered by formal Trial by Combat, by informally issued challenges between two delegates or on the battlefield.

Battles

Battles will be decided by the Crisis Staff, whose decision will be based on a range of factors including size of force, equipment, fatigue, experience and more. However over the course of a battle, any delegate on the battlefield may chose to try and seek out another delegate present for combat under the rules above. The other delegate may try to avoid them or refuse to fight honourably, of course.

Be aware that rash actions on the battlefield can lead to death: no one on the battlefield is invulnerable simply by virtue of being a delegate.

Recent History

Over the past 55 years 6 Kings have sat the Iron Throne, and others still have contested it. Here we seek to lay down the history of Westeros since the accession of Daeron Targaryen, First of His Name, 157 years after the landing of Aegon the Conqueror.

King Daeron I (157AL-161AL), the Young Dragon

Succeeding his father Aegon III – in whose reign the last of the dragons died – at just 14, Daeron I inherited a strong and peaceful Kingdom. From this firm base, Daeron – known to history as the Young Dragon – set out to complete the work his ancestors had started.

Conquest of Dorne

The armies of the Crown surged into the final independent area of Westeros – the Kingdom of Dorne to the south – in a vast tide of glittering steel and fluttering pennants. The Dornish forces standing in the Boneway were swept aside with contemptuous ease and for the first time in history all of Westeros was under the hand of the Iron Throne. When Daeron's forces took the capital in the Submission of Sunspear, the King accepted the stronghold's surrender, named Lord Tyrell as governor of Dorne and returned north.

Less than a fortnight after the Young Dragon had left, Lord Tyrell died screaming in his bed when a hundred of red scorpions were poured upon his head. All of Dorne rose up and from secret strongholds in the deserts the Lords of Dorne waged a bitter guerrilla war against the occupying forces. The Young Dragon returned to pacify the province with a fresh army, but within days his force was being picked at by constant hit and run attacks. For four years the battles raged: it is said that Daeron lost 10,000 men taking Dorne and 40,000 trying to hold it.

At only 18 Daeron died in Dorne, murdered while meeting Dornishmen under a peace banner, his conquest unfinished and his plans undone.

King Baelor I (161AL-171AL), Baelor the Blessed

The first act of the 17 year old Baelor upon the death of his eldest brother was to walk barefoot into Dorne along the Boneway to seek peace. Baelor built a peace with Dorne, negotiating a marriage pact that saw his cousin's son, the future Daeron II, marry Princess Myriah Martell and the restoration of the sovereignty of the Kingdom of Dorne under her brother, Prince Maron Martell.

Baelor constructed the Great Sept in King's Landing and famously kept his sisters locked away to keep him from carnal temptation. It might have been kinder if he had succeeded, but his sister (and later wife) Daena the Defiant had an affair with her cousin Aegon, the fruit of which she named Daemon who would found House Blackfyre.

King Viserys II (171AL-172AL)

A short reign of an unremarkable King, Viserys succeeded his nephew Baelor at the age of 59 when the King died with no children. Despite a long time as Hand preceded by a youth embroiled in the bitter civil war known as the Dance of Dragons, Viserys made little mark in his short and uneventful reign.

King Aegon IV (172AL-184AL), Aegon the Unworthy

Widely considered the worst King of the Targaryen dynasty, Aegon IV succeeded his father Viserys in 172AL. Aegon went on to father many bastards, both with the 9 women recognised as his mistresses and many others: it is said that Aegon arrived at the castle of Ambrose Butterwell on an evening and was greeted by Lord Butterwell's three maiden daughters, and by the next morning all three were pregnant. The small folk mockingly claimed that while "Fire and Blood" may be the words of House Targaryen, Aegon IV was better suited to "Wash her and bring her to my bed".

Aegon's first bastard, the boy Daemon and son of Aegon's cousin Daena the Defiant, grew up to be a fine warrior. In 182AL Aegon knighted the 12 year old boy, and gave to him the sword Blackfyre: Blackfyre had been the Valyrian steel sword of Aegon the Conqueror and had been carried by Kings ever since. After it passed into Daemon's hands, the whispers began that Aegon meant Daemon to be his heir, not his legitimate son Daeron.

On his deathbed Aegon enacted his greatest and most destructive legacy: he legitimised all of his bastard offspring, plunging the succession and the future of House Targaryen into turmoil. Of all his bastards, 4 have been named the "Great Bastards" for their impact upon the realm: Daemon Blackfyre, Aegor Rivers (Lord Bittersteel), Shiera Seastar and Brynden Rivers (the Bloodraven).

King Daeron II (184AL-209AL), Daeron the Good

Having brought peace to Westeros in his youth with his marriage to Myriah Martell, King Daeron II was a cultured and learned man who often seemed to prefer the company of Maesters to that of warriors. This did not sit well with those Lords of a more martial disposition who were already concerned that Aegon had meant for his bastard Daemon Blackfyre to succeed him. Adding to their unease, Queen Myriah brought with her to

King's Landing the culture of Dorne, gathering a coterie of Dornish advisors and sympathisers around her and further alienating the other Westerosi nobility.

Daeron's marriage to Myriah had been so successful the King aimed to replicate it, promising his younger sister Daenerys Targaryen in marriage to Prince Maron Martell in return for Dorne bending the knee and bringing all Seven Kingdoms under Targaryen rule. This was the final straw: Daemon is said to have loved Princess Daenerys, and this forced marriage was all it took for the bastard son of Aegon IV to raise his banners in rebellion, the disillusioned nobility of Westeros flocking to him.

The Blackfyre Rebellion

Daemon sought legitimacy by founding a new House, naming it for the ancient sword his father had given him: House Blackfyre took the Targaryen arms reversed as their sigil, a black dragon on a red field, and thereafter Daemon Blackfyre was known as the Black Dragon while King Daeron II became the Red Dragon. Joined by his half-brother Aegor Rivers – known now as Lord Bittersteel – Daeron gathered those Lords to him that he could and began a costly civil war. The Riverlands, Crownlands, Westerlands and the Reach were engulfed in fighting as ambitious Houses such as Bracken, Yronwood and Reyne sought to overturn to existing order and place Daemon Blackfyre on the throne. Countless lords and nobles died in the fighting and for a time it seemed as though the Black Dragon would triumph.

At Redgrass Field in 196AL, the forces of House Targaryen – commanded by Daeron's sons Baelor and Maekar and their uncle, the bastard Lord Bloodraven – clashed with House Blackfyre's army. Daemon Blackfyre was cut down along with his twin sons Aemon and Aegon by Bloodraven's arrows and, though Bittersteel came within an inch of winning the battle with a suicidal charge in which he personally claimed Bloodraven's eye with his blade, Prince Maekar Targaryen's line held and the forces of Prince Baelor and Prince Maron Martell arrived in time to crush the Blackfyre forces.

Lord Bittersteel survived and fled to Essos with Daemon's 4 remaining sons and the sword Blackfyre. In Westeros, however, the rebellion was crushed and those who had once been loyal to the Black Dragon wisely bent the knee and begged the forgiveness of House Targaryen. With the supremacy of the Red Dragon assured more than a decade of peace followed, Lord Bittersteel and Daemon's offspring languishing forgotten across the Narrow Sea. The threat dispatched, Princess Daenerys Targaryen married Prince Maron Martell and Dorne was finally brought under Targaryen rule and the Seven Kingdoms were complete.

The Tourney at Ashford

During this time Prince Baelor Breakspear, Daeron's eldest son, was groomed to be King and took up the position of Hand, recognised by the small folk and the great Lords alike as the very soul of chivalry. Tragically Baelor would never be King: at a tournament held at Ashford, Aerion son of Maekar, Baelor's youngest brother, had an altercation with a hedge knight known as Ser Duncan the Tall. Baelor tried to calm the situation but Aerion demanded a Trial by Seven – a variation of Trial by Combat whereby seven knights fight on either side, in the name of the Seven Gods – to prove the hedge knight's guilt.

In the ensuing combat Prince Baelor raised his sword for the hedge knight while Prince Maekar supported his son. While Aerion was defeated and forced into humiliating exile, in the melee Prince Maekar's mace landed a solid blow to Baelor's head. Baelor walked away from the fight but, upon removing his battered helmet, his fractured skull collapsed, leaving the heir to the throne dead on the tourney field and his brother forever strained with the word kinslayer.

The Great Spring Sickness

In 209AL a virulent disease spread almost inexplicably across Westeros. Tens of thousands died from all walks of life and all social classes: the Spring Sickness, as it became known, had no respect for rank, laying low everyone from the poorest peasant of Lannisport to King Daeron II himself. Along with the King the two sons of Prince Baelor, Princes Valarr and Matarys, Lord Damon Lannister, Lord Medgar Tully, Lord and Lady Sunglass and countless other died. The death count grew so horrendous that to this day few will openly talk of the plague, preferring instead to simply say their loved ones "died in the spring." To make matters worse the plague was followed closely by a widespread drought, causing mighty rivers to run dry and fruit to wither on the vine.

The only parts of Westeros relatively unaffected were Dorne and the Vale of Arryn, both of which closed and rigorously policed their borders, isolating themselves and therefore being spared the worst.

King Aerys I (209AL to present)

With his elder brother and that brother's two sons dead, the crown passed to Aerys, a bookish man with no interest in ruling or fighting. King Aerys, dutifully married to his sister Queen Aelinor, has isolated himself within the Red Keep, leaving the governance of Westeros in the hands of his uncle, Lord Bloodraven – Brynden Rivers, one of Aegon IV's bastards who remained loyal through the Blackfyre Rebellion – and rarely appearing in public. A noted scholar, Aerys might be one of the finest academic minds in the Seven Kingdoms but that does not make a King.

The Second Blackfyre Rebellion

Just a few short months ago Lord Ambrose Butterwell wed Lilith Frey at his new fortress of Whitewalls, holding a grand tournament to mark the occasion. Many of those knights who had followed Daemon Blackfyre attended, and over the course of the tournament it was revealed that Daemon Blackfyre, eldest surviving son of the Great Bastard of the same name who died on Redgrass Field, had come to Westeros to raise his father's banner and once more launch a bid for the Iron Throne.

Before word could spread the Hand of the King, Lord Bloodraven, had gathered an army to him and swept down upon Whitewalls. The pitiful force gathered there – little more at that stage than a group of tourney knights – was no match for the host of warriors Bloodraven commanded. The rebellion was crushed before it could begin and Daemon Blackfyre was taken alive, presumably to be imprisoned in the Black Cells beneath the Red Keep in King's Landing, ensuring that his younger brothers, still in Lord Bittersteel's care across the Narrow Sea, cannot lay legitimate claim to lead House Blackfyre.

Dagon Greyjoy, King of the Iron Islands

While peace has largely been maintained on mainland Westeros since the Blackfyre Rebellion, House Greyjoy has had other plans. Under the leadership of the Lord of Pyke, Dagon Greyjoy, the Ironborn have declared themselves independent and begun raiding sites all along the west coast of Westeros. While Dagon broke with the law of Westeros when he duelled his elder brother for the Seastone Chair, he has not yet claimed the Driftwood Crown and, with it, the Kingship of the Iron Islands, although it is surely only a matter of time.

From the Reach to the Wall, the longships attack, kill and steal. Neither House Stark nor House Lannister nor House Tyrell alone has proven capable of ending this threat, and thus far the King has not raised a hand to stop the slaughter. With the Royal Fleet and the Fleet of the Reach the only two naval forces in all of Westeros that can muster even a third the strength of the Iron Fleet, Dagon Greyjoy has so far been given free rein to pillage where he likes.

This, then, is the state of Westeros at the dawn of the year 212 After Landing.