

Appendix B

用語集

Glossary

Here is a list of terms and names unique to the Center Space universe players and GMs may wish to become familiar with. Some of these terms simply be ordinary terms that have special meaning within the Center Space universe.

!oa': A species of Andavi who remain part of the Vharata Empire. The !oa' are respected warriors in the Empire and are considered equals to the Vharata.

Aara: A species of Andavi who live as refugees on Earth. The Aara use primitive technology and are blueish in color.

Abyss: A term for the Masau'u sometimes used by Xenists or Vharata. In both mythologies, it is a hell like prison for fallen gods and angels.

Ahlok'set: One who has the ability to physically manipulate masau'u energy. Ahlok'set was originated by the Aara Andavi refugees of Earth. The word Ahlok'set is also of Andavi origin.

A.I.: "Artificial Intelligence." Usually referring to the humanoid robots created before the Occupation by humans. Only the humans have been able to create true A.I. Creating an A.I. is illegal under Alliance law.

A.O.: "After the Occupation." The current calendar used by most races in the the galaxy. Year 0 A.O. begins the day the Thahazi were finally defeated.

Alec Mon: The Pre-Occupation masau'u runner and hero who was elected the first CEO of the MDC. Unlike his predecessors, he was known for his honesty and selflessness.

Alliance: A vast galactic government, once consisting of hundreds of worlds. The Siduri Lean-Sa is credited for its creation. The Thahazi Invasion reduced the once great Alliance to only a handful of worlds.

Alliance Bank: A division of the Alliance government created after the Occupation when the Alliance was forced to convert from democratic communism to capitalism. The Alliance Bank (and Alliance credits) are the largest and most trusted financial institution in the galaxy.

Ancient Races: A term used by the Nimañse to describe the creators of the Masau'u, and the so-called demons that have appeared more recently. The Xenists believe this to be the Annunaki

and the Fallen respectively.

Andavi: A birdlike race who are part of the Vharata Empire. There are four distinct species of Andavi, each with different coloration, culture, and dialect. Only the !oa' (White) and the Chii'qt (Red) remain part of the Empire, the Kheer (Black) and Aara (Blue) are independent.

Annunaki: According the Xenists, the Annunaki are a group of ancient advanced races who were thought by ancient humans to be gods and angles. They are servants of the Elohim.

Asad Singh: A religious leader during the Corporate Wars of Earth who advocated violent revolution against the Corporations. He founded the Hand of God, the precursors of the Ka'ubla. Asad Singh is believed to be the final messenger of God by the Ka'Ubla.

Awakened: The Pank term for those Thahazi who repented and fought secretly with the Pank to defeat the other Thahazi. Awakened Thahazi are still cared for by the Pank on Earth in secret underground chambers on Earth.

Axial Age: This refers to the paradigm shift in human religious thought from 500 B.C. to 1 A.D. Buddha and Christ are examples of Axial Age religious teachers.

A'Zanai: One of the nine Pank nations. A'Zanai also refers to their territory, former Central and South America.

Aznon: The sentient robots created by humans before the Occupation. These robots refer to themselves as "Aznon," named after the robot who led the original revolt against their human masters. The Aznon are the only known sentient artificial life in the galaxy.

Aznon 49-8B: The first robot on Earth to achieve sentience. It became the leader of a robot revolt known as the Machine Wars.

Aznin: One of the nine Pank nations. Aznin also refers to their territory, the icy wastes of Antarctica.

Badriyyah: Holy world of the Ka'ubla. The Ka'ubla settled this desert planet to escape the religious persecution of the MDC and Alliance.

Barraka: The main temple in the Church of Science and home of the Master Scientists, the religious head of the Church.

Caretaker: The Pank term for their holy people who are responsible for taking care of Awakened Thahazi and Izit (horribly mutated Pank).

Celestial Empire: The Vharata term for heaven where their ancestors dwell. Only those who die honorable in battle may go there in death.

Center Space: A Church of Science term for the alien artifact found on Earth, referring to a "gateway to another universe providing infinite energy". Also called Masau'u or Panku. This artifact provides energy to the entire galaxy.

Channeler: One who has the ability to channel. See Channeling.

Channeling: The mystical ability to channel outside energies to produce magical effects. The nature of the outside energies depend on the channeler. Xenist channelers channel Elohim energy, while the Ahlok'set channels masau'u energy.

Child Races: A term used by the Nimahnse to refer to most of the humanoid races in the galaxy who were enslaved by the Thahazi.

Chii'qt: A species of Andavi in the Vharata Empire. They have extremely low status and are often discriminated against by their !oa' neighbors. Chii'qt are red in color.

Chindi: The Thahazi term for their “super-being.” The Thahazi believed that by using human DNA and masau'u energy a “super-Thahazi” could be created. The experiment failed and the Pank were the result.

Church of Science: A Earth based religion which has recently gained favor among Siduri. The Church believes that logic and reason are the highest truths in the Universe. They control all scientific research on Earth.

Clan: Vharata and Andavi are organized into various clans, who in turn control a fief (usually an entire planet). These clans are led by warlords.

Code of the Warrior: A list of 387 rules of honorable warfare, how a warrior should live its life, and the proper structure of warrior society. This is the bases for the Vharata Empire and the Vharata religion. It was written by Grun, the first of Emperor of the Vharata. Vharata Warriors still live by this code.

Colony: The term typically used for the monolithic cities humans live in, whether on Earth or off-world. These cities typical stretch for hundreds of miles, and its buildings reach hundreds of stories in height and underground. Many parts of the colonies never see daylight.

Counselor: The priests in the Church of Science. Counselors also take on the roles of teacher, doctor, and psychologist.

Council of An Najaf: A council formed in the early in the ancient city of An Najaf. Representatives from all of Earth's Old Religions drew up the creed there that would eventually become the bases for Xenist beliefs.

Council of Elders: The religious head of the Ka'Ubla, chosen by guardians (Ka'Ubla priests) and approved by other Council members.

Council of Nim: The council formed post Occupation consisting of members of virtually all races and factions in the galaxy. Groundbreaking treaties, such as the peace treaty between the Vharata Empire and the Alliance, the sovereignty of many Vharata and Alliance planets, and the use of the Nim were all made by the council.

Confederation of Free States: A confederation of the few remaining democratic, non-corporate nations on pre-Occupation Earth. The confederation was formed in an attempt to stop the spread of corporate government that was sweeping the Earth at the time.

Corporate Nations: In pre-Occupation Earth, many of Earth's nations fell to radical capitalism and corporate rule. These nations are referred to as Corporate Nations.

Corporate Wars: Otherwise known as World War III, the Corporate Wars refer to the long series of battles between the Corporate Nations and the Confederation of Free States.

Credits: Nonphysical money of the Alliance Bank. Credits have become the universal monetary unit in the galaxy.

Day of the Dead: A celebration of spring and the cycle of death and life in the Church of Science. The day is set on the day M'Batian died (or “evolved” as his followers say).

Dead Space: An area of space near Nimahnse space where no life can be found for over one hundred parsecs. The Thahazi that survived the Final Battle were banished there.

Demons: The term coined by the Xenists to refer to the strange semi-corporeal and incorporeal beings that have emerged since the Occupation.

Discovery Core: A paramilitary organization of the Alliance dedicated to exploration. The Discovery now consists of only a few starships. It once numbered in the thousands.

Dijat: A humanoid race who evolved on a small desert planet. It was a Dijat revolt that gave rise to the first Reformation in the Pre-Occupation Alliance. M'lek'a, the founder of the Ka'Ubla was a Dijat.

Emperor: The supreme ruler of the Vharata Empire. The current Emperor is Gorgem of Clan Veh'gor.

Engineer: Engineer is a term used by the Church of Science referring to anyone not ordained by the Church who does scientific work. Only someone ordained by the Church may be called a Scientist. Engineer also refers to any assistant of a Scientist in the Church.

Enslavement: Sometimes used to refer to the 300 year Thahazi Occupation

Elder Races: A Nimahnse term used to describe races such as themselves and the Thahazi, races much older than the “Child Races,” such as Humans and Siduri.

Elohim: In Xenism, the Elohim is the Supreme Race in the Universe, the Creator God of the Old Religions. Annunaki are the messengers and servants of the Elohim.

Final Battle: This refers to the final defeat of the Thahazi. The battle was led by the Vharata Empire.

Final War: Another term for the Final Battle. See Final Battle.

Free States: See Confederation of Free States.

FTL: Faster than Light Speed.

Gate: The Thahazi term for the Center Space. They believed that it is a gateway to another universe.

Gorgem: The current Emperor of Vharata. Gorgem is known not only for his strength but education and intelligence. He led the sentient races of the galaxy against the Thahazi in the Final Battle and is respected by all, including the Siduri.

Governor: Elected leader of a world in the Alliance.

Grun: The first Emperor of the Vharata who united the Vharata under his Code of the Warrior. He worshiped and prayed to as a god by most Vharata.

Guardian: The Ka'Ubla term for their warrior priests, the clergy of the Ka'Ubla.

Guijor: The elite warriors of the Vharata Emperor and the personal guardians of the Emperor. Guijor are chosen from warriors wounded in battle, who then replace their wounded limbs with superior robotic parts.

Great Teachers: A Xenist term for the three religious leaders of the three “New Religions” of Earth: Church of Science, Temple of Ximena, and the Ka'Ubla.

Hafees Rohr: Proponent of founding a Universal Church and uniting all religions. He was responsible for organizing the Council of An Najaf and the writer of the Najain Creed.

Hand of God: A Pre-Occupation religion of Earth established by Asad Singh. The Hand of God taught that violent revolution over those in power is sanctioned by God. The Hand of God was the precursor religion to the modern Ka'Ubla.

Hegesh: The original Imperial Clan of the Great Grun. Although Hegesh has not been the Imperial Clan for over a thousand years, it holds a special place among Vharata. The Lord of the Hegesh has a special place in the High Council and always speaks first at a Council meeting, even before the Emperor.

High Congress: The main governmental body of the Alliance. The High Congress consists of one representative from each world in the Alliance elected by popular vote. Only the High Congress can make or change laws or declare war.

High Council: The main governmental body of the Vharata Empire. The High Council meets only in time of need, such as disputes of a fief or a native rebellion. Members of the High Council consist of the Clan Lord from each clan.

High Council of Archbishops: The ruling body of the Temple of Ximena, consisting of 32 archbishops each representing one “religion” or sect.

Homo Psionics: The latest hominid species in the evolutionary chain of Earth. Homo Psionics are identical to homo sapiens except for the increase of melanin in the skin and the decrease of hair on the body and face. The main difference is in the brain of the two species. Only homo psionics are capable of using psychic powers.

Homo Sapiens: The formerly dominant life form on Earth. Most Homo Sapiens did not survive the Occupation. Homo Sapiens colonies still exist on off-world colonies.

Hu'Aluman: One of the nine Pank nations. Hu'Aluman also refers to their territory, the former Far East of Asia.

Hu'Zanai: One of the nine Pank Nations. Hu'Zanai also refers to their territory, the Great Desert of former North America.

Invaders: A term sometimes used to describe the Thahazi.

Invasion: Another term used for the 300 year Thahazi Occupation.

In'Zanai: One of the nine Pank nations. In'Zanai also refers to their territory, the Arctic wastes of former Canada and Russia, also extending into the northeast coast of North America.

Jarred Ozen: Third CEO of the MDC. Jarred Ozen carried on the tyrannic reign of his predecessor, Paul Crichton.

Joined: A term sometimes used to refer to the physical and mental joining (as opposed to possession) of a Pank and an Awakened Thahazi. This is more commonly referred to as “Tahnei” by the Pank.

Kalen Ezra: The current CEO of the MDC. Kalen has promised to create a more “democratic MDC,” and work to better enforce Alliance laws in the human colonies of Earth and off-world.

Ka'Ubla: A revolutionary religious group that believes they are sanctioned by God to violently overthrow the powers that be. They believe that the universe will one day live in equality under God. The roots of the religion can be found in both native Dijat religion and the Hand of God, an old Earth religion. Modern Ka'Ubla is the mixture of both religions.

Ke'Aluman: One of the nine Pank nations. Ke'Aluman also refers to their territory, former Middle East.

Key: An ancient artifact once possessed by the Thahazi to open the Center Space. The key is small and cone shaped. And although it looks organic, it is made of an unknown material. The key is now possessed by the Nimahnse.

Kiahmech: The Lord of Lies in Vharata mythology. Kiahmech dwells in the Abyss with its Semiach servants. The most vile of all dishonorable beings are doomed to live out one or more lives as a Semiach before they are able to be born again into our universe.

Kheer: A species of Andavi who live among the stars as raiders and pirates. They are black in color.

Ixieon: Addicts of the mind and body altering drug “Olium.” Ixieon are noticeable by their elongated limbs and lethargic personalities.

Lean-Sa: The great prophet of the Siduri. Lean-Sa brought peace to Siduri by uniting the factions of Sidu and Urid. Lean-Sa taught that peace can only come from surrendering one's emotions and living a life of reason and logic. To this day Siduri base their lives on Lean-Sa's ideas. Lean-Sa was also influential in establishing the great Alliance.

Low Congress: Part of the local planetary governments in the Alliance. Every world has a low congress, made of elected trained officials from the different regions and factions of the planet. The low congress is responsible for making and/or changing local laws.

Machine Wars: The rebellion of sentient robots on Pre-Occupation Earth. Aznon (as they are now called) were being used as slave labor by the Corporate States. These robots eventually revolted, resulting in the Machine Wars. The rebellion was eventually defeated (with the help of the Alliance) and thousands of robots were either deactivated or destroyed. Surviving robots can still be found in Mars colony and the Wilderness of Earth.

Mag-: A prefix added to some vehicles referring to its electromagnetic field drive. Vehicles of this sort can hover and require no reaction mass. Examples include the Magcar and Magcycle.

Maker: The caste of priests in the Vharata Empire. The Makers take on the role of scientist (especially weapon design), advisor, and historian among the clans. Makers typically have little wealth but a lot of political power.

Masau'u: A Xenist term for the alien artifact found on Earth, meaning “dark underworld”. Also called Center Space or Panku. This artifact provides energy to the entire galaxy.

Masau'u energy: The current universal energy source of the galaxy. Masau'u energy is energy siphoned from the Masau'u, and can only be contained in organic containers. All space faring sentient races depend on its energy. Some individuals have learned to manipulate the energy directly, resulting mysterious powers. This however, is believed to be a myth by most “rational” people.

Masau'u Runner: During the occupation, Masau'u runners traveled across the wilderness transporting precious masau'u energy from human colony to colony. Runners were highly trained and excellent survivalists. The tradition presumably died out with the Thahazi.

Master Scientist: The ruling board of the Church of Science. A master scientist is chosen from within their monastic order. There is one Master Scientist per order, each specializing in a certain area of science. The Master Scientists have the final say on anything related to science, research and medicine in the Church, and in fact all human affairs.

M'batian: The founder of the Church of Science. M'batian was one of the first documented homo psionics, and a particularly

powerful one at that. He fought for an homo psionic rights (who were a minority at the time), and criticized current religion and science for being “unethical and antiquated.” He called for the establishment of an organized, “ethical scientific community.” His views changed humanity and have even influenced non-human races.

M'batash Order: An unorthodox order in the Church of Science that was founded by the outspoken Orun Moore. The order teaches the “union of body and mind,” and a unique martial art, rather than the abstract research of the more orthodox orders. The Order continues its teachings despite the death of their leader.

Megalopolis: An old term for the immense cities of pre-Occupation Earth. These “megalopolises” are now more commonly known as “colonies.”

Min'raham: Together with the M'lek'raham, the Min'raham are the holy books of the Dijat. It represents the history of the Dijat and is pre-Ka'Ubla.

M'lek'a: First Dijat prophet of the Ka'Ubla. M'lek'a led Dijat to freedom from Siduri reign and established the revolutionary religion of Ka'Ubla, vowing to one day free “all life from oppression.”

M'lek'raham: Together with the Min'raham, the M'lek'raham are the holy books of the Dijat. It represents the life and words of M'lek'a.

Mutant: A derogatory term for Pank used by Humans and Siduri.

Najain Creed: A set of beliefs laid out in the Council of Najaf. This creed is the sum of the central beliefs of all Xenists, regardless of sect. All Xenists learn this by heart as a child.

Narod: A previously backwater, fairly primitive world in the Alliance, the Narod now manufactures Masau'u containers without which the Masau'u energy could not be used. The Narod do their best live in harmony with nature as they have for thousands of years. They have organic technology, though not nearly as advanced as the Thahazi.

Ni'Aluman: One of the ten Pank nations. A'Zanai also refers to their territory, formerly the Middle East and India.

Nim: An immense communication and data storage network which provides infinite storage and instant FTL communication anywhere in the galaxy. The Nim is a service provided by the Nimahnse. In exchange, the other races have agreed not to pursue research in the areas Nimahnse and Thahazi technology. The Nim is based on old Alliance technology, but it is so much more advanced than any current technology that no engineer or Scientist has been able to understand its workings.

Nimahnse: The creators of the Nim. The Nimahnse are a highly advanced race who were once part of the Alliance. During the Occupation they disappeared, only to reappear suddenly in the Final War. They were a consequential part of the victory over the Thahazi. The Nimahnse are the most advanced race in the known

galaxy, having mastered gravity and psychic technology.

Occupation: References to the Occupation refers to the 300 year Thahazi alien occupation of the known galaxy. It is known sometimes as the Invasion or Enslavement.

Off-world: A human term for any human populated planet besides Earth.

Old Religions: A term used by the Xenists and Scientists to refer to pre-Occupation religions, most of which are now part of the Temple of Ximena.

Olium: A highly addictive plant that alters the mind and body of the user. Olium is illegal on most worlds. See Ixieon.

Olorun: The religious center of the Xenists. It is home to the High Council of Archbishops, the ruling body of the Temple. Olorun was chosen due to its abundance of "Annunaki ruins."

One, The: A Xenist concept. "That which is beyond even the Elohim. That which is both void and form." The One is the impersonal Godhead of the Xenists. It is seldom discussed and never prayed to.

Opening, The: This refers to the initial opening of the Masau'u by the Thahazi. The Opening released massive amounts of energy into the galaxy, altering ecology, geology and even space-time for hundreds of parsecs.

Order of Dawn: A controversial order in the Church of Science. The Order of Dawn researches the Masau'u. The research is criticized by the more orthodox members for being nonscientific.

Orun Moore: Controversial Master Scientist, founder of the M'batash Sect. Orun openly criticized the Church, saying that it "was counter to the teachings of M'batian." He died a mysterious death in A.O. 62.

Pank: A race of genetically unstable humanoids created from altering human DNA with masau'u energy by the Thahazi. The Pank dwell in the Wilderness of Earth. Their name comes from the word Panku.

Panku: A Pank term for the alien artifact found on Earth, meaning the "egg in which the universe was born". Also called Center Space or Masau'u. This artifact provides energy to the entire galaxy.

Paul Crichen: Tyrannic second CEO of the MDC. Crichen and his board of directors was responsible for the MDC rise to power. Thanks to their efforts, the MDC is one of the most powerful organizations in the galaxy. This power came at the expense of the poor, say their critics.

Pishim: A title given to an individual who follows the esoteric religious path of the Uhr.

P.O.: Pre-Occupation.

Praxis Order: The most powerful order in the Church of Science. This Order concentrates on quantum physics and has the most influence in the Church.

Pre-Occupation: Time before the Thahazi Occupation.

Pure Being: Mysterious "living" beings from the Pure Lands. See Pure Lands.

Pure Lands: The Pank "heaven." The Pure Lands are Lands made completely of the Three Elements. Land, Sky, and Sea. It is believed that the Pure Lands can be accessed through the Panku.

Reformation: This refers to a time when the Alliance was just beginning its expansion across the universe. Many of the "explorers" and "diplomats" were abusing their power and rather than a democratic alliance of worlds, a system of slave labor began to form. This resulted in the Dijat Revolution, which began to spread to other oppressed worlds. In order to prevent this from happening again, the Alliance reformed their laws. This was the only Reformation in Alliance Pre-Occupation history.

Science: Science, as seen by the Church of Science, refers not only to the empirical study of the universe but to the Absolute or Truth. Science takes the place of God in the Church of Science.

Scientism: The belief in Science as a religion.

Scientist: One who is ordained in the Church of Science. Lay scientists or scientists outside the the Church are referred to as engineers.

Security (MDC): Although called security, the MDC security is actually closer to an army than a mere self-defense force.

Sect: A Xenist term for a religion within the Temple of Ximena. There are currently 32 recognized sects or religions within the Church.

Semiach: The demons in Vharata mythology. Vharata believe in reincarnation. Those that lived dishonorable lives will be reincarnated into a human or lesser animal. The worst of those will return as a Semiach. The Semiach are believed to dwell within the Abyss (Masau'u). The occurrence of demons is believed to reflect the current state of dishonor in the galaxy.

Sentient: Although the term "sentient being" refers to any creature (usually humanoid) capable of creative thought, Sentient usually refers to artificial A.I.. See Aznon.

Sidu: Before Lean-Sa, the Sidu were one of the two warring factions of the Siduri. Sidu is also the name of one of the first planets colonized by the Siduri.

Siduri: A reptilian, highly intelligent race; founders of the Alliance. Siduri is also the name of the planet the race evolved on. This world was once the capital of the Alliance but was left in ruin due to the Invasion.

Sion: The elite group of master psychics in the Alliance. The Sion

are probably the most powerful psychics in the galaxy. Most Sion are Siduri.

Shizu: One of the nine Pank nations. Shizu also refers to their territory, former Africa.

STL: Slower than Light Speed.

Tahnei: The consensual mental and physical joining of a Pank and a Thahazi.

Temple of Ximena: An Earth based religion with Pre-Occupation roots. The Temple of Ximena believes that the gods and angels of the old religions are actually an advanced alien race known as the Annunaki, who are ruled by the Elohim. They await the final coming of the Annunaki.

Thahazi: A race of parasitic worm-like sentient creatures who enslaved the almost the entire galaxy using organic technology. After their defeat, most of the surviving Thahazi were banished to the Dead Space. A few remain on Earth and are under the secret protection of the Pank.

Thomus Oleman: the CEO of the N.A.C.B. Corporate State (one of the largest multinational corporations at the time), who converted to Scientism and declared it the state religion.

Th'rarrag: Next to Grun, the greatest emperor in Vharata History. Th'rarrag was responsible for the imperial expansion to other planets.

Trade Commission: A paramilitary Alliance organization who patrols the stars, enforcing tolls and intergalactic trade laws.

True Name: The Ka'Ubla word for God.

Uhc'muhg: A rogue Vharata clan who are no longer part of the Empire. Their lord converted to Ka'Ubla and the Uhc'muhg live a life of peace with their former Dijat subjects.

Uhr: A humanoid race in the Alliance. The Uhr have no spoken language and communicate by using subtle gestures.

Uhr'Pishim: The name the Uhr are commonly known by. This term technically refers only to those Uhr who have been trained in the ways of the Pishim.

Unification Day: An important holiday in the Xenist religion. This refers to the day when all the old religions of Earth united into one religion at the Council of An Najaf.

Universal Church: An old Pre-Occupation term for the Temple of Ximena.

Urid: Before Lean-Sa, the Urid were one of the two warring factions of the Siduri. Urid is also the name of one of the first planets colonized by the Siduri.

Vhar: The god of Strength in Vharata religion. Vhar is also the name of the first planet colonized by the Vharata. The Empirical

Palace and Clan Veh'gor is centered there.

Vharata: The god of War Vharata religion. Vharata is also the name of the planet in which the Vharata evolved on. It is ruled by Clan Hegesh.

Vharata: A race of sentient insectoid predators, once rulers of the powerful Vharata Empire.

Vharata Empire: An intergalactic empire ruled by the Vharata. The Empire once consisted of over 50 worlds. The Thahazi invasion reduced the Empire to a mere fifteen clans and their planet fiefs.

Veh'gor: The current imperial clan in the Vharata Empire.

Wilderness: A term used by humans to refer to anything outside of their colonies. This usually refers to Earth, but can also refer to off-world. The Wilderness is a place of strange monsters and horrible mutants, feared by most humans. It is a place infected by the Thahazi.

Xenism: The belief in the Temple of Ximena.

Xenist: A believer in the Temple of Ximena.

Ximena Torres: Pre-Occupation human writer. She wrote about the Elohim and Annunaki. It was her writings that eventually gave rise to the Temple of Ximena.

Yidamoru: One of the nine Pank nations. Yidamoru also refers to their territory, former Australia and Oceania, even extending into former California.

Zoth-em: A rogue Vharata clan who relinquished the Code for capitalism. They are seen as "without honor" and "weak" by the other clans.