

## L17 Turn 31 News:

### T31 Merc Pools

<b>GeoZone</b>	<b>Mercs.</b>	<b>QRs</b>	<b>Leader</b>	<b>Death</b>
East Asia	5c	5	Xu Chiang (MBA9)	
	6l	5		
	3s	5		
	10w	5		
Oceania	0c	3	Kalbaya (M7B6)	
	4l	4		
	2s	4		
	15w	5		
Indochina	10c	5	Ming Lai (M977)	
	15l	5		
	4s	5		
	3w	3		
India	2hc	5	Injaya Mahvani (M74B)	
	12c	5		
	8hi	5		
	14l	5		
	14s	4		
	0w	3		
Middle East	10c	4	Abdullah Massoud (M879)	
	18l	5		
	4s	5		
	0w	3		
North Africa	5c	5	Hussein al Maaluf (M7B7)	
	0l	6		
	2s	6		
	6w	5		
West Africa	5c	3	Imbundu Malagwe (M995)	
	6l	4		
	3s	3		
	0w	3		

GeoZone	Mercs.	QRs	Leader	Death
East Europe	5c	5	Valerius Anaxartes (M876)	
	4l	5		
	2s	3		
	3w	3		
	1t	-		
West Europe	9c	4	Ruarc (MA52)	
	13l	4		
	4s	4		
	24w	4		
North Europe	0c	3	Alfred of Wessex (M998)	
	4hi	4		
	1s	3		
	5w	4		

**LOTE 17 - Processing Order (T309) 1151 - 1155**

**East Asia**

**Japan:** Kita, Edo, Kumamoto, Sapporo, Heian, Toyota, Kyoto +ICL, Nigata (F), Toyoma (NE)

Urbanization was all that mattered and the Japanese nation industrialized. The Heir to the throne traveled to the lands of the north along with his aide Ishi. The Prince secured a wife and the friendly status in the region of Nigata after much negotiation. The king did not have near the luck his son did diplomatically as Toyoma refused to hear his overtures no matter how attractive they might be.

*“See Korea”*

**Song: Fortress Shan’si**

The Song concentrated on reorganizing their armies and defending their lands and Annam from possible intruders. They lived up to the peace terms agreed to with the Hindu’s and they abandon the Crusader States to be victimized by the Hindu’s.

**Celestial Realm:** Lots of facilities

Built a bunch of facilities and helped out their constituents a bit.

## **Goryeo (Korea)**

Ah peace and harmony in the lands of Buddha. That is a rare thing but something that has been attained in this realm. The economy got a boost this cycle and the citizens of the realm were pleased. The Kings household exploded this cycle . . .with the sounds of wailing children. Prince Kyongsan Mi fathered 3 sons and a daughter this cycle.

The masterful Clan leader Sicora disrupted life on the island of Cheju Do as he led his 1000 Japanese soldiers on to the island. Now the Korean people who live on this island are a pretty surly lot but the leader of the Korean colony was not a very effective and after a couple of bloody skirmishes against the trained Japanese force the island succumbed to the Japanese.

## **Shaolin Order:**

The Shaolin carried out their part of the peace treaty with the Hindu's and withdrew from the Crusader States abandoning them to their fate. While there was an effort to persuade the valiant Crusaders the Crusaders wouldn't budge. A small number of facilities were constructed in hopes that some additional funds could be gathered to fill the coffers.

## **Oceania**

Fiji Slept  
Java

## **Maori:**

The Heir and the prince died this cycle but the country continued to function properly. Tuatahi took the job of heir and added to daughters to the royal family while administering the realm. The King continued to rule into his late 60's. Rural areas of the island benefited from the apt rule of the king. In particular, the people of Hokitika were very surprised and pleased to see royal engineers in the province removing trees to make cart paths and digging wells in small communities to help them prosper.

## **Indochina**

### **Annam (Vietnam) :**

Annam continued to suffer the attacks of a secret society of north Asian orientation. This was thoroughly being looked into by the Annamese government. With a one-cycle layoff in war, at least, the Annamese took time out to improve themselves and these efforts were mostly successful.

**Kambujadesa (Cambodia):** +ICL Chang Ma, Bangkok, Hue, Sambor, Siam (F), Hmong (NE)

Plague ripped through the royal family this cycle killing off the family members in droves. The King was left with only three daughters; this was a great concern because the king was very long in the tooth. Fortunately all the girls were still of marrying age so

there was some hope that the Emperor could reel in a good son in law to take over the government when that became necessary. Beyond that things actually went pretty well. Buddhist Siam actually became friendly even though the “holy war” was still going on. Many urban areas grew in size, which made everyone happy. Lastly no evil Buddhist poured across the border to destroy the Khemer regime. The Emperor did watch with keen interest to see what was happening in the Crusader States which turned out to be NOTHING.

### **Crusader State of Pegu:**

Standing alone on the top of some prepared defense Zhao Xen looked out toward the west day after day. Where were the hated Hindus? Why had they not come? Feeling betrayed by the Chinese and Annam who had all sent their soldier home the Crusader State was sure to crumble under the weight of ten’s of thousands of Hindu’s. Zhao did the only thing he could he prepared for the inevitable but here he sat and waited. Finally great news broke across the mountains into his Buddhist Realm.....the Kaunaj were in open revolt and their king had been slain! Zhao still waited patiently for an onslaught but in never came thankfully.

### **Sword of Vishnu: (Heretical Hindu State)**

The Vishnu worshipping state braced for the possibility of a Cambodian attack but it never came, the Sword were happy because they had to put down a rebellion that got stirred up when some stinky Hindu missionaries traveled to Mon and tried to convert the locals. All hell broke lose but the merciless Sword smash them to bits.

## **India**

### **Rajdom of Guar: Gaur (HM), Bombay (F)**

We hate the Bengals!

### **Sahis (Hindu Primacy): Two or three churches, Lahore +1 CL**

Nothing much went right this cycle for the Hindu Primacy outside the Holy City reaching it’s maximum potential. The Cathedral project in Sahis cost a great deal of time and effort but as the cycle completed the project was just not a successful one. Missionaries were sent into some fiercely Buddhist territories this cycle and with the flames of hatred burning brightly the missionaries in Tibet and Mon were all brutally butchered. It was a devastating blow to the missionary corp. and not one the Hindu primacy would soon recover from. Many unsuccessful operations were run against the Crusaders states that had little effect because the agents lacked proper information to carry their job out effectively.

*“See War against the Crusader States” ....called due to rain*

### **Chola Mandalam:**

The Cholans recognized that the war was not over and so they put all their efforts into being as prepared as possible in case things went wrong against the Crusaders. It was a very quiet cycle in the Cholan realm. Nothing was going on really besides the war against the Crusader States. The heir to the throne, T. Shiva did manage to sire an heir and brush up on his ruling skills. The people of Surashtra love the ruling family. Huge amounts of funds were dedicated to helping the people of this region become more productive.

*“See War against the Crusader States” called due to rain*

### **Kaunaj (Rajput): Blew Up**

The King thought to himself as he ordered another twenty thousand men mustered, now Buddhist will finally pay. Raj Derug was happier than he had been in a very long time, the Chinese had been persuaded to abandon the Crusade and now Sriyajaya could be avenged. The troops marched through the city and before the king on their way out off to war. There was great fanfare and Glory would fall to the Consortium. Suddenly in the middle of the hoopla as the very lengthy procession of guard cavalry a group of cavalymen turned and charged the Kings observation box. Chaos erupted and the King was quickly slain. The Kashmir Raj now had the reins of control over a huge military force. He appointed his number two in command to take some troops and after removing the Kaunaj from Chitor he was to defend the East while the Kashmir Raj charged west with his cavalry army and swept up as many provinces as possible.

In the West the Islamic provinces revolted immediately. The Kashmir Raj purged the Capital of about 2000-loyalist troops then headed west. He swept through all the lands between Uttar Pradesh and his homeland of Kashmir. Most of the provinces along the way fell with little effort except in Und where the Shia were none to pleased at the arrival of Hindu's wanting to take their freedom. The Kashmir Raj didn't have time to play around so he just put the Shia's to the sword and moved on. All of the northern provinces came under the newly formed Madras Empires sway. The Kaunaj Consortium survived because both of the Raj's sons managed to escape to the East where they assumed their longtime ally the Bengals would help them out. Kappnkirk died at the end of the cycle but the house held together. In the south the Rajas resurfaced. They all banded together and with their large trade income they should be able to prosper into the future as long as the Madras don't get too greedy.

**Bengal:** Jaunpur (EA), Guar (Revolt), Kalinga (NE), Chela (A), +1CL Bihar, Tamralpitri, Bombay, New Delhi, Delhi, Calcutta

The nation braced for the possibility of an assault by the foul Buddhist. No Buddhist came across the border but that did not mean there were not problems in the Bengal territories. The King Vakkra and his assistant Mupptai traveled to Jaunpur to bring that

province into closer alignment with the rest of the Bengal nation, the King and his entourage were effective in securing much closer relations.

Unfortunately the King trusted some diplomatically challenged leaders to carry out diplomacy in a couple of other regions and these efforts not surprisingly did not go well. In Kalinga Chandra, head of internal security, was tasked with bringing the unaligned province back into the fold. Now if Chandra only had to get by on good looks everything would have been fine but this was diplomacy and Chandra was not really that interested in being nice to people. If he couldn't win them over with good looks well then he just didn't care. Well good looks and 20 gold will get you a cup of coffee in Kalinga but that is about it. The Kalingans listen to Chandra prattle on about how good looking he was and how great he was at this and that until finally they tossed him out on his ear.

The worst situation was that in Guar were the province exploded into open revolt when diplomat Tikkri was caught in the bedchambers of the Raj's favorite mistress. Tikkri was killed and the Bengal King was very upset. Matters got substantially worse when the Guar Raj decided to truly assert himself and he took over the whole province including the city of Bombay that was nearing completion of the expansion project.

The really bad part about all this mayhem is it totally screwed up the Bengal economy. Merchants throughout the Bengal territories heavily traveled the road network and now Kalinga had bandits and Gaur was owned by the Raj of the region. River traffic obviously increased in the north but in the southern reaches the lands were getting a little restless. Chela degraded in status as a new leader took the reigns in the region.

**Kalki:** Defended the Khemer

## **Middle East**

**Syria: Bostra (UN), Circis (NE) & Selucia (NE)**

The Syrian King decided to make a whirlwind trip through Syria's feudal domains. While this sounded like a good idea the trip nearly ended in disaster. The desert tribes of Bostra accepted one of the king's daughters as a bride but apparently the daughter was offered to the second most powerful clan leader rather than the most powerful one and this caused a great big stink. Bostra degraded heavily as the first and second most powerful clan leaders decided to kill each other. In Circis and Selucia the daughters were accepted but the resulting marriage even with dowry had no effect due to the average diplomatic skills of Eyad and the surly nature of his hosts. It would have helped if Eyad had brought along some folks to assist him too since he was a bit overwhelmed trying to run the show on his own.

The entirety of Eyad's staff was replaced this cycle due to deaths. Eyad anointed his son crown prince this cycle as well. Nothing much of importance happened in the realm with the possible exception of the rise of the Kharidjite's influence in Syria. Their influence

had been growing for some time but they were gaining even more influence and they were spreading to Syria's neighbors the Seljuks.

**Seljuks: +1CL Kuwait, Al'Madrah, Baghdad, Basara, Diyala Colonized**  
Persepolis (T)

Ah to be one of the rich and powerful like the Seljuks. A wave of deaths struck the Seljuk hierarchy as no fewer than five leaders died this cycle and most in the early stages (yes I did take into account the overaging that occurred last turn).

The King and prince Chagra Bey were killed when a statue to the Emperor toppled over during the ribbon cutting ceremony. Diyalan rebels were blamed for the accident since one of the architects was from the province of Diyala. All the workers on the project were killed and Sinjar Shah immediately traveled to Diyala and brutalized the population. After confessions were squeezed out of a few Diyalan Lords the province was colonized. When Sinjar Shah returned from brutalizing the Diyalans he decided to put his brother Uzayr to the sword because there were rumors circulating that the somewhat pathetic Uzayr was fomenting unrest among the capital's garrison.

Another tragedy struck in the Persian city of Persepolis. Fakhr al-Khadin and his counterpart Omar were meeting with their Persepolis contact Hakim in their upstairs room. The Akarakim Inn stove exploded and the Inn itself caught fire. The fire spread very rapidly through the Inn and the men were trapped upstairs and perished. The new governor of Persepolis saw this as a bad omen and the relations with the region became a bit colder.

**Samarkhand:**

The economy wasn't especially great because of the large army that had to be maintained so the King allocated a large portion of the Kingdoms resources to improving the economy.

**Armenia:**

Economic Development

**Hezbollah**

The Hezbollah was so closely aligned with the Sunni church that the Hezbollah decided to incorporate the Sunni Imam within their organization. (This is actually happening because I am phasing out the Primacy) The Hezbollah primarily focused on investments and expansion. They were successful with both. There were some disturbances among the Seljuk (used to be the Buhwayids) religious community as a new splinter religion was gaining a foothold in that kingdom. They called themselves the Kharidjites and while they had similar religious beliefs to the mainstream Muslims there were some differences too. Splinter groups within the Islamic faith were not unusual by any means, in Syria alone there were three or four but none of them were particularly active beyond a very limited area in which they resided. The Kharidjite faith however was spreading very

rapidly among the once nomadic Seljuks. Some of the Kharidjite faithful were even showing up in Syria. Al-Maghili ordered his men to stay on top of the disturbing development.

## **North Africa**

### **Tunisia: Apulia (NE)**

About the only thing that went right this cycle was that both the King and his brother fathered son. Mosul in 1051 and Bishar in 1054. Even the attempt to have children did not go as well as they would have liked both lost wives this cycle too. Of course being Muslim this was not a huge deal.

Missionary work was conducted throughout the Med with little success except in the province of Sardinia where there was already a Moslem majority. A huge number of small towns in the province of Apulia were fortified this cycle, which was really odd since the Tunisians held no sway over the region.

### **Empire of the Nile (Egypt): PT Aethiopia**

I would like to say that the Aethiopians fought hard and the Egyptians managed to barely win a victory over the Aethiopian kingdom even though the size of their forces were far superior to that of the Aethiopians but the war against the Coptics was a stroll in the park for the vastly superior Egyptian army. This was especially true after the Adenese assassins killed the Ethiopia King. The Egyptians brutally oppressed the poor Coptics and forced them to flee into the nether regions of Africa. The only thing that went wrong on this trip was that the city of Axarra was completely destroyed and the province of Sennar revolted at the end of the cycle thus depriving the four Egyptians of that land.

On the home front the Egyptians built a bunch of troops close to 20K in fact. Urban renewal in Q'arum went over well with the citizens of that huge city. Toward the end of the cycle there was some concern over the revolt in Sennar but the Aethiopians had been smashed so they were not considered a threat any longer regardless of what happened in the insignificant lands of Sennar. Many missionaries were sent south with mixed results.

## **Europe**

### **Ireland: +1CL Tara, Muster (F), Lothian (released)**

The Emerald Isle continues to grow and prosper under the fine reign of Cuin Niall IV. The capital city is a direct reflection of the king's wise rule as people continue to flock to the city. The King also continues to invest a good amount of resources into the social services for his capital and it is beginning to develop a healthy upper lower class. The diplomatic bum rush was put on the province of Munster and it proved successful as they joined the alliance of tribes. The Merchant Kellen stopped by Poitou on his way back from Lorraine and secured several French maids for his home on the Isle of Man.

### **Denmark: Halland Cultivated**

DOWN WITH THE KING.....The Kings Grandson decided his father was way too incompetent to lead the nation and pretty much everyone agreed with him so the king was forcibly removed from the throne and beheaded. Long Live King Ivar. Nothing else important happened.....ok Halland was cultivated are you happy.....well the peasants aren't. Now they have to work harder than ever before and they have more taxes to pay on top of that.

### **Norway: NorwayCultivated**

#### **England:** Lothian (T)

The Irish did what they said they would do and released their Lothian ties to the English King. Apparently the Lothians were none to pleased with this development and they refused to be subservient to any "southerner". Lord Hollingsworth was sent to Lothian to straighten out the Lothian malcontents they settled down once he arrived and the English regained a tributary status in the region.

Prince Caernor died doing what he enjoyed most sailing the seas looking for Pirates. The people will mourn the loss of this popular leader. Robert takes over as heir and David becomes the prince after the death of their uncle Caernor.

#### **Grey Order**

Many sites constructed in Flanders

#### **Bohemia:** Slovenia (T), Tyrol (NE), Pest (T), +1 CL Strasboug, City of Munich in Bavaria

The Bohemians concentrated on expansion. The Port city of Strasbourg, which was strategic to Bohemian trade interest on the Rhine and beyond, grew. This was quite a boon for the Empires merchant class. The Diplomats of the Kingdom were sent beyond the borders to reel in some important territories. Slovenia was the jewel of this group. Slovenia is the one territory every Bohemian King lust after because it represents access to the riches of the Mediterranean. Gaining tributary status in Pest was also a big gain as it opened up the possibility of Black Sea trade. Everything was going right for the Bohemians prior to Tyrol. The Tyrolian leaders scoffed at the idea of paying even a copper of tribute to the Bohemian Emperor. Of course some of the problem in Tyrolia may have been brought about by the total incompetence of the Lord Adalbert.

**Teutonic Knights:** Moved the Order Fortress to Rome in support of the Pope. No one balked at this decision since the Muslims were on Italian soil.

#### **Papal States:** Rome +1CL

The Pope concentrated his efforts on improving the defenses of the Holy City and the economic viability of the Holy City. It is rumored that the Pope requested that the Venetians release their hold on the Holy City. Currently it is merely a rumor though.

**German Kingdoms:** From the East came an assortment of gifts. The Princes were happy. The Pomern Prince and a Saxon Prince both married off family members to larger East European royal families. A Friesland noble was married off to one of the Princess's of Flanders. Westphalia was the only Princedom that was not gifted with women or land, they were disappointed.

**Venice:** Spoleto (NT), Corsica (NE), Latium (F)

Venice embraced its responsibility of reuniting Italy. Life had been very hard for the people of the Italian Peninsula in recent years and things looked very dire prior to the emergence of the Venetian State. With the help of the Pope and the Teutonic Knights things were looking up. The province of Latium with the prompting of the Pope and aid of Geraldo of Lombardy embraced the Venetians. Efforts were made in Spoleto but they were not as concerned as they maybe should have about the Muslim intrusions into Italy so they only nominally recognized the sovereignty of Venice.

**Flanders: Antwerp (F), Aachen (EA) Champagne (FA), Nancy (NE), Ghent +1CL**

In a shockingly good series of diplomatic actions Jacob v. Artevelde managed to make a great deal of political hay in the lands of Flanders. Jacob it was said had been blessed by God (or was really freaking lucky). He did a great service to king and country regardless of the reason and the King was pleased. Lords Buthune and Piet traveled to the lands of the Friesland Prince this cycle to negotiate a peace agreement. This effort was also a smashing success but mainly due to the negotiating skill of Piet and his companion. One of the king's daughters was shipped off to Friesland and she was married off to a noble there.

**France:** Provence (F)

Charles the III died in a riding accident while in Burgundy he was only 28. This was a devastating tragedy to France. Fortunately for France Robert the VI was ready to step into the breach. Robert VI was not in the least bit social and tended to the affairs of government pretty strictly. The government ran well as a result. The Royal Steward Niemers died at the age of 79 and was replaced in the royal court by William of Normandy. In the south the Marquis du Pont worked on improving relations with Provence and was successful. Robert's two young cousins were promoted as princes this cycle.

**Navarre:** Gascony (F), Aquitaine (NT), +1CL Arachon and Santiago, Arachon (F)

Things are going well in Navarre this cycle. Gascony and the city within both went decided allegiance to Navarre was a good idea. Aquitaine another key province decided to at least recognize the existence of Navarre and might have done more had not the leader Jose died during the negotiations. The army was rebuilt and put in defensive positions around the country in hopes of warding off intruders. No dynastic failures for 10 years is a new record and so there was much rejoicing.

**Cordoba: Al Hiram (NE), Geb –Al Tarik (F), Aragon (F)**

The aged King Achmed was determined to make one last push to expand his nation before he passed.

Trusted commander Muhannad was sent to the Catholic island of Corsica. Two thousand men were unloaded on the island and Muhannad deployed his troop at Filitosa, a village near the landing location. The Corsicans were waiting for the Cordobans in ambush and when the Cordobans camped for the night the Corsicans fell on them hard. Led by the “bandit” Florio Cinarca the 1600 Corsican light and regular infantry ran roughshod over the surprised Muhannad slaughtering a good 1000 Cordobans before Muhannad could regroup his army and order a withdraw. The Corsicans dogged the retreating Cordobans and though Muhannad survived barely 600 of his soldiers did. Muhannad returned to Cordoba with the wounded rather than wrapping up his travels in Sardinia.

Aragon was pulled back into the fold this cycle and colonist were sent in to the region. This made the Navarese very nervous and the cautiously watched as things developed. The former Tunisian possession of Geb-al-Tarik was pulled into Cordoban control. The King put a great deal of effort into the upgrading of the economy, which made the people happy.

**Russia: Stinks being us.....economic improvement**

**Kiev: Polotsk +1CL, Goryn Conversion +45% EO, Pereaslavl (F)**

Ivan ruled over the wilderness nation adeptly. His cities grew and they were some of the cleanest in all of Europe, which was a source of pride even though by most peoples standards Kiev was only nominally a part of Europe and in fact most would have called them steppe nomads if asked. Converting the heathens to the proper religion was another noteworthy accomplishment on Ivans resume’. His son Mikhael and the Archbishop of Kiev both worked diligently on securing the hearts and minds of the faithless in Goryn. They were very effective in this endeavor and soon the people of Goryn would all embrace the lord.

**Byzantium: Fortress Bythnia, Chtysoplois and Thessalonica +1CL, Thessaly (T) Bulgars (AW)**

BWHAHAHAHA! I am a God King once again....I have the Power! Ok maybe not but the Byzantium King took control of the church. The Byzantines did a huge amount of

builds to help get the nation back on track. The addition of some resources of the Church will of course help with furthering the goals of the Byzantines.

John Comenus traveled with Chosroes to the lands of the Bulgars. The trip was not a good one at all. John thought the Bulgars might be receptive to some peaceful overtures. He was hoping to find a bride in the lands of Dobruja as well. Emperor Comenus while quite the general was not much to write home about on the diplomatic front and Chosroes was worse. The Emperor rolled into the region and started demanding to see the heads of all the local towns and villages, he required them to feed his 1400 man contingent of cavalry at ever stop. The Dobrujan Lords had about as much as they could take of the arrogant Comenus and so a very large contingent of horse archers and light lancers met the Emperor at the gates of the “Bulgar” Capital Pliska. Comenus was taken aback by this display he estimated nearly 6000 men in all waiting for his arrival. A rider approached his entourage, it was a man named Skav.

***“Emperor Comenus it is hereby decreed that the ancient lands of the Bulgars will no longer welcome those of the Roman Empire into the lands of the Bulgarian peoples. We do also proclaim that the province of Bulgaria, which is the southern most land in our state, will be reclaimed. If you relinquish your claim to the said region in the upcoming cycle we will not press for war however if you insist on exerting your influences over the lands that by rights belong to the Kingdom of Bulgaria we will be forced to inflict grievous harm on to you and your peoples.”***

With that Skav rode away. Comenus was incensed.....he seethed and his face became beet red. What was he to do now? Did he not have enough problems with the blasted Islamics in the south now this! Being no fool Comenus gathered his host and withdrew to Thrace and then Constantinople where he gathered his rather large cavalry force and moved back into Thrace for defensive purposes.

By the end of the cycle Thrace had a steady stream of Roman refugees passing through the province headed for Bithnia. Most felt being on the other side of the Dardanelle’s would be pretty safe. The Bulgarians had moved into Bulgaria but the did not venture any farther. Comenus contemplated his options, he was happy things went well in Thessaly.

Comenus returned to his capital were he met with the Archbishop of Constantinople. The people in the city were apathetic to the events at hand unlike the Thracians.

**EO Church:** Merged into Byzantium

**Poland:** Bochnia +1GPV, Silesia (F)

The Poles decided to do a little creative diplomacy. The province of Laustia was handed off to the new Princedom of Saxony. Princess Rebecca was also married off to one of the royal family of Saxony as well. All of this led to very favorable relations between the two houses. The King of Poland was VERY happy with the results. In general the Poles

tried to improve their lot in life. With all the heavily wooded territories it was important to manage the nation and they did a fine job on the whole.

### **Estonia: Kymia Colonized, Postal Road Estonia to Novgorod, Turku (NT)**

The Estonians were very busy this cycle. First of all the most surliest and foulest individuals in the entire nation were all rounded up and sent to the Kymia Gulag. They settled in nicely in this bitter land of many lakes. Bolgar Leho was sent to Turku just across the Gulf of Finland from Estonia. He parleyed with them for about three years and the end result was nominal recognition of the Estonian Jarl.

The King (he was a Christian after all) concerned himself with many things, religion, and national expansion and believe it or not the German Princes. Yes the Baltic was Estonia's playground and Kalev II was not about to allow the Pomern's Prince be duped by any of the other Baltic heads of state into poor agreements. He rushed to Rostock and immediately began the parleying efforts, which were very effective. It helped that he brought his 16yr old grand daughter. Well the Pomern prince thought this was just too much to pass on, Ivanna was very attractive, so the nuptials were completed and the King headed home knowing that he had gained a good deal of influence in Pomern.

## **East Africa**

### **Zandj: Scabeli Cultivated and 1GPV added**

#### **Aden : Berbera (T)**

Unlike his Egyptian brother the Adenese do not pursue violence a means of expanding ones borders. The Zandj added 10 warships with excellent crews to their fleet, in this region of the world pirates were always a concern and the kingdom was not about to allow its lands to be victimized. The capital received some much-needed urban improvements.

#### **Aethiopia:**

Attacked and killed by the brutal and oppressive Fatamid regime. The Copts flee into the African Interior never to be heard from again.

### **West Africa**

Akan: Akan Cultivated

#### **Tsofon: Jos Cultivated**

Lots of land improvements and a sizeable cavalry force was constructed to stave off raiders.

**Songhay** Sussana +1CL, Garou (C), Galem (NT)

The religiously affluent Songhai rushed to the West in droves in an attempt to convert the masses. Sadly the results were mixed due to some leader deaths and poor presentation skills. Prince Samson disappeared while preaching to the tribesmen of Gambia. Peter of Segu also died while trying to convey his message to the masses in Galem he was killed by a Hippo while crossing a river. Dorin of Khalem actually was on quite a role in Takur before he was taken by the fever. Selan was chased out of the province of Boure by the locals who were gravely insulted by some comment he made regarding a chieftains dog. Lastly Paul of Songhai just couldn't handle the roasted beetles served up at a particularly formal affair in Dogamba and this insult seems to have been pretty grave and he fled for his life back to the safety of the Sudan.

The only people in the country with any savvy this cycle were the royal family really. Timor journeyed to Galem and Garou where he secured the agreements his brother had hoped he would. Ari VI may have been the most successful though because he managed to father 3 sons this cycle.

Huari: Moved to Southern Africa because the GM is evil