

In the ancient days before Mugroba was a country proper, various wars were fought among the desert inhabitants. Even after the galdori came and tried imposing their order upon untameable sands, wars were still fought for dominion over the land. The rulers that would one day control Mugroba fought with an elite unit of warriors that struck fear into the hearts of their enemies. These fighters were comrades of the future emperor through and through and would gladly put down their life for his. When the emperor rightfully took his throne, he transformed these brothers-in-arms to guards of his life. Thus the Radiant Guard was formed.

The Radiant Guard (pejoratively known as the Fish Guard) are the quiet sentinels that protect the Emperor, his ministers, and all other inhabitants of Ashu'tei Palace from threats of all sorts. Composed originally of galdori and some wicks, the makeup of the guard has shifted in recent years to include humans as well. Some conservative and reactionary groups see this as more proof of Mugroba's eventual downfall.

History

[Insert the number of years Mugroba has been around as a sovereign nation] years ago the new ruler of the vast desert didn't have as strong of a claim to his new throne as his ancestors do now. Threats against his life were common. The original emperor, a strong warrior in his own right, was not afraid of these words and scoffed at the idea of being felled by a sword in his own palace. Fortunately, his advisors had more foresight on this matter and begged the emperor to instate a bodyguard to watch over him. He listened to their rational words and agreed. He chose the best warriors in the land, former comrades of his during his wars to unite the tribes of Mugroba. He bestowed the name of Radiant Guard upon the elite group of warriors that now watched over his life.

The years went on and the Radiant Guard grew. They went from just guarding one man to guarding the whole royal family, then to guarding advisors, and finally guarding every official living in Ashu'tei Palace. The history of the Radiant Guard was uninterrupted until a small cabal of guardsmen assassinated the ruling emperor and installed one of their own in his place. They were quickly disposed of and a member of the royal family was installed on the throne. This changed how things ran in the Palace for a brief period. Every guardsman was looked on with suspicion and every member of the royal family was trained in swordplay and made to carry one. It is even said that the emperor instituted a secret group of guardsmen to watch over the Radiant Guard.

In a few generations, things basically returned to normal in Ashu'tei Palace. Now, years have passed since the failed coup and the Radiant Guard still protect the royal family and advisors with fervor. Only time will tell if this remains so.

Modern Radiant Guard

The Radiant Guard of today is in many ways similar to the Radiant Guard established at the beginning of the nation. The guardsmen are still drafted from the best warriors in the land, most being drawn from local law enforcement and the military. Annually, various law enforcement and military agencies are asked by the emperor to send a list of candidates that they believe would do well serving the emperor and his family. The very best and brightest are pulled from these lists and trained. It's also made sure that they're loyal to only one person: the emperor. After six months of conditioning their bodies and minds, they're officially made Radiant Guardsmen by the emperor himself and ordained by a priest of Hulalai.

Most younger ones start out at the base level, but a select few are promoted to higher ranks based upon their scores on various tests, especially among the wick and human regiments which were struck low by the plague that ravaged Mugroba eleven years ago.

Organization

The Radiant Guard is composed of approximately 1000 guardsmen filling in various roles throughout the palace. Each Guardsman is grouped into a squad of ten with ten squads being grouped into a battalion. One Battalion is solely responsible with guarding the emperor. His guard consists of two squads at any one time that operate on five hour shifts with one squad getting a day off a week. The rest of the guard are distributed around the palace on the order of the emperor, but in reality, the High Guardsman is in charge of the distribution of the guard.

The human and wick battalions, which there are two for each race and one integrated battalion, are mostly assigned to guarding the walls and doorways. The galdori battalions tend to be used indoors and also as guardsmen for various other officials and dignitaries.

Equipment

Radiant Guardsmen are outfitted with some of the best armor and weapons Mugroba has access to. Their uniform consists of a helmet with a visor containing a rounded glass visor for peripheral vision, a tunic usually colored Hulali blue, a leather skirt, and over their tunic they wear fishmail. Fishmail is a type of armor almost exclusive to Mugroba. It is an improved upon version of chainmail that breathes and allows flexibility of the wearer. It is called fishmail because of its likeness to the scales of a fish.

The weapons the Radiant Guard use are noticeably archaic in this day of steam and gunpowder, but still very much useful. Their standard array consists of a scimitar and a small dagger. Though special squads and units have been known to add specialized weapons of their own.