

Atlas Altera

Footnotes

Feature Maps

www.atlasaltera.com/featuremaps

Etymologies, marginalia, explanations, and references for context, terms, and concepts

on

Telamon Tabulicus

atlasaltera@gmail.com

Footnotes Series

[*Footnotes for the Atlas Altera Map Plates*](#)

[*Footnotes for the Atlas Altera Factbook*](#)

About Atlas Altera:

- I. In Atlas Altera, the **cultural diversities** in our own timeline—peoples and their dialects, knowledges, wisdoms, practices, foodways, traditions, beliefs, myths—are brought to the forefront. The world is rich in these things, but not enough, and not now. Those on the margins or at the brink of being extinguished are given space on this map if only to give more urgency to certain causes or to pinpoint where solidarity needs to take place.
- II. Atlas Altera is a **work of fiction**. While some mapy view it as just another work to come out of the general *mapping* community, I developed this project in isolation for many years before publishing it online. The project comes from a love of the uniqueness of place and to share that love through maps and narrative characterizations. It is a celebration of geography, history, and languages, as well as all the marvels that lie in us—us in all our own ways.
- III. Recognizing how world maps and place descriptions hold imaginary possibilities, it is a creative attempt at creating **the backdrop we deserve**. As Johann Herder believed poetry can give people their nations, it is hoped that here lies a backstory which may lead some back to a world of wonder, one worth cherishing.
- IV. At the same time, **this is not a utopian project**. Not everyone makes it onto the map. Swathes of real world territory change hands. Some peoples stay as minorities. Wicked problems and intractable conflicts persist in Altera, if only for more realism, historical continuity, and complexity. Regrettably, violence and mass atrocities do happen, though *ironism*, the path to correction, may seem more resolute in this fictitious timeline. Ultimately, the project of Altera is about mitigating losses and inspiring something akin to hope, but not quite.
- V. This project could be labelled **chorographic ironism**. It is re-description, an exercise for **depicting places and their pasts in new ways**. It is about picking up plot lines that had been abandoned in our history, for though people die, culture lives on among the margins and as long as a single person remembers. The intention is not to aggrandize any historical or present nation, nor is it a revanchist stab, but instead, it is to spotlight the cultural diversity that we have inherited in the present, and for which we stand to lose in our lifetime.
- VI. As I am also interested in surfacing **themes indicative of the human condition**, there are many turns of events analogous to our history, sometimes in places far away from the real world analogue. Parallels can be drawn between the fictitious and the real, if only to give a bit of a lesson on human geography. One of the key themes to note is that the countries on this map showcase as many contrasts as there are similarities in our world, and explore interesting twists and turns in history to allow for more outcomes and possibilities that could have been.
- VII. In most cases, a country in Altera is a cartographic representation of a real and existing ethno-linguistic group. Almost every language family is visible in the territoriality configured in Altera. In fact, some **197 real language families** are represented—almost the same as the number of countries in our present world, but which enshrine national languages that in total only represent under 20 families—in Atlas Altera, with at least **one language still alive from each family making it onto the map**.

Clarifications:

- a. Unless specified, the historical discussions in the ensuing footnotes are **real facts** drawn from modern linguistic and historical knowledge that can be easily verified.
- b. When comparing our world with Altera, the abbreviations **OTL** and **ATL** may be used. The former refers to the "original timeline" or "our timeline," that is; the history that unfolded in our world. The latter refers to the alternate timeline, and in this case, the timeline of altera. When used, the terms help qualify or highlight the event being described as diverging from real world history and being a change specific to the world story or history of Altera.
- c. **Sources** will only be provided if the facts were gleaned from specific academic articles not yet widely disseminated.
- d. There is a layer of **alternate academia** or alternate lexicon used even in the footnotes (i.e. renamings of specific language family branches; using outdated, alternate, or new names for specific plants and crops), so take this document as being both *in-universe* as well as an external author's note.
- e. The field of knowledge that I draw inspiration from in this alternate academia is called **chorography**, which can somewhat be understood as a very historically specific way of studying regional geography, which I have tried to sum up in my [Patreon introduction](#). Here are some further readings on the topic:
 - i. For a simple but comprehensive overview, see Darrell J. Rohl: http://doi.org/10.16995/TRAC2011_19_32.
 - ii. For a history on the subject see Harvey and Wardenga: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ihq.2005.07.017>.
 - iii. For Hartshorne's own take on the historical basis of the field: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2561421>.
- f. The thinking behind Atlas Altera differs from most works of alternate history in that instead of choosing one **point of divergence** (often referred to as PoD in the genre) in our history, it investigates a plethora of points in our history that could have led to the preservation of more difference. In this way, the undertaking contrasts with works of fundamentalist alternate history in that it does not reflect a *realistic* methodological approach, though a reasonable degree of consistency is followed in creating the timeline.
- g. But as the goal of the project is to capture as many different aspects of our world as possible, the world in Atlas Altera is **in its own way very real**. This is a fictional project to surface the human wonders that exist within and under the current nation-states of our world, often hidden, subsumed, or persecuted. Even fantastical interventions in the geographical landscape offer more protection or insulation for certain peoples that would have been swallowed up in histories of expansion, all the while minimizing the effects on earth's delicate natural systems.
- h. In this sense, the project is its **own genre** and straddles the grounds of liberal alternate history and hard fantasy, all the while building from knowledges gleaned from the fields of anthropology, linguistics, geography, and history. The medium of this project is a form of storytelling, one that refrains from fetishizing great men, empires, and essentialist attributes. It provides a slow and intimate way for the reader to come to understand far away places, because place matters.

We Come in Peace

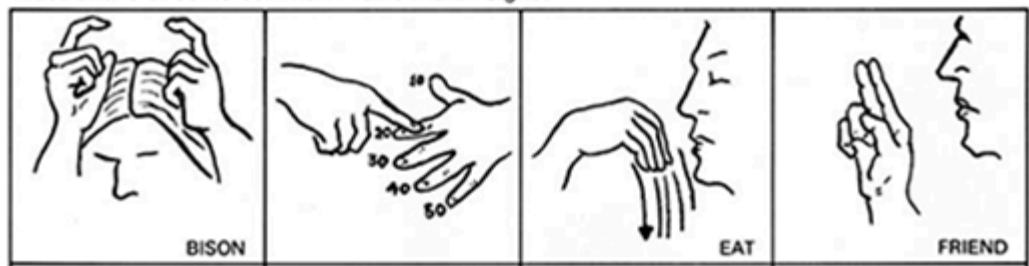
The Humanization of Outer Space

Map of current forms of human presence in outer space

1. **Sign language glyphs:** as the only official language in the Society of Nations (SoN) is Intersign, it is fitting to have the representation of “We come in peace,” depicted in writing. The logographic-like glyphs are the representations for the gestures that would be used to sign the phrase, written in what is known as the Kinetic script, which is known as OTL Hamburg Notation. Intersign is based on Plains Sign Language with some American Sign Language influence too. The literal translation is “friends” and “all,” with the former coming from OTL Plains Sign Language and the latter coming from ATL American Sign Language.

- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plains_Indian_Sign_Language
- b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hamburg_Notation_System
- c. https://www.sign-lang.uni-hamburg.de/dgs-korpus/files/inhalt_pdf/HamNoSys_06en.pdf

Illustrations of some common Plains Indian signs:



2. **“We Come in Peace”:** this is written in the scripts of the predominant languages of the 63 countries that have sent people into space via one of the four space programs that have human space flight capability. There are some very unique writing systems and languages represented here.
 - a. [See this spreadsheet for all the translations written in the Latinic alphabet](#)
3. **In Sputnik’s wake:** the ATL Space Race involved additional frontrunners compared to OTL, such as Brazil. That said, humanity’s scientific progress is generally slower by two or so decades compared to OTL, leading to the ATL world seeing the height of NASA’s space shuttle program only now—well into the second millennium. My reasoning for this was to envision a world where scientific progress was not necessarily hampered, but more sensitive, more *in sync* with the demands—perhaps more dependent even—of plurality and cultural relativism. As globalization took shape and humanity collaborated on larger and larger technical projects, each with ever more ambitious visions, cooperation had to lead to the mutual benefit of local culture and global progress, or at least result in far less drastic impacts on the former as in OTL.
4. **Hannah Arendt:** the introductory blurb to these two graphics comes from the prologue of *The Human Condition*, a great read for those interested in art as action. Her work and reflections on civic life in modern democracies, along with Jurgen Habermas’s *The Theory of Communicative Action*, and Richard Rorty’s *Contingency, Irony, and Solidarity*, have made a profound impact in how I approach both our world and my own worldbuilding aspirations. As reflected in the blurb, I have an unease in the worship of science above all else, though I am not a skeptic either. Humanity’s ultimate project will always be on earth, even if we choose to go to the stars.
 - a. https://monoskop.org/images/e/e2/Arendt_Hannah_The_Human_Condition_2nd_1998.pdf
5. **Quyllonaut:** this follows the convention of the English-speaking world referring to spacefarers from other space programs with a word from their respective cultures. The prefix comes from Qichwasim, *quyllur*, meaning “star.”
6. **Isaac Newton Space Station:** this is equivalent to the OTL International Space Station. The naming here comes from the idealists among the SoN, the cosmopolitanists, who worship or ritualistically honour important figures in the history of humanity’s most cherished fields of knowledges—from astrophysics and biology to economics, law, or even political theory.
7. **Chaka Pacha Space Station:** this is an ATL parallel to the OTL Chinese Tiangong space station. The name is derived from Qichwasim, *chaka*, “bridge,” and *pacha*, “place; space-time,” meaning “bridge to the cosmos; bridge to space; world bridge.”
8. **Spaceport location:** the locations of most of the spaceports in ATL have to do with saving costs to launch payloads into space via rocket propulsion. Being closer to the equator and east or south coast of a landmass are major factors, though there are exceptions, such as Outlook, Australia, which is an answer to the OTL Kodiak Launch Complex

(Pacific Spaceport Complex). Spaceports are also located as far west or south from population centres as possible to minimize associated debris from falling over them.

- a. <https://www.physicsforums.com/threads/why-are-satellite-launch-pads-located-on-east-coast.118395/>
9. **Sphenedrome:** this is my attempt at science fiction and is the ATL version of OTL's SpinLaunch, which is currently trying to achieve the ability to launch satellites into low orbit without rockets, making use of the kinetic energy generated from an arm that accelerates the satellite in a centrifuge, as opposed to a rocket launch from the planet's surface. The technology would lower the cost of putting payloads into space by a considerable amount. In ATL, this technology is pursued at the initiative of less advanced or wealthy states via the SoN in parallel to the Space Race done between the world's superpowers. This option is especially important for the states of the Emporic Rim, for example, who prioritize the development of rural and artisan-based economies and ecological stewardship thanks to their collective monopoly on much of the world's supply of the most used spices and various other high value non-manufactured imports. The neologism comes from Greek, *sphendone*, meaning "sling, band," and *drome*, "running, course, path, way," similar to how ATL cosmodrome is derived.
 - a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SpinLaunch>
10. **National Aeronautics and Space Administration:** this is basically OTL NASA. As stated before, the space shuttle program is only now reaching its OTL height.
11. **Brazilian Space Exploration Agency:** this comes from the idea that ATL Brazil benefited from more active participation in World War 2, leading to an earlier start to their space program and a heavier interest in being leaders in the field.
12. **Peruvian Space Command:** this is akin to the OTL Chinese Space Program. ATL Peru is far more skeptical of cooperation with the international community, seeing it as a project primarily designed for the benefit of the West, and also has its own capacity to endeavour on many major state initiatives, though how they go about developing and resourcing such projects may be drastically different from other more developed economies.
13. **Continental Space Bloc:** this is a smaller version of the OTL European Space Agency. It is slightly less advanced compared to OTL due to a lack of participation from the British, as well as having a smaller membership.
14. **Commonwealth Space League:** this comes from the fact that the ATL British Commonwealth, as first envisioned as being a club of Britain's dominions at the time of the Balfour Declaration—i.e., being made up of Britain's settler colonies—takes hold and remains intact even after the Americans compel the British to break up their interests around the globe after World War 2. The inclusion of the non-European majority states of Brigantia and Caledonia has to do with their dependence on the British, even after decolonization, and their general cultural alignment.
15. **Space Design Bureaus of the Socialist Federated States:** I was surprised to learn about the decentralized nature of the USSR's space program, which involved several independent design bureaus. The ATL answer is even more ambitious in that it sees regional cooperation beyond the borders of Russia, including the membership of all of the Socialist Federated States (SFS). The SFS had originally started as an arrangement similar to how OTL Russia compelled political alignment in its post-World War 2 sphere of influence. All the countries behind the Iron Curtain were subject to political intervention similar to OTL Hungary, Romania, and East Germany. Slowly, the SFS would devolve to become more like the OTL European Union, an international organization fixated on aligning major regional economic policy in a decentralized way.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soviet_space_program
 - b. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/OKB>
16. **East Sea Space Program:** this is somewhere in between the OTL Chinese Space Program and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, with added capacity due to regional cooperation and a fairly large membership base to draw resources from. This regional space program involves countries that were formally at odds with the West and the SoN, but which normalized relations in the 1970s, after the ATL Chinese Civil War was settled.
17. **Israeli Space Service:** this is the OTL Israel Space Agency.
18. **Guinean Space Agency:** this is an ATL equivalent to the OTL European Space Agency. It is perhaps as advanced as the OTL Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency or Korea Aerospace Research Institute. Though not as large as the Continental Space Bloc, the regional space organization benefits from friendly relations with NASA, which outsources technological products from these states. Instead of OTL Canada making the Canadarm, for instance, it is the Guinean Space Agency that does so instead. Keep in mind that in ATL, these member states are also known as the Guinean Lions, states that, in the Western sense, witnessed economic miracles after decolonization just like OTL Japan and the Four Asian Tigers.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Four_Asian_Tigers
19. **Biafran Space Research Organization:** this is the answer to the OTL Indian Space Research Organization and has a very similar capacity. The ATL Union of Biafra is an analogue to OTL Union of India in many respects.

Ketch'up with the World

What Kind of Table Sauce “Ketchup” Refers to Across the Globe

Map of the default meaning of “ketchup” lects by country

20. **Garum:** this is the old Roman-era fish sauce that persists in the western Mediterranean, as featured in the [Iberian map plate footnotes](#).
21. **Koe-chiap:** contrary to the folk etymology that attributes the origin of the word ketchup to the Kantonese term *keh-jup*, 茄汁, *kôe-chiap*, written as 腌汁, is seen by most scholars as the etymological source for ketchup. Originally referring to the brine of pickled seafood, literally meaning “pickling juice,” the term is still used in Hokkien to refer to fish sauce to this day, as well as the parts of Okinawa that saw heavy Hokkienese immigration. In Chinese, the equivalent would be *yulu*, or
 - a. <https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/%E8%86%8E%E6%B1%81>
 - b. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ketchup>
22. **Shoyu and hoisin:** these two terms are used in ATL English to refer to OTL thin soy sauce and thick and spiced soy sauce, respectively.
23. **Adapting the recipe:** the fascinating aspect of the history of ketchup in both OTL and ATL is that there were many variations. The vinegary, savoury, sweet, and goopy table sauce was novel to much of the world. In Serica, the variant words or borrowings from *koe-chiap* all refer to sauces that are more commonly used in cooking—in stir fries, in marinades, or as only one component for a dipping sauce. In other parts of the world, ketchup refers to sauces people used to dab over grilled meats—steak sauces, relishes, as well as chimichurris—and still, in places that came to associated it with fruit-based sauces, it was the default sauce for dunking fried foods.
24. **57 kinds of ketchup:** the main difference in ATL is that the tomato form of ketchup does not win out, not only in the sense of winning over the palettes of people across the world, but also in the sense of being assumed as the default form of ketchup for much of the world. The “57” here is a nod to OTL Heinz’s marketing slogan of “57 pickle varieties.” Why the number is special is unclear.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heinz_57
25. **HP sauce:** in the northern Emporic, much of Asea, and northern Erythrea, the equivalent term is simply ketchup, and sometimes, translated to outsiders as tamarind ketchup. In Britain and America, because the term ketchup already refers to the other forms of ketchup, people know tamarind ketchup by the name of HP sauce. Standing for “Houses of Parliament,” the sauce is more often served as a condiment for meat.
26. **DC sauce:** this is a play off of how HP sauce got its name. Outside of America, tomato ketchup is marketed as DC sauce, with DC standing for “District of Columbia.”
27. **A1 sauce:** prunes and raisins are often used as a base to form a sauce that resembles hoisin or oyster sauce, which makes a lot of sense, considering that A1 sauce already exists as a ketchup-adjacent steak sauce that contains raisins.. And in England and parts of western Europe, A1 sauce is simply referred to as ketchup.
28. **Oyster:** oyster sauce, 蠔油, is a kitchen staple in Magin, but as it is less commonly used in inland Serica, the term ketchup came to apply to this condiment. Oyster sauce or oyster ketchup resembles hoisin but also has more savoury and umami flavour notes.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oyster_sauce
29. **Anchovy:** this is the original form of *koe-chiap* and simply refers to fish sauce. A related anchovy-based condiment, known in Chinese as *shacha* and Hokkienese as *sa-te*, is used in places that refer to fish sauce as ketchup. The term comes from Hokkienese expatriates who brought a version of the sauce back. It is a reference to the sauce served with kebabs or grilled meats, known as satay in many Malay cultures in southeast Serica. This direction of influence mirrors the influence of Hokkienese migrants to Sumatrea, as the term *kecap* was borrowed in many languages there to refer to thick or sweet soy sauce.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shacha_sauce
30. **Shrimp:** for the remaining Magin cultures that did not directly refer to fish sauce in the way that the Hokkienese do, the confusion of the term ketchup came to refer to *shacha* or *sa-te* sauce, introduced by Hokkienese expatriates trading goods they sourced from Sumatrea. Due to wide availability of brill and small shrimp in the waters by Kanton, shrimp came to be the dominant ingredient in the local variety of *shacha* sauce, with the inclusion of peanuts and anchovies slowly forgotten. Today, the confusion of what people are referring to when they ask for *shacha* and *koe-chiap* still happens in moments of intercultural contact between the Hokkienese and Kantonese.

31. **Malangda:** human entomophagy as iconically found in the cultures of southern Serica. In southern Serica, the prized giant water bug was one of the first insects to be domesticated for mass consumption during modernization, and the insect found its way in many condiments, including a simple vinegary shallot paste that is known throughout the area simply as ketchup. In parts of Siam, locals use the insect to prepare a variant known as *nam prik mangda*—a regional favourite akin to the more popular *nam prik pao*, “chile jam”—a sweet and spicy shallot relish with distinctive umami and funky flavour notes that one might attribute to the addition of shellfish. Interestingly, in Vietnam, the abdominal glands of male giant water bugs are collected to be used in a similar way to fish sauce, giving a concentrated floral yet funky flavour.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lethocerus_indicus
 - b. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/agricultural-and-biological-sciences/belostomatidae>
 - c. <https://www.atlasobscura.com/foods/ca-cuong-water-bug-essence>
32. **Soy:** in parts of Sumatrea, a sugary form of thick soy sauce or hoisin is referred simply as *kecap*, sometimes more specifically as *kecap manis*. The Hokkienese influence in the etymology of the term, paired with the reverse linguistic influence in introducing the term *sa-te* or *shacha* to Magin, is a good reminder of the history of contact and exchange between Maginese and Sumatran peoples.
33. **Walnut:** walnut is a popular ingredient for gravies and sauces in much of Asea. In Iveria, there is *satsivi* and in Gilania, *fesenjoon*. Variations of both of these sauces would enter Russian cookbooks under the name of ketchup due to the fact that Russians were often confused or prone to conflate the exotic foods from the Qajar and Qing empires. These foods titillated the taste buds of Russian traders but were often only recounted to nobility and serfs alike, leading to easy misidentification by the latter. In other parts of the world, however, the more obscure form of ketchup that uses green walnuts as the source of a table condiment died out.
 - a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Satsivi>
 - b. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fesen%C4%81n>
 - c. <https://www.historyquester.com/the-curious-history-of-ketchup/>
34. **Mushroom:** this was originally one of the more popular forms of ketchup in colonial America.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mushroom_ketchup
 - b. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cnRl40c5NSs>
35. **Kelp:** in the Celtic cultures, where laver is famously consumed more often as a boiled down mash known as *laverbread*, a kelp-based condiment seems quite natural.
 - a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laverbread>
 - b. <https://beachfood.co.uk/products/kelpchup-250ml>
36. **Apple:** apple ketchup is not a popular condiment in much of Norway these days, due largely to the fact that the local palettes have shifted away from heavily spiced foods now that they are no longer associated as much with status. The term ketchup, however, still refers to apple ketchup. The curious difference in the use of the word in Wisconsin is due to the high amount of immigration from Norwegian countries.
 - a. <http://www.gourmet.com.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/recipes/1940s/1948/09/apple-ketchup.html>
37. **Raisin:** see A1 sauce. In ATL, tomato puree is again, far less prominent in the ingredients of A1 sauce, making it defined by raisins.
38. **Tamarind:** see HP sauce. In ATL, the sauce relies much less on tomato puree.
39. **Date:** dates and tamarind have adjacent flavours, and one can even imagine how cooks in the past might have substituted them for each other when trying to source local ingredients to make an exotic recipe such as ketchup. The word tamarind, for instance, comes from Arabian, *tamr hindi*, meaning “Indian date.”
40. **Prune:** in Kantonese cuisine, roasted meats—especially duck—are eaten with a sweet and sour condiment known also as plum sauce. Variations of this sauce came to be also eaten with fried foods, getting local names such as *duck sauce* or *mambo sauce* in America. In Siberea, northern Serica, and northern Hesperea, the sauce came to be conflated with ketchup due to the combination of locals having a love for Kantonese food, while also having a considerable amount of cultural distance for misidentification to occur.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plum_sauce
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mumbo_sauce
 - c. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duck_sauce
41. **Cerise:** from the French *cerise*, this refers to dried sour cherries from the Iranosphere. Being related to prunes, cherries and sour cherries are a natural substitute for plum sauce.
42. **Pêche:** from the French *pesche*, ultimately from Latin, *persicum malum*, the term *peche* refers to dried peaches. It is another reasonable substitute for plum syrup or plum sauce.

43. **Noni:** this is a fruit more notorious than durian. Those who try it often remark about it reminding them of vomit, but it can also be described in more favourable terms, such as having the taste of strong cheese and citrus. Not only are there attributed health benefits, but the history of the fruit is quite fascinating. It is a staple food in Sumatrea but also one of the *canoe plants* brought by Austronesic voyagers to much of Polynesea.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morinda_citrifolia
 - [https://www.atlasobscura.com/foods/noni-vomit-fruit#:~:text=The%20fruit%20is%20most%20commonly,to%20consume%20on%20its%20own.](https://www.atlasobscura.com/foods/noni-vomit-fruit-cheese-fruit#:~:text=The%20fruit%20is%20most%20commonly,to%20consume%20on%20its%20own.)
 - See Fruit Explorer's attempt to make noni ketchup: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uVTvGScMWaQ>
44. **Marita:** known for its iconic deep fruit, marita is eaten throughout Sumatrea. In eastern Papua, the fruit is traditionally the base of a dipping sauce that predates marita ketchup.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pandanus_conoideus
45. **Banana:** this is a nod to the favourite Filipino oddity in OTL. In ATL, no dye is necessary, as tomato ketchup does not have the same hold.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Banana_ketchup
46. **Anana:** anana or sometimes known as *pineapple* was first turned into ketchup as a byproduct in the anana plantations of the Caribbean.
47. **Papaya:** an easy to grow crop, papayas were quickly incorporated in the ingredient list of local sauces in Guyana and Guinea to mimic the more expensive imported forms of ketchup that was in vogue in colonial kitchens.
48. **Mango:** just as mango chutney and mango pickles came about as a way to preserve the abundant crops of mango that small time farmers could grow in India and Sumatrea, mango ketchup is a byproduct of the development of mango plantations in southern Guinea quickly for export.
49. **Tomato:** starting out as a country method of preserving tomatoes, tomato ketchup became a household item in the late 19th century, especially with Heinz's iconic introduction of the highly sweet but preservative-free form that Americans love today.
50. **Kujera:** also spelt as *kutjera*, kujera was first known to the English-speaking world as an obscure "bush tucker" in Tasmania, even though it was widely prized among the Indigenous cultures in the rest of Tamirea. There are a variety of related species harvested and sold under the same name, all of which have a flavour profile said to be akin to tomato, but with a more pungent, sweet, and concentrated aroma while also being less acidic. Kujera are most often dried, having a similar consistency to dates and raisins.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bush_tomato
51. **Purupuru:** originally native to Polynesea, purupuru has an illustrious history. Also known as *poroporo* and *boro dina*, it was known in colonial literature as "cannibal's tomato." Known for being paired with cooked human flesh in Fiji, the dried form of the fruit came to be a chief export of Rapanui to Peru, where a jam-like sauce came to be popularized at the same time different varieties of Serican sauces known as ketchup were introduced by the Spanish.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solanum_viride
 - See Fruit Explorer's video on it, in which he also makes a ketchup out of the fruit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dm_r1rk0RQ
52. **Tamarillo:** known also as a tree tomato, tamarillo was widely spread by the Portuguese—from Taiwan to Azlana—where it came to be an easy crop to grow by local farmers, making it an ideal substitute for ketchup recipes.
53. **Tomatillo:** more attributed to the *salsa verde* of Bolivia and Azlana, in Argentina and the Pampas, vinegary preserves of the fruit came to be a favourite addition to chimichurri.
54. **Topoto:** known also as *cape berry* and still as *topotopo* in Peru, this largely drought-resistant crop was popularized by the Spanish in many parts of the world before tomatoes were popularized.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Physalis_peruviana
55. **Solfood:** parallel to the term *seafood*, solfood refers to "foods found in the earth, humus," so insects, larvae, gastropods, as well as amphibians and reptiles—known as *herps*, from *herpeton*, "creeping animal." The prefix most likely comes from Latin via French, *solum*, "ground, earth," a cognate to *sole*. Some sources, however, claim it to be from the Anglo-Norman word *soyle* or *soile*, meaning "bottom, ground," which also comes from Latin, *solium*, meaning "seat, chair; throne."
- <https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/-sol>
 - <https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/soil#English>
56. **Oil emulsion sauces:** in much of Europea, Libya, and Asea, the preferred condiment to go with fried foods, especially potato fries, is not anything related to ketchup, but an oil emulsion such as mayonnaise, aioli, or *toum*.

Gaia Polyglotta

A Thousand and One Languages to Govern the World

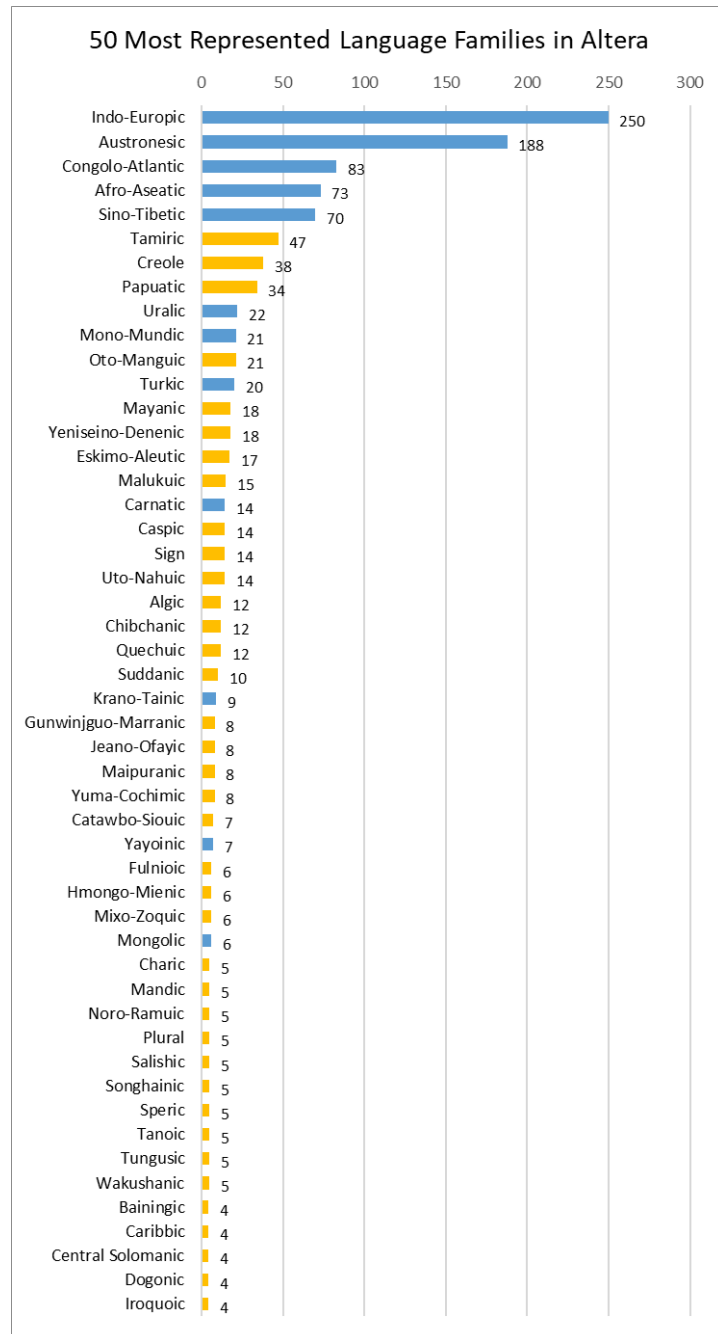
Map of prevailing lects of the world's countries by language family

57. **Gaia Polyglotta:** the world when every language family is represented by at least one language at the state-level.

58. **A Thousand and One Languages to Govern the World:** the number is closer to 1,400, but the idea's there.

59. **Reigning in Babel:** this introductory blurb for the map mirrors Visual Capitalist's explanatory text for their article, "All World Languages in One Visualization." Though the average person may find the article inspiring, its statistics

on the OTL linguistic landscape of the world are alarming. For example, even though there are over 7,000 known languages known to OTL linguists, over half the planet speaks just 23 languages, the majority of which belong to five of the world's 150 or so language families. Those being Indo-European, Sino-Tibetan, Atlantic-Congo, Afro-Aseatic, and Austronesian. The prognosis is dire: more than half of the world's languages will go extinct in the next hundred years. In OTL, there are maybe just a dozen or less language families represented by languages at the state-level. Apart from those "Big Five," this includes Dravidian, Turkic, Austro-Aseatic, Kra-Dai, Japonic, Koreanic, Uralic, and, surprisingly, Mongolic. In ATL, the situation is still sobering, but with magnitudes of differences. Instead of OTL's 0.3% of the world's languages making it to official status, about 20% do in ATL, and every language family makes it onto the political map. Based on my adoption of a more liberal classification scheme, that means over 200 language families are represented at the state-level in Altera with at least one language. As seen in the adjacent chart, the Big Five persists, but now a *long tail* of other language families (orange) forms behind in terms of count languages represented. Also, the number of language families with at least two languages recognized at the state-level comes in at 103, so about 50% of the language families.



- <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/a-world-of-languages/>
- [See this table for basic statistics on the current distribution of the world's language families](#)
- [See this map visualization of the prevailing language family for every administrative unit in the world](#)

60. **Glossopolitical:** the term I coined to refer to the relationships between the administration of language and a territory's people, where language is seen as not only inherently political but also the sole purview of the state. Atlas Altera, in a way, is a reaction against the fact that the Wesphalian nation-state model, when embraced by the OTL modern set of 200 or so countries, leads to an impoverished linguistic landscape. To be comparable to OTL, Altera retains a recognizable system of global politics, only it has a radically higher number of states, each centered around their own distinct ethnolect.
61. **Lect:** this relates to the Weinreich witticism, "A language is a dialect with an army and navy," which, also reflects the *glossopolitical* issue that a state imposes on our understanding of language. In ATL, dialects and languages are all considered *lects*, being stripped of any connotations, including the political—whether or not they are recognized by a state. Meanwhile, *language* is used in the context of state-recognition or enshrinement. Moreover, *dialect* refers to a lect that is seen in a relational way towards a certain language, often with negative connotations and a lens of tragic temporality—that the lect was a preceding form or source for standardization, and that it will soon die out once the last generation of native speakers pass away.
62. **Distribution of Lects by Country:** this is my answer to the Visual Capitalist's infographic titled, "Distribution of living languages by country" (originally published in the South China Morning Post). Apart from Biafra being largely analogous to Nigeria, there are not a lot of parallel ATL states for the OTL states with the leading counts. America, interestingly, is imagined in ATL to have even more linguistic diversity among its minorities.
63. **Lect Diversity in SoN Zones:** this is my estimate for the number of lects that could exist in various SoN territories. For territories like Xingu and Jagana, the numbers largely correspond to OTL estimates for the Amazon and Congo basins. The numbers for Katesh and Liberum stem from the fact that they are incredibly densely populated with not only bureaucrats from diplomatic missions and professionals for transnational corporations, but also because they are always temporarily housing much of the world's refugees at any given time.
64. **Pigments of Philology:** this list of represented language families is also logged in the sheet titled "**Ecoglossia**" in the [GaiaPolyglotta spreadsheet](#).
65. **Creole Languages:** this refers to contact and trade *pidgins* that naturally develop into fully functional languages with their own populations of native speakers. The list of creole languages can be seen in the "CreoleRef" sheet in the [GaiaPolyglotta spreadsheet](#).
66. **Argot Languages:** this is just a fancy way of saying "constructed language" or *conlang*, and there are only two such lects represented at the state-level in Altera: Esperanto and Eskaya.
67. **Sign Languages:** Altera has numerous sign languages represented at the state-level. The ATL Plainsign is the most famous of these, and it refers to the OTL lingua franca known as Plains Indian Sign Language or Plains Sign. The language is also the inspiration and main source for ATL Intersign, the only truly "official" world language recognized by the SoN—all the other SoN-lects are pragmatically recognized for being sufficiently acceptable or appropriate for diplomacy.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plains_Indian_Sign_Language
68. **In search of the frontiers of language / so as to understand the limits of the world:** I use this quote to frame the rim of the map. It's a reference and sample of Wittgenstein's *Tractatus*: "The limits of my language are the limits of my mind. All I know is what I have words for." The inclusion here alludes to and celebrates the subtle beauties of linguistic determinism—I subscribe to the weak form of the concept—that we ought to tap into for understanding the many ways we all perceive and confront the world, and which must be considered and accommodated if there is to be global efforts of collaboration. I also believe languages and language games are at the core of constructivism, and that social constructs, whether in local communities or international society, are the basis of interaction and the main variables for coming to solutions to collective problems in a pragmatic ethics way.

Graphic of prevailing languages of trade

69. **Tongues of Clout:** this is largely inspired by the idea that a global language system exists in the world. The idea comes from World-systems theory, in which relationships of marginal peripheries and cores can be observed for social phenomena and interrelationships across the world. I drew from David Graddol and Abram de Swaan's attempts to categorize existing languages into a hierarchy based on relevance in global politics and the international economy.
70. **Cosmopolitan lects:** these are languages that either have a relevance or presence throughout much of the world or are spoken by so many people in the world that adjacent cultures must engage with or accommodate such languages in circles of diplomacy. In ATL, this largely corresponds to the five SoN-lects.

71. **Core lects:** these are languages that are also globally relevant, but this can take shape in having cultural influence or soft power languages—having a prolific publishing, music, or film industry, as well as having a high rate of translations to and from other lects.
72. **Regional lects:** these are languages that are used as a lingua franca or in a region or area of the world.
73. **National lects:** these are languages that are essentially what we think of as *official languages*, in that they are not only in common and organic use by local populations but also enforced or guaranteed by governments. In ATL, this also includes autonomous substates, such as the ones in California, Peru, Nicaragua etc.
74. **Minority lects:** these are languages that may very well be spoken by a health number of people, but which do not have their futures guaranteed because the people who speak the lects do not form a majority in any territory. Even if some of these lects are enshrined in the laws of a state, concessions given to the minorities have the potential to be revoked, or over time, successive generations of the native speakers could choose to switch to the state language spoken by the dominant majorities in their territories.
75. **Traditional lects:** these are languages are inherently vulnerable because they are often not only not recognized by governments, but also may be only oral-based—which, in a *glossopolitical* world in which nation-states hold monopolies over language, can be particularly vulnerable.
76. **Comparison of hierarchical systems for describing the global language system:**

Altera's	Graddol's	De Swann's
Cosmopolitan	Big languages (i.e. English, French)	Hypercentral
Core	Languages of the UN (i.e. Russian, Arabic, Mandarin)	Supercentral
Regional	Regional languages (i.e. Portuguese, German, Farsi, Swahili)	
National	National languages (i.e. Nepali, Greek, Korean, Thai, Estonian)	Central
Minority	Official languages within nation states (i.e. Marathi, Wolof)	Peripheral
Traditional	Local vernacular languages (i.e. Makah, Kusunda, Aymara, !Xóǀ)	

- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_language_system
- b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_language

Map of Most Learned Classical Lects

77. **Tongues of Study:** these are classical languages that are taught in the general or state-endorsed schooling system of a given country. Almost all of these lects come from antiquity. They are almost all “dead” in that they have no native speakers. Their cultural relevance and importance, however, often comes from either liturgical use or for the study of historical texts that are considered canon, sacred, and/or prestigious. In OTL, especially with the Enlightenment, Latin and Ancient Greek were the main classical languages taught to the educated class. The geographic pattern of languages shown here will largely overlap with the *Inseparable States and Faiths* and *Simington's Clash of the Civilizations* feature maps. Most of the ATL lects are queryable. They are also logged in the bottom of the main sheet of [GaiaPolyglotta spreadsheet](#). Lore-wise,
78. **Yesang:** this language is probably the one that needs the most explanation. It is based on OTL Occaneechi and refers to the related Tutelo language's history of being used as a lingua franca in the eastern United States. This is especially interesting, considering that it is a Siouan language, so unrelated to the Algic and Iroquoic languages that dominate the north and the Muskogean languages of the south. In ATL, its early contact with English settlers leads it to being both a proselytizing language and language of diplomacy between Indigenous peoples and settlers. The central location of the Tutelo people also leads to their language being the connection between the Iroquois Confederacy and the southern cultures that eventually migrate to Florida. Woodlands. Occaneechi and Tutelo are largely extinct but revivable thanks to the publication of *A Grammar and Dictionary of Tutelo*.
79. **Sadan:** this language refers to OTL Nagpuri, an Indo-European language in India that, interestingly, has an unidentifiable substrate that is neither Dravidian nor Munda. Just like in OTL, Sadan's use during the Nagvanshi dynasty leads to it becoming regionally prestigious, though a later *koine* form develops as Kurmali, which becomes a regional trade language.
80. **Zayua:** this language refers to a language pegged to Proto-Gulf Mixean, hypothesized as the OTL language of the interrogatory riddles of the Mayan nobility known also as *Zayua*. This means the Mayans used a Gulf Mixean

language as a liturgical language of sorts at one point in history, which makes Zayua a perfect classical language for the Olma area in Nicaragua.

- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Classical_Language
- b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sacred_language
- c. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tutelo_language
- d. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nagpuri_language
- e. [See this article for the Proto-Gulf Mixean hypothesis of Zayua](#)

Map of Most Used Foreign Languages Bar Son-Lects

81. **Tongues of Trade:** these are lects that have dominant positions in international relations or regional hegemony due to histories of privilege, either from colonial or imperial relations or from having to do with hubs of trade. In a way, a lot of the macro-lore of Altera can be gleaned from the pattern of languages shown in this corner map, and there is often a correlation with the cultural groupings shown in the *Simington's Clash of the Civilizations* feature map. Most of these lects are logged in [GaiaPolyglotta](#). A few new additions that came with the development of this specific map include Jula, Kurmali, and Tundrasign.
82. **Jula lect:** this refers to a OTL Mende, while its prevalence is explained by a lore inspired by the OTL Dyula people, who formed a merchant caste that stretched across much of northern West Africa. **Kurmali** refers to the Panchpargania variety of OTL Kurmali/Kudmali, which seems to be another Indo-European language in OTL India to have an unidentifiable substrate, and which really did seem to be a trade language in the hyper diverse linguistic area traversing the borders of Odisha, Jharkhand, and Chattisgarh. **Tundrasign** refers to Inuit Sign Language or Inuit Uukturausingit/IUR, another independently developed sign language of the Americas.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lingua_franca
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mende_language
 - c. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dyula_people
 - d. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kurmali_language
 - e. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inuit_Sign_Language

Map of Most Used SoN-Lects for Diplomacy

83. **Tongues of Peace:** this map shows the extent of each of the 5 pragmatically recognized lects used in official capacity by the Society of Nations. Also known as **SoN-lects**, these are the same languages used to render country names in the [postage stamps](#) developed for the project. Roughly, they correspond to OTL English, Russian, Fusa Arabic, Sri Lankan Creole Malay, and Classical Chinese/Wenyan. Compare this ATL set with the OTL United Nation's official languages—English, Russian, Spanish, French, Arabic, and Mandarin.
84. **Villinet:** this exonym is used to distinguish from ATL Arabian, which is based on the Hejaz dialect, and the word comes from the Spanish bastardization and transcription of Turcic *vilayet*, meaning "province," which would've been the metonym used by the Spanish when referring to the Arabic-based language of governance the ATL Ottomans used in their Libyan territories, and which is analogous to the linguistic context of OTL Ottoman rule in North Africa.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modern_Standard_Arabic
85. **Kampani:** this comes from the English word, *company*, and refers to the fact that the lect was used all across the East India Company's sphere of influence. The creole was first formed out of the history of contact between the Malay-dominated trade routes of Sumatra and India, as mediated by Sinhala and Tamil traders. The dominance of much of India by Muslim Sultanates, and then the Mughals, would lead to the borrowing of numerous Arabic words, as well as and Bantu words (i.e. OTL Swahili), analogous to the OTL history of the Siddi and related Afro-Indian peoples. Finally, by the time the British East India Company gained supremacy in the Empire and claim the right of *diwan*—the right to collect taxes and tariffs—there would not only be intensive borrowing from European language, but also the reinjection of Sanskrit from Company reliance on *pundits* and *munshis* for administration and interpretations of local laws. The latter development is similar to how many neologisms derived from Latin and Greek were coined in OTL during the Enlightenment and the development of a European-dominated language of science.
 - a. [See also this post I made specifically to showcase the language sources of the Kampani creole in Altera](#)
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sri_Lanka_Malay_language
 - c. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siddi>
86. **Mandarin:** this is the trickiest of the SoN-Lects to explain. In Altera, Chinese speakers speak OTL Putonghua/Guoyu, while ATL Mandarin is based on the form of Wenyan or Classical Chinese that was used to write treaties, literature, law up until the mid 20th century (though to a degree, it is still used in Taiwanese law). As knowledge of

pronouncing Classical Chinese as it was first written for Old Chinese is largely forgotten, it is firstly a *literary* lingua franca, and only secondly used in oral contexts—leading to distinct forms of pronunciation unique to a speaker's original language attempt at mimicking Middle Chinese pronunciation. This means OTL Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Hokkien, and Mandarin speakers all have different ways of pronouncing Chinese characters if they are to be read in the Classical sense, which is fascinating because it leads to a situation where a written standard for a language can be used across not only different languages but also totally separate language families. What this would look like is intelligentsia and bureaucrats of countries across Serica toiling over the task of writing words in an order that may not match their own day-to-day colloquial speech, and which they may never pronounce aloud—and if they did, it would not sound like the equivalent layman's version of the same character. This means the lingua franca of ATL Mandarin is alien to even Chinese speakers themselves. It would be like modern English-speakers using the Old English of Beowulf in their legal systems (albeit, there are some archaic terms in Common Law), but which would also be adopted by speakers coming from different language families (kind of like OTL Americans being able to read English spelling, despite differences of standards and the fact that British spelling is not phonetic).

- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Classical_Chinese

Operations of the Society of Nations

Major Initiatives Around the World

Map of the major ongoing operations overseen by the Society of Nations

1. **Peaceobserving:** this type of military operation is a conflict observation and human rights investigation mission, where conflict has just begun and facts and details about the conflict are mostly unverifiable. International intervention would be limited to verifying whether belligerents are committing mass violence, human rights violations, crimes against humanity, genocide, explicit war crimes, and other violations of international law. The mission would evolve based on what is determined. Unlike OTL, international intervention in this capacity does not require the invitation of affected states.
2. **Peacekeeping:** this type of military operation is a sanctuary assurance and ceasefire arbitration mission, where conflict is ongoing. The main goals of international intervention are to create safe travel corridors for civilians to flee conflict, to establish safe zones for civilians to find shelter, and to compel belligerents to bargain for ceasefire agreements and even longer peace treaties. Unlike OTL, such missions are almost always automatically triggered based on verifiable evidence from initial peaceobserving missions, thereby circumventing the need for invitation from affected states.
3. **Peacemaking:** this type of military operation is a security enforcement and social transformation mission, where the conflict is not only ongoing but also threatens to compromise established peacekeeping measures like safe zones and safe travel corridors. The escalation to this sort of mission would be automatically triggered based on verifiable evidence of infractions on previous peacekeeping measures, circumventing any decisionmaking process at the SoN Security Council and giving license to actively neutralize identifiable individuals or groups of perpetrators of mass violence, human rights violations, and crimes against humanity. As the mission is focused on the transformation of a conflict situation, the mission may also involve work to rebuild and reestablish major infrastructure in the affected areas. There is no OTL precedence for this sort of mission except, perhaps, the more controversial interventions in Libya and Kosovo, as well as hypothetical responses to the Assad regime's use of chemical weapons.
4. **Peaceverifying:** this type of military operation is an accords monitoring and disarmament verification mission, where conflict has long ceased but the possibility of mass violence erupting once again is not yet over. International intervention may entail the provision of social services, rebuilding efforts, and policing.
5. **Collective security operation:** this type of military operation is an extreme version of a security enforcement and social transformation mission, where the conflict is not only ongoing, but threatens to spread or destabilize regional peace and stability. Though rarely issued, such missions are executed to end a conflict after international agreement is made on how to interpret which of the belligerents are perpetrators in the conflict, based in part on international law. The main goals of international intervention would be to force regime change on the perpetrators and to pursue justice against the toppled regime for war crimes. In OTL, an example of this would be the Korean War, where the United Nations effectively coordinated military intervention against North Korea due to Russia abstaining on voting for intervention in the Security Council.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_Command
6. **Environmental and isolated peoples stewardship:** this is inspired by OTL Brazil's FUNAI patrols in the Amazon, as well as the hard work done by park rangers across Africa, especially like the ones in Virunga. It comes from my desire to imagine what territories in ATL can be not state-based. For hunter-gatherers and historically isolated forest agriculturalists, there is the possibility to have a system of territorial oversight that is mostly passive, with only restrictions or control on how outside contact is maintained or, in some cases, newly established. In ATL, the SoN has rangers who perform *long patrols* into these designated stewardship areas or territorial reserves, often having to police the territory against poaching, illegal harvesting, smuggling, and illicit trade/contact with the Indigenous peoples. A controversial or structural issue that will haunt the SoN for such territories is, of course, how the native peoples there can assert their own agency and determine their futures, including establishing their own statelets or forms of political exertion that may or may not unbalance the fabric of peace in such territories.
 - a. Footage of isolated people taken by FUNAI: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bsXj15ECoCU>
 - b. Other footage of isolated people: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=acUePxYz2q4>
 - c. A documentary on the lives of the gorillas and rangers of Virunga: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wxXf2Vxj_EU

7. **Alien species eradication program:** though not always involving a very international scope, the idea here is that the SoN funds and actively supports major alien species eradication efforts and ecosystem-level restoration efforts, which are almost always compromised in OTL by an inability to execute at a large enough scale and fast enough timeline.
8. **Emergency health response:** this form of response would be akin to measures taken by the OTL World Health Organization, but with a lot more resources and rapid-response capabilities, thanks in part to clear detailing of when and what kind of measures are triggered, along with a clear chain of command for efficient coordination and activation of international teams.
9. **Boxing Day Earthquake & Tsunami:** this is based on the OTL 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2004_Indian_Ocean_earthquake_and_tsunami
10. **Mosquito-Free Ko'olau:** this is based off the fact that mosquitos are invasive, surprisingly, to the OTL Hawaiian islands and have contributed to and are actively contributing to the extinction of native fauna, especially birds.
 - a. <https://www.civilbeat.org/2023/04/historic-effort-to-save-hawaii-forest-birds-with-mosquito-birth-control-hurdles-forward/>
 - b. <https://reviverestore.org/the-plan-to-restore-a-mosquito-free-hawaii/>
11. **Reclaiming the Phoenixes:** in ATL, the equivalent to the OTL Line Islands were used by the United States for testing atomic weapons, along with Bikini Atoll, and moreover, were historically depopulated by blackbirding.
12. **East Pacific Garbage Patch Removal:** this is inspired by OTL pioneering efforts to remove plastic waste in the Pacific Ocean, which is concentrated primarily in two locations in the Pacific based on ocean gyres.
 - a. <https://theoceancleanup.com/great-pacific-garbage-patch/>
 - b. <https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/great-pacific-garbage-patch/>
13. **Waxichu Oilsands Conflict:** this is based on an interpretation of what equivalents to the OTL Standing Rock and other tar sands and pipeline protests would look like in a scenario where the people were protesting on not only their historical territories, but de jure territories. In OTL, countries ranging from Suriname to Papua to Mongolia all suffer from the yoke of foreign mining and oil companies, with their native populaces having little influence on land-use decisions and environmental management. In ATL, even though the countries of Saskatchewan, Athabasca, and Tanana are Indigenously controlled, their politics are still marred by environmental politics. Extreme forms of such conflicts are seen in OTL examples like Nigeria's delta and coastal areas, with guerilla tactics of sabotage and terrorism exerted on extraction infrastructure, expatriate communities, and foreign workers.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conflict_in_the_Niger_Delta
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dakota_Access_Pipeline_protests
 - c. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2020_Canadian_pipeline_and_railway_protests
14. **Anishnabean Intervention in Wasauksing Conflict:** this is a reimagining of the OTL Oka Crisis, in which the ATL Canadian government is unable to resolve historic grievances, land disputes, and ethnic conflicts between settlers and the Wasauksing people, the people related to the Anishnabeans living on the north shore of Lake Algonquin, which is part Canadian territory. In ATL, Canada loses formal control of not only the Indigenous reserves in this part of its territory, but also much of the relatively unsettled but mineral rich adjacent territories, and the conflict is further exacerbated by the neighbouring state of Anishnabee's interference on the side of the Wasauksing in the form of supplying arms, food, and, allegedly, non-uniformed military personnel.
 - a. <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/oka-crisis>
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oka_Crisis
 - c. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eFCS2bbkfq8>
15. **Halifax Harbour Explosion:** this is a reference to both the contemporary 2020 Beirut explosion, and the original Halifax Explosion of 1917.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2020_Beirut_explosion
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halifax_Explosion
16. **Meglolyssavirus-22 Outbreak:** this one is a fantasy-leaning nod to how a new variant of rabies, lyssavirus, that allows for symptoms to be taken on faster could be the closest thing to a zombie outbreak.
 - a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rabies>

17. **Haitian War of Independence:** this is a purely fictional ATL scenario in which Anacane, a cultural equivalent to OTL Haiti, not only secedes from France but also manages to evade the tumultuous centuries after independence. The one hitch, however, is that in the south, the culturally more Indigenous people desire their own autonomy, and only in the 1980s are they able to successfully organize for a war of secession, something that happens relatively rarely in ATL, due to the SoN providing more avenues for resolving secession crises.
18. **Totonicca Communal Riots:** this is a nod to the ethnic and religious tensions and occasional mass violence that occurs in OTL India. As ATL Nicaragua is a federated state with a similar colonial history and trajectory as OTL India, there are large Catholic populations in parts of the country that are the target of political oppression and communal violence.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Violence_against_Muslims_in_independent_India
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2002_Gujarat_riots
19. **Nicaraguan Intervention in Marelago Conflict:** this is a nod to OTL Panama's secession from Colombia, but is also somewhat akin to OTL Kashmir, where an ethnically similar but religiously different territory on Nicaragua's periphery is de facto taken over by the federated state. Marelago is the name of both the canal and a former province of ATL Bolivia, analogous to OTL Colombia. The people there are mostly Indigenous but Catholic, and in their struggle for autonomy, Nicaraguan forces help defend them against Bolivian security forces. This leads to the ATL Marelago Canal acting as a de facto border with Bolivia, and is also one of the main reasons behind the creation of ATL Liberum, an SoN territory along the north of the canal.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Separation_of_Panama_from_Colombia
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kashmir_conflict
20. **Kirstang Extremist Insurgencies:** this is to flip the OTL narrative that Muslim extremists are often behind many of the world's conflicts. In ATL, the area known as Guyana was one of the first points of transatlantic contact. Muslim explorers and mercantile fleets from Nigeria had long called on the shores of Guyana before the Flemish West India Company took control of the area. With the natives there already converted to Islam, Flemish colonial control was largely plantation-oriented, leading to only small minorities of Christians existing in the post-colonial states of Venezuela. Deep resentment, political marginalization, as well as general ethnic tensions would lead to these Christian communities, known as the Kristang, to organize into bands of guerilla fighters, seeking to carve out their own zones of autonomy. This scenario reflects situations in the OTL Moro Conflict in the Philippines.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moro_conflict
21. **Hurin Fish War:** this is a nod to the OTL conflict dubbed the Cod Wars between Iceland and the United Kingdom, stemming largely from the extraterritorial islands that Lima controls to its south, which helps extend its maritime exclusive economic zone, and which is often disputed by Peru's fishing fleet.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cod_Wars
22. **Nuble Earthquake:** this does not refer to any particular earthquake in OTL Chile, but is believable from the fact that Chile has recorded some of the world's largest earthquakes in recent history.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1960_Valdivia_earthquake
23. **Sea Shepherd-Bramidores Whale Wars:** this is inspired by OTL's Sea Shepherd going against Japanese whaling expeditions in the Antarctic. The scenario in ATL is that the Bramidores refuses to abide by the International Whaling Commission, due to the inability of that small remote community to adapt to any other economic models.
 - a. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t7v7kPNsMAg>
24. **Antarctica Condominium:** ATL Antarctica is shared by states as a condominium much like OTL, although there is far more scientific collaboration in ATL than there is in OTL.
 - a. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Condominium_\(international_law\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Condominium_(international_law))
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antarctic_Treaty_System
25. **Nigerian Ghost Fishing Fleets:** this is inspired by the OTL Chinese ghost fishing fleets that haunt the waters of the exclusive economic zones of other countries, such as the fertile fishing grounds off the coast of Peru.
 - a. <https://newsinteractives.cbc.ca/longform/china-at-sea/#:~:text=The%20Chinese%20government%20says%20its,part%20by%20turning%20off%20the>
 - b. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FMhQ5zmm-pl>

26. **Norwegian Breach of Whaling Ban:** in ATL, the Americans and the Russians have long abandoned whaling, but the countries of ATL Norway—a special economic union of independent countries with a historically shared monarchy—refuse to abandon the practice, leading to the SoN having to intervene against their “scientific expeditions,” also akin to OTL Japan’s position.
27. **Asturias Separatist Conflict:** this is a reversal of the OTL conflict between the Euskadi Ta Askatasuna and Spain. In ATL, the separatist movement is in the Asturian-speaking area of Navarre, and therefore sees the situation flipped between the Basques and a Romance-speaking community in Iberia.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basque_conflict
28. **Iberian-Atlasian Fires:** this is a reference to the recent years of fires that have ripped through OTL southern Europe, which is, in part, due both climate change but also poor forestry and plantation methods using foreign species and purely extractive economic models.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2022_European_and_Mediterranean_wildfires
29. **Ausonian War:** this is a holdover from the ATL civil war that broke out in the successor state of Italy after WW2 between the socialist stronghold in the north and the monarchists in the south. The remaining initiative operated by the SoN is a Demilitarized Zone between the border of the former Union of North Italy and the Kingdom of South Italy, as both states refused to give up on their claims to a unified Italy. With the peaceful dissolution of the socialist union in the north, the conflict zone remains mostly as a contemporary formality between Tuscany and Italy, who both refuse to completely normalize relations and open up their borders to each other.
 - a. <https://www.deviantart.com/telamontabulicus/art/Post-WW2-European-Hopes-The-Ironist-Nov-1949-900542007>
30. **Yugoslavian Wars of Independence:** this largely plays out in a similar fashion as the OTL Breakup of Yugoslavia and the commencement of ethnic violence during the Yugoslav Wars. The SoN uses this case of bureaucratic failure to respond to the conflict as a “never again” lesson.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yugoslav_Wars
31. **Replenishing Lake Chad:** this is another more fantastical element of ATL, largely inspired by OTL Libya’s harnessing of subterranean water reservoirs in the Sahara. In ATL, even the megalake of Lake Chad is rapidly drying out, and to prevent a humanitarian crisis in the future, the SoN supports the various neighbouring states in building underground canals to bring just enough water from the reservoirs beneath the desert to prevent extreme water level drops in the lake.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Man-Made_River
32. **Eboavirus-21 Outbreak:** this is a scenario where a more extreme variant of the ebola virus manifests in one of the poorest areas of Africa, and despite the backdrop of political conflicts in the surrounding states, the SoN is still able to launch a more successful mission to contain the outbreak compared to OTL.
33. **Gabonese War of Agression:** in ATL, most of Africa escapes the OTL fate of states captured by self-serving dictators, oligarchs, and military juntas, except in this part of southern Guinea. The war here is started by a military junta against a dictatorship in order to secure offshore oil reserves.
34. **Anzigolese Civil War:** though ATL Congo is a successful socialist solarpunk state, Anzigo is an analogue to the OTL Democratic Republic of the Congo, including all its socio-economic woes and most of its colonial legacies. Its civil war and history of political instability is more of an exception than the rule for the rest of Africa.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Congolese_Civil_War
35. **Coronavirus-23 Outbreak:** in ATL, the coronavirus pandemic does not take place until 2023, and it begins in a far more remote and less densely settled part of the world, though it remains to be seen whether the SoN is a match for such an infectious disease.
36. **Harlian Communal Riots:** in ATL, the countries of Erythrea are mostly multiethnic and have substantial religious minorities. Harlia’s largely Muslim territory overlaps with parts of the traditionally Christian areas of OTL Ethiopia, and would thus have Christian Oromo and Amhara minorities, perhaps also residing in the city of Harar. Though ethnic tensions and violence are not the norm in this ATL area, it would be expected that they sometimes do occur, especially if the secession of the various provinces of the Solomon Dynasty—an larger version of the OTL Ethiopian Empire with parallels to the Austro-Hungarian Empire— after the First World War may have not led to clean ethnic borders.
 - a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harar>

- 37. Alothian War of Aggression:** this is an analogue to the long history of OTL conflicts in the upper or central sections of the Nile over the oil-rich areas of Darfur and South Sudan.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sudanese_conflict_in_South_Kordofan_and_Blue_Nile
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War_in_Darfur
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Sudanese_Civil_War
- 38. Hydrimian Civil War:** this is a lower-scale version of the OTL Yemeni Civil War, with more successful international intervention to stabilize the country and minimize civilian casualties.
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yemeni_Civil_War_\(2014%E2%80%93present\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yemeni_Civil_War_(2014%E2%80%93present))
- 39. Israelo-Palestini Conflict:** this is largely analogous to the OTL Israel-Palestine Conflict, but with the exception that Palestine never ceases to be a state and the fault lines for the conflict are flipped by the ATL territorial spans of a contiguous Palestine and a large but more remotely isolated/non-coastal Israel.
- 40. Cilicia-Narine Earthquake:** this is a nod to the 2023 Turkey-Syria earthquake.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2023_Turkey%E2%80%93Syria_earthquake
- 41. Dissolution of the Caucasian Union:** the ATL Caucasian Union was another socialist bloc country that could not react fast enough to claims for ethnic autonomy, even though it fared better than Yugoslavia by outlasting it for another twenty years. Its dissolution serves as an ATL counterfactual scenario of the OTL Yugoslav Wars where international intervention is well coordinated, uninhibited by cynicism, and well supplied.
- 42. Chernobyl Exclusion Zone:** the ATL nuclear disaster in Chernobyl plays out largely similar to OTL, but a larger zone of evacuation and therefore exclusion zone is mandated by the SoN.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chernobyl_exclusion_zone
- 43. Belarusian Famine:** this famine plays with the idea of Lukashenko being "Europe's last dictator," combined with an idea of a borderline failed state like OTL North Korea. In ATL, the Lukashenko family is analogous to the Kims of OTL North Korea, and are able to somehow manoeuvre their state to gain independence as a buffer state between Norway, the Western Allies, and Russia's sphere of influence after the Second World War.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Korean_famine
- 44. Russian Civil War:** the ATL Russian Civil War is a century-long conflict similar to the OTL Chinese Civil War, where ceasefire is observed but no peace treaty and resolution sought after years after military activity has ceased. The SoN operates a Demilitarized Zone here as well, similar to the one on the OTL Korean Peninsula. Furthermore, Chernorus technically claims itself as a successor state to the Russian Empire, and still styles itself as the Republic of Russia, just as OTL Taiwan styles itself as the Republic of China.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_Civil_War
- 45. Central Section of the Great Green Wall:** this is largely inspired by the shelterbelt or windbreaker forest strip initiatives of China and the Sahel states of OTL. It is a massive environmental rehabilitation initiative where the SoN has taken on the mission to create barrier forests against the expansion of more arid steppes and deserts of central Borealea, due in part to climate change but also historic mismanagement of landuse.
- <https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/great-green-wall/>
 - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Green_Wall_\(China\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Green_Wall_(China))
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Plains_Shelterbelt
- 46. Dedamming the Indus:** this is to prompt reevaluation of water management systems implemented in some of the world's most productive rivers in the late modern period. There is the potential to move back to non-Western or non-modern modes of thinking, though it would take a lengthy treatise to make the case on dedamming most of the tributaries and main sections of Indus River, or the Ganges, or the Yellow, or the Yangtze. I'm not confident that a combination of run-of-the-river dams and diversion canals would be sufficient, but there needs to be a rethinking of how humans can live on and make use of the lands adjacent to rivers.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dam_removal
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3bVGuXrd5mg>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=laTibNVDQN8>
- 47. Gujarati Communal Riots:** this is akin to the OTL event, largely to instil complexity and more realism into the ATL world.

- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2002_Gujarat_riots
48. **Anti-Kalar Headhunting:** though headhunting is no longer practised by certain peoples in OTL Northeastern India, in ATL, it is resurrected as a scare tactic in the guerilla warfare led by various rural communities in ATL Tsochin, where Indian and Serican immigrant landowners and traders, known as *kalars*, are targeted.
 - a. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kallar_\(caste\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kallar_(caste))
 - b. <https://www.frontiermyanmar.net/en/the-kalar-controversy-shows-many-in-myanmar-arent-listening/>
49. **Burmese War of Aggression:** this is to give OTL Myanmar the attention it deserves as a state with numerous human rights violations and ethnic civil wars under its belt. The main difference with OTL is that ATL Burma is not colonized by the British or British East India Company, and the state is only recently taken over by a military junta hellbent on expansion against its neighbour states.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internal_conflict_in_Myanmar
50. **Vietnamese Intervention in Champese Secession:** this is a scenario somewhat similar to OTL Cyprus, when a neighbouring state on the mainland intervenes on a secession-oriented conflict happening offshore in an island. In ATL, the Champese secede from Rihnam with the backing of the United States, which has positioned itself with US-oriented regimes in the offshore islands of Serica after the Second World War—Fusan, Taiwan, the various states of Okinawa, Rusan, the Philippines, Formosa etc. The Ming-Yamato system of hegemony on mainland Serica, however, manages to remain on the Serican mainland. From this backdrop, Vietnam, which is firmly backed by China and Japan, intervenes on the behalf of Rihnam, only to have its expeditionary forces quickly isolated by the SoN.
51. **Bajau & Minira Seas Slave Raiding:** this is a reference to the fact that OTL Southeast Asia still deals with a lot of slavery issues, especially with regards to fishing fleets blackbirding or pressing into service peoples from maritime nomadic and isolated coastal communities. In OTL history, there is also the concept of *mangayaw* as well as Moro piracy around the Philippines, so I combined these two histories into an ATL history where there is a tradition and history of regular coastal raiding done by traditional communities in the area, which evolves and is absorbed as a way of getting cheap labour in contemporary fishing fleets.
 - a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timawa#Raids>
52. **Malaya Strait Piracy:** this is a reference to the OTL piracy happening off of Somalia and, to a more limited extent, off of Malaysia and Indonesia. In the high seas, it is often hard to ensure peaceful and safe passage, even when there is no major international conflict occurring to spur such activities. The ATL piracy activities do, however, stem in part from the recent ATL Sivaji Civil War and the Sivajaya state being unable to assert control in its northern territories.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piracy_off_the_coast_of_Somalia
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piracy_in_the_Strait_of_Malacca
53. **Sivajayi Civil War:** there is not really an OTL analogue to this ATL civil war. It serves to add some complexity and realism to the international relations of Altera.
54. **Naxalite-SPICE Conflicts:** this is based off of the OTL Naxalite Insurgency in rural parts of India. In ATL, the Naxalites are also an interesting group of communist guerilla fighters that resist the grip of not only local authorities, but also the regional coalition security forces pooled together by the Emporic states, who have outlasted the East India Company and replaced it with their own intergovernmental organization, Spice Product Institute for Countries of Export, (SPICE).
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Naxalite%E2%80%93Maoist_insurgency
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walking_with_the_Comrades
55. **European Predators Reversal:** this is a combination of measures such as ones similar to the OTL Dingo Fence and more extensive eradication programs for cats, rabbits, and rats, which have, in OTL Australia, been responsible for a lot of the extinctions of native fauna.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dingo_Fence
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Invasive_species_in_Australia
56. **War on Rats:** similar to in Tasmania and parts of Tamirea, the initiative here is a complete eradication of rats. It is largely inspired by Predator Free Wellington and New Zealand's aspirations to protect its native fauna from rats.
 - a. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcp1BfPUeOc>
 - b. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-65039451>

- 57. Barimi Intervention in Rugari Secession:** this is somewhat reflecting the OTL conflict in Bougainville Island, with the ATL lore here being that Rugara used to be a part of Rotoka, and that Barima intervened in the secession-seeking territory to support its independence. As the conflict threatened to boil over into full scale war, the SoN was forced to intervene.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bougainville_conflict
- 58. Mt. Paektu Eruption:** this is based off of projections for an OTL future eruption by Mount Paektu.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/946_eruption_of_Paektu_Mountain
 - b. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3C2HVQB-g5s>
- 59. Siberian Taiga Fires:** this is based off of the devastating 2022 Siberian wildfires.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2022_Siberian_wildfires

Katesh

Heart of the World

Map of the Society of Nations territory of Katesh

- Lore:** Katesh can refer to both the whole of the SoN territory of Katesh or simply the urban area originally made for expatriates and diplomatic communities to coalesce to direct and support SoN activities and responsibilities. The borders of Katesh originate from the British shoring up their interests in the Suez Canal by annexing the territory around around the Bardawil Lagoon—corresponding to the modern borders of Katesh—in exchange for allowing their allies the Tzanavarites in Egypt to claim Palestine from the Ottomans in the aftermath of the First World War. This territory was famous for being an Allied last stand against the Afrika Korps right after their stunning defeat in the Western Desert and the Fall of Alexandriya, leading to the Tzanvarites to retreat to Phiom for the rest of the war and the Commonwealth forces to regain the Delta in their own bloody campaign. After the Second World War, the importance of the Suez as an international body of water and the need to find a permanent and centrally located headquarters relative for most members of the SoN led to Casia coming out on top of the list of contenders. And by 1946, a city meant to be the “heart of the world” was already being envisioned in the largely barren Casian peninsula jutting out into the Bardawil lagoon.
- Katesh:** from *ka-téš*, meaning “united” in Sumerian, a legacy of the aborted Cosmopolitan campaign for resurrecting Sumerian as a world language due to early 20th century fetishization of Mesopotamia as a “cradle of civilization.” Interest in the initiative lost favour after Intersign—a universal sign language based on Plains sign—was adopted by the SoN in ATL.
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plains_Indian_Sign_Language
- Suez Canal:** the Suez Canal in ATL was transferred from the British to the SoN after the Second World War as a way to circumvent Egyptian nationalization of the body of water, as it was clear from the various wartime conferences between the leaders of the Great Powers as well as other member nations of the SoN—which was the main alliance leading the war against the Axis—that colonial rule and extraterritorial possessions would need to be properly devolved or given the opportunity to be transferred on grounds of self-determination. Though the canal was originally a French and British venture, there had long been calls for nationalization by both Egyptian political elites and the wider public as in OTL. Egypt's ATL transition to a constitutional monarchy under the socialist Tawo Part led to a peaceful resolution to international tension over the canal's ownership, leading to the current status quo of canal revenues being split evenly between the SoN and Egypt, with the SoN being the sole entity that oversees the canal's operation. In the aftermath of the ATL Israeli-Palestini conflict and a failed blockade of the canal by Egypt, Israel occupied Egypt's remaining Sinai territory, leading to a new and tense border between Egypt and Israel on the Suez and the creation of the Demilitarized Zone around the canal to protect international trade regardless of future political tensions and conflicts.
- North and South Suez Districts:** these are built-up areas with facilities for the maintenance and operation of the Suez Canal. These districts are the other side of Katesh's dual nature of being both a SoN headquarters and a solution to competing claims on the Suez Canal. There are living quarters for SoN contractors and employees, who come in on a rotational basis from Katesh.
- Casian Peninsula:** the northern area of Katesh was briefly known as Casia during the British period of control in ATL, and was known locally by Egyptians and native Bedouins as *Kasaroun* or *el-Kas*. The name is tied to the peninsula, which has been identified with Mount Casius adjacent since antiquity in OTL.
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ras_Kouroun
- Gidi Mountains:** as sources for OTL toponyms for this area are scant, I named this range after the OTL Gidi Pass.
- Seyd el Dabab Mountains:** this translates to “fogfisher” in Arabian and is the ATL Bedouin-derived name for this range, which in ATL, does not get as deforested as in OTL, and serves as an ATL natural stepping stone for the SoN's reforestation and regreening efforts in Katesh. In ATL, the SoN installed fog nets or fog fences in a large scale in this area to further replenish the local water basins, which allowed for the regreening initiatives downstream in eastern Katesh and for the Mollison-Fukuoka Permaculture Demonstration Zone.
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fog_collection
- Mollison-Fukuoka Permaculture Demonstration Zone:** this is an ATL large scale version of permaculture and regenerative agriculture efforts similar to those executed or envisioned by groups like the Al Baydha Project, the

Jordan Valley Permaculture Project, and the Weather Makers. The name is an ode to Bill Mollison and Fukuoka Masanobu. The former is a key figure in the global permaculture community, and the latter is known for his writings and work on natural farming and rejuvenating desertified lands.

- a. <https://www.greenthessinai.com/>
 - b. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T39QHprz-x8>
 - c. <https://www.permaculturenews.org/2011/03/30/observations-and-interactions-at-the-jordan-valley-permaculture-project-aka-greening-the-desert-the-sequel/>
 - d. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Mollison
 - e. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Masanobu_Fukuoka
9. **Wildlife refuges:** in OTL, the Sinai Peninsula used to have Mediterranean and semi-arid biomes. In ATL, the SoN is completely invested in a vision similar to the OTL Weather Maker's idea of reclaiming the original vegetated ecosystems and landscapes of the Sinai, at least within the borders of Katesh. The refuges on the map show the current stage of regreening, with the northern and western parts of Katesh being complete, thanks in part to Cooperation with Israel and Palestine in the recent decades of relative peace and normalized relations on that front, but also due to the SoN's original intention of propping up vegetated landscapes as barriers against Israel, should a future conflict break out with an even more extreme or rogue government there.
10. **Military base:** the SoN operates multiple military bases through the territory of Katesh, not only for protecting the Suez Canal as a geopolitical target in future regional conflicts, but to also serve as training grounds and launching grounds for any future SoN mission in the eastern hemisphere. Though military cooperation between member states happens at segmented levels, basic personnel for humanitarian and military missions are assembled as mixed units. Training focuses on cooperation, communication, and trust-building exercises. Espionage and subtle acts of undermining are often common—especially at higher levels of command—and expected, which is why member states involve themselves in segmented or siloed ways.
11. **International Canal Zone:** this is a zone around both shores of the Suez Canal that is also protected by a demilitarized agreement. The SoN monitors and enforces the agreement, while also being the sole operator of canal operations.
12. **Lessepsian Zone of Sanitation:** this part of the Suez Canal is subjected to electrification by electric barriers to obstruct any connections between marine life from the Red Sea and Mediterranean, thus preventing something akin to the OTL Lessepsian or Erythrean invasion from happening in ATL. This is based on the OTL Chicago Sanitary Canal operated by the US Army Corps of Engineers to prevent the further spread of the invasive Asian carp from the Mississippi Basin into the Great Lakes.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lessepsian_migration
 - b. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t3oLeSPINok>
13. **Serbonis Bay:** this is a reference to the Serbonian Bog or Serbonis known in OTL antiquity. In OTL, it is synonymous with Lake Bardawil—known in ATL as the Bardawil Lagoon—but in ATL, the name is used specifically for the bay east of the Casian Peninsula. In ATL, there is still the connotation of being “bogged down” or “mired or “entangled in a situation,” so there is some poetic irony here, as the eastern part of the urban area of Katesh is also dedicated more for refugees and asylum seekers, including those of who wish to become naturalized in Katesh. Thankfully, the ATL global refugee processing system overseen by the SoN is more comprehensive and forgiving than in OTL.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Serbonian_Bog
14. **Caster Mere:** the word *mere* here refers to the wetland and shallowness of the southern portion of the Bardawil Lagoon, and the affixing name refers to native netcasting fishermen that the British first encountered when they took control of Casia, before the formation of Katesh. I also wanted to coin the toponym because of how it sounds in a phonaesthetic way.
15. **Covenant Roads:** the word *roads* here refers to the nautical meaning of a “roadstead,” a body of water that is largely sheltered but not exactly a harbour, and the affixing name was first used officially in ATL by the SoN when they dredged that part of the lagoon for making an accessible harbour in the Bardawil Lagoon. The name reflects cosmopolitan idealism.
16. **Comity Inlet:** I further divided up the OTL *mallahats* or salt flats and lagoons adjacent to Lake Bardawil to make a more pronounced Casian Peninsula. This body of water would have been known as part of the Marqab Lagoon or

Mallahat el-Marqab until the SoN put up bridges, dykes, and the seawall to further define the bodies of water in the area. The name, again, reflects cosmopolitan idealism.

17. **The Riwaq:** known in OTL as *Ar-Ruwaj*, the ATL name comes from the arcaded transitional spaces or porticos between gardens and buildings in Islamic architecture, like in mosques, and it refers to the islands between this body of water and the Comity Inlet.
 - a. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Riwaq_\(arcade\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Riwaq_(arcade))
18. **Peace Pond:** this is an ATL feature, where the SoN further dredged the salt flats in this southwestern portion of the Casian Peninsula to form a semi-enclosed marsh.
19. **Seawall:** this is a continuous place for pleasant ambles along the coastline of much of the urban areas of Katesh, similar to the OTL Vancouver Seawall, the Bundt, or the corniches of Alexandria and Beirut.
 - a. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seawall_\(Vancouver\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seawall_(Vancouver))
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corniche_Beirut
20. **Industrial area:** apart from general industrial parks, this map of Katesh also highlights how energy and water is procured to supply the urban area. In ATL, the SoN built desalination plants that use progressively less polluting technologies over the decades. Some of the other technologies are not yet proven, and some flirt with the megaprojects that too often become cautionary tales against human arrogance and hubris. See below for the highlighted technologies:
 - a. <https://seawatergreenhouse.com/>
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar_thermal_energy
 - c. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desalination#Technologies>
 - d. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SiNxzhs9S1s>
21. **Park land:** the various urban parks, as well as the forest beltline around ATL Katesh, echo some of the better parts of the idealistic mindset of urban planners in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
22. **Native settlement:** the demarcation for native settlements shows their special autonomy within Katesh. Inhabitants of these areas are, oddly, also not citizens of Egypt or Palestine, but rather, claim their citizenship internationally through Katesh in the same way refugees naturalized in Katesh and their descendants do.
23. **Kama Island Reception Zone:** the OTL Kama Island serves as the ATL port of entry for people migrating to Katesh for residency, either for work or to seek asylum. Think of Ellis Island if it were designed with more capacity and accessibility in mind, not just for ease and comfort, but also for human dignity.
24. **Anishi Island Quarantine Zone:** this OTL island is largely unused during the processing of migrants unless there is a global outbreak happening or if there are reported cases of infectious diseases among passengers of an inbound vessel or plane.
25. **Serbonian Walled City:** this is an homage to OTL's Kowloon Walled City. In ATL, Egypt's concession of Casian Peninsula and the territories around the Bardawil Lagoon to Britain excluded the transfer of one of its forts in the area, which would form the foundations for a *de jure* Egyptian enclave within both British Casia and, later, within the SoN's Katesh. But due Egypt's inability to practically enforce its laws there, let alone maintain the fort's facilities, it became a *de facto* haven for squatters, the first waves of which came as a result of the Israeli-Palestini Conflict. From this jurisdictional conundrum, rapid unregulated development ensued, leading to one of the most densely populated places in the world in ATL. Later migrants include asylum seekers who did not wish to wait for their applications to be granted—perhaps due to fears that they did not have strong grounds for seeking asylum, or maybe because they simply wanted to start earning wages sooner—as well, unfortunately, those fleeing international law, meaning all the connotations and complexities of the OTL Kowloon Walled City also apply for the Serbonian Walled City.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kowloon_Walled_City
26. **Castermere Freetown:** this is an ode to OTL Copenhagen's Freetown Christiania, and like the Serobnian Walled City, comes from an ATL history of squatting. In ATL, the jurisdictional boundaries of the Castermere Freetown coincide with an old British military outpost that had been abandoned during the Second World War, and largely forgotten about by the time Casia was transferred to the SoN to form Katesh. In ATL, the first generation of housing complexes for refugees and those who became naturalized as citizens of Katesh—built in the precinct known as “the Boglands”—were far too utilitarian and restrictive, leading to many to flee to Castermere to form their own community.

- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freetown_Christiania
27. **Asylum District:** this is the sanctuary zone for migrants coming to Katesh on the basis of seeking asylum. While their application is being processed and assessed, Katesh provides housing and basic services for these people, though they may not yet be integrated in the formal local economy of Katesh. Though this is not a perfect system, the difference between this ATL system and OTL is that there are far less refugee camps that house people indefinitely as conflicts drag on. Instead, those coming from refugee camps are able to choose to transform to the Asylum District of either Katesh or the other SoN global city, Liberum, to await to return to their home when the conflict is resolved, or to settle as a permanent resident.
28. **Citizens District:** this is where naturalized people can officially live indefinitely in Katesh and contrasts with the Syntopian District, where people are allowed to only reside on a short-term basis. Residents here can only rent from the SoN, with the rental market being operated similar to how Vienna or other Central European cities manage their local housing stocks. Habitat 67 is a reference to OTL Montreal's Habitat 67. The difference here is that in ATL, the entire vision is actualized, and this symbolizes a progressive trend or tendency of the SoN to build better and better homes for naturalized citizens in Katesh. Demographic quotas and mixing is highly encouraged by SoN settling policy to create a more cohesive local community, though some argue this is the SoN's attempt at moulding new generations people loyal to the ideals of the SoN first and foremost.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Habitat_67
- b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_housing_in_Singapore
29. **Syntopian District:** this is where expatriates live in Katesh. These are people who come to work on a contractual basis either for an international company or as part of a diplomatic corps representing a member state of the SoN. In contrast to the Citizens District, demographic enclaves are the norm, though each national enclave is randomly assigned, so the enclaves form a mosaic pattern throughout the district. For example, the Manjurese enclave is adjacent to the Liberian, Finnish, and Pitaguyan enclaves, while the American enclave is adjacent to the Mauretanean, Wulongese, and Bengali enclaves. An enclave may be as large as an entire precinct or as small as the floor of one building within a precinct. Moving beyond the mid-twentieth century naivety of planned cities, each precinct is designed not to achieve technological utopia but to cover the basics, which is to promote community wellbeing and healthy living—to the scale of people, undergirded by equitable public and active transportation.
- a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chandigarh>
- b. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bras%C3%ADlia>
- c. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jan_Gehl
- d. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jane_Jacobs
- e. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Happy_City
30. **Capital District:** this is where people commute to work in Katesh. A majority of the area is dedicated for both SoN operations and for the embassies of member states of the SoN. There is also dedicated space for a flourishing private business sector, due to the fact that international companies naturally seek to benefit from locating next to world governing bodies and authorities.
31. **High profile buildings:** these are notable buildings for their architectural design and aesthetics. In ATL, this style of architecture, known generally as the Internationalist architectural tradition, is rarely used in other parts of the world, though it shares similarities to the Brutalist or *Modernistskaya* traditions adopted by countries in the socialist bloc. See the table for the corresponding OTL buildings that served as inspiration for the ATL building conceptualizations:

#	ATL Building Name	ATL Building Moinker	OTL Building Reference
4	Katesh Concert Hall	The Aperture	Santiago Bahá'í Temple
19	Temple for the Cosmopolitan Order of Katesh	The Cassian (Sanctuary for Humankind)	Lotus Temple
18	SoN Astronomy Centre	The Celestial Mount	Cenotaph for Newton
14	SoN Universal Postal Service Building	The Dovecote	Geisel Library
23	Student Union Building of SoN United World College Katesh	The Atomium	Atomium
24	Zweig-Mustafa Grand Katesh Hotel	The Sail	Burj Al-Arab

5	SoN Library & Archives of Humanity	The House of Wisdom	Ziggurat Tower of Babel
7	SoN Office for Translation & Intercultural Communication	The Babelburg	Central Library of Vancouver
15	SoN Museum of Humanity	The Big Wheel	Apple Headquarters
12	SoN General Assembly & Secretariat	The High Altar	National Congress of Brasilia
10	SoN Security Council Building	The Stonewalls	Palace of Assembly in Chandigarh
13	SoN Trusteeship Council Building	The Canopy	Cathedral of Brasilia
9	SoN Social Council Building	The Doubloon	Aldar Headquarters
11	SoN Court of Justice Building	The Tares	Cymbalista Synagogue and Jewish Heritage Centre
8	SoN Security Command Building	The Ziggurat	SIS Building, London
1	Olwig-Tuan Hall of the Painted Earth Society	The Topophile	Heydar Aliyev Center
17	The Guggenheim Art Gallery	The Guggenheim	The Guggenheim
2	The International Federation of Journalists Building	The Phares	Punta de Hidalgo lighthouse
20	World Museum of Naturality	The Serpentine	Shenzhen Natural History Museum
25	SoN Refugee Agency's Amenity Centre	The Mishkan	Maidan Tent
6	Katesh Central Stadium	The Bird's Nest	Beijing National Stadium
26	Katesh Cosmopolitan University Student Union Building	The Stepwell	A subterranean building designed like a stepwell
16	World Science Exhibition Hall	The Globe	Vancouver Science World
22	Desmond Tutu Centre for Dialogue	The Flutter Mane	Bosjes Chapel
21	World Botanical and Horticultural Bank	The Rolling Domes	The Eden Project
28	World Museum of Human Rights	The Earthfolds	Winnipeg Museum of Human Rights
27	World Museum of Human Migration	The Windcatcher	Specht's Windcacher
3	Katesh World Trade Centre	The Column	One World Trade Center, NY

Dentists Fight a Global War

Oral Health Experts Confront Millennia-Old Habits and the Hegemony of Quid Chewing Cultural Traditions

Map of preferred quid (chew) by country

1. **Quid:** this term is used in ATL to refer to chewing products that contain stimulating properties, as opposed to *gum*, which might refer to mastic or chicle.
2. **Pituri:** historically, this term referred to the leaves and wood ash of multiple plants with stimulating properties, including tobacco. In some parts of OTL Australia, *Duboisia hopwoodii* is the only plant chewed with active substance, while in parts of central Australia, only local species of tobacco were chewed. Both plants contain nicotine.
 - a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pituri>
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duboisia_hopwoodii
3. **Eroga:** known as *iboga* in OTL, this plant is known to have stronger psychoactive properties than other plants on this list, but the curious thing is how it is used by hunters in the Congo to maintain focus and fight fatigue, something for which almost all quids and staple chewing products are primarily used. Interestingly, there are a few other species of plants that contain ibogaine—perhaps at lower concentration—including one from a different species, *Voacanga africana*. In ethnobotany, it is also important to note that almost all stimulating plants can be used as a daily staple, for traditional rites, for desired western medicinal outcomes—ibogaine is purported to have anti-addictive properties— or simply for abuse.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tabernanthe_iboga
4. **Kratom:** this is another one of the more extreme psychoactive plants in this list of quids. Having a similar OTL pseudo-medical niche as *iboga* for helping with addiction, kratom is also consumed as a party drug. Interestingly, there seems to also be an older history of its use for ceremony and for formal social occasions, similar to the OTL kola nut. In ATL, the practice of chewing the leaves for low dosages of the psychoactive substance, mitragynine, is still the most common way to consume the plant.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mitragyna_speciosa
5. **Areca:** this refers to the betel nut, which is a bit of a misnomer as it is simply the nut associated with the betel plant, due to the practice of wrapping the nut in the betel leaf. The nut itself is from a totally different species, *Areca catechu*. Though the effects of chewing areca on oral hygiene has now come under the spotlight of the medical community, this practice of preparing and consuming areca is curiously fascinating. The nut's ethnobotanical narrative for the Austronesian peoples is of particular interest, as the nut is one of the so-called “canoe plants” of the Austronesian cultural realm.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Areca_nut
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domesticated_plants_and_animals_of_Austronesia
6. **Kuding:** this plant does not seem to have been used as a chew/quid in OTL, but has been prepared for centuries as a steep or tisane for the consumption of its caffeine and theobromine content. Though the leaf is extremely bitter, when added to oolong or pu'er tea, the bitterness is mellowed out and the malty and aromatic flavours of the teas are amplified. Interestingly, kuding is related to other popularly consumed holly-based steeps: yerba mate, yaupon, and guayusa. The decision to explore kuding as a quid came from the fact that in OTL northern and temperate parts of East Asia, the chewing of areca or betel nut is not yet established, partly due to the fact that areca trees do not grow in that range. But neither is chewing tobacco that popular in this part of the world. When I found out that in Venezuela, strong tobacco is traditionally processed into a goopy or taffy like product called *chimó*, I decided this process would be the best way to render the bitterness of kuding into a palatable quid product.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ilex_kaushue
 - b. For chimo: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/41762271>
7. **Qat:** also spelled as *khat*, this is one of the more widely known and traditional chews or quid products, being a notable staple in Yemen and parts of the Horn of Africa. In the former, farmers prefer to plant qat over food crops due to the high price it fetches on the market, and also due to its cultural significance, leading to local food supply

issues, especially during hard times like war. The stimulating effects are often compared to being like consuming adderall. In Israel, qat-based drinks are apparently becoming popular.

- a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khat>
8. **Cola:** like the cola steep or *bissy*, the chewed form of cola in ATL is not necessarily representative of how the kola nut is appreciated in OTL West AfricaL. In OTL, kola nut is most often chewed during ceremonies or more formal social gatherings, while in ATL, cola became also a daily staple.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kola_nut
 9. **Coca:** this is perhaps the most widely known chewing product in OTL, as well as the most notorious. There are a lot of misconceptions surrounding the consumption of coca due to the modern issues surrounding cocaine. Wade Davis, for example, considers “comparing coca to cocaine is like comparing potatoes to vodka.” It turns out, coca leaves are highly nutritious. Curiously, I also found that oral hygiene studies for establishing oral cancer with coca chewing seem to be mostly inconclusive, though the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime still has plenty of other health concerns. One of those concerns seems to dispel the thinking that chewing psychoactive plants can increase labour output by lessening fatigue. Apparently, over time, daily consumers or addicts begin to eat less, eventually becoming malnourished, and thus defeating the benefits of chewing the stimulant.
 - a. https://chacruna.net/coca_colombia_legislation_drug_policy_psychedelic_revolution/
 - b. https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/bulletin/bulletin_1952-01-01_2_page009.html
 10. **Tobacco:** chewing tobacco seems to be the most relatable substance in this list of quids for most Westerners. From the “Big Chief” scene in *Sandlot* to baseball machismo, it is still a widely known cultural practice despite being on the decline. What interested me the most about it was the fact that consuming tobacco in this manner seemed to be more typical than smoking, at least in the United States, especially in the South. The spittoon would have been an everyday item. It’s hard now to imagine all the spittle one would see in day-to-day life and the dark stains on the walls and floors of even the most important offices and churches.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chewing_tobacco

The Costly Habits of a World Enshrouded in Haze

A Special Notice from the SoN World Health Organization's Campaign Against Smoking

Map of preferred pitch (smoke) by country

1. **Pitch:** this term is used in ATL because there are more historically smoked staples grouped together as similar classes of commodities, and because using the word "smoke" as a noun is a bit ambiguous.
2. **Tobacco:** at least two species of tobacco were domesticated and widely used in the OTL Americas, and a separate one in OTL Australia. How they spread across their native ranges pre-contact/exchange, including to the temperate Pacific Northwest, is a fascinating read.
 - a. <https://www.sciencenews.org/article/people-pacific-northwest-smoked-tobacco-long-europeans-showed>
3. **Coca:** coca's domestication history is interesting in that there were multiple independent domestication events for a few. Though in OTL it was often used as a quid in the ancient Andes, it was also used like incense and smoked. More importantly, after contact with Europeans, there were several attempts to turn the plant into a smokable commodity much like tobacco, where the percentage of cocaine in the cured but unprocessed leaves would be comparable to the lower amounts of THC and nicotine found in joints and cigarettes. To keep the coca leaves combustible, the use of tobacco wrappers (like doobies), or maize husks (as in the early days of the cigarette), may be used.
 - a. <https://www.thoughtco.com/coca-cocaine-history-domestication-use-170558>
 - b. <https://academic.oup.com/sysbio/article/70/1/1/5912027>
 - c. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/02791072.1982.10524305?journalCode=ujpd20>
 - d. <https://www.druglibrary.org/schaffer/cocaine/cokesmoke.htm>
4. **Hemp:** new studies suggest that hemp or marijuana was domesticated not in OTL Central Asia or northern South Asia, but in the northwestern or central parts of China, primarily for oil and textile production, but also for medicinal use.
 - a. <https://phys.org/news/2021-07-cannabis-domesticated-years.html>
5. **Poppy:** known to be the main active ingredient in "hair of the dog" tinctures and to be one of the strongest medicines used by pre-modern societies, opium in its most traditional form continues to be consumed in OTL by poor and overtaxed farmers in the Middle East and parts of Southeast Asia. These people use the drug in small doses to continue to work, not to deny their duties, because it is an effective way to numb them from strain and, paradoxically, give them energy despite their extreme fatigue. The ATL pattern of opium consumption mirrors this geography, but it should also be noted that opium use is far more prevalent in much of Serica and perhaps the world. I find it interesting that opium once fit the role of being a social lubricant and not a life-denying substance of abuse, and moreover, that the rise in the use of far more dangerous synthetic drugs and opioids corresponds with the criminalization of opium.
 - a. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-88964-4>
 - b. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/23638784>
6. **Pucheta:** this comes from Quechua, *p'uchu*, for "remainder, leftover," and is cognate to the OTL South American Spanish word *pucho*.
7. **Dubi:** this is a play off of the OTL slang *doobie*, which refers to marijuana-filled cigarettes for easier control of combustion. In ATL, the etymology is reverse engineered with the Sanskrit word *dhumin*, which means "smoking," though it could also come from *duvoya*, "worship or honouring," or even *dhuvana*, "fire." An ATL *dubi* is also wrapped in a bidi leaf, like OTL *beedis* for tobacco.
8. **Barcarola:** an allusion to the Rosa Negra, a symbol of anarchism, as *barkarole* is a variety of the rose with a dark shade. In ATL, anarchist symbolism is highly prevalent in *pucheta* marketing because most of the consumers are from left-leaning countries due to the fact that the *pucheta* was the pitch of choice of certain anti-establishment individuals, intelligentsia, and artists in not only anarchist states like Spain, but also sympathetic capitalist societies like France.
 - a. https://ca.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosa_negra

9. **Bolivia Slim:** this is a play off of the OTL Virginia Slims, and how their marketing helped make smoking fashionable for Western women.
10. **Cigarette-rolling machine:** just as in OTL, cheroots and pipe tobacco become less common because of the invention of the cigarette-rolling machine, but theoretically, this machine can also be used to roll *dubis* and *puchetas*.
11. **Poppy cultivation drops:** to counter the cliché and to have the ATL history of east Serica develop similar to OTL East Asia in terms of the preference for tobacco, the less destructive ATL Opium War (there is only one war and it is between the Ming and British, without Qing involvement) is less conclusive and results in the establishment of maritime trade with not only the British, but also the French and Americans, who help negotiate peace. This leads to Ming territories being flooded by cheap American tobacco, all the while the Ming are allowed to have their way in having the importation of opium heavily curtailed or subject to high high tariffs.
12. **Lucrative tax on dubi manufacturers:** this is a reference to the early economics of opium trade with China, based on Governor Robert Clive's initial constituting of the exclusive native-run Society for inland trade in salt, tobacco and betel nut, which was then replaced with the British India Company's own direct replacement, the Board of Customs, Salt, and Opium. It seems possible that, with a less conclusive Opium War making the Maginese market less ripe for exploitation, the East Indea Company has to pivot to an alternative market to reap high profits. In ATL, the Company is also unable to wrest complete control from the Society of Salt, Opium, Hemp, and Areca (SOHA), allowing for more of a convoluted commodity chain or nexus of native middlemen and colonial authorities. The Society, hoping to extract and keep more wealth within the Emporic, exact a hemp tax, where farmers paid for the licence or permission to grow the heavily controlled cash crop, which would then be bought by the Society—essentially compelling farmers to pay to sell their own goods, due to how lucrative it would be to be granted permission to grow such crops. Like salt, the sale of hemp would be designated to certain native landed elites or British East Indea Company merchants, as opposed to any British merchants, resulting in not only a monopoly, but also a monopsony, incentivizing not only the production of *dubis* or a hemp economy in Indea and the greater Emporic Rim, but also for the selling of the product for local consumption.
 - a. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/3632201>
13. **First world commodity:** tobacco was one of the world's first globally planted cash crops. It is interesting in just how easy it was for people around the world to adopt it in OTL, considering the fact that most cultures did not directly inhale combusting substances, but rather indirectly through incense or as vapours. And yet, in China, for example, it is believed that the very importance of incense in the local customs was what made it easy for the cultural pivot.
14. **Supreme Court of Deseret:** this is a reference to the Mormon faith's rejection of stimulants.
15. **Peru's import ban:** Smoking in the Andes was an old tradition but Peru goes the OTL China route of making a foreign-introduced vice out of something that historically was a native practice and medicine
 - a. http://antigua.mamacoca.org/docs_de_base/Consumo/MAIN%20SACRED%20PLANTS.pdf
 - b. <https://repository.library.georgetown.edu/bitstream/handle/10822/1061219/Laird%20Thesis%20-%20Google%20Docs.pdf?sequence=1>
 - c. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/43343837_Ceremonial_Tobacco_Use_in_the_Andes_Implications_for_Smoking_Prevention_among_Indigenous_Youth
 - d. https://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=Py_TAwAAQBAJ&oi=fnd&pg=PR7&dq=tobacco+inca+andean&ots=QyZ1tAJUTZ&sig=lr8xOpB6YAQsDmVzSW5nAlv3bmc#v=onepage&q=tobacco&f=false
16. **Congo's "Pure Air" Laws:** this is a reference to OTL Rwanda, which has interesting progressive laws often used as fun factoids for Westerners, such as their ban on plastics. In ATL Congo, the governing regime has a solarpunk edge to it and is eco-socialist.
17. **"Pristine Himalayas" Vision:** this is a reference to OTL Bhutan's ban on smoking, although the illicit trade persists.
18. **Belarus remains only country:** this is a reference to not only the North Korean analogue dictatorship that persists in ATL Belarus, but also to the fact that it has inherited an ideal from one of the founding fathers of their state ideology, Vladimir Lenin, who hated smoking. In ATL, no successor in the eastern bloc states is able to completely reverse a far more successful anti-smoking campaign initiated by Lenin.
 - a. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5637694>

Distribution of Terrestrial Flora

Huxley's Phytogeographic Scheme for the World

Map of distributional patterns of land-based plants of Altera

19. **Humboldt:** this map is an ode to the quest to understand and delineate how different species of plants inhabit different parts of the terrestrial world, and a prominent figure in this aspect was Alexander von Humboldt, who combined his interests in geology, botany, and physical geography to help found the discipline of biogeography. He still lives on in his famed maps of natural phenomenon, from isothermal maps to maps on coral reef and atoll distributions. Moreover, he created beautiful diagrams and charts like ones of mountain flora influenced by altitude and longitude or on regional time differences depicted through an array of clock faces. He also shared fascinating recounts from his exploration trip to South America, which continue to inspire along with the associated taxonomical and landscape drawings from that trip. Most importantly, however, he was one of the first to map plant distributions across the world.

- a. [Humboldt's phytogeography map](#)
- b. [The many works of Humboldt](#)

20. **Phytogeographic scheme:** many of the hierarchical geographical levels or *phytochorion* (same *choros* in the *chorography* of the *Chorographical Depictions* map) have general reference points to the work of Armen Takhtajan and Ronald Good, two biogeographers who strived to continue Humboldt's ambition of mapping out the world's floristic patterns. For reference on scheme terminology, see the table below. Note too that my scheme is a pragmatic approach to the fact that there are multiple points of contention with the holistic approaches of the likes of Takhtajan and Good. For instance, I base the majority of my *characters* off of Barry Cox's scheme, who reformed Takhtajan's system by resolving logical issues from inconsistent application of criteria in the original system.

ATL scheme	Takhtajan's & Good's systems
Character	Province
Scene	Region
Frame	Subkingdom
Theatre	Kingdom

- a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phytochorion>

21. **Character:** at the basic level or the smallest phytochorion used by the likes of Takhtajan and Good is the floristic *province*, which in ATL, I call a floristic *character*. Most of the ATL characters match the OTL floristic provinces, but I got further insights from reading other sources. For example, I drew from Udvardy for their insight on the flora of New Zealand, Maudlandia, and Marielandia—in which they suggested different Gondwanan evolutionary divisions for them—as well as their idea of a Wallacian-like transition zone for the Moluccas and Papua characters.

- a. [The Biogeographic Regions Reconsidered](#)
- b. [A Classification of the Biogeographical Provinces of the World](#)

22. **Scene:** in the ATL phytogeographic scheme, a *scene* equates to an OTL *region* in the Takhtajan system, which was revised by Cox. Note that I reject Cox's groupings of the flora of the Sahara with the rest of Africa, and his grouping of the OTL Mediterranean with the rest of Europe. I also do not follow Cox in reducing the OTL New Caledonian subkingdom into a scene/region. I also got ideas for how to group Tamirea's characters based on Gonzalez-Oroco et al.'s more updated phytogeographic division of OTL Australia. The names of these scenes are mostly self-explanatory. The name Papagaic may be elusive to those who are not familiar with some of the older names for Brazil, and Medimensic is a fitting counterpart to Mediterranean, referring to the orogenic belt at the centre of Borealea.

- a. [Quantifying Phytogeographical Regions of Australia Using Geospatial Turnover in Species Composition](#)

23. **Tramontanic, Gregalic, Mistralic:** these names are directional in nature, and come from the names of Mediterranean winds used by sailors during the Age of Sail.

- a. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mistral_\(wind\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mistral_(wind))

24. **Frame:** these are the *subkingdom* or second-level division that Takhtajan and Good mapped out in their schemes. I also used Born and Linder's idea of a greater "Cape Floristic Region" so as to collapse Good's famed Capensis Kingdom down to the frame/subkindgom level. In terms of naming, half of the names come from the ocean names in Altera—the only difference there being the *Emporic* is in lieu of the Indian Ocean—or they come from the continent names in Altera. I also gained insights from Martinez et al. to form some of my own *frame* divisions, recognizing that their sectional hierarchies were not exactly parallel those of Cox, Takhtajan, and Good—i.e. I moved the South California and Great Basin characters out from Madrine and into their own frame in the Favonensis Theatre based on their scheme.
- a. [Global Bioclimatics. Clasificación bioclimática de la Tierra](#)
 - b. [The Greater Cape Floristic Region](#)
25. **Levantine, Ponentine, Altine, Bassine, Yemine:** these frame names are unique. The lore here is that these were ATL vulgar Venetian and Frankic cartographic terms used relative to the lands of Ecumina—corresponding to the OTL Afro-Eurasian landmass—which were being tread upon more and more by Venetian merchants and sailors in the late Middle Ages. These terms, respectively, roughly mean "west," "east," "upper/superior," "lower/inferior," and "south," and apart from the last term being borrowed from Arabic, all come from Latin.
26. **Theatre:** the *theatre* here corresponds to the *kingdom* used in the systems of Cox, Good, and Takhtajan. I renamed the concept to move away from asserting political connotations on the more fluid natural world. The names of the phytochoria at this level are directional, though again, unfortunately relative to the European understanding of the world. A major divergence in my scheme is the Antipodensis *theatre*, mainly due to the ATL alternate geography landmasses. Based on Udvardy's suggestion that Antarctic flora would have likely belonged to two separate lineages centred around "Maudlandia" and "Marielandia," and based on the new landmasses bordering Antarctica in Altera, the land that is "New Zealand" or *Humbria* and *Aotearoa*, as well as all of Tamirea, are grouped into an "Antarctic kingdom" or Antipodensis *theatre*, along with the southern tip of Crucea, forming three separate *frames*, *Cetecine* and *Tamirine*, and the transitional zone of *Malvine*.
27. **Favonensis, Vulturnensis:** the former's name comes from *Favonius*, the Roman equivalent of the Grecian god of the west wind, Zephyrus, while the latter's comes from *Vulturnus*, the Roman name for the southeast wind.
28. **Landscape images**
- a. [Sumatric scene](#)
 - b. [Carpentieric Scene](#)
 - c. [Hesperic Scene](#)
 - d. [Peruvic Scene](#)

Distribution of Terrestrial Fauna

Huxley's Zoogeographic Scheme for the World

Map of distributional patterns of land-based animals of Altera

1. **Huxley:** this map is an ode to the quest to understand and delineate how different species of animals inhabit different parts of the terrestrial world, which was spearheaded by naturalists and scientists like **Alfred Russel Wallace** and **Thomas Henry Huxley**, contemporaries of Charles Darwin. There was a time when understanding the geographic patterns of zoogeography could be made in rough, while still coming to very fruitful and insightful observations, like the Wallace Line. The **Wallace Line** is an observation of how it only takes a narrow strait to cause divergent speciation and isolation of taxonomic groups of animals. New biogeography research, of course, shows that border-like delineations are only useful as heuristics, as the boundaries of nature are by default blurred and full of exceptions. That is why maps like 1876 *The Geographical Distribution of Animals* are seldom produced anymore, because the more geographers and biologists learn about the world, the harder it is to make conclusions at such a grand/world-level scale of analysis. Note also that though I love the idea behind this map, it still requires one to dig deeper into figuring out just what **specific species** and kinds of animals are found in each territorial range. Moreover, it only gives clues for what kind of ATL animals exist in the alt-geo places in the southern hemisphere:
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Henry_Huxley
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred_Russel_Wallace
 - c. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wallace_Line
 - d. <https://www.discovermagazine.com/environment/biogeography-map-updated-after-136-years>
2. **Revised scheme:** see the main schematic in Holt et al.'s article on their proposed update to Wallace's scheme, plus subsequent critique (mostly for transition zones), and then response, as well as the original scheme I diverge from:
 - a. [10.1126/science.1228282](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1228282)
 - b. <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.1237471>
 - c. <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.1237541>
 - d. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2815363>

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TABLE 2
Zoogeographic Scheme Here Proposed

Realms	Regions	Subregions	Provinces		
Arctogaeon	Holarctic	{ Arctic	{ Arctic		
		Nearctic	{ Canadian Appalachian West American Sonoran		
			Caribbean	{ Central American West Indian	
				Palearctic	{ European Siberian Manchurian Tibetan Mediterranean Eremitian
		Paleotropical	Oriental		{ Indian Ceylonese Indo-Chinese Malayan Celebesian
					Ethiopian
				Malagasy	
					Neogaeon
		Notogaeon	Australian	{ Australian Papuan	{ Australian Papuan
				Oceanian	{ New Zealandian Antarctic

e.

3. **Terminology:** the terminology for the classification scheme differs from Wallace's or other biogeographers because I wanted to move away from applying political connotations to the more fluid natural world. The names generally follow Wallace but in an effort to dissociate these regional units from cultural and historical connotations for clarity's sake, new names were coined based on directionality—i.e. *Dysogaean* from *dysis* for “cardinal west.” Of course, direction is relative, and thus Eurocentrism is not completely eradicated.
4. **Extent:** corresponds to Wallace's more encompassing and original use of the concept of “realm” in zoogeography.
5. **Reach:** refers to the “realm” unit in Holt et al.'s revised system of Shmidt's and Wallace's system of zoogeography. Note that in contrast with Holt et al.'s scheme, the units that correspond to the Schmidt-Wallace “Manchurian Province” and “Siberian Province” have been redivided to conform with the Wallace's “Sino-Japanese Realm”—the *Eostropic reach* in Altera. Generic names or **names based on direction** relative to the European compass and understanding of the world were chosen for this category—i.e. *circius* for the Greco-Roman “nor'norwest,” *eos* for “east” and *eremia* for “desert” in Greek, and *lips* for “southwest.”
6. **Trend:** corresponds to the “region” in Holt et al.'s revised system of Shmidt's and Wallace's system of zoogeography, which is also known as “subregion” in Wallace's original scheme. A notable divergence to Holt et al.'s revised system is that **Notogaean** is here divided into two *spans* based on the qualitative heuristic of the **donkey-zebra divide** in Africa. Also, the divisional boundaries around ATL Nicaragua and Argentina are different in this system based on mammal and amphibian and birds differentiation pushing them to need to be made distinct, and though Holt et al. do not themselves do this, their findings would suggest this decision may be reasonable.
 - a. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/314465427_Why_the_Donkey_Did_Not_Go_South_Disease_as_a_Constraint_on_the_Spread_of_Equus_asinus_into_Southern_Africa
7. **Span:** corresponds to the “province” unit in Wallace and Holt et al.'s scheme, and denotes a part of the world with a balance of qualitative and quantitative territorial groupings informed by Holt et al.'s mapping of phylogenetic turnover for each **birds, amphibians, and mammals**, as well as Schmidt-Wallace's original provinces, which privileged mammals.
8. **Thylacine and mammoth:** as hinted in this map, certain extinct animals like the OTL woolly mammoth and Tasmanian tiger persist into contemporary times. My ideas for most of these unbelievable but slightly plausible non-extinctions is to use a combination of events and slight changes in human behaviour. For example, there is always the potential that some species gets domesticated as a beast of burden while wild populations go extinct—i.e. the auroch and even the horse, which in OTL is survived by the rare Przewalski horse, which survives fittingly in Mongolia, a land that has the idea of horses bred into its imaginary. This would work well for the woolly mammoth, which, as alluded to in other lore reveals, survived long enough on Mammoth Island or OTL Wrangel Island for humans to domesticate the last of them. For species like the thylacine, conservation efforts and breeding programs need to happen earlier or with more vigour to keep endangered populations on life support long enough for late twentieth century technology and widespread empathy to carry the species back into an upward trend. Below is a list of other extinct animals I was thinking might exist in Altera:
 - a. Extinct and speculative evolution of monotremes in ATL Australia and Siluria
 - b. Marsupial cougars in remote mountainous areas of Tasmania and Cantabria
 - c. Haast eagles and moas, the latter having been domesticated while the latter persists in the more remote locations and coastal islands of Humbria, perhaps also being known to prey on moa livestock
 - d. Elephant birds of OTL Madagascar, also domesticated in a similar fate as the mammoth
 - e. Sabre tooth tigers, on their last legs when Europeans arrive, are one of the world's first conservation victories in Argentina, or perhaps survive only in ATL Argentina's share of Tierra Del Fuego and Fogaria, meeting a similar fate like the OTL Tasmanian Tiger, but wild sightings persist until somehow, a small population is indeed located...
 - f. *Macrauchenia patachonica* as another camel-like domesticate originating from the Pampas
 - g. Heath hens are domesticated early by the Eastern Woodland Culture or the Norse in Windmark.
 - h. Avalon (Falkland) wolf survives the insane extraction logic of sealing by earlier Cumbrish settlement, though this would lead to its own problem as raising sheep would definitely be part of the local economy and put settlers at odds with the species, so perhaps early conservation work also happens to take root on those isles in ATL
 - i. Rewilded mammoths roam alongside woolly rhinos and muskox in a Pleistocene park / mammoth steppe range in ATL northeastern Siberea, with the muskox being just as domesticated as reindeer there. The

practice is introduced to the people of Tanana and even northern Athabasca. In the the climate and terrain corner maps of the *A Wealth of Nations* map, I took great lengths to show the mammoth steppe persisting, due largely to the theory that it was the lack of the arctic megafauna that caused the transition of that last area of mammoth steppe to turn into taiga, as that area is far drier due to the rainshadow effect of mountain ranges and plateaus to the south and southwest

- j. On that note, passenger pigeons, bison, and salmon and clams are also managed intensively by the Woodlands, Prairies, and Pacific Coastal First Nations cultures, respectively. The former may include domestication or ranching. The bison would not be ranched but the landscape itself would have porous borders and international cooperation between the nations of Ocarasta, Manitoba, Arizona, US, and the southern Plains, but not Texas. Salmon in the PNW are never exploited to the extent of OTL, and clam gardens never go into disarray
- k. Potential speculative evolution of sailed lizzards on Siluria

American Nations

A History of the 10.5 Rival Regional Cultures of America

Map of American cultural divisions

1. **New England:** this is a common term used in OTL to refer to the northeastern United States.
2. **New Holland:** though this term mostly referred to just New York in OTL and corresponds to Colin Woodard's "New Netherland," this regional appellation is extended to adjacent states that were the main attractors of immigrants from other parts of Europe, corresponding also to Colin Woodard's Yankeedom. New Holland remains as the driving economic engine of the United States, exemplifying the pragmatic or problematic marriage of modern neoliberal and multicultural values in centre-right politics. Having never stopped attracting immigrants, New Holland's demographic and cultural image is one that is shapeshifting, constantly being renegotiated or redefined every few decades. It is also the place in ATL where non-Europeans have carved out communities, along with enclaves in the Gulf Coast.
3. **Tidewater:** from "Tidewater plain," another term to describe coastal plains by the sea with wetland forests that see tidal floods or the ebb and flow of the tide. The cultural grouping here largely refers to a historical legacy less marred by chattel slavery and an economy revolving around cotton plantations, while still also being southern in many other aspects. It also has a strong cultural continuation from the Cavaliers of Britain.
4. **Cottonwise:** largely corresponding to the Deep South of Colin Woodard's, this area is also most similar to the OTL political situation of republican stronghold states in the United States, where white supremacy in politics remains, despite large African American minorities. The OTL history of post-Civil War reconstruction also happens here in the same way, and the ATL Civil Rights Movement largely was a result of the stubborn hold of Jim Crow era laws in this particular part of the country.
5. **Sloughpine:** like Tidewater, this refers to the *sloughs* or waterways of the flooded wetland forests like the ones around the Atchafalaya River or other branches of the lower Mississippi; perhaps a misnomer, as swamp cypress are more common in the wetlands and swamps of the lower Mississippi than swamp pines are, which are more predominant in eastern Gulf Coast, being the predominant forest of wet flatwoods there. The cultural grouping here diverges from Colin Woodard's scheme. In ATL, the Sloughpine states are noteworthy in being the only American states to have Blacks forming the majority of the populations. In contrast to the Midwestern industrial cities, where Black Americans are concentrated in the city centres, White and Black Americans are evenly distributed across the area. Because of the French colonial heritage and perspectives of race, many of the locals, known as **Creoles**, are of mixed-race descent, though there are also as many White creoles as there are Black creoles in New Orleans and all along the Mississippi. The **Cajun identity** that developed in the rural swamps and backcountry was notably predominantly White until the Civil War, when the historically more tolerant attitudes towards Black folk in the Sloughpine states overtook the temporary racial imperialist attitudes that had come over from the Cottonwise planters during the Antebellum. The Union's policies of giving land to freed blacks worked the most in Sloughpine because of the unique cultural foundations here. The Sloughpine area is thus not only different in being mostly Catholic, but also because it was a **third option to the racialized cultures** of the American North and South, where Black Americans had contested relations with their neighbours, just in different ways. Due to this bastion of Black enfranchisement, Black land ownership, and African American prosperity are the highest in this part of the country.
6. **Sweetwater:** this name parallels the Tidewater toponym and refers to "freshwater," as in some English dialects, particularly in the southern coastal areas, *sweetwater* is the term used for freshwater, as opposed to saltwater. in Colin Woodard's scheme, the areas surrounding the Great Lakes are grouped with New York to form "Yankeedom" but I make a distinction in that, though this part of the country did also receive considerable amounts of immigration at the turn of the twentieth century, it also saw stagnation in the progress of cosmopolitan ideals and less international exposure, owing largely to a decrease in economic prospects here by the 1960s. Corresponding in some ways to the "Midlands" category of Colin Woodard, this cultural bloc exemplifies the early 20th century American narrative, in that it is a place where European immigrants could "come as they are" and improve their economic prospects in a new land.
7. **Bluegrass:** this term comes from the Kentucky epithet, which owes its moniker from the purplish hue of the seed heads of a native species in that part of the continent, *Proa pratensis*. This ATL grouping corresponds largely to Colin Woodard's "Greater Appalachia" and like its OTL counterpart, owes its cultural distinction to being settled primarily by the *borderlanders* on the Lothian Anglo-Scottish border. In OTL, this part of the south is most notable

for having less of a history tied to slavery and having more of that yeoman work ethic described by Alexis de Tocqueville rather than the cultural opulence of the Deep South. In ATL, I put more focus on the curious history of the OTL **melungeon** identity, a term most akin to the concept of *mestizos* in Spanish-settler countries. The lack of economic prospects in this cultural area meant that fewer newly freed slaves migrated here after the Civil War, but at the same time, it is also the only place in the Anglo-American parts of the country that operates beyond the binary racial social construct. In ATL, there are a high number of people here who self-identify as Melange, or having mixed heritage from both African and Indigenous ancestry, making a major share of the population distinct.

a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melungeon>

8. **Tallgrass:** this term plays off the *bluegrass* epithet and is a fitting epithet for states that boast tallgrass prairie ecosystems. Tallgrass prairies are one of the most fertile and productive grasslands in the world. In ATL, they also see demise and the rise of monocrop agriculture. It is a combination of the big agriculture segments of “Yankedoom” and the “Far West” cultural characteristics that Colin Woodard identifies for the areas in the United States driven by the logic of resource extraction.
9. **The Ranges:** the term here is an epithet that refers to both the Rocky Mountains and also to the fact that this is the limits or “frontier range” of the country. The Ranges are less of the “Far West” identity that Colin Woodard outlines, and is instead more aligned to his “Left Coast” cultural area, being defined by ecological movements, faith in good government, the pursuit of social progress and mild cosmopolitan ideals. Being on the border with California, it is also one of the main entry points for Serican and Indean culture, making it have further parallels with the OTL Pacific Northwest and California. Though there is that ethos of “discovery” of the Wild West, the evolution of this part of the country leads to cultural developments akin to that of OTL Boulder, Colorado, as well as Edmonton and, to an extent, Calgary, in Canada, which, though conservative-leaning, are quite multicultural—as opposed to, ironically, the coastal Maritime provinces of OTL Canada, which, although not landlocked, have a harder time attracting immigrants.
10. **The Peninsula:** this is perhaps the biggest divergence from OTL and also most ironic, being a transplanted California. Being similarly an outlier in having warm weather year round, I found it to be a good fit for boasting all of what made OTL California what it is—a place to escape to, that last magical frontier and promising place to start anew for many Americans, and that place that defies traditional authority and escapes the old cultural norms of the rest of the country. It also happens to have similar ties to the Spanish-speaking world, and already had its own Disneyland. I’m not sure where **Hollywood** would get its desert and mountainous landscapes, considering the “Studio Zone” or “Thirty Mile Zone” would now be mostly lush, low lying subtropical landscapes.

Graphopolitics and the Modern Borders of Writing

The Prevailing Writing Systems Adopted by States in a Polyscriptal World

Map of political blocs by writing system used

1. **Graphopolitics:** this is a play off of *geopolitics*, as this is a map of countries grouped as cultural blocs based on the official and primary writing system adopted by states.
2. **Writing systems:** each writing system featured on this map and infographic has a corresponding OTL script, which I have documented for reference. Some are conscripts, while others are scripts invented by cultural revivalists, with usage varying from a handful of users to high rates of takeup—like Adlam, the script invented for Fulani. I have smuggled in some very interesting etymologies in this set of ATL writing system names, so do give the explanation notes a read, especially for the Serican scripts that use Chinese characters as a case—a feature I describe as **ideocameral**. Most of those writing systems have a suffix that is cognate to *wenzi*, the Chinese term I use to describe a macro-writing system that can itself contain multiple writing systems to be used congruently.
 - a. [See the Pantographia scripts sheet of the Gaia Polygotta spreadsheet.](#)
3. **Pantographia:** this word was coined by Edmund Fry's 1799 publication, *Pantographia: containing all the known alphabets in the world; together with an English explanation of the peculiar force or power of each letter.*
 - a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pantographia>
4. **Featuary:** this is the ATL term used to describe featural writing systems, which is a contested term in OTL in terms of what it describes and its basic efficacy.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Featural_writing_system
5. **Ideatary:** this is the ATL term for OTL logographic writing systems, with more emphasis on the ideographic components or abstract concepts within logograms, and thus allow the term logogram to refer to the characters used in such writing systems, as the term character is used inconsistently when used in the context of Western typography—think how the words *letter*, *glyph*, and *character* are distinguished in typesetting.
6. **Ancillary:** this denotes writing systems that were always intended to supplement or complement primary writing systems, such as how Bopomofo is used in literacy education in Taiwan, or how Hiragana can be used for pronunciation clarifications of rare Kanji characters—Sinic logograms. This term also includes *nyctographic* or “night writing” systems, such as **braille**, as well as phonetic and glossing transcription systems, like the Kinetic writing system—OTL **Hamburg Notation**—and Phonetic writing system—the OTL **Visual Speech of Alexander Graham Bell**, which is the ATL analogue for the International Phonetic Alphabet.
 - a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bopomofo>
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hamburg_Notation_System
 - c. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Night_writing
 - d. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visible_Speech
7. **Ligarity:** the ATL term to refer to how words are held together by linking or connecting components, as in OTL Arabic and Devanagari. I always found it interesting that some scripts had this feature, while others didn't, and that the English language doesn't have an appropriate term for this. In Hindi, the term for the line that connects all the glyphs is *sirorekha*, for example.
8. **Legibility:** from the Latin word for “typing, binding something,” *ligatura*. This refers to punctuation marks and script grammar, including the way words are spaced. In Serica, as in OTL, there is usually no spacing between words, while in the Erythrean countries, words are spaced with what Westerners call semicolons, as is the case in OTL Ethiopia.
9. **Camerality:** from the Latin word for “chamber,” *camera*, and comes from the age of movable type, where typesetters would separate sets of characters in different drawers or chambers. This ATL term refers to whether different character cases are used in a writing system. In English, this would describe the practice of using uppercase and lowercase characters to represent the same letter in different contexts. In ATL, the term also refers to how Serican writing systems may have **Sinic logograms organically mixed with their natively developed writing systems** as part of one greater writing system. The OTL example of this is how Japanese uses two different syllabary character sets, Hiragana and Katakana, along with a whole other set of Chinese characters known as Kanji. In the OTL past, Chinese characters were also mixed with native writing systems in Korea and Vietnam, and were known

respectively as Hanja and Han tu. In ATL, the feature of a writing system containing a set or case of logograms is described by the ATL term of ideocameral.

- a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kanji>
 - b. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hanja>
 - c. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ch%E1%BB%AF_N%C3%B4m
10. **Devanagari transcription for *gavisti***: meaning "desire for war" in Sanskrit, being famously referred to in the film *Arrival*, due to its interesting etymology for having to do with the wanting of cows.
 11. **Todo transcription for *zolgokh***: the Khalkinese or OTL Mongolian word said for greeting another in the new year, written in the OTL Manchu-Mongol script.
 12. **Ampersand**: this is just a classic and one of the most common examples of a ligature.
 13. **Eszett**: this is often regarded as its own letter in the German orthography of the Latin alphabet in OTL, but is also an example of a ligature.
 14. **Arabic transcription for *baashaak***: the Arabian or OTL Standard Arabic word used to express "passionate love for another."
 15. **Quipuqilqa transcription for *kuka***: the Quechuan or OTL Quechua word for "coca." The script *Quipuqilqa* is inspired by Ian Jame's Slinseng-Fi, although it is rotated ninety degrees to be more in line with the idea that the script is a natural descendant of Incan *quipu* recording devices.
 - a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quipu>
 16. **Eungul transcription for *ye, kkuljame***: the Josenese or OTL Korean words for "yes" and "amusing, interesting." This line is used to display unique Sinic punctuation marks.
 17. **Hanzi transcription for *dú Xiyóu Ji***: literally meaning "read *Journey to the West* in Chinese or OTL Mandarin. As in the Josenese text of line, this line is used to display unique Sinic punctuation marks.
 18. **Ole**: this classic Spanish interjectin and cheer comes with the inverted exclamation mark, used famously in Spanish.
 19. **Hamic transcription for *yaye bīhēdi yesema yimet'ali***: the Abyssinian or OTL Amharic proverb, "He who sees goes, he who hears comes." The line of text here is used to showcase the Erythrean *interpunctual* convention—using punctuation marks between words instead of spaces or none at all.
 20. **Aallens hett en Enn, blood de Wust hett twee**: the Saxonian or OTL Low German rendition of the OTL High German proverb, *Alles hat ein Ende, nur die Wurst hat zwei*, literally meaning "Everything has an end, only the sausage has two." This line of text showcases the convention of capitalization of nouns.
 21. **Okimutsu transcription for *minu gu hana***: the Ryukyuese and OTL Japanese idiom, literally meaning "Not seeing is a flower," and conveys the idea that anticipating something without having any view of it is more pleasing than waiting.
 22. **Wamonji transcription for *watashi wa***: the Japanese and OTL Japanese words used to write, "I am," but instead of mixing the Kanji with Hiragana as in OTL, the character *wa* here is represented with Katakana, as ATL Japanese uses Katakana to write native words, and does not have any use for Hiragana, which is used only in the Okimutusu system of the Okinawan languages.
 23. **Khutsuric transcription for *shemomechama***: the Iverian or OTL Georgian word that conveys "I accidentally (and reluctantly) ate the whole thing."
 24. **Hellenic transcription for *phronesis***: this is the Grecian or OTL Greek word for "wisdom, virtue."
 25. **Linear rows, left to right, bottom to top**: there are only a few cases where writing was written in this fashion, and even those cases were different in that they may have been written in this manner but read in a different manner.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hanunoo_script
 26. **Zigzag columns, left to right, top to bottom**: this refers to the traditional way Mayan writing was done.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maya_script

Meditera World Cup

2022 Men's AC World Cup

Map of the eight hosting countries of the World Cup

1. **Eight Hosting Countries:** the eight nations to host the Meditera World Cup are Punice, Sicily, Italy, Illyria, Greece, Turcia, Galatia, and Saconia. These are societies that are different in languages and religion and yet also similarly bound by a shared Mediterranean history and culture. Each country will offer three stadiums to host the tournament matches. More can be read about the Meditera World Cup on the Miraheze Wiki page.

a. https://atlasalteraworld.miraheze.org/wiki/2022_Men%27s_AF_World_Cup

2. **Meditera:** this is a branding choice that pegs the 2022 Men's AC World Cup with the Mediterranean World, though the word itself is in fact mostly meaningless based on the chosen spelling, even for Italian or Grecian. One can read into the word by suggesting it also translates as "middle earth, midland," going with the same *medius* and *terra* as in the etymology for the Mediterranean itself—though in this case, the meaning is "(the sea) between the lands."

3. **Translations of Men's AC Association Football World Cup:** the prevailing and official languages of the eight host languages are based on OTL Tunisian/Maghrebi Derja for ATL Punician, OTL Neapolitan Italian for ATL Italian, OTL Sicilian for ATL Sicilian, OTL Tskaonian Greek for ATL Saconian, OTL Albanian for ATL Illyrian, OTL Greek for ATL Grecian, OTL Turkish for ATL Turcian, and Modern Gaulish with Turkish and Armenian influences for ATL Galatian. The translations for the name of the Meditera World Cup were done with the help of people with southern Italian heritage and a quick investigation of Greek and Albanian sources on football, along with contacting Steve Hansen, the creator of Modern Gaulish, and investigating vocabulary lists of Tsakonian Greek. Below is a transcription table:

	Men's Association Football World Cup	
Punician	Ks ął' ąłm lkrđ ąłqdm lrlj	□□□□ □□□□ □□□□ □□□ □□ □□
Italian	Campionato munniale 'e pallone máscure	Campionato munniale 'e pallone máscure
Sicilian	Campionatu munniali di palluni màsculi	Campionatu munniali di palluni màsculi
Saconian	Pankósmo chúpellon póroséra átshopú	پنكوسم چوپان پورسير انتشيو
Illyrian	Shoqata Futbolliste e Burrave të Kupa Botërore	Շոկատա Ֆստբոլիստե ե Բուռավե տը Կսպա Բոտըրորե
Grecian	Pankósmio Kýpello Podosfaírou Andrikó	Παγκόσμιο Κύπελλο Ποδοσφαίρου Ανδρικό
Turcian	Erkekler Ayaktopu Dünya Kupası	Երկեկեր Աճակտոպւ Դւնճա Կւպասի
Galatian	Kelich Bif'u Ayatst'opu Gwiré	Կելիխն Բիթւ Այաճտոպւ Գւիրե

- a. Modern Gaulish dictionary: https://glosbe.com/en/mis_gal
- b. Modern Gaulish website: <https://www.moderngaulish.org/>
- c. Tsakonian sources: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/30096461> and <https://www.tsakonianarchives.gr/tsakoniki-paramithia/>

4. **Years (2022, 1444, 2972) and tetris-like year logogram:** showcasing the year of this tournament proved challenging, as in Altera, there is not one dominant calendar system. For bureaucratic purposes, the Society of Nation (SoN) uses the **World Calendar** as a neutral reference point for all the other calendar systems officially employed by various states around the world. That means the year is officially 6735 according to cosmopolitan bureaucrats, who also render the numerals in a binary glyph so that the year can be represented with transcultural grapheme. That's what the **tetris-like block** is supposed to be. 2022 is, of course, the Gregorian year, while 1444 is the year in the Islamic Calendar, and 2972 is by the Zarathustran count. Both Orthodox Greece and Catholic Sicily and Italy use the first system. Punice and Saconia go by the Islamic year. Illyria, Turcia, and Galatia use the Zarathustran calendar.

5. **World Sports Council:** this is a specialized agency that reports to the SoN's Economic and Social Council, and which fields numerous subordinate agencies, each of them representing a general tradition or family of sport. As high profile athletic competitions are often hosted by the World Sports Council, which is an extension of the SoN, there is

a more explicitly acknowledged political slant to sports in Altera, which means that countries can be banned from partaking in official tournaments or events until the political row is resolved in other bodies of the SoN.

6. **International Organization for Football:** this is a subagency that helps organize and facilitate international sporting events related to all the sports traditionally classified as *football* in the early modern period, ranging from *mob* versions (ATL mob football) to the tradition known as *association football* or *soccer*. The organization is more of a funding body with strict financial oversight, while the committees for each of the various football-related sports have more functional responsibilities and duties.
7. **Committee for Association Football:** this is more equivalent to OTL FIFA, with less funding autonomy, though it still relies largely on private sponsorships and partnerships.
8. **Rumi:** the mascot for this tournament is a football-themed figurehead that is ripped off of the OTL *Ciao* mascot for Italy 1990 World Cup, and the name is an ode to the general historic connections to Rome that each of the host nations have, as well as the fact that the Mediterranean is often called the “Roman Sea” as an epithet in many of the host languages. It is also a nod to the ATL area of Rumelia, and the fact that the Ottomans considered themselves as being the inheritors of the lands of Rum.
9. **Mea:** this comes from *meandros*, as the design pattern of the ball is a nod to the architectural and artistic motif that hails back to ancient times in the eastern Mediterranean. It is also a word that is easy to pronounce in each of the languages of the host nations, while being essentially meaningless in each of their languages.
10. **Al Barq stadium:** this is a nod to the Barcas of ancient Punice.
11. **Jamahiriya:** this is state tenet for Punice and many of the Atlasian countries. See the footnotes for plate no. 4 in the footnotes for the map plates.
12. **Ol-Skantzokhere:** meaning “the hedehog,” this comes from a Tsakonian rendering of *akanthochoiros*, which is the OTL Greek word for hedgehog or porcupine, with the Hellenic o article becoming more like the Arabic *el* due to the Islamic conquest of Saconi.
13. **Omer ol-Ekrettho:** this an ode to Omar al-Mukhtar, with *ekrettho* being a Tsakanonian rendering of *eklektos*, “the chosen,” which is what the OTL Arabic *mukhtar* means.
14. **I Porfyri Porta:** this means “the purple gate” and is a reference to the stadium being located adjacent or near an ATL gate in Constantinople that rivals the Sublime Gate or ATL Istanbul.
15. **To streidi:** this means “the shellfish, the oyster” in Grecian.
16. **Ataturk:** this is an ode to Ataturk, who is an important figure for modernizing Turcia in its transition from being the metropole of the Ottoman Empire, but who also does not implement all the OTL reforms.
17. **Buyuk Selcuklu:** this translates as “the Great Seljuk” in Turcian.
18. **Uyndya:** this comes from ancient Galatian, *uinydia*, “holy white place.”
19. **In task:** this means “the badger” in ATL Galatian, coming from *taskos*, “badger” in OTL ancient Galatian.
20. **Xiomara War:** this is an ATL Galatian orthographic rendition of Chiomara, with the *war* epithet meaning “great.”

Map of the kick-off times for the World Cup

21. **World Cup Kick-off Times:** this infographic is similar to some of the kick-off communication graphics done by FIFA and Qatar for the OTL 2022 World Cup, showing when the regular match times would be for different local times during the group stage. The caveat here is that these tokenistic local time or “clocks around the world” style infographics or display pieces are a lot more complicated to show, due to the three major coordinated time zone systems used in Altera, as well as the numerous timekeeping systems pegged to those time zone systems.

- a. <https://www.deviantart.com/telamontabulicus/art/A-World-by-Three-Temporal-Dimensions-Altera-921016585>

Map for World Cup transportation routes

22. **Zeppelins and seaplanes:** this map flushes out a few interesting details about technology in Altera. First, there is both conservatism to change alongside a contradictory attitude of willingness to embrace *other* or *novel* technologies, allowing for multiple modes of transportation to co-exist, from zeppelins to seaplanes to ferries that operate for different ranges and capacities.
23. **Rail connections:** The other thing of interest is that there is no easy rail connection between Italy and Tuscany, with a short ferry crossing necessary along the Italy-Tuscany border, and transit through ATL Montenegro—slightly enlarged OTL San Marino—between Lombardy and Italy. The border cross through the middle of the Ausonian

Peninsula is an **active demilitarized zone** much like the OTL DMZ on the Korean Peninsula. The lore that this stems from goes back to post-WW2 Italy, and can be gleaned from the Post-WW2 European Hopes map and cutout.

- a. <https://www.deviantart.com/telamontabulicus/art/Post-WW2-European-Hopes-The-Ironist-Nov-1949-900542007>

Map of qualification groups for the World Cup

24. **Road to the World Cup:** with 96 spots, the ATL Men's AC World Cup is still hard to get to, considering the fact that there are now way over a thousand countries in the world of Altera. This map showcases the distribution of berths and how the IOFCAF divides the world in a more geographically consistent manner than FIFA with its regional federations. The proportion of **berths available to Europea decreases**, though the region still comes on top as having the most allocated spots when combined with Asea.

Map of group stage results and newspaper clipping

25. **Hubs of the group stage:** each of the host nations are a "hub" in the sense that they are each the venue for one group of teams during the group stage of the tournament. The group stage uses a Helvetian-system tournament format, known in OTL as the **Swiss-system tournament format**.
26. **World Cup Group Stage Results:** this newspaper cutout is supposed to be from the ATL Australian newspaper known as the "Dildo Shipping News," a double reference to OTL Newfoundland. Dildo is a real place in OTL Newfoundland, and *The Shipping News* is a novel that kind of fails to capture the real charm of OTL Newfoundland, but which is often the greatest endorsement of the place for outsiders. The weird spelling and grammar is thanks to ATL Australia adopting the **SoundSpel orthography reform**, which OTL Australia seemed to have done so in a limited capacity before abandoning it, plus the fact that the Newfie dialect in OTL has a lot of unique vocabulary and grammar—and which is amplified with ATL Australian being considered more of a distinct language, or as distinct as Scots. The stories in the newspaper highlight Windmark's remarkable group stage run—which is an ode to OTL Iceland's run in the 2018 World Cup—as well as OTL Italy failing to qualify for the world cup in 2018 and 2022.
 - a. Jimmy Kimmel discovers Dildo, Newfoundland: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wK3HWT7NIN4>
 - b. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SoundSpel>

Warring States of Sports

The Territorial Gains and Competitive Landscapes Over Mob Sports

Map of preferred mob sports by country

- 1. Mob sport:** this refers to the kind of “football” sports that evolved in a separate way from soccer or association football in OTL, retaining rules that encourage full contact or tackling. Historically, many of the precursors to rugby were known as *mob football*.
- 2. Gridiron:** this is just American rules football, with the term being a popular OTL moniker for the sport.
- 3. Rugby:** this is rugby union, which is the most popular form of rugby to be played in OTL.
- 4. Lelo:** literally meaning “a try, to field, or attempt to score,” this sport comes from the traditional Iberian or OTL Georgian sport known as *lelo burti*, which translates roughly as “field ball.” The goal designs and rules are my attempt at devising a standardized set of rules for the sport, though it seems that a set of rules were devised during the OTL Soviet period. The scoring rules of lelo are based on a decimal system, as the ATL sport would have been popularized and standardized in socialist countries that use the metric system most extremely, including decimal time. The **2500 g** weight of the ball conforms with the general range of how much an OTL *lelo burti* ball can weigh. This makes the ball hard to pass far, even though forward passing is allowed past any line of scrimmage. The rule to pass the ball after **8.6 seconds** is similar to attempts to break up the momentum of Australian football with running bounce or basketball’s dribbling. That specific count, along with the **14-min halves** has to do with the conversion between Positivist time and the Sumero-Semitic timekeeping system, as 10 Positivist seconds or *senidays*—the Metric prefix coming from Siamese, *saen*, “hundred thousand,” which is used in the ATL Positivist and metric systems for denoting magnitudes of -5, while *laco-* is used in the opposite sense of magnitudes of 5, coming from *lakh*, “hundred thousand, mark” in ATL Kampani, borrowed from Urdu and Ganjani—equates to 8.6 Sumero-Semitic seconds and 1 *milliday* equates to 1.44 Sumero-Semitic minute.
- 5. Cempoala:** from *cempoalli* or *cempohualpa*, meaning “(the game of) twenty” or “twenty (persons game)” in Nahuatl. This is a game that has the high-contact of *calcio Fiorentin*, while also having an incredible long distance running element that the Tarahumara sport *rarajipari* has. The rubber ball and goal hoops are also an ode to *ullamaliztli*, the Mesoamerican ball game, for which many rules or kinds of games seem to have been played. The sport was not only able to be successfully exported to Iberia and parts of Libya, but also to Serica through the peak years of the galleon trade between Manila and Acapulco. The field length being **250 m** is a result of a conversion from OTL 1 *tlalcuahuitli* being 2.5 metres, and the likelihood of a traditional dimension of 100 *tlacuahuatl* being set for the field size during the colonial era, when Nahuatl and other Indigenous culture was able to largely flourish nevertheless. The **36-min halves** comes from the fact that each Nicaraguan minute-equivalent or *achitzinca* equals 3.6 Sumero-Semitic minutes. Thus, Nicaraguans might perceive their halves as being less arbitrary. The **1300 g** weight of the ball is what I found to be roughly the weight of completely rubber balls of that size, and also fits the *rarajipari* kick-passes, as a player would not be able to kick the ball as far as an inflated ball.
- 6. Hultimat:** this ultimate frisbee in disguise, masked by a Sanskrit etymology, *hulahuli dhimat*, meaning “howling wisdom,” an epithet for the returning boomerangs or *valari*—the term Tamil cultures call boomerangs—used in the sport. The game’s lineage points to two ATL traditional sports, *hulihuli* and *gavisti khel*, the first being a colonial era game derived from Tamireans taking up mob football, but abandoning the inflated ball for the boomerang instead; the latter being a game brought from South Indian traders bringing back the game of *yubi lakpi* from Toschin only to swap the coconut ball with their boomerang-equivalent *valari*. Interestingly, *gavisti khel* translates to “war game,” though *gavisti* was famously pointed out as also meaning “desire for cows” in the linguistics-galore film, *Arrival*. The **32-min halves** in the sport come from there being 1.25 Sumero-Semitic minutes per Emporic *vighati*—there being 30 *muhurtas* or hour-equivalents in a day, with each *muhurta* being divided into 120 *vighatis*. Each half is thus actually a third of an Emporic hour, as 32 Sumero-Semitic minutes equate to 80 Emporic *vighatis*. The field size was set with the consideration that a weighted returning boomerang in OTL can fly effectively 40 to 50 metres away from the thrower, and the idea being that there should be at least three to four times of this distance in the field length to allow for more dynamic game play. A field measuring 180 to 200 metres would thus be ideal, and to make the number seem more rounded in the origin culture, the use of the Mughal yard or *guz* gives the length of 200 *guz* or about **184 metres**. To break up the pace of the game in the way OTL Australian rules football has the running bounce, I devised the rule of 30 *vipalas* or 12 Sumero-Semitic seconds being the length of

time a player could run with the *valari*, roughly corresponding to the time between two breaths—an inspiration from the OTL sport of *kabbadi*.

- 7. Kamarki:** the name for this sport comes from the portmanteau of *caid*, the Irish name for Gaelic rules football, and *marngruk*, the ATL name of a sports collectively known as *pultja* or *marn grook*, the Woiwurung term for “ball game.” In ATL, the OTL sport of Australian football is called *kamarki* as it is more explicitly known or less decisively known to have arisen from Irish settlers mixing *caid* with *marngruk*. As the geographic spread suggests, *kamarki* is a result of how *caid* and *marngruk* were perceived as being similar, just as in OTL Gaelic and Australian football are perceived as being similar enough for combined competitions that use a set of compromise rules between the two sports. In ATL, *kamarki* overtakes *caid* in its traditional range (the north Atlantic) as the more charismatic marks and tackling in the sport seem to attract more spectators. The **24-min quarters** comes from there being 1.25 Sumero-Semitic minutes per Emporic *vighati*—there being 30 *muhurtas* or hour-equivalents in a day, with each *muhurta* being divided into *vighatis*. Each quarter is thus actually a quarter of an Emporic hour, as 24 Sumero-Semitic minutes equate to 80 Emporic *vighatis*. The length of the *kamarki* field was set to the same standards as *hultimat* for mutual compatibility, as the two ATL sports are popular in similar countries, at least in the Emporic Rim.

Simington's Clash of the Civilizations

Does the World Have Cultural Fault Lines?

Map of the world's cultural blocs or "civilizational spheres" and "cultural lenses"

1. **Preamble:** this map is an allusion to Samuel Huntington's *Clash of the Civilization*, which has grown to become quite a recognizable title, perhaps due to the simplicity of its arguments and the controversy it entails. As mentioned in the accompanying text to the posted map graphic, cultural geography maps are "intriguing" to most people, though they are problematic. Inherently they are imbued with prejudices and unhealthy assumptions of how the world works. Divvying up the world into categories is not necessarily the issue. The issue is that culture at such a scale is full of ironies or unexpected differences, as well as blurring and overlap, which make demarcations or the drawing up of borders futile. In each umbrella categorization, there are several traits to flush out what each of the cultural groups defined at this scale represent. Quite obviously, the problem is then that, every time the geographer considers one cultural component or trait over another, the borders shift and the units of measurement—the countries—fall into a different layout. Today, only political scientists or international relations theorists ever make reference to such a worldview. Hopefully it's to challenge or complicate Huntington. No contemporary anthropologist does the same by attempting to simplify the world this way. Even archaeologists have distanced themselves from the "Cradles of Civilization" idea, pivoting instead to concepts like "Centres of Domestication," on which the ATL *Following the Grain* map is based. With all that said, the reason I followed through with a map like this is because of the very fact that people still do use this kind of spatial categorization as a heuristic for understanding the differences and tensions in our world. If in OTL people in the West refer to themselves as such, there is equally other cultural blocs, spheres, regions, or lenses to contrast against. If there is an ATL Orientalism, there surely is an OTL Orientalism. Perhaps at least there can be some more complexity or recognition of nuance in the *othering*. Instead of just Edward Said's Orientalism, why not a Meridienalism and more etc.? This map is thus an imaginary map that depicts *imaginaries* or social constructs that are nevertheless treated as fact by people. This map is, as some would say it, a way to refer to how Westerners or those in the Occident see the rest of the world.
 - a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orientalism>
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cultural_geography
2. **Civilizational sphere:** this is equivalent to Huntington's unit of analysis, but I hope that by turning the noun into an adjective in this particular way, there can be some distancing away from eurocentric notions of what it means "to be civilized" and more about comparison of shared attributes than having any ontological or genealogical basis.. At this level is where OTL terms like "Western Civilization" operate, even though the analysis is almost always inconsistently applied. The categories at this level may be heavily contested, inconsistently applied, and relative to both more specific cultures and individuals within its general range.
3. **Cultural lens:** these are still categories for understanding cultural groupings, but are more specific, perhaps due to closer shared histories, religious sects, or more intense cultural contact. Huntington's theory faces a lot of criticism for his lack of nuance and ability to parse obvious differences or tensions within his cultural blocs, as well as his cherry-picking of Japan as its own "civilization." he categories at this level may be still somewhat contested, inconsistently applied, and relative to both more specific cultures and individuals within its general range, but there is often more clarity and nuance afforded with this level of analysis.
4. **Cosmopolitan:** in ATL, *cosmopolitanism* refers to the strain of Liberalism in international relations that was most concerned with questions of how to determine moral good and fairness across cultures, but which circumvents economic relations and capitalism. Though Immanuel Kant and deontology may be one of the philosophical roots for OTL cosmopolitanism, the term in ATL has connections the theories of *ironism* and *pragmatism* of Richard Rorty. It is a way to talk about Liberal thought without being mired with neoliberal associations, though the thought that people around the world should cooperate to solve common problems despite cultural differences has the same roots as the thinking that people around the world should have licence to trade without restriction. The *cosmopolitans* of ATL have their roots in humanist movements in the 19th century—some of which blur the lines between faith and atheism, such as Auguste Comte's idea of a Religion of Humanity—and gained traction during the world wars of the first half of the 20th century, helping to found a stronger United Nations analogue, the Society of Nations, earlier, and which simultaneous has more clout in international politics and is also less eurocentric despite its origins, as hard as that is to believe to be possible.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auguste_Comte

- b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_of_Humanity
 - c. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cosmopolitanism#:~:text=Cosmopolitanism%20is%20the%20idea%20that,in%20a%20%22universal%20community%22.>
 - d. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ironism>
 - e. Rorty's views on liberalism and the search for solidarity is also influenced by Judith Shklar: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Judith_N._Shklar
5. **Occidental:** this is just a synonym to "Western" and is analogous to how people in OTL western Europe and the Americas might consider themselves to be grouped in relation to other geographic populations in the world.
 6. **Oriental:** in ATL, this strictly refers to the northern portions of the "Near East" or "Middle East." Confusingly, it is not coterminous with the OTL synonym of "the Levant," which is somewhat the core or cultural centre of the category of the ATL term Meridienal. The ATL term of *Oriental* simply refers to the closer and more historical geographies of contact and contestation with the *Occident* before the rise of Islam to the south, which would give birth to the caliphates that would defeat both the traditional powers of the Occident—the Romans Empire—and the Orient—the Sassanid Empire.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arab%E2%80%93Byzantine_wars
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muslim_conquest_of_Persia
 - c. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muslim_conquest_of_the_Levant
 7. **Meridienal:** this is the southern portion of what in OTL we refer to as "the Middle East" or "the Near East," and it better alludes to where the core culture and power projects from in this cultural categorization, which is mostly the Arabian Peninsula and later Egypt. The term is cognate to *midi* and *meridian*, both historically meaning "mid-day" or "noon," which, before Germanic loanwords replaced them, were the traditional words for south for most Latin-derived or Romance languages. My reasoning for this term is that I wanted another word related to oriental and occidental, since it alludes to similar patterns of back-and-forth contact and a large narrative of intertwined histories of recognition of each as "an other."
 - a. [https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/meridian#:~:text=The%20noun%20is%20derived%20from%20terrestrial%20meridian%3B%20\(astronomy\)%20celestial](https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/meridian#:~:text=The%20noun%20is%20derived%20from%20terrestrial%20meridian%3B%20(astronomy)%20celestial)
 8. **Far Southern:** this is a play on the OTL term "the Far East" and refers to geographies further beyond conventional ideas of south, as in ATL, this part of Africa remains within the scope of knowledge of European geographers, but perhaps is more reliant on myth and hearsay than facts, just as OTL Europeans were initially more reliant on fabled descriptions—like that of Marco Polo—for knowledge of East Asia or "the Far East."
 9. **Far Eastern:** this largely corresponds to OTL associations with eastern Asia, but also overlaps and compliments ideas of the concept of the Sinosphere, the grounds in Asia that were culturally impacted by Chinese influence historically. Southern Serica is also impacted by the Emporic or Indosphere, but their cultural influence from that area was more limited to certain isolated periods in history, while migration patterns from northern Serica into southern Serica in ATL.
 10. **Emporic:** this largely corresponds with the Indosphere, but in ATL, the cultural impact of the Indic world is more far reaching, with mediaeval explorers and merchants or *chettians* from the Chola Dynasty onwards being interested in plying the waters of eastern Sumatrea and northern Tamirea with great regularity, as well as rulers of Indean states looking to expand access to labour, soldiers, ivory, and gold in Azanea. The etymology of Emporic simply shares the same origin as *emporium*, which is from the Greek word for "market, factory, trading district." In ATL, the term was an epithet for the ocean surrounding Indea, as it was the centre of maritime trade routes.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Indian_influence_on_Southeast_Asia
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chola_invasion_of_Srivijaya
 11. **Polynesian:** this mostly corresponds to the macro-lens view that OTL Micronesia, Melanesia, and Polynesia are part of a larger cultural tradition or heritage.
 12. **Bantu:** though some Africans in OTL do not like the mass grouping of their cultures into this category, I believe there is some use in this term at a very shallow cursory level for understanding cultural and historical relations. The Bantu Migrations in Africa in OTL are substantial, as well as their ironworking skills, and finally, the linguistic connections between these peoples are quite obvious, though linguists are still trying to organize the inner relationships of some of the major sub-branches.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bantu_expansion

- b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iron_metallurgy_in_Africa
13. **Andinan:** this comes from me seeing connections in the material and cultural and religious expressions in the Muisca and the Incas, as well as some fundamental connections between the Mapuche and Incas—venerations of sun and moon deities and shared basic cosmology. As I could not find a more encompassing geographic concept, I resorted to using the Andes to connect the cultural groups here, knowing full well that the etymology stems from *Antisuyu*, “eastern quarter” which is how the Quechua-speaking Incas of OTL divided the eastern parts of their empire.
- a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antisuyu>
- b. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apu_\(god\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apu_(god))
- c. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mapuche_religion#:~:text=The%20religious%20beliefs%20of%20the%20undersood%20in%20the%20Western%20world.
14. **Nicaraguan:** though there is immense diversity within OTL Mesoamerica and the corresponding ATL Nicaragua, the cultures here are more similar to each other than they are with the peoples to their north and south. Even the less urbanized peoples here have some similarities. And there is also the fact that as in OTL, the expansion of Nahuatl and Mayan cultures southwards towards Panama during the colonial period. The etymology of the ATL country of Nicaragua is derived from the Spanish name for the area, related to the Nahuatl term Cemanahuac, meaning ‘whole land close to, surrounded by water’, and derived from *nic* for ‘here at’ with the term *anahuac* which comes from ‘atl’ for ‘water’ and *nahuac* ‘in proximity to, surrounded by,’ and thus means “here at the land surrounded by water” or “where Anahuac, the land surrounded by water, extends to.” Thus, Nicaragua would seem to be an appropriate replacement for Mesoamerica, given the similarities of the two etymologies—the *meso* suffix of the latter term referring to the Middle American isthmus between the Americas.
- a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cemanahuac>
15. **Forefolk:** this is my play on the political and legal concept of *First Nations*, used in Canada. It is just a more archaic/old English term that essentially connotes the same meaning, but gets around the awkward pluralization of the term—for example, in OTL, people might say “I am First Nations”—and the term *Native American* would be too limited in scope, as it is in OTL anyway. I suppose *Native Septentrian* might have worked, but I wanted something more original.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous_peoples
16. **Inuit:** this corresponds to OTL definitions of the Inuit cultural sphere or range,
17. **Latino-Theodic:** this corresponds to the Greco-Roman label, which in OTL is seen as the root of “Western Civilization,” but the way I see it, there is much more a Germanic—or as in ATL—Theodic connection, with the idea of “Western Europe” generally corresponding to areas where the Germanic migrations occurred, and where their cultural fusion with the Roman world led to trajectories that led us to today. The term Theodic, as already defined in the [Map Plates footnotes](#), comes from *theudo*, meaning “folk, nation,” and is cognate to terms like Teuton, Dutch, Deutsch etc.
18. **Uralo-Nordic:** this corresponds to “Nordic” in OTL but is more specific in noting the contributions of the Uralic groups of people in eastern Scandinavia and further east, which in ATL, are more prominently integrated into the more settled and agrarian societies of southern Scandinavia. I distinguished this cultural bloc from the Latino-Theodic cultural lens because there are more cultural differences here in ATL compared to OTL, with several distinct writing systems and a tolerance of pre-Christian beliefs operating as epiphenomena in most of these countries.
19. **Helleno-Slavic:** this is my answer to Latino-Theodic, seeing that, as in OTL, the cultures of ATL eastern Europe had more contact with the Byzantines and Eastern Roman Empire, and were proselytized by Greeks.
20. **Salmanic:** the three cultural lenses of the ATL *Oriental* sphere are named after the Iranian narrative of Fereydun, which associates ancient geographies that ancient Persians knew with the mythical king’s three sons. One of these sons, Salm, is said to have inherited the lands of Anatolia and the Levant. The *-an* is a locative suffix common in Persian toponyms, which gives us the Turco-Persian geographic region known as *Salman*, and which is further divided in that worldview into the areas of *Rhuman* (Anatolia) and *Mazandaran* (Caucasia and the Caspian Coast). An alternative name I have for the ATL Turco-Persian worldview is to call Salman “the land of mountains,” or Dagestan, applying the OTL more specific toponym to all of Anatolia and Caucasia.
- a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fereydun>
- b. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salm_\(Shahnameh\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salm_(Shahnameh))

21. **Iranic:** one of the other sons of Fereydun, Iraj, was said to have inherited the realm that corresponds to OTL Iran. In both the ATL Turco-Persian worldview, Iran is further divided into a western area, *Khuzan* (Susia) and *Khorasan* (Chorsania). The latter is a well-known areal concept in OTL, while the former is a geographical concept more specific to southwestern Iran or southeastern Iraq, though it historically referred to Susiana—named after Susa, the capital of the Elamite Empire—which was an alternative term for referring to the territory of Elam, a nation the ancient Persians vanquished, but whom they saw as their worthy antecedents. An alternative name I have for Iran in the ATL Turco-Persian worldview is Golestan, “land of flowers,” which is also an OTL epithet or endearing way of referring to Iran.
- a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iraj>
22. **Turanic:** this last term is interesting because it might suggest that in OTL, ancient Persian scholars were incorporating the Turkic migrations on their borders into their mythical worldview. The last son of Fereydun, Tur, is said to have inherited the northern lands, and the name is thought to be a cognate to *Turk* and the Persian word *Turya*, which is used to refer to Turkic peoples in contrast to the *Arya*, peoples who speak Indo-Iranic languages. In the Turco-Persian worldview, Turan is further divided into Oxiana (Farudan) and Saryan (southern Siberea), with the former coming from the ancient toponym *Transoxiana*, meaning “beyond the Ox (Amu) River”—just like *farah ruda* does in Persian, or the *ma wara’ an-nahr* does in Arabic for the OTL Muslim equivalent toponym, Mavarannahr. Saryan comes from the Kipchak *sary arka*, which is said to be cognate to the name for the Khanate of Sibir—thought to mean “sleeping land”—but this older version of *sary arka* suggests a different meaning, “side (of a mountain), the side exposed to the sun, land of light,” and “north,” respectively, and which is further speculated to be a cognate to Sirtia, the lands east of Yugria, mainly Selkland now, which is derived from *Sirtya* or *Sihirtya* or *Sihirtia*, a legendary people said to have preceded the Nenets in Selklan. Saryan, for much of the early modern period, was beyond the Turco-Persian world, being largely dominated by Russia, though parts of it would be folded into the last ruling Turco-Persian dynasty in the area, the Qajars, with their opportunistic conquest of Itysia from the Russians during the Russian Civil War. Finally, an alternative way of referring to Turan in the ATL Turco-Persian worldview is Moghulistan, “land of the Moghuls,” referring to the ruling Moguls and Mongols of OTL.
- a. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tur_\(Shahnameh\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tur_(Shahnameh))
 - b. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transoxiana>
23. predecessor to Siberea, which is said to come from the Khanate of Sibir, thought to mean “sleeping land” in the Kipchak languages,
24. **Arabo-Coptic:** this largely corresponds to the Muslim Arab identity of OTL, though being more specific to the *Mashriq* or “eastern” part of the cultural self-identification. The Coptic element being a reminder that though most of Egypt converted to Islam, the prevailing language spoken there is Coptic.
25. **Puno-Tamazic:** like the split between the east and the west for the European cultural categories, this corresponds to the *Maghreb* or “western” identity of the Muslim Arab identity, with particular focus on how the Tamazic—OTL Berber—cultures are a lot more resilient to Arab migrations during Islamicization, and the fact that the Punic world never gets fully replaced by the Roman and Arab periods of history, but fuse and morph with the new cultural layers instead. The term Tamazic, of course, as elucidated in the [Map Plates footnotes](#), is derived from *Tamazight*, the endonym of the Moroccan Atlas Berber lect, and cognate to many of the other neighbouring languages. used in many Berber languages. Like Ausonic and Theodic, I’ve renamed the Semitic *Berber* language branch to distance it from the historically pejorative exonym.
26. **Sahelic:** this largely corresponds to the Sahel cultures of OTL, who are also predominantly Muslim, but culturally quite distinct from the coastal Mediterranean Muslim cultures.
27. **Adjeric:** this term can be traced to the Soninke Azer or *Adjer* people. In ATL, they are responsible for spreading Islam but also certain technologies to northern Crucea via their infamous Wangara mercantile confederations, which, in ATL, operated kind of like the OTL Hanseatic League but only transatlantic.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soninke_people
28. **Cushic:** this refers to the culture of the Nilotic and related cattle-based peoples of the Upper Nile areas, corresponding to OTL Sudan and South Sudan. As in ATL the predominant religion of this area remains Christian—interestingly, in OTL, the last Christian kingdom of Alodia survived up until the beginning of the 16th century—there would be interesting cultural distinctions in this part of the world instead of the steady Arabization that is happening in contemporary times in OTL. The toponym comes from *Kush*, which has biblical significance.
- a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alodia>

- 29. Tano-Hamic:** this refers to the highland cultural world of OTL Ethiopia and Eritrea, and the two elements here represent the Christian and Jewish sections of the area. As in OTL, the two religious groups are closely related in the ATL history of Erythrea, and were often found in the same empires along with their Muslim neighbours to the south. As with how the Far East in OTL is often mythologized while still being somewhat based on fact, the *Far South* of ATL is also based on mythical narratives, with the term Tania, deriving from Lake Tana, being said to have biblical connections too. Just as the toponym of Cush makes a biblical appearance, the ATL term *Tania* is purported to allude to the local inhabitants being descendants of the Judaic Tribe of Dan. The term Hamia, meanwhile, is connected to the ancient city and kingdom of Axum, the centre of the Christian world in the Erythrean highlands, and it is applied in ATL by both outsiders and local elites alike to strengthen Christian Ethiopian narratives of having deep and ancient biblical roots, as the term comes from Ham, the son of Noah. Note that I am not purporting the Hamitic Hypothesis, nor am I trying to imply the Tribe of Dan did end up in Africa, but rather playing with the colonial British obsession with pseudo-historical biblical narratives simply to yield interesting exonyms.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribe_of_Dan
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hamites#Development_of_the_Hamitic_hypothesis
- 30. Puntic:** though this cultural lens is quite similar to the Tano-Hamic lens, the stronger connection with the adjacent Muslim cultural areas in Arabia and Smaro-Zanjia make it more distinguished, as well as the fact that most of the culture here is far more pastoral and based on lowland crops. The name comes from the old Egyptian toponym, *Punt*, which pseudo-historians interested in Biblical connections might connect with the biblical land of *Put*.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Land_of_Punt
- 31. Smaro-Zanjic:** this cultural grouping relays the ATL history of later cultural exchanges and contacts with the northern Erythrean and Muslim Arab worlds, allowing for the native groups here to be culturally more distinct or more influenced by their Indigenous ways. In particular, the religious context of the northwestern Great Lakes of Erythrea are a mix of religions to echo the OTL situation, where Christianity from colonialism and Islam from the older historical inertia from adjacent lands is making inroads on the societies there. The two terms here are related to skin colour and, considering they are exonyms, may seem a bit on the nose, but they have historical precedents—see the etymologies of Sudan, Melansia, Zanzibar, or the Azania of the Pan Africanist Congress. The first term relates to the ATL *Smaria*, from Arabic, *asmar* or *samara*, “tanned, to become brown” while the latter term relates to the ATL Zanjia, like the ATL etymology for *Azanea* and the OTL etymologies of Al Zanj, Zanzibar, and Azania, comes from the Arabic term, *Al Sahil al Zanj*, “the Coast of the Blacks.” The lore for these two distinctions comes from the ATL historical geography of a three-way distinction actually, with the coast of OTL Tanzania and Kenya being referred simply as *Al Sahil* by Arabian and Maganian merchants, while the interior northern plateau was more specifically referred to as *Al Zanj*, being traditionally more dominated by the taller and darker-skinned Nilotic and Nilotic-influenced Bantu and other groups of people. The southern plateau, in contrast, was seen by the Arabian and Maganians as the original realm of shorter and lighter-skinned natives, mainly southern Cushitic peoples, as well as the Hadza and Sandawe peoples, who are more prominent in ATL because of their absorption of the northern cattle herding Cushitic and Bantu peoples.
- a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zanj>
- 32. Litoralic:** this corresponds to the contemporary OTL understanding of “West Africa,” but is less ambiguous about whether the Sahel regions are connected. Another sense of this is the Muslim-Christian or tropical-arid divides in that part of the world, which dictate a lot of the cultural expressions there. The etymology, of course, simply comes from *litoral*, which I think is a suitable term to apply to this coastal region, and also a tongue in cheek nod to the etymology of the Sahel, which literally means “coast” in Arabic but in OTL referred to the marginal lands adjacent to the Sahara.
- 33. Zairic:** this corresponds to “Central Africa” and the OTL associations of the innermost interior of the African continent—hence Conrad’s *Heart of Darkness*—but in ATL, this area has more associations with the cultural, social, and political developments that arose after Spanish and Portuguese colonial contacts with strong and resilient kingdoms around the Cameroon and Zaire River.
- 34. Ophiric:** the ATL etymology borrows from OTL biblical narratives that connect the mines of King Solomon, Ophir, with the gold fields of Zimbabwe. In ATL, the great stone cities of Khami and Zimbabwe, which were more urban and connected to the Arabic and Indic worlds for trade would be the source of what is known as the “Ophira Gold Circuit,” leading to many coastal cities south and east of them becoming landing stages or ports of call for Europeans, Indians, and Maganian merchants. The southern ports of the Nguni nations would become most

permanently associated with this circuit, and by association labelled most with the toponym of Ophira, even though the source of the gold was further inland in a different and distinctly recognized area, Mudava.

- a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ophir>

35. Mudavic: this corresponds to an ATL Mozambique and Zimbabwe that sustains prolonged contact with the Indic world through the trade of ivory, gold, and labour or army recruits. Without the Indic contact, this area would otherwise be the bridge or continuation between the cattle-herding cultures of Ophira and the Far Southern cultures. There is a history of successive migrations—from Hadza and Sandawe to South Cushitic to Nilotic to Bantu—along with the adaptation of cattle-herding. Though an early history of contact between Indic merchants and the peoples of ATL Suelia also happened, that history was quickly overshadowed by the expansion of Muslim trade networks during the late medieval period, leaving the more marginal lands to the south to be plied by seafarers from India. In OTL, the Portuguese long knew about the gold of Zimbabwe, the mythical geographic narrative of which I use to coin the term *Ophira*, but there are references in the history of the OTL Kingdom of Mutapa to how Khami and Zimbabwe, the stone cities of the highveld of Zimbabwe attracted merchants and probably physicians and learned peoples from the outside world. In ATL, these rich cities call also for settlers and farmers to their lands, especially from India, and convert to Hinduism even before Islam gained beachheads in Suelia. Finally, the etymology of this areal term comes from the ATL Sanskrit, *Madhava Khand*, "(Krishna's) vernal land," but it is also believed that the term was applied after an Indigenously derived epithet for the area came into use first, *mwene we mutapa*, which in Shona means "lord of the land." This epithet came to refer to a mediaeval kingdom that projected out of the highveld to the coasts in the east, leading to Indian seafarers to perhaps first associate the area with the kingdom, calling it *Mutapa Khand* before reinventing the name with a more Hindu flair.

- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Mutapa
- b. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khami>
- c. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Zimbabwe#History_of_research_and_origins_of_the_ruins

36. Surlankic: this is an ATL Indic term, coming from the Sanskrit *sri*, "venerable," and the Mon-Mundic-derived Indic term, *lanka*, "island." The first part of the name could also have to do with the ATL Asura, used to describe the main island of OTL Madagascar, which comes from *asuri*, "belonging to or having to do with spirits, powerful godly beings, or demons." Everything about this ATL etymology is a nod to the OTL etymology of Sri Lanka, which is associated with a more fabled island of *Lanka* rather than being definitively that island. In ATL, the fabled island's location shifts further west, just like how Thule shuffled west a couple times in European history. The reason I made this ATL area Hindu was because I was fascinated by the OTL fact that certain Indic terms had already entered the ancient form of the Austronesian Malagasy language via Javanese or Malay by the time their forebears had left Borneo, ending up in OTL Madagascar still as traditional animists but with evidence of contact with the Indic world. Then there is the fact that OTL Madagascar also had contact with the Arab world, leading to a short period of their literature being scribed in the Arabic script, which gave me the idea that the Malagasy could have easily adopted Indic scripts too. The ATL history attaches contact with the Indic and wider outside world with odd history of the search for the elusive luxury product known to Europeans as *coco de mer*, where Maldivi seafarers would locate the origins of that nut-bearing tree in Komara (Seychelles) and then come into contact with various Malagasy tribes both there and on the main island of Asura. The Surlankic cultural lens is grouped separately from Mudavic because of the literally insular nature of this area, leading to stronger cultural distinctions, as with the OTL cultural context for Madagascar.

- a. For Indic lexicon entering Malagasy before their departure from Borneo:
<https://tamilandvedas.com/taq/sanskrit-in-madagascar/>
<https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783110218442.717/pdf>
- b. For a more charismatic introduction to *coco de mer*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GqicsIDYmqU>

37. Indic: this corresponds to the OTL idea of the Indosphere.

38. Tagano-Lamuric: these two terms come from the ATL names of the islands of Java and Sumatra, respectively. Tagana's ATL etymology comes from the purported connection to the Sanskrit word *tapana*, "burning," in reference to the volcanos on the island, and is also purported to be cognate to the state of Daha in that sense. As for Lamuri, the name is connected to the OTL ancient Kingdom of Lamuri, also known as *Lambri*, *Lawri* in Arabic literature and *Lanli* or *Lanwuli* in Chinese literature, all ultimately deriving from Acehnese *lam*, "deep, inside." The cultural bloc here mostly refers to the more outwardly connected Austronesian nations, most of which adopted Malay as a lingua franca at some point. I needed separate island names instead of just Java and Sumatra due to those names being already used for the country of Java and the region of Sumatra.

- a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lambri>
- 39. Maluko-Tripanic:** the terms here show a historic and cultural connection between the ATL areas of Maluka and Tripani, which stems from the OTL history of contact between the Indigenous peoples of Arnhem Land and Makassan harvesters of *trepang* or “sea cucumbers”, who would often spend whole seasons living on the coasts of Arnhem Land to wait for the winds that brought them south to reverse so they could return to Sulawesi. The Malay word *trepang* is also the origin of the ATL area of Tripani. Maluku, of course, is the ATL equivalent of the Moluccas, which, interestingly, is thought to have been derived from an Indigenous epithet, roughly translating to “the head of the bull,” but was later transcribed by Arabs as *Jazirat al-Moluk*, “islands of the king.” I saw so much potential for deep cultural exchange in these seasonal patterns of migration, and thought an earlier cycle of trade being established in this manner might allow for a more gradual but beneficial shift in local Indigenous people of Tripani, where technological transfers and crop exchanges may help build larger settled populations in Tripani, but also Tamirea in general. With this initial connection, the later Indic contact with Sumatrea in ATL would also spread over to northern Tamirea quite organically.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Makassan_contact_with_Australia
- 40. Papuo-Tirigic:** the connections between these two ATL areas is inspired by the OTL Hiri trade cycle, which was a maritime route in the Gulf of Papua done by the Motu people. In ATL, this trade cycle is the humble origins for a larger trade network that would expand beyond the gulf to ATL Tiriga or the lands stemming from the OTL York Peninsula. The driver for the trade in ATL was for spices, specifically for nutmeg, also known as *trikha* in Sanskrit, and the source of the Tiriga toponym, as OTL Australia has a couple of native species related to nutmeg. A market for the prized macadamia nut, native to Tiriga and known in ATL as *boombera*, as well as for more sources of cajeput oil, would further drive the seafarers from the ATL state of Motu to the shores of Tiriga, allowing for a complicated political relationship to form around the rulers of Motu controlling the trade. This initial connection, combined with ATL connections to the Malukus and therefore the western Austronesian world would eventually also pull the political sphere of Motu into the larger Emporic sphere.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiri_trade_cycle
- b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myristica_insipida
- c. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cajeput_oil
- 41. Kaijawa-Irinic:** this is the hardest to envision cultural bloc for ATL Tamirea. It can be assumed that the areas of Kaijawa and Irini would be the least influenced from both Austronesian and Indic influence, though with the ATL ascendancy of Triwara from Indic trading posts at the mouth of the Chandara Sea, a certain degree of outside technologies and knowledges were obviously embraced by the various peoples in these two areas. The exception is in the far south, with the so-called Varana peoples representing how Indic peoples saw the non-agrarian and traditional Indigenous peoples of Tamirea. The word *varana* comes from Sanskrit for “forest-dweller” and has often also been applied to animals like monkeys, but in ATL, there is no pejorative connotation, but rather equates to something like the OTL term “bushmen” in South Africa. Before ATL Triwara’s expansion in the early modern period, many more peoples in Kaijawa and Irini would have been considered Varana peoples by Malay or Ceyloni visitors, for example. The term Kaijawa is derived from the Malay epithet *kayu jawa*, “distant woods,” which in OTL referred to the lands west of the Gulf of Carpentaria during the period of Makassan contact with Arnhem Land. It likely referred to the Kimberley, but in ATL, it refers to the savannahs of eastern Tamirea. The term Irini, in turn, comes from *irinya bhumi*, Sanskrit for “desert land.”
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Makassan_contact_with_Australia
- 42. Galeric:** this is not so well disguised ode to the fascinating Manila-Acapulco galleon trade route, which commenced as early as the 116th century, and which resulted in tons of interesting exchanges, including linguistic—see Tagalog words of Nahuatl origin—and foodways. In ATL, the Spanish possessions of Micronesia, along with the Philippines, form a more distinct cultural bloc that is more defined by cultural paradoxes—Serican, European, Sumatran, Polynesian, and Nicaraguan culture all mishmashing together.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manila_galleon
- 43. Indo-Seric:** this is just the ATL term for “Southeast Asia” or “Indo-China,” though it specifically excludes the ATL area of Cochin, as just as Vietnam in OTL, the area more identifies with East Asia.
- 44. Tibetic:** this term refers to the greater Tibetan cultural sphere, including some Qiangic areas on the margins of the Tibetan plateau.

- 45. Mongolo-Sinkanic:** this is a combination of the Mongol heartland and northern Xinjiang, which in OTL is also a home of nomadic steppe cultures, most notably the Dzungars. The ATL etymology of Sinkana parallels the OTL etymology of Xinjiang. The term was derived first from the Chinese *xiyou*, meaning “western regions,” and then updated as *xinjiang*, “new frontiers,” during the early conquest period undertaken by the Qing, but later the characters were replaced with more auspicious homonyms, now meaning “rich, wealthy,” and “grave, sands,” in connection to the pebbly riverbeds that have yielded jade as tribute for countless Chinese dynasties in history. In ATL, however, historians also connect the name to the Persian epithet *sina khan*, “ruler of Sina, China,” perhaps to do with it forming a gateway to China on the Silk Road. The reason this cultural lens also extends north into the ATL areas of Tunguska and Alaska is because of the connections between the Mongol steppe and the nomadic cultures of northern Siberia in OTL, which are even stronger in ATL.
- 46. Wakasano-Yezowic:** this cultural lens marries the OTL Pacific Northwest cultures with the cultures of Sakhalin and Hokkaido, with the ATL history of cultural contact all coming down to the possibility of Ainu *itaomachips* being seaworthy enough to follow the Kuroshio Current from Hokkaido to the Aleutians and further into the Pacific Northwest. In OTL, Ainu aesthetics, architecture, and foodways have a superficial resemblance to the cultural expressions of the Pacific Northwest. I use the contemporary case of OTL First Nations of northern British Columbia eating rice with soy sauce and ooligan grease as an inspiration for how the two opposite corners of the Pacific could be linked historically in ATL, with Ainu traders being the middleman for the trade of Japanese and Joseon soy sauce and tea to the far side of the Pacific, and in return, bringing back ooligan grease, prized cedar, and far more salmon products than they could ever hope to harvest on their side of the Pacific. Slowly, the cultures of these two disparate coasts would converge, and the ATL Ainu-specific interpretation of Vajrayana Buddhism would further bind the two areas together. At the same time, the practical and aesthetic expressions of both the Ainu and various peoples of the Pacific Northwest would remain quite distinct, just as First Nations culture in British Columbia remains distinct despite far more extensive state-sponsored cultural erasure and Christianization. Finally, the ATL geographic terms Wakasan and Yezow come with hefty etymologies. For Wakasan, I married a Chalmuthese or OTL Nuchalnuth phatic word, *wakaus*, meaning “good, friendly (greetings),” with my own derived Sino-Japanese competing etymology, two Sinic characters pronounced, pronounced as *Ruochan* in Chinese and *Wakasan* in Japanese. In OTL, one of the Chinese characters for *ruo* or *na* or *waka* in Mandarin, Minlamese, and Japanese respectively, when written with a fish radical, specifically denotes “smelt-like species” similar to the estuarine fish, *wakasagi*—a staple both in OTL Ainu cuisine and ATL Yezow—and is how the Japanese transliterate *Waka’ush Kamuy*, the Goddess of Water in Ainu mythology. In OTL, the Ainu share a smelt-related famine relief myth similar to the ones told across the ocean in the Pacific Northwest. And one of the characters for *chan* or *san* in Mandarin and Japanese, respectively, denotes “fertility, giving birth, abundance and wealth.” Thus, the meaning can be said to convey “place where the goddess Waka’ush brings an abundance of smelt, fertile place of Waka’ush” or more plainly, “place of the smelt (euligan).” As Wakasan is part of the larger Sinosphere, it was conveyed to the English-speaking world as a geographic concept by the Japanese, and not the Ainu or ATL Yezowese, who still call the area *Waka’ush Moshir*, “homeland of the goddess Waka’ush.” Yezow, on the other hand, is the core country in the cultural area known in ATL as Shukushin, and it is a nod to the historic name for the island of Hokkaido, *Ezo* or *Ezochi*, coming from the Sinic characters that literally translate as “shrimply barbarians.” In ATL, the toponym is revised when the Ainu petition for a change in the characters—just as the Japanese requested the Chinese to stop writing out the *wa* Sinic character for Yamato as “dwarvish, pygmy” but instead use the homonymic character for “peace” instead—so the Chinese and Japanese characters changed to meaning “appearing as a rock jutting out of water,” with the pronunciation in Japanese shifting from *Ezo* to *Aisho*.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Formline_art
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ainu_people#Culture
 - c. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Itaomacip>
 - d. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eulachon>
 - e. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wakashan_languages#:~:text=Wakashan%20is%20a%20family%20of,Strait%20of%20Juan%20de%20Fuca
- 47.** Though the English toponym preserves the older name, the new name is pronounced in Japanese as *Aisho*, a break from *emishi* and *ezo*, literally meaning “appearing as a rock jutting out of the water,” with *ai* being inspired by one of the older transcriptions for *emishi*, which used the character “love,” for which this *ai* is made up of along with the human radical, and *ji* or *isho* in Japanese being a close phonetic approximation to the earlier pronunciation of *ezo*.

48. **Seric:** this corresponds to East Asia, with Seric coming from the Greco-Romans, *serika* and *sericum*, “silk,” and which probably derives from Chinese, *si*, also meaning “silk.” In ATL, large swathes of the Far East are seen as being the origin of silk, not just China, and thus the term is not as exclusive as the OTL counterpart.
49. **Ho’oluic:** this term correspondings to OTL Micronesia and is from Hawaiian, *la ho’olua*, literally “west by north.”
50. **Konic:** this word translates as “leeward” in Hawaiian and refers to the southwest of ATL Polynesea, corresponding to something akin to OTL Melanesia, except the cultural area is a bit reduced with
51. **Hikino-Hemic:** the span between the two ATL areas of Hikina and Hema refers to the core cultural area known as the Polynsian Triangle in OTL, with Hinka being the way Hawaiians shorten *hiki ana*, “the coming of the sun, east,” and Hema denoting the “south.”
52. **Chilenic:** just as OTL, the etymology is unclear. It could come from Quechua, *chiri*, “cold,” or *chilli*, the Mapuche word that seems to mean “land’s end, where the land ends.” This cultural area largely corresponds to the OTL territory of Chile, centred around Mapuche culture. The peoples here are less agrarian but embraced the horse and other European cultural transfers, and also benefited from contact with Polynesians, leading to the Araucanian chicken breed, my ATL nod to the findings that chicken DNA may predate the Columbian Exchange.
- <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/history/article/140318-polynesian-chickens-pacific-migration-america-science>
53. **Peruvic:** this is specific to the OTL historic culture that the Inca brought with them wherever they went in their conquests, whether the tropical lowlands or desert coasts, or all along the Andinan plateau. In the ATL Peru, where Spanish conquest never occurs but is limited to coastal imperialistic parasitism—think of the ATL Lima as a treaty as akin to Hong Kong and the treaty ports of OTL 19th century China. That said, Spanish, Chinese, and Japanese cultural infusions still partly happen as with OTL due to the immensely valuable trade relationship set up with the Spanish to exchange Chinese goods for the silver of the immensely lucrative Potosi.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Treaty_ports
 - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Potos%C3%AD>
54. **Muiscic:** this is from the fall 2022 map update, with many states being carved out of the old ATL Tairona to form a new area where Indigenous peoples do not get completely supplanted by settler colonialism. I was convinced to do this because in OTL Colombia, the cotton-weaving Kogi people of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta were able to be rather insulated from the effects of the Spanish colonial period, and the same goes for the Wayuu of the Guajira Peninsula to a lesser extent. The name of this cultural area harkens back to the Musica Civilization, which built impressive cities in the highlands in famous places like Bogota. There is evidence of cross-cultural contact between them and the Incas, and interestingly, the language of the Muiscans is Chibchan, a language family that straddles both sides of the Isthmus of Panama.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kogi_people
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guajira_Peninsula
 - <https://globalvoices.org/2015/03/27/bringing-the-muisca-language-back-from-extinction-one-word-at-a-time/>
55. **Arizonic:** this refers to Oasiamerica or the Pueblo culture of the American Southwest. The word seems to coem from O’odham, *ali sonak*, meaning “small spring.”
56. **Ocarastic:** this corresponds to the Great Plains cultures. The term was introduced in the fall 2022 update. Originally, I had the confederacy in the Great Plains referred to as “The Great Plains Confederacy,” but I wanted to switch to a more Indigenous connection, even if the name of the state would still be an exonym. Ocarasta comes from the Mandan word for “prairie,” *okaraxta*.
57. **Keewatino-Manitobic:** this refers to the non-agrarian woodland cultures of OTL northern Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. Most of the peoples here speak either an Athabaskan or Algonquian language. In ATL, the Cree expand with the Hudson Bay Company fur trade just as in OTL, and the resulting Metis culture thrives instead of being snuffed during the Red River Rebellion, leading to a culture much more based in Indigenous traditions, while still allowing for the introduction of things such as bannock into local foodways. The term Keewatin comes from Cree or Ojibwe, meaning “northerly wind,” while Manitoba comes from *manitou-wapow* or *manidoobaa*, meaning “straits, lake of Manitou, the Great Spirit.”
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M%C3%A9tis>

58. Hanunic: this refers to the Eastern Woodlands cultural area, which can further be distinguished between north and south. The main connection between the two groups is that they both domesticated native North American plants in OTL to develop their own distinct cultural packages before adapting Mesoamerican crops like maize, squash, and beans to become their chief staples. This term comes from the ATL region of Hanunea, which is derived from Iroquoian Seneca language, *hah-nu-nah*, the “mythical (island-giving) turtle” behind the concept of Turtle Island, which is a myth shared by many of the woodlands Indigenous peoples of OTL North America.

- a. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turtle_Island_\(Native_American_folklore\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turtle_Island_(Native_American_folklore))

Postal Map of the Chicuexcan of Nicaragua

Depicting State Administrative Divisions and the Country's Postal Network...

Historical map of Nicaragua when colonial and standardized Nahuatl orthographies co-existed

- Inspiration:** the inspiration for this map comes from the *Carta Postal de la Republica Mexica. Hoja No. 18*, which reminded me of one of the only other postal maps I've ever seen, the map graphic used for the "Chinese postal romanization" entry on Wikipedia. That entry took me down a deep rabbit hole of the issues of romanization or latin transcription being compounded by a lack of agreement over a standard language/dialect. Now, the reasoning to justify the time and effort put into making a map to feature outdated toponyms, however, is harder to explain. Perhaps it is simply from the fetishization of the outdated or just the novel appeal of seeing historical names adding to a sense of discovery/rediscovery.
 - <https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~259795~5522726:Carta-Postal-de-la-Republica-Mexica>
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_postal_romanization
- Languages:** although the toponyms here are mostly Nahuatl or Nahuatl-derived, each administrative unit or *altepetl* has its own prevailing official language. Just as OTL Mesoamerica is extremely linguistically diverse—often with many languages from different language families being found in the same state—Nicaragua is linguistically diverse. Of course, many Indigenous languages exist on the margins as minorities, but what is interesting is that in ATL, seventy-seven Indigenous languages from fourteen language families act as the dominant languages of school, bureaucracy, and everyday life in the various *altepetls* of the federated country.
 - See the *Altepetl Official Language* sheet in the [Nahuatl Toponyms spreadsheet](#)
- Chicuexcan:** this is a reference to the Aztec Empire being known as the Excan Tlahtoloyan or the "Triple Alliance." *Chicuexcan* literally means "land of eight," an epithet for the more elucidating name, Chicuexcan Tlahtoloyan, "the eight places where decisions are made," so basically a federation of eight core territories.
- United Fair Trade Fruit Co.:** this is just a tongue-in-cheek reference to the United Fruit Company, more commonly known as Chiquita these days. As far-fetched as it may sound, in ATL, the idea of fair trade is embraced and championed by the more privileged importing countries of tropical fruit, and somehow grassroots movements in those countries are actually able to lend solidarity and eco-socialist labour organization to framers in the Caribbean, but more importantly, Nicaragua, which would be the producer of the lion's share of bananas and other tropical staples for American and European consumers.
- Ipaynancal:** this component of the Chicuexcan Customs Inspectorate, Ipaynancal Nicaragua comes from the Aztec Empire's courier system, which relied on courier runners known as *paynanis*, "light feet." The word *ipaynancal* literally means "house of the light feet, courier department" then.
- Altepetl:** this is the smallest autonomous administrative unit, being historically equivalent to a "city-state" but just as words for country, region, province, prefecture, and city are often conflated through culture shifts or borrowings (see *zhou* in Chinese and how the Sanskrit *nagara* morphed in meaning as it travelled through OTL Southeast Asia), I thought it would be appropriate for *altepetl* to shift meaning to denote "state, nation." Each *altepetl* in the federation has the same level of state powers as the territorially larger states of federated countries like the United States.
 - The pre-colonial polity groups (alliances, trading leagues, or empires) that were subsumed are outlined in a cursory way in the [Nahuatl Toponyms spreadsheet](#), at the top of the Territory Etymologies sheet
- Tenango:** like the suffix *tenango* in the city of Quetzaltenango, this locative word implies territoriality through the meaning of "border, fence," with the root of the word being from *tenamitl*, "wall, rampart." A *tenango* is essentially a regional grouping of *altepetls* based on shared histories of rule. In ATL, the late Aztec Empire subsumed most the neighbouring alliances and empires in its region either through forced suzerainty or direct conquest, and further operated as almost a ghost state under the early years of colonial New Spain, as conquistadors would more heavily rely on its centre of control, the Valley of Mexico, to project into territories further south.
- Queretaro Orthography scheme:** just as the discrepant Chinese postal romanization system, Nanking/Nanjing syllabary, was based on a city with competing cultural prestige to the northern Chinese capital, Beijing/Peking, I chose an alternative city to Tenochila or ATL Mexico City to be the centre for proponents of the discrepant Nicaraguan orthographic system, which has the pragmatic pro of being able to maintain toponyms that are more

well known to foreigners, despite those names being from the times of colonial New Spain and the *criollo*-dominated Empire of Nicaragua.

9. **Ordenanza General de Correos, Postas y Caminos of 1794:** the history of the Correos de Mexico or Mexican Postal Service dates back to the Spanish colonial period, and even before to the pre-Hispanic times, such as the pre-Hispanic Aztec system that used *painanis*, “light feet” couriers. The 1794 law, however, is seen as being the beginning of the modern postal system that was brought through multiple regime changes in OTL, and it is also an adequate system to base the ATL postal service of Nicaragua.
10. **Imperial Maritime Customs Post Office:** this is a play off of the OTL Chinese Maritime Customs Service, which featured European staff at the senior levels. It is possible to imagine the nascent Nicaraguan state hiring American, British, French, and even peninsular Spanish staff to replace the previously more educated *criollo* class of elites after the ATL partition of Nicaragua and Arizona-Arizona.
11. **Quetzal Latinicization System:** *latinicization* here refers to romanization, the transliteration of a language's writing system into the Latin alphabet. For a lack of an original name, I named the romanization system after Falling Quetzal, the person instrumental in helping me update the Nahuatl toponyms for Altera thanks to his knowledge of Guerrero Nahuatl.
12. **Latinic placename conversion table:** this isn't just a simple transliteration conversion table between colonial and contemporary Nahuatl orthographic or spelling conventions. Some cities were completely renamed, which one might imagine in post-colonial contexts in India or South Africa. Moreover, all the Catholic saintly and *criollo* revolutionary figure affixes have been dropped. A layer of irony I want to note here is that, just as nationalistic placenames are often implemented from the top down, many of the towns or small cities that had the overt Catholic allusions may not have even had majority Catholic populations. This kind of irony exists today in OTL rural or non-core areas in settler countries like Canada and Australia, where there may be resilient Indigenous communities living in places with names completely disconnected from their cultural heritages. To better reference the names, use this spreadsheet to match between official Nahuatl and the colonial-based postal orthography:
 - a. Postal to Official Toponym Conversion sheet in the [Nahuatl Toponyms of Chicuecan of Nicaragua spreadsheet](#)
13. **Ce-Xochitl Quetzaltemoc Nochehuatl:** as the map is based off of the Carta Postal de la Republica Mexica. Hoja No. 18., which has the attribution “R de SN Araluce” for the editor, I thought it would be illuminating to use the editor's name for the ATL map to showcase what pre-Hispanic naming conventions looked like. Since the ATL Nicaragua is the area that has a majority of non-Catholics (with exceptions of sizable Catholic populations and majorities in some cities scattered throughout), it would be possible to imagine a resurgence of previously subsumed native cultures, thanks in part to large rural populations that had less Spanish cultural influences, including for naming conventions. The name Ce-Xochitl Quetzaltemoc Nochehuatl follows the convention of Nahuatl people being assigned a calendar name for their day of birth on top of a personal name. The convention of tagging on a surname at the end would be from colonial times. The particular calendar name for this editor translates as “one flower (day).” Their personal name translates as “falling quetzal,” which is the name of a revered Mesoamerican bird with bright green plumage. Finally, Nochehuatl comes from *nochtli* and *ehuatl*, meaning “tuna, prickly cactus pear” and “skin,” respectively.

A World by Three Temporal Dimensions

The Time Zone Systems of the World

Map of time zone by country

1. **Meridional:** this is the ATL version of a “meridian, longitude” following the suffix pattern of *parallel*, which refers to latitude in OTL. The distinction here is also necessary to distinguish the term from describing things related to the ATL region of Meridea.
2. **12 sey days:** this refers to places where a day and night is divided into twelve time units parallel to the OTL hour, coming from Kantonese, *si*. Interestingly, the OTL Chinese way of referring to an hour, *xiaoshi*, literally translates to “little hour, half an hour,” as the original *shi*, just as this ATL sey, was double in length of the OTL hour. At different times in ancient China in OTL, a day was referenced by the Chinese zodiac, which gave twelve units.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Traditional_Chinese_timekeeping
3. **6 hauwha days:** this refers to places where a day and night is divided into six time units parallel to the OTL hour. The term *hauwha* comes from Aotearoan *hauwhā*, meaning “quarter,” as Polynesian cultures in OTL purportedly recognized no more than six distinct chunks of the day and night in precolonial times. The term was possibly adopted for timekeeping as a term due to its coincidental phonetic similarity to English, *hour*, as the “Polynesian hour” would be pronounced quite similarly to “Polynesian hauwha” by locals.
4. **10 deciday days:** this refers to places where a day and night is divided into ten time units parallel to the OTL hour, with *deci-* referring to the day being divided into units of a “tenth” of a diurnal cycle. As part of the larger shift towards the Metric system of weights and measures, the idea to divide the day into ten decidays comes first from the radical scheme to modernize French society during the tumultuous revolutionary period of the early 19th century. Left-leaning political movements, especially the communists, have historically been the ones to flirt with similar schemes, which is why the communists in eastern Europe officially adopted such a scheme, evening setting Paris as the prime meridional to honour the origin of this revolutionary temporal thinking.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metric_time
5. **20 ura days:** this refers to places where a day and night is divided into twenty time units parallel to the OTL hour. As the OTL Mayan and Chibcha-Muisca counting systems were *vegisemal* or base-twenty, it followed that they could possibly adopt time system that has days divided into twenty time units. Despite having impressively complicated calendric systems, there seems to be little evidence to suggest the Indigenous OTL cultures counted anything akin to an hour, leading to no native linguistic terms to use. The Spanish *hora*, is thus the most plausible term to be adopted through contact.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muisca_calendar
 - b. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muisca_numerals#:~:text=Muisca%20numerals%20were%20the%20numeri%20twenty%20\(Chibcha%3A%20quet\).](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muisca_numerals#:~:text=Muisca%20numerals%20were%20the%20numeri%20twenty%20(Chibcha%3A%20quet).)
6. **30 muhurta days:** this refers to places where a day and night is divided into thirty time units parallel to the OTL hour. The ancient Sanskrit term for hour, *muhūrta*, referred to a one thirtieth of a diurnal cycle, or day and night, leading to the Indic hour to be slightly shorter than the 60-minute hour, with each *muhūrta* consisting of forty-eight *kshanas*, time units akin to a minute.
 - a. https://www.academia.edu/47520078/Measures_of_time_in_ancient_India
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindu_units_of_time
7. **60 nayi days:** this refers to places where a day and night is divided into sixty time units parallel to the OTL hour. The precolonial *nayi* or Burmese term for hour consisted of 24 smaller time units akin to the OTL minute. As Burma and much of southern Serica has deep connections to the Indosphere, it is also not unrealistic for these states to pragmatically set their prime meridional as Ujjain so as to be aligned with the Greater Emporic Time (GET) system.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myanmar_Standard_Time
8. World coordinated time (WTC): this refers to a time zone system that is pegged to or aligned with the ATL World Calendar system, which is a sort of combination of the OTL proposed World Calendar and Auguste Comte’s Positivist Calendar. For the purposes of this map graphic, there is not much to understand other than that the calendar also recognizes twenty-four hours per diurnal cycle, that is, day and night. Though this is akin to OTL’s UTC time, the Sinosphere and Polynesian cultures agreed to relate their times to Greenwich, due to international

precedent, and the fact that their systems (twelve sey per day, six *hauwha* per day) can easily run parallel to the 24-hour-day countries.

9. **Pragmatic Decimal Time (PDT):** this is a compromise of a coordinated time zone between communist and countries that subscribe to the decimal-based system first proposed during revolutionary France, and the vegisemal-based Indigenous calendar systems of Nicaragua and Peru. Ironically, Paris, where the prime meridional for the time zone system is pegged, is not in any of the countries that use PDT time, though the communist countries have woven a historic narrative tying their revolutions or radical politics to the French Revolution. As for Peru and Nicaragua, their decision to use Paris as the prime meridional was based on pragmatic politics to relate their times to other parts of the world in a way that would still allow them to keep their unique vegisemal-based timekeeping system.
10. **Greater Emporic Time (GET):** this is a coordinated time zone system with the prime meridional pegged at Ujjain, the ancient city in eastern Gujarat where the Tropic of Cancer intersects with the traditional longitude that Indic astronomers set as zero. Despite much of the Emporic Rim coming under the control of European colonial powers, such was the resilience of the complex trade networks and the reliance upon local Emporic merchants or *chettians* that the local sense of time continued to be used well into the 19th century, when regional and worldwide standardization schemes began to be proposed by captains of industry. The southern Serican countries, with their ancient Indic ties, also have their timekeeping systems pegged to Ujjain to relate their local times to the rest of the world, as their *nayi* time units are simply double the Emporic *muhurta*.
11. **Meridional conferences of Madras (1836), Philadelphia (1884), & Moscow (1919):** prior to the OTL International Meridian Conference in Washington in 1884, there were already several other conferences and conventions implemented on both sides of the Atlantic. The ATL Philadelphia conference is a reference to this global convention setting conference, but which was never as comprehensive as OTL. Even before the revolution in Russia and the subsequent breaking off of communist countries from the convention in 1919, the Emporic Rim already followed its own precedent with the world's first regionally coordinated timekeeping system based off of the traditional Indic timekeeping system. In ATL, the *chettians* have less incentives or are just less inclined to adopt European customs, as the regional trade networks are more insulated from outside intervention, so long as the profits are still extracted for the benefit of colonial powers. The year 1836 is an OTL reference to one of the oldest railway lines proposed and built in Madras, now Chennai.
12. **Heuristics on spheres of influence or political alignment:** it is possible to deduce some patterns of global politics with this map. Peru and Nicaragua are clearly more culturally autonomous, and their unique timekeeping tradition denotes the fact that they had colonial experiences very different from OTL. The other countries coloured green are evidently communist or have radical socialist leanings. The Sinosphere is clearly visible with all the red-annotated time zone belts,, as they all use one of the two Sinic calendric systems, each of which boil down to having twelve seys or hour-equivalents, while Polynesean countries can be seen with the brown-annotated time zone belts. The blue time zone belts are all part of a greater Indosphere, while all the countries that divide their days into thirty *muhurtas* are clearly Emporic Rim trading cultures, binded together under the ATL Kampani Raj period, when the East Indea Company went from controlling just the Indean subcontinent to all of the Emporic Rim through wars and political manoeuvrings.
13. **Time conversion formula further explained:**

WHEN IT'S 2:78 IN HAVANA (PDT -2), WHAT TIME IS IT IN KHALKATA (GET +1)?

$d = (z' + (((h - z + \frac{m}{M}) \frac{1}{H}) - P + P')H') \bmod H'$
 $h' = \lfloor d \rfloor$
 $m' = [(d - \lfloor d \rfloor)M']$

h:m is the source time in zone *z*
h':m' is the target time in zone *z'*
P, H, M, for the source time, are defined in Table 1
P', H', M', for the target time, are defined in Table 1

Table 1. Constants for converting time between time zones

	WTC	PDT	GET
P	0	0.0064915	0.2104625
H	24	12	6
M	60	60	240

P is the distance of the prime meridional from Greenwich
H is the number of hour-equivalent units per day
M is the number of minute-equivalent units per hour

$2:78 \text{ in Havana (PDT-2)} \rightarrow \left((+1) + \left(\left((2 - (-2) + \frac{78}{100}) \frac{1}{10} \right) - 0.0064915 + 0.2104625 \right) 30 \right) \bmod 30 = 21.45913 \rightarrow 21:55 \text{ in Khalkata (GET+1)}$

$\times 120$

Batting Around the Globe

The Extent and Spread of Safe Haven Games Across the World

Map of preferred bat-and-ball sports by country

14. **Pesis:** this is also the OTL Finnish shortened form of calling the game *pesäpallo*, which is quite an interesting sport in comparison to baseball, primarily because there is no emphasis on pitching and allows for the batter and offensive team to have more tactics at their disposal. See the Wikipedia entry on *pesäpallo*.
15. **Finland - 1871:** this year was chosen because it marks a decade prior to the assassination of Czar Alexander II, who was a lot more lenient and encouraging of regional cultural movements in the Russian Empire. In ATL, Russia still gains much of Bothnia and Yugria in the 19th century, but they also quickly lose them in the Russian Civil War and fully relinquish them in World War 2. The time Finland is a part of the empire, however, allows for the *pesis* sport to not only grow in Scandinavia but also in much of the lands of the former Russian Empire.
16. **Arctic and Pomor Trade:** there were many trade routes or whaling routes between northern Russia and Scandinavia in OTL, as well as to Svalbard and further more desolate lands. The Pomor Trade even led to a pidgin known as Russenorsk. The sport could easily spread organically to the Septentrian Arctic and the Keewatin Bay because in ATL, Norwegians were the main traders in these areas, as the Scandinavian countries were not in direct competition with Britain and British interests overlapped with theirs. It is also possible to imagine that, as the trade in these parts were seasonal, many voyages might require various crews from Norway to spend a winter in these distant lands, leading to organic cultural contact and transfers.
17. **Voyna:** this is the Romanian sport known in OTL as *oină*, the word thought to have a Turkic Cuman etymology, *oyn*, meaning "game," and cognate to modern Turkish, *oyn*. The ATL exonym, *voyna*, comes from Slavic bastardization of the word or reasserting a new etymology, as the word in several Slavic languages means "war." The game seems to also have similarities to schlagball too, but is more scalable to be a spectator sport. See the Wikipedia entry on *oină* and the following video on how the sport is played.
 - a. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6gzU3vH4XA>
18. **Dacia - 1867:** the year 1867 was chosen for the codification and formal establishment of *voyna* as it would be a decade before the OTL year of the majority of Romanian territories gaining full independence from the Ottoman Empire. In ATL, the Ottomans also crumble around this time, but it is also because of the weakened position of the Turks that the sport is able to pass on through all the networks the empire provides throughout the eastern Mediterranean and beyond to Susia, Chorsania, and even to southern Erythrea.
19. **From the schoolyard to spectator sport:** in OTL, *oină* was adopted in the Romanian school system to promote athleticism and physical health. The reference here is that the ATL equivalent, *voyna*, was promoted throughout the Ottoman Empire for fitness, and that as a schoolyard sport, the game wedged into disparate cultures across the region.
20. **America - 1845:** this is the generally accepted year that baseball historians use for the codification of the game as part of the Knickerbocker rules. As in OTL, the ATL sport spread to Serica and the Caribbean long before it made its way down the Mississippi to the southern and western states.
21. **England - 1744:** this is remembered by cricket historians as the first instance of codification of the rules of the game.

A World Steeped in Drinks

Staple Steeps that Keep the World Running

Map of preferred steep (staple tea/coffee-equivalent beverage) by country

1. **Geelbos:** refers to the herbal tea or tisane known as honey bush, which, like rooibos, comes from the southern extremes of South Africa. The ATL name comes from *geel* and *bos* for “yellow bush” in Afrikaans. Though the plant is not readily cultivated from seed, in ATL, one or two of the species that produces the steep are somehow domesticated through luck or ingenuity, allowing for Europeans to plant it elsewhere and establish it as a cash crop in Siluria, which has a similar Mediterranean-like climate with strong oceanic influences.
2. **Rooibos:** rooibos has an interesting history in that there is inconclusive evidence, at least from what I could glean, on whether Indigenous peoples drank a tisane made out of rooibos, or that there is still work to be done on establishing to what extent Khoisan peoples used the plant. The commodity history of rooibos is also interesting in that, like honeybush, it is mostly done by foraging or procuring from established natural populations. Cultivating the plant from seed was a mystery for decades until it was discovered that the seeds need scarification. There is also an old tale of how a Khoisan woman found the seeds being carried into an anthill and discovered how to germinate the seeds in that way, though it's unclear what exact insight was gained in this experience.
3. **Quast:** refers to OTL Labrador Tea, coming from Inuksut (OTL Kalaallisut or Western Greenlandic) *qajaasaq*. The ATL lore is that the term gets rendered as *kjaaset* by the intermediary Grenish or OTL Greenlandic Norse. The steep has a slight menthol-like taste, but is also malty and has some resemblance to tea. According to OTL people in Newfoundland and Labrador, it was once a major contender for the tea trade in the 18th century. It should be noted that there are studies to show the drink can be mildly toxic and that the best way to prepare it is to not let the steep reach a boil.
 - a. See Anna Dampc and Maria Luczkiewicz, “Labrador Tea – The Aromatic Beverage and Spice: A Review of Origin, Processing and Safety.”
 - b. Or see <https://www.motherearthliving.com/health-and-wellness/LABRADOR-TEA/>.
4. **Yoco:** there is not much research available for this plant. It has been written about by Richard Evan Schultes and also brought to somewhat more public attention by Wade Davis, but it still remains relatively obscure as one of the sources of caffeine in the world. It is also one of the most potent sources, and is further unique in that it is the liana branch that offers the drink, making it not necessarily a steep, as it is prepared in a similar way as kava is in Hawaii and the South Pacific. This is one of the few steeps on the map that I have yet to taste.
 - a. See Luke M. Weiss and James K. Kearns, “Caffeine and Theobromine Analysis of Paullinia yoco, a Vine Harvested by Indigenous Peoples of the Upper amazon,” *Tropical Resources: The Bulletin of the Yale Tropical Resources Institute*.
 - b. Juan F. Dueñas et al. talk about it briefly in their article “(Ilex guayusa Loes.): A Historical and Ethnobotanical Overview,” in *Economic Botany*.
5. **Guarana:** outside of Brazil and South America, guarana still remains relatively unknown, even though it is now one of the most used ingredients for soda and energy drinks in that part of the world. The seed of guarana possess up to four times the amount of caffeine as the average coffee bean. Its taste is earthy or woody, and subtly nutty, and has a bit of herbal and bitter flavour, but it can easily become an acquired taste, especially when paired with sugar. Whether or not guarana can be ground and extracted the same way as coffee is for espresso remains to be seen.
 - a. See the section on guarana in *Origin and Domestication of Native Amazonian Crops* by Charles R. Clement et al.
6. **Waisa:** this is just a slight change from the Spanish orthography to OTL Kichwa and Shuar orthography. In OTL, Guayusa is a steep that is starting to get some attention, being similar to yerba mate, though in the current way that it is processed, it also has a lot of similarities to yaupon, having earthy, malty, and herbal notes. This makes sense as the plant is part of the same genus of holly.
 - a. See <https://www.fooddive.com/spons/the-story-of-quayusa/618321/> or try the looseleaf brewed variety of quayusaa by Runa.
7. **Shoba:** this is a term derived from Concow, *so-e-ba*, for the roasted “Bay nut, nut of the California Bay Laurel.” The tree is also known as Oregon Myrtle or *Umbellularia californica*. The timber it yields also has an interesting and colourful history as being the source of history's only known wood-base form of legal tender, being used by OTL

North Bend, Oregon when the city temporarily lost its only bank. Bay nut is also something I have not been able to taste yet, but which I am quite interested in based on the reported flavour profile. It is supposed to be reminiscent of chocolate, coffee, and popcorn or toasted grain. It's unclear if a steep made from the nut has a caffeine or theobromine-equivalent stimulant, as the only chemical analysis research being done on it seems to be around its headache-causing effect, though ironically, in Indigenous Californian medicine, the seeds were known to also be cures for headaches.

- a. See references to the plant in Jefferson W. Haney's "Acorn Exploitation in the Eastern Sierra Nevada" in the *Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology* or in Peter D. Schulz and Jerald J. Johnson's "An Early Acorn Cache from Central California," also in the *Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology*.
 - b. See a section on the *Umbellularia californica* in the 2012 report prepared by Alan M. Leventhal et al. for the San Jose State University Department of Anthropology, "Final Report on the Archaeological Field Work Conducted on a Portion of the Kiriř-smin 'ayye Sokóte Tápporikmatka [Place of Yerba Buena and Laurel Trees Site] CA-SCL-895 (Blauer Ranch) Located within the Evergreen Valley District, San Jose, Santa Clara County, Ca."
8. **Matay:** this is just the term I settled with for how in ATL yerba mate will make it into the English language without a diacritic or being confused for having just one syllable. Like tea and coffee, there's plenty of information out there on the plant, but what should be noted is that cultivation methods for the plant were devised twice, once during the time of the Jesuit reductions in the Pampas, and a second time in the last century or so. I am particularly interested in matay, as well as other cash crops, being propped up during the time of the reductions to compliment the ATL history of the Pampas being an archipelago of insulate, autonomous, and self-dependent creole cultures, each one revolving around a core reduction site with its own language creole.
 - a. For particularly good insight on the plant, see the entry on *yerba maté* in *HerbalGram: The Journal of the American Botanical Council* by Josef Brinckmann and Thomas Brendler.
9. **Yaupon:** this is one of the accepted OTL English terms for what was known in colonial times as "the black drink" of the Indigenous peoples of the Southeastern Woodlands of North America. The other term was cassine or cassina, which can also refer to one of the two species used to produce the drink, *Ilex cassine*. The other species, *Ilex vomitoria*, bakes in the historical ethnobotanical relationship, in which Indigenous peoples of that part of the world would consume large quantities of the drink to induce vomiting for ritual purification ceremonies. It seems large quantities of any caffeinated drink might have a similar effect, so it should be noted that when consumed like any other daily steep, yaupon is quite benign and also very tasty, having a malty flavour that can easily substitute for tea in iced tea, as I have it in ATL America. It does not, however, taste too similar to yerba mate, lacking that grassy tobacco-like flavour profile, though it does at the same time have smells that can be reminiscent of leather and dark cigar-wrapping tobacco leaves. In taste, it is more leafy- or herbal-tasting and has a subtle caramel-like flavour.
 - a. See <https://www.bbc.com/travel/article/20210223-yaupon-the-rebirth-of-americas-forgotten-tea> or give CatSpring Yaupon a try.
10. **Cocoa:** this term is almost getting out of fashion for most chocolate aficionados, who prefer cacao, but it has a longer history of usage in the English language and in ATL, "hot cocoa" is not going to refer to the overly sweet child's drink, but just the staple steep version of brewed cacao. There is endless archaeological and anthropological insight that can be shared on this subject, so the main point to emphasize here is that cocoa does not become just a dessert ingredient or known in the dimension of candy bars or solely appreciated as bean-to-bar chocolate bars. Chocolate as a drink in the early modern period—or "liquid chocolate" as drunk by European aristocrats, as well as the cerrero and chorote versions of the drink consumed by the rich and poor alike supposedly in Mexico, Central America, Colombia, and Venezuela in the 18th and 19th centuries—does not die out. Ironically, in ATL, *chocolate* refers to the solid bar form of cocoa, and more on this kind of food will be divulged in a future map production.
 - a. For a great read, see Maricel Presilla's *The New Taste of Chocolate: A Cultural & Natural History of Cacao with Recipes*.
 - b. For its domestication history, see Sonia Zarillo et al., "The Use and Domestication of *Theobroma cacao* during the mid-Holocene in the Upper Amazon" in *Nature Ecology & Evolution*.
 - c. See also <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/article/chocolate-domestication-cocoa-ecuador> and <https://www.history.com/topics/ancient-americas/history-of-chocolate>.
11. **Cola:** known more as kola nut nowadays, this was one of the original ingredients for Coca-cola and the namesake for all cola-type soda drinks. In ATL, cola as an ingredient is still popularly used in the soft drink industry, but moreover, more people turn to consuming it like *bissy*, which is the steep made from kola nuts in OTL Jamaica,

consumed in an equivalent manner to coffee or tea. What is particularly interesting about the OTL history of kola nut is that it was one of the main commodities of trade between the tropical parts of West Africa and the Sahel and beyond across the Sahara, competing with salt and gold for cargo space on caravans. Linguistic evidence also supports the idea that it was cultivated and spread first from somewhere around Sierra Leone, though it quickly became a staple in much of tropical West Africa.

- a. For a general introduction, see Paul E Lovejoy, *Kola in the History of West Africa*.
 - b. See also Nikolas Gestrich et al., "Evidence of an Eleventh-Century AD Cola Nitida Trade into the Middle Niger Region," in *African ARchaeological Review*.
 - c. See also Ikenna Ukpabi Unya, "The Historical Significance and Role of the Kola Nut among the Igbo of Southeastern Nigeria," in *Journal of Religion and Human Relations*.
12. **Tea:** there is a lot of interesting information produced on tea. Tea is mostly distinguished by its production, and less so by variety, at least by most consumers. One thing to note is that *blue* tea in ATL refers to "oolong tea," which comes from the French, who sometimes use the colour to distinguish oolong from other types of tea. There is already the precedent of referring to pu'er tea as "dark tea" in the English language, but it may not be as well known as green or black tea. Interestingly, in Chinese, black tea is known literally as "red tea." I tried to find if there were other species of *Camellia* that could be used for tea, but the only one I found was *Camellia taliensis*.
 13. **Coffee:** this is perhaps the OTL commodity that is most likely to overtake the world as a preferred or as the steep most regularly depended upon. In ATL, the main difference is that coffee's hold is much less dominant in much of the world outside the long-established range of tea. What's interesting about coffee is that there are quite a few species that can yield good-tasting coffee, with *C. stenophylla* and *C. racemosa* being particularly interesting to me.
 14. **Thé de coureur:** the naming of this blended tea variant is just a nod to the *coureur de bois*, who also feature in the ATL history of Canada.
 15. **Creole coffee:** refers to OTL Louisiana-style chicory coffee.
 16. **Green bissy:** interestingly, *green* here is Patois for "fresh," just as in English someone can be "green" or new to a vocation or experience. It seems the Patois word *bissy* comes from Twi or Akan, *bese*, meaning "kola nut."
 - a. I learned how to prepare bissy here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ClutAwkdpq4&t=27s>.
 17. **Drip yaupon:** this is a reference to the quintessential North American style of drip brew coffee or black coffee. The dark form of yaupon produced by CatSpring Yaupon reminds me of a more herbally cup of black coffee, which makes me think the ATL form of drip yaupon could be a great replacement in American culture.
 18. **Elep:** this was my attempt at fabricating an ATL Muslim Venezuelan name for yoco, with *halib* being "milk," being at first used as an epithet or way of describing the sap squeezed from the liana.
 19. **Bica:** this refers to the cup that Portuguese people drink coffee in.
 20. **Cocido quemado:** apparently this drink is not well known to even most daily consumers of yerba mate in Argentina. This may be because the style of preparation may be unique to Paraguay. The preparation method intrigued me and I did not want to just highlight on the map yerba mate as it is normally consumed in the gourd, since the drink is already quite well known in that way.
 - a. See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9HOail68BnM&t=113s>.
 21. **Culhen:** this is a nod to the way Vietnamese coffee is prepared and consumed. I couldn't find many Mapudungan words that could lend themselves as descriptors for the drink, so I went with *culhen* or "tears," in reference to the drips from the metal drip filter.
 22. **Kaspa chuquli:** interestingly, in OTL Kichwa, *kaspa* can be used to refer to cacao, being originally used for "cob (of grain, maize)." Though in cacao in OTL history was first domesticated in modern-day Ecuador, it seems like the derived drink was not popular consumed for later parts of history, at least not to the extent as in Mesoamerica. In ATL, *kaspa chuquli* is actually an introduction by the Spanish to the more Indigenously-intact Peruvians.
 23. **Qullqiwaisa:** literally meaning "silver guayusa," this is a reference to the flourished Coquimbo-style way of drinking yerba mate. The OTL city name of Coquimbo comes from Quechua, *Qullquitampu*, meaning "silver inn, lodging."
 24. **Chavin revival:** this is just a nod to the amazing double spout and bridge vessels found in northern Peru, as well as to the fact that in ATL, Peru becomes a major importer of Chinese porcelain. Like the Europeans, the ATL Peruvian market demanded chinaware that also reflected their cultural aesthetics, hence this interesting new pottery style.
 25. **Chicoli:** interestingly, the beating stick for *cacahuatl* may also be a contender for the etymology of chocolate, though I'm not sure if the term could be, ironically, a return borrowing from the Spanish word of chocolate, as it's believed

the *molinillo* or chocolate stirring or berating stick did not come into use until the colonial period. Prior to the Spanish, the OTL Aztecs and Mayans, like many of the peoples around the world who desired frothy drinks, simply poured their beverage back and forth between two cups to aerate it.

26. **Petash:** refers to *Theobroma bicolor* or macambo, also known as the jaguar tree or *balamte* in Mayan, meaning "jaguar." The word comes from the Nahuatl term, *pataxte*. More on this fabulous food will be divulged in a future map on chocolate.
27. **Quelhue:** there is no OTL equivalent to this drink but I wanted a blue chocolate drink, so I went with a marriage between *atole* and chocolate.
28. **Tuli:** refers to London fogs or tea lattes, as tule fog is a type of fog in OTL California.
29. **Jang:** comes from Mandarin, *jiang*, "grain-derived milk." There are all sorts of *jiang* or non-dairy milks in Chinese culture, from peanut to rice to soy milk.
30. **Tsawtsah:** this beverage idea may be a stretch, but salty yak butter tea is the lifeblood of the Himalayan Plateau in OTL. Plus, consider the fact that OTL ooligan grease was used in many ways, going with berries as well as shellfish and, more recently, rice and soy sauce.
31. **Koko:** the basis for making *koko* the steep of choice for all of Polynesea comes from the fact that in OTL Samoa, cacao is the culturally preferred steep.
32. **Kokio matotoru:** *matotoru* refers to "thicken, dense" in Maor. Old foodstuffs or crops can oftentimes fall into obscurity. In OTL Europe, lots of legumes have lost out to chickpea and pea, and in New Zealand and the Chatham Islands, the starchy tuber of bracken fern is not so commonly eaten anymore. In ATL, the foodstuff also falls into obscurity as a staple, but is carried over as a thickener or milk-like ingredient, just as the mostly obscure tigernut is still used in traditional *horchata* in OTL Spain and Catalonia.
33. **Suklaa:** this is a reference to how Scandinavian chocolate is often paired with licorice. The term is just the way the Finns rendered "chocolate" in their language.
34. **Mocha:** this is just a reference to how a Gibraltar is sometimes used in lieu of a cortado. I find false place-based etymologies interesting, and coffee-related terms are full of these, from Mocha to Gibraltar to coffee itself, coming from the OTL Kingdom of Kaffa, and ATL Cappia, as rendered by the Grecians.
35. **Gorotuba:** this is a reference to café Touba, a popular way of preparing coffee in West Africa and the western Sahara. *Goro* is cola in many West African languages, such as Hausa, being also cognate to *kola*, and *etso* refers to the OTL spice known as grain of Selim, coming from the Ewe language.
36. **Espuma:** I didn't know if Angolans had a different way of drinking coffee than the rest of the Lusosphere, but I wanted to highlight the similar OTL Cuban connection in the ATL lore.
37. **Malacca:** this is an original false place-based etymology that I came up with to pair the interesting history of the OTL Cape Malays with how chai is popular in South Africa, coming from the prominent Indian community there.
38. **Koujoe:** this is a nod to the Boer migration to Argentina after the Boer Wars in OTL, and also to the fact that yerba mate was brought back by return migrants from Argentina to the Levant, perhaps due to Argentina not living up to expectations in after its economy declined in the early 20th century.
39. **Duwara:** this is a nod to the OTL original way of foamy liquid chocolate or cacao, along with how tea or *chai* is still traditionally frothed in India.
40. **Buna:** there is not much change here from OTL except that the OTL Ethiopian way of preparing coffee is a lot more prevalent throughout ATL Erythrea.
41. **Masala chai:** not much is different here. It should be noted that how coffee, waisa, and cocoa are consumed in ATL southern India is similar in that they are all prepared with spices.
42. **Kopi barako:** this is a nod to the Filipino variety of coffee that is now replaced in ATL by cocoa-drinking culture. It is also a nod to the history of using *Coffea liberica* in this part of the world.
43. **Kuping Tari:** like *duwara*, this is a nod to how OTL chai is still traditionally frothed in India. I don't think there is an OTL equivalent way of preparing coffee, however, so it remains to be seen if this is a viable way of preparing coffee.
44. **Australian Brogue:** refers to the Australian vernacular speech, which is a language in its own right, and not just a kind of English accent or faint dialect. The word *brogue* has to do with speech, coming from the Irish, *barrog*, meaning "a hold (on the tongue)," and is famously used in North Carolina to refer to the High Tider accent or dialect of the Outer Banks.

45. **Carnation:** a nod to one of the most prevalent 20th century brands of canned or evaporated milk.
46. **Red latte:** not too much is different here from the more recent trend of making rooibos lattes, except that OTL Australian barista culture is being married with South African rooibos culture.
47. **Mella:** this blended drink is a nod to how manuka was often used to stretch tea supplies in OTL New Zealand, the same way Labrador Tea was used in Canada. The term comes from Scots, *mell*, cognate and essentially the same as “to mix.”
48. **Waisa kedi:** refers to how OTL tea in Indonesia is sometimes prepared with clay pots, known as *teh poci*. The word *poci* comes from OTL Dutch, *potje*, and is replaced here with a hypothetical Sendarawasi term, *kedi*, from Malay *kati*, a borrowing of the OTL Chinese unit of measurement *jin*—which in Hokkien is *kin*—which also gives the English term catty, a common measurement for quantities of tea.
49. **Hiongphin tê:** this is just the OTL Hokkien term for *xiangpian cha* or “Jasmine-scented tea,” and interestingly, is even a word-for-word cognate. Despite all the great ways of preparing and processing tea in OTL Fujian, this kind of tea is one of the most popular, making people in Fujian quite similar to northern Chinese people, who have to import tea to their regions and thus prefer the scented tea as it can mask degradation in the quality of the product.
50. **Matcha:** not much is changed here compared to OTL.
51. **Lapsang chay:** refers to OTL lapsang souchong, a favourite word English-speaking tea drinkers like to say to impress, but which has a confusing etymology to modern speakers of Chinese languages—perhaps partly due to outdated orthography and to the time period the tea was introduced to Europe. I have found, however, that the term is likely to have come from either Hokkien or Cantonese, and either from the archaic character *lap* for “smoked, burned by fire” or the more common character that is its homonym, meaning “cured, dried,” as in *lapcheong* or Cantonese cured sausage. *Sang* is easier to trace, and can come from Mandarin, Cantonese, or Hokkien, which all have similar sounding cognates for the word “pine.”

Inseparable States and Faiths

The World's Denominations as Structural and Contextual Backdrops

Human ancestry map of Altera

1. C

Old Kin and Humankind

Ancestral Clusters as Sources for the Admixtures of Select Human Populations

Human ancestry map of Altera

1. Sources for major genetic studies:

- a. Great introduction to human genetic variation and which populations get distinguished at which number of clusters: <http://dienekes.blogspot.com/2010/12/human-genetic-variation-first.html>
- b. One of the first large scale but incomplete studies for the genetic structure of human populations: <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.1078311>
- c. Africans and African-Americans: <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.1172257>
- d. Sahel belt: <https://academic.oup.com/gbe/article/7/12/3484/2467338>
- e. Indigenous peoples of the Americas: <https://journals.plos.org/plosgenetics/article?id=10.1371/journal.pgen.0030185>
- f. Indigenous peoples of the Pacific Northwest: <https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.1620410114>
- g. Austronesians: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00439-015-1620-z>
- h. Nusantara populations: <https://academic.oup.com/mbe/article/34/10/2439/3952785>
- i. Oceania and Pacific Islanders: <https://journals.plos.org/plosgenetics/article?id=10.1371/journal.pgen.0040019>
- j. Negritos and the first peoples of Sundaland: <https://academic.oup.com/gbe/article/9/8/2013/3952725>
- k. Deep ancient diversity of Negritos: <https://discovermagazine.com/the-sciences/asian-negritos-are-not-one-population>
- l. East Asians and the Ainu: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26500257/>
- m. Siberian and Finno-Ugric: <https://genome.cshlp.org/content/early/2016/12/12/gr.202945.115>
- n. Han and Tibetans: <https://www.nature.com/articles/srep41195>

2. **Bar charts breakdown:** I generated the bar charts on the map with data that is mostly based on the academic sources I could find on the subject, while filling the gap or adjusting for my analytical scale—most papers highlight research done on smaller regional scale studies of genetic ancestral clusters, while the research done with the largest geographic scales still have major gaps, like not having samples from some genetically diverse or ancient areas, like OTL Oceania.

- a. Data set: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Euiu2x6tDqxnSkP8c8vr_pfE7X_CEtMi/view

3. **Names of ancestral clusters:** the names given to the ancestral clusters are all pegged to ATL geography and use the *-id* suffix, suggesting a general connection or pertainment, but not necessarily essentialist, as an *-ian* suffix might suggest. Naming population groups in this tradition can come off old fashioned or even have nefarious connotations due to the OTL history of population studies and racial discourse, but I think it's important to slightly separate OTL and ATL discourse and thinking trends, or to not see them as having direct correspondences. In ATL, these population terms also have no function other than to describe hypothesized ancestral origins. They are labels for things that we can not easily pinpoint, because no such pure populations ever existed. Dissecting the genetic profiles of modern peoples requires the use of this kind of language to make sense of general ancient lineages, but every person in that lineage would have had their own genetic variations that would lead to a slightly varied clustering of different ancestral contributions in their genetic makeup. In short, there is no such thing as a *Ghanid* person—there never was—but there are people with *Ghanid* ancestral lineage.

4. **Population makeup types:** here, *connected*, *converged*, and *conformed* can be respectively seen to mean "joined, associated," "blending, mixing," and "cemented, melded," respectively. These are three temporal demographic descriptors to describe a population as being "mixable," "mixing," and "mixed," respectively, which is to say not much mixing has occurred, "mixing is ongoing, and mixing has happened to the degree that it is no longer phenotypically notable. When viewed with the next column's value, some distant ancestral lineages can be seen as either completely mixed or still existing in separate but close proximity.

- a. For more, [see the footnotes for the "People Sheet" in the footnotes for the factbook](#)

5. **Originary points of ancestral clusters:** a problematic compromise I had to make was to somehow depict the main ancestral clusters on the map. Obviously, the map conveys geographic information, but it was hard to decide how to communicate the geographies of ancestral clusters with a map, as where the ancestral clusters may have first risen may no longer be where people with those ancestral lineages are found—Oceanid and Formosid (OTL Negrito)—ancestral clusters are all posited to have emerged on the mainland in Serica, but descendants with the largest share of their genetic lineage are found in the Pacific archipelagos. I also had to guess the central or originary spot for many of the ancestral clusters. It should be noted that even if I based some of my originary points on an academic source, these geographic points would just be more useful for theoretical conceptualizations.

Map of the pre-modern peopling of the world

6. **First arrival dates:** this corner map about the dispersal of humans around the world is based off of quick cursory glances at a variety of sources available on the Internet, as well as a summation of various maps on the subject matter. I am not as interested in this subject matter as others may be, but recognized that this sort of map would compliment the main ancestral clusters map nicely. Everyday, our understanding of this subject matter seems to keep changing, so this map is definitely not accurate. Still, it has enough truth to make it useful.
7. **Dispersal:** I believe I based my dispersal routes on the generally most accepted and conventional dispersal routes, which are theoretical and named after the direction they take from leaving Africa.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Dispersal

Map of demographic disruptions in the modern era

8. **Demographic disruptions:** as a way of explaining why the world's current demographic distribution is the way it is—or in particular, why there are Europeans or other groups of peoples found outside their traditional pre-modern range—I made this map to show major population loss or upheaval. It is kind of a spoof on the maps made for the Age of Discovery or Doctrine of Discovery narrative, as it shows the flipside or consequence of “discoveries” done by people in the Modern era, most prominently Europeans.
9. **Isolation:** I included isolated peoples because their isolation can be thought of as in relation or as a result of contact.
10. **Yasak Collections:** this refers to the brutalizing of Siberian peoples, most of them having been not captured by states before the expansion of the Russian Empire, and largely parallels the OTL history of Russian Expansion in Siberia. The term *yasak* is a Turkic word for “tribute” and referred to the fur tax that cossacks would go from one settlement to another to collect through various coercive means.
 - a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yasak>
11. **The Guanches Nullification:** this parallels the OTL conquest of the Canary Islands, which some argue was the ground zero of a new form of conquest that paved the way for European colonial enterprises in the modern period.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conquest_of_the_Canary_Islands
12. **Zaire Atrocities:** this parallels the OTL atrocities by Belgium in the Congo Free State, which in ATL is used as one of the main factors for allowing the Society of Nations (SoN) to take possession of the territory, becoming a major watershed case of not just normative but moral intervention in international relations.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atrocities_in_the_Congo_Free_State
13. **The Kalanoro Clearances:** this has no OTL comparison, except for the fact that the general tendency of colonial conquests by Europeans in the early to late modern period was population replacement or disruption. The term *kalanoro* is a real Malagasy word, which refers to a forest humanoid that functions in wildly different ways in Malagasy folklore. This historical tidbit that has a linguistic link to the Malagasy language of OTL Madagascar and the ATL countries of Surlanka signals that the pre-colonial population of Siluria were historically Austronesian, being at one of the most extreme limits of Austronesian expansion. The fate of the Kalanoros, unfortunately, is complete language loss and generally becoming absorbed into the settler population, kind of like OTL Tasmania or Easter Island.
 - a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalanoro>
14. **The Killing Times:** this refers to the OTL dehumanization narrative that the early Australian state and settlers used to justify many massacres and mass atrocities carried out against Indigenous peoples. In OTL, Australian Indigenous groups have labelled the early period of settler violence as “The Killing Times”. Despite it being an OTL myth that it used to be legal to murder Indigenous Australians, the truth is that it was more the lay of the land, where in some instances and places, law enforcement, judicial oversight, and settlers were all in alignment or supportive of ethnic cleansing, so the *de facto* law would have in effect been state-sanctioned killings.

- a. <https://www.indigenouspeoples-sdg.org/index.php/english/all-global-news/1034-the-killing-times-the-massacres-of-aboriginal-people-australia-must-confront>
 - b. <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/series/the-killing-times>
15. **The Palawa Eradication Scheme:** the term *Palawa* here is an endonym for the Indigenous people of Tasmania in the constructed/reconstructed Tasmanian language known as Palawi Kani. In OTL, Tasmania is kind of like Newfoundland in how strikingly successful European population replacement in the aftermath of the genocidal Black War. In ATL, this is referenced with the Palawa Eradication Scheme, which was a nefarious historical period in which the state sanctioned mass clearances and self-proscribed retaliatory killings against the Indigenous peoples of Cantabria.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_War
16. **The Wharekauri Massacres:** this is a reference to the Moriori genocide on the OTL Chatham Islands. In ATL, the Wharekauri Massacres would be one of the only significant event of mass atrocities carried out by non-Europeans in the modern period, as the Dzungar genocide never happens in ATL. Instead of happening on ATL Rekohua, which is an enlarged equivalent of the OTL Chatham Islands, the massacres occur on ATL Caledonia, which is an enlarged OTL Lord Howe Island, and which used to have the Indigenous name of Wharekauri. In ATL, some Maori-related people settled on the mountainous island but for whatever reasons, renounced warring as part of their culture, just like the OTL Moriori apparently did so, leading to a greater technological and capacity gap between them and would-be invaders. The ATL massacres were carried out by a Maori tribe in the early colonial period, when Europeans had not yet made settlement attempts on Caledonia, but had already begun trading muskets and other weaponry with the Maori. The resulting massacre largely unfolds in a similar fashion as OTL, but is larger scale and longer lasting, owing to the geography. Ironically, the Maori tribe that performed the massacres are never able to consolidate their newly gained territories as Caledonia is soon split into three colonial spheres: the French, the British, and the Germans. My reasoning for including a parallel to this OTL history is because the event is compelling and has a lot of normative elements to unpack, and also because Caledonia or Wharekauri needed to have an ATL Indigenous population, unlike the OTL previously uninhabited and largely isolated Lorde Howe Island. Nothing culturally or linguistically significant from OTL is lost when I allow for these massacres to occur in ATL—no culture got buried or did not make it onto the ATL map for this to happen—so I thought it would be a unique history to make the ATL lore richer and more complex.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moriori_genocide
17. **South Pacific Blackbirdings:** though these incidents were prevalent in the South Pacific for much of the heydays of whaling and the early days of sugarcane plantations in Queensland and Latin America in OTL, the most drastic effects happened on Easter Island, where the population could barely demographically and culturally recover. In ATL, instead of allowing the most drastic form of the blackbirdings to take shape on the equivalent ATL Rapanui, I allow it to happen on Mua, an enlarged OTL Juan Fernandez Archipelago, which didn't have an OTL Indigenous population. In ATL, the Indigenous population would have been recent settlers from Rapanui, which extends the Polynesian zone all the way to the edge of Crucea or OTL South America. The cultural and population replacement that follows in ATL Mua, however, allows for an interesting nearly extinct / revivable language to find a spot on the ATL map.
- a. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blackbirding>
18. **The Conquest of the Chullinas:** this is largely a parallel of the OTL Conquest of the Desert in Argentina's history. The term *chullina* comes from Quechua, *ch'in pacha*, "desert or barren plain," and refers to the OTL Patagonian Desert. In ATL, the Chullinas are, at their driest ranges, semi-desert, and in many other parts, grasslands. To call this part of the world a waste or desert is similar to how 19th century Americans may have referred to the Great Plains as a desert or "the Great American Desert." In effect, it refers to the fact that both the ATL Peruvians and European colonizers saw these southern plains as unsuitable for agriculture. The Chullinas of ATL, however, are perfect for livestock rearing but also, with more modern technology, have become the breadbasket of Argentina, just as the prairies of Canada were able to be converted to productive agricultural lands with more modern technology.
- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conquest_of_the_Desert
19. **Maranun Atrocities:** this parallels the OTL atrocities that happened in the Amazon during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In ATL, both the Amazon rainforest and river are referred to as the Maranun, and due to the inaccessibility of much of the basin, was contested and practically unclaimable by Europeans and newly independent states surrounding the area. With the explosion of the market for rubber, however, self-enterprising American, British, Spanish, Bolivian, Brazilian, French, and Flemish capitalists flocked to the area to make their own

riches, exploiting the lack of enforcement of laws and arming themselves to protect their stakes of land, resulting in wanton abuses and mass atrocities against Indigenous peoples in the Marañun. Like in the Zaire, the Marañun atrocities would be one of the first watershed cases where the SoN intervenes, resulting in the dismissal or reduction of territorial claims of neighbouring countries and penalizing European nations involved in supporting the activities. The SoN would finally take control of the territory itself, creating the OTL FUNAI-equivalent Marañun Rangers for patrolling the area to tackle poaching and illegal mining and logging and rubber operations in the area.

- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amazon_rubber_boom
 - b. <https://www.survivalinternational.org/articles/3282-rubber-boom>
 - c. <https://www.sapiens.org/culture/rubber-era-myths/>
 - d. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Funda%C3%A7%C3%A3o_Nacional_do_%C3%8Dndio
20. **The Destruction:** this just pinpoints ground zero for the beginning of the Columbian period or colonial period of the OTL Americas and ATL Gemina, that is, Crucea and Septentrea. With European contact, Ecuminan diseases would contribute to massive population declines in Indigenous populations all across Gemina, and then there was the actual conquests themselves.
 21. **The Trail of Tears:** the ATL Trail of Tears may have resulted in the same amount of pain and suffering, but the silver lining is that instead of ending in Oklahoma, the nations involved were able to relocate to British Florida. The British, for their part, wanted to hold Florida and Bahama to have a wedge against America, foreseeing that the nascent country would expand dramatically after securing independence. As Florida was hard to settle and still much of a frontier, the British welcomed the so-called "Civilized Tribes" or nations of the Southeastern Woodlands.
 22. **Plains Wars:** this refers to the OTL Plains Wars, but in ATL, the decimation is incomplete and the various Plains nations are able to regroup and consolidate around the Black Hills, securing their independence with a combination of decisive victories and astute diplomacy, leveraging British interests in a contained America by becoming a dominion of Britain, which still retained Manitoba and Canada.
 23. **Bounty Scalpings:** this refers to the OTL bounties that were issued in America for confronting the frontier woes or retaliations of Indigenous peoples against settler accumulation by dispossession. That this still happens in America means that the ATL America still comes into being with similar complexities and loaded histories.
 24. **The Vanishing Beothuk:** this refers to the OTL decline of the Beothuk in Newfoundland, who are one of the few Indigenous groups of the Americas to seem to have truly gone "extinct" just as settler myths would have people believe for most Indigenous peoples. As the Beothuk language is not viable for revival, I did not attempt to put them on the ATL map and borrowed the OTL history.

Following the Grain

Cultural Contact and the Flow of Major Staples from Distinct Centres of Origin

Map of centres of domestication of staple starches

1. **Major staples:** the staple crops featured in this map are logged in the Crops sheet of the Atlas Altera Cornucopia dataset. This is a thorough collection of staple crops known to have been domesticated by humankind, plus additional potential domesticates or plants that are suitable for domesticating in OTL and which are already domesticated in ATL, particularly in Tamirea and Azanea.
 - a. [Download the Cornucopia spreadsheet here.](#)
2. **Tigers-Euphrates:** this is standard knowledge now but it has eclipsed all other centres of domestication due to European knowledge production favouring their own narrative over others.
3. **Ganges-Padma:** though this river is widely known, it is a bit contested as to whether this is an extension of the Tigres-Euphrates zone or if it was a secondary centre of domestication. Nevertheless, I include it to peg some Indean crop domesticates.
4. **Mekong:** though OTL Southeast Asia is seen to have been more of the crossroads between West Asian and East Asian domestication events, there are a few crops that seem to have arisen here by themselves, allowing the Mekong to potentially be seen as an early secondary centre of domestication.
5. **Ho:** this is the exonym for the OTL Yellow River, derived from the Chinese, *he*, "river," with some sources positing that it was historically used in northern China to strictly refer to the Yellow River exclusively before becoming paired with the names of other rivers too.
6. **Kiang:** this is the OTL Yangtze River, derived from Chinese *jiang*, "river," and historically thought to have exclusively referred to the Yangtze River before becoming paired with the names of other rivers too.
7. **Kuk:** this refers to the swamp and minor tributary creek known in OTL as the Kuk Swamp. It is one of the areas that is recognized to have evidence of humans independently developing agriculture in OTL and is a major centre of domestication in ATL as well.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kuk_Swamp
8. **Dali:** this is not a true OTL centre of domestication but a uniquely ATL one. The OTL name for the river is the Daly River in Northern Territory. It is near the areas of OTL Australia where Indigenous Australians—particularly in the Top End—were known to harvest semi-wild rice, one of which is supposedly the closest relative to domesticated rice. The incentive of having more regular and predictable harvests of grain, plus strategic pressures that come from the monsoon climate in the area could have been good incentives for ATL Tamireans in the area to adopt agriculture in perhaps a similar small-scale fashion like people in Papua.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oryza_rufipogon
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oryza_australiensis
9. **Atbarah:** this is a tributary to the Nile River, known in OTL as the Atbara. As it is posited as being near the origin of sorghum domestication and removed from the Mediterranean World by the Sahara, I consider it as a separate centre of domestication, while the Nile itself is grouped in with the Mesopotamian rivers as one centre of domestication.
 - a. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10437-018-9314-2>
10. **Niger:** though it is not often taught as such, the Inland Niger delta or the upper Niger River in the Sahel was a major centre of domestication for a variety of crops, including certain millets and yam.
 - a. <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.aaw1947>
11. **Ghana:** this refers to the Senegal River. The name is from Soninke, *gajangga*, meaning "war chief, warrior king," and was the name of a historic empire, which is the namesake for the ATL river. Though it may not have been an OTL centre of domestication, in ATL, this is where *drinn* and *kram* or *Aristida pungens* and *Cenchrus biflorus* get domesticated and become a lot more viable arid-tolerant crops.
12. **Seman:** I believe I pegged the Seman River here only symbolically, as it was based on the fact that early European farming and crop domestication evidence was found in Vashtemi in Albania, near the Seman River.
 - a. <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/04/120416113013.htm>

13. **Ugab:** this is ATL fanciful thinking. In ATL, the river source has a higher flow of river, but is still seasonal. Many arid-tolerant plants are found in this general area in OTL, many of which are harvested for food, and in OTL, the pastoral southern Cushitic cultural flow from Erythrea into eastern Azanea also branches over to this part of Azanea, resulting in the spread of agricultural knowledges and knowhow. This is thus an exaggeration or an amplification of the OTL culture shift that occurred in northern Namibia and southern Angola, where the desert-dwelling Khoikhoi peoples here abandoned their hunter-gatherer lifestyles to be cattle herders, similar to how the Nguni people of OTL South Africa did so as well.
14. **Maranun:** the ATL name of the OTL Amazon River comes from the Arabic *Nahr Maranun*, as the Muslim expeditions from Nigeria were the first to produce knowledge of the great river. The name is similar to the OTL Marañon River, the main tributary to the Amazon, as well as one of the Spanish words for “cashew.” The etymology is obscure, coming from *marana*, meaning “thicket, jumble, snarl, or brushwood” in Galician, but having no known origin beyond that. In ATL, the etymology is purported to come from *mara*’a for “woman,” or *mara*, “joy” and *nun*, “large fish, whale,” and is thought to have been the way early Muslim explorers described the river’s unique freshwater dolphins, and also another origin for the myth of mermaids.
15. **Nanchuq:** this is the Quechuan orthographic reform rendition and refers to the OTL Nanchoc Valley in Peru, where agricultural evidence dates back to as early as 10,000 years ago.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agricultural_history_of_Peru
16. **Caripuana:** this is the OTL Magdalena River and the name translates as “great river” in many of the Indigenous Caribbic languages spoken around it. It is one of the more prominent Indigenous names for the river—the other one, *Yuma*, coming from the Muisca Confederation. Carl Sauer argued that before grain, tubers were probably domesticated in earth mounds by opportunistic hunter-gatherers, as tuber propagation would have been easier to learn. I no longer recall where I got the idea that the Magdalena was a major centre of domestication, but I believe I used it to symbolize the northwestern part of the continent being a hotbed for camote and other crop diversity.
 - a. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/BF00149516>
 - b. <https://www.icaboston.org/publications/river-common-good-carolina-caycedos-cosmotarrayas>
17. **Mezcala:** this is the OTL Balsas or Atoyac River, and is known as being the site of the earliest evidence of the domestication of maize.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balsas_River
 - b. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maize>
18. **Mississippi:** this is now a very well known centre of domestication, being responsible for the Eastern Woodland Crops package before the peoples there began to abandon their domesticates for OTL Mesoamerican crops such as maize, beans, and squash. In ATL, not only do sunflower and sunchokes continue to be grown by the farming peoples of Hanunea, but the abandoned crops now seen as weeds by many OTL American farmers continue to be improved upon—especially because a lot of these crops cause seasonal allergies—and are used.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Agricultural_Complex
19. **Colorado:** this is ATL wishful thinking, as agriculture in OTL Oasisamerica seems to be pegged to the domestication events in Mesoamerica. In ATL, *nipa* and *noize*, however, need to be independently further domesticated by the Seri and Yuman peoples, as these crops become heavily adopted by other peoples all around the world during the Columbian Exchange.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distichlis_palmeri
 - b. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zostera>
20. **Stohlo:** as I live in this part of the world, I am perhaps overly bias or hyper attuned to the staple crop ethnobotanical knowledges of the Pacific Northwest. In OTL, wapato and camas, called *wapato* and *quamash* in ATL, are starchy tubers that the Indigenous peoples relied upon seasonally. Because of the abundance of shellfish, salmon, hooligan, and lamprey in this party of the world, there may have been less incentive for them to do more than just forage for the tubers or manage certain habitats to favour the natural propagation of the plants, but in ATL, the starchy tubers are such delicacies and even more coveted as trade items than OTL that the Coast Salish peoples of the Stohlo River domesticate them. The Stohlo, of course, refers to the OTL Fraser River, as *sto:lo* is a Halqemeylem word for “river.”
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sagittaria_latifolia
 - b. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camassia>

21. **Kichesippi:** this is the OTL Ottawa River and comes from *kitcisipi* or *kiji sibi*, meaning “great river” in the Algonquin language. As wild rice or *manomin* in OTL is famously seasonally relied upon by the Ojibwe, in ATL, all the adjacent Algonquin peoples living further north from the ideal agricultural lands of the Eastern Woodlands come to rely on this crop and become agriculturalists through their reliance. The domestication of the crop may have even happened on its own in the Kichesippi River, making this tributary to the St. Lawrence kind of a secondary centre of domestication.

- a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ottawa_River
- b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wild_rice

Sprouting from Babel

Official Languages by Language Family

Maps of the official languages of each continent by language family

1. **Lects:** the languages shown on this series of maps are all logged in the Atlas Altera Gaia Polyglotta dataset. The colour coding is by language *genus*, so one branch down from the main language family level. Take note of the OTL and Glottolog reference data in the last few columns of the spreadsheet.
 - a. [Download the Gaia Polyglotta spreadsheet here.](#)

From the Centre to the Margins

The Extents of the Sinosphere

Map of the Sinosphere

1. **Toponyms:** for the etymology and direct translations of toponyms, see the Sinosphere spreadsheet, which outlines not only the connected ethnolinguistic groups to each territory, but also nation signifiers—historically derived short form naming conventions or abbreviations attached to a modern territory—literal translations and lore-heavy etymologies.
 - a. [See the Sinosphere Footnotes spreadsheet.](#)
2. **Inspiration:** this map was partly inspired by the OTL *Kunyu Wanguo Quantu* map, printed in the Ming Dynasty, as well as a nice illustrated edition of the *Classic of Mountains and Seas* that I picked up in Taiwan.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kunyu_Wanquo_Quantu
 - b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Classic_of_Mountains_and_Seas
3. **Numerals:** the numbers used to denote the degrees on the compass are the ATL numeral system used by cultures of the Sinosphere and are just as versatile as the Arabic numeral system used in the west. They are based on the OTL rod numeral system, the most well known derivative of which is the Suzhou numeral system.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suzhou_numerals
4. **Directionality:** the colour scheme and geographic divisions are based on the OTL Chinese associations assigned to each cardinal direction.
 - a. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Color_in_Chinese_culture

Chorographical Depictions

The Continents, Regions, Areas, Countries, and Dominions of the World

Regional geography scheme for Altera

1. **Fauna Spans of the World.** Though I use my own names, my trends and reach correspond to Holt et al. and my extents correspond to Schmidt's and Wallace's original realms. My spans are a balance of qualitative and quantitative territorial groupings informed by Holt et al.'s mapping of phylogenetic turnover for each birds, amphibians, and mammals, as well as Schmidt-Wallace's original provinces. See main schematic in Holt et al. article on update of Wallace's regions, plus subsequent comment and critique (mostly for transition zones understanding), and then the response: [10.1126/science.1228282](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1228282)
2. [10.1126/science.1237471](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1237471)
3. [10.1126/science.1237541](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1237541)
4. Schmidt's update on Wallace: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2815363>
5. Note that with Holt et al.'s scheme, I've deduced that the original Schmidt-Wallace Manchurian and Siberian Provinces to be redivided to conform with the new Sino-Japanese realm. I also further divided Nototerric into two spans based on the qualitative heuristic of the donkey-zebra divide.
6. I've also divided the Mesoamerica, Patagonia, and Argentina parts based on mammal and amphibian and birds differentiation pushing them to borderline distinction in Holt et al's findings. Holt et al's division of 11 regions into 20 subregions are named by me. For example, the two divisions of Palearctic become Mesochoric and Hyperchoric.
7. Madric = Sierra Madre Circius = nor'northwest in late Greek and Greco-Roman
8. Eremia = desert in Greek
9. Eos = prefix for east
10. Lipsic = southwest in ancient Greek
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
14. **Flora Characters of the World.** I have yet to find a complete world map with all the smallest units of analysis of phytogeography depicted, mainly because the work is still being done at that scale. The overarching scheme is based off of the work done by Takhtajan, Good, Udvardy, Cox, and Martinez, Sanchez-Mata and Costa, with additional input for Australia from Gonzalez-Oroco et al. and modification of the Cape Floristic using Born and Linder's findings.

Note that Cox reformed Takhtajan's system by resolving logical issues from inconsistent application of criteria in the original system. The famous Capensis kingdom was collapsed to a region, but I do not follow Cox in reducing the New Caledonian subkingdom to a region. He also grouped the Sahara flora with Africa, and the Mediterranean with Europe, based on biogeographic history.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/827398>

I also used Martinez, Sanchez-Mata and Costa to inform some of my subkingdom divisions, recognizing that their sectional hierarchies were not equivalent to Cox-Takhtajan-Good. moved California and Basin out from Madrean and into own Subkingdom in the Holarctic

Moved Madrean subkingdom into the Neotropical.

https://www.globalbioclimatics.org/book/namerica2/namerica_02_4.htm

Maudlandia and Marielandia introduced by Udvardy, who suggested different specific Gondwanan evolutionary divisions
Based on Udvardy, I also use a Wallacian-like transition zone for Moluccus and Papua and reclassify it with Australian.

And I group New Zealand with my Antarctic regions.

<http://www.fnad.org/Documentos/A%20Classification%20of%20the%20Biogeographical%20Provinces%20of%20the%20World%20Miklos%20D.F.%20Udvardy.pdf>

For Australia's new division in phytogeographical parts:

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0092558>

For Born and Linder's Greater Cape Floristic Region:

[10.1111/j.1365-2699.2006.01595.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2699.2006.01595.x)

