Houston Area Model United Nations

Crisis Committee

Mongol Conquest



Crisis Director | Rouzat Ali

Topic: Brotherhood, Betrayal, and Bloodline: Temüjin's Rise to Genghis Khan

Houston Area Model United Nations 52

February 4 & 5, 2027

CD Letter

Hello there Delegates,

Welcome to HAMUN 52, and more especially to Mongol Conquest. My name is Rouzat Ali, and I will be your Crisis Director for this year's Mongol Conquest Crisis Committee!

I am from Cypress, Texas. I am currently in my sophomore year at the University of Texas at Austin studying Environmental Science(Geosciences) with a minor in Urdu. My own Model UN journey began my freshman year of Highschool in a virtual committee where I recall speaking a total of two times. Nevertheless I fell in love with MUN, and since then I've participated in a total of 5 conferences, awarded 2 Outstanding Delegate awards, and chaired a total of 4 conferences.

I've always held MUN in a high regard when thinking of shaping my academic journey and transforming my intellect. The program taught me the value of thinking outside the box, being an underdog, and to look at situations from every angle.

I chose to staff crisis because I have always thrived in Crisis rooms, and enjoyed the observantness and creativity that comes with Crisis freedom. Our topic for this committee is **Brotherhood, Betrayal, and Bloodline: Temüjin's Rise to Genghis Khan.** This committee requires comprehensive understanding over Temujin/Genghis Khan's life along with the rise of the Mongol Empire. My advice is to dive into your characters to the best of your ability and to dissect your hidden skills and advantages to turn the committee into your favor.

I want to reiterate what your teachers and other HAMUN staff say all the time, because it is true. Your most important goal walking into this conference should be to have fun and create a memorable experience for yourself!

We are here to uplift, guide, and help you grow as a delegate. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me and use me as a resource!

Hook 'em

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Chair Letter

Hello Delegates,

Welcome to HAMUN 52, and more specifically, Mongol Conquest! My name is Ibrahim Mohammed, and I will be your chair for this crisis committee!

My backstory: I am currently a CAP student at the University of Texas at San Antonio, hoping to transfer into a Government major next year!

Throughout my Model UN career that began in 2024, I've participated in a total of 8 conferences during high school, and Mongol Conquest will be my first time chairing! Model UN is truly one the most fascinating extracurriculars I've ever involved myself in, and I love seeing more and more students getting involved! I think it's wonderful that so many students come together, each with their own unique ideas, and solve some of the most important problems our world faces today.

I chose to staff crisis because I love the fast-paced, high-action energy in Crisis Committees! I really enjoy all the awesome ideas delegates bring to the room, and the crazy stories that the crisis team comes up with to give all of us a meaningful and fun time! Seeing the delegates react to a myriad of different situations is really cool to me!

You're going to hear this a lot from me, your teachers, and other HAMUN staff, but the most important part of this conference is to enjoy it and make a memorable experience for yourself. We're all here to help y'all grow and prosper. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me! And always remember: have fun!

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Background Information

The World of the Mongolian Steppe

At the beginning of the thirteenth century, the Mongolian steppe was not united under one government or identity. Political power was divided among competing peoples and confederations including the Mongols, Kereit, Naiman, Merkit, Tatar, Oirat, Tayichi'ud, and others. Leadership depended upon a combination of ancestry, military strength, personal loyalty, marriage, wealth, alliances, and the ability to attract followers.

How Political Environments Shape Relationships

- A rival could become an ally with a simple act of loyalty and blood oath.
- An enemy could become family through marriage.
- A defeated warrior could become one of a victor's most trusted commanders.
- Family members could defect to an enemy when sworn protection
- Jealousy within the steppe is not taken lightly, nor acted upon lightly.
- Conquest of land does not exclude the conquest of people on that land (slaves, family, spouses,etc)

Temüjin emerged from and because of this system rather than outside or in spite of it. After the death of his father, Yesügei, his family lost much of its political protection and was abandoned by former followers- a similar occurrence to the tragedy his mother faced with her first husband.



Right Hand Men

Despite Temujin's well known skill for acquiring allies, two relationships became especially crucial to his rise more than anyone else.

Jamukha- was Temüjin's *anda*, or sworn brother. Their friendship eventually became a rivalry over leadership of the Mongols and the political future of the steppe.

Toghrul/Ong Khan- ruler of the Kereit, had previously been the sworn brother of Temüjin's father. Temüjin sought his protection and spent years fighting beside him. Their relationship increasingly resembled both of patron and client, and een father and son.

By 1203, both relationships had collapsed.

Where We Lay Our Scene (Executive Summary)

1203 CE- Temüjin has (barely) survived a devastating confrontation with Toghrul Khan's Kereit forces at the **Battle of Qalaqaljid Sands**. What he arrived to expecting a peaceful delegation of power, turned into a blood battle of betrayal- ending with a poisonous dart hit to his



stomach (token to his father's death.) He is alive, but his coalition has been badly shaken, and everything they stand for relies on if Temujin can survive the night.

Historically, the battle was arguably the lowest point in Temüjin's career. Consequently, Senggüm, Toghrul's son, was wounded during the battle, which helped allow Temüjin's forces to escape. Injured Temüjin subsequently used this opportunity to strike back. This resulted in the rebuilt of his coalition and led to the defeat the Kereit later in 1203. This committee freezes history **before that recovery occurs**.

*<u>CD note:</u> I chose this starting point very meticulously. The powerful- not yet known as- Genghis Khan is at his weakest point and condition. Should any action afterwood be ever so slightly altered as more hesitant or proactive, it would change the trajectory of history.

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Context to Keep in Mind

- Temüjin is wounded, weakened, and uncertain of how many followers remain loyal.
- Toghrul still possesses the prestige and resources of the Kereit khanate.
- Senggüm believes Temüjin threatens his inheritance and position.
- Jamukha remains Temüjin's former sworn brother and one of his most dangerous political rivals(arguably more dangerous than Tongrul.)
- Marriage offers can become political weapons.
- Hostages, defectors, spies, and messengers may determine which faction survives.
- Several characters owe their lives, power, or status to another person in the room while simultaneously having reasons to betray them.

Factions and Fractions of the Steppe

- **Mongols** – Not yet a single unified people under Temüjin. Different Mongol clans and noble families competed for influence, and some supported Temüjin while others opposed or abandoned him. Temüjin's growing coalition increasingly depended on personal loyalty and military ability rather than only traditional clan rank.



Cont.

- **Kereit** – One of the most powerful confederations on the steppe, led by *Toghrul/Ong Khan*. The Kereit had once been Temüjin's most important allies, but by 1203 their relationship had collapsed. Toghrul's son *Senggüm* viewed Temüjin's growing power as a threat to his own position and inheritance.
- **Naiman** – A major western steppe power ruled by competing branches of the Naiman royal family. Leaders such as *Tayang Khan and Buyruq Khan* could take advantage of conflict between Temüjin, Toghrul, and Jamukha, making the Naiman an important potential rival or kingmaker.
- **Merkit** – Long standing enemies of Temüjin's family. Their conflict became deeply personal after the Merkit kidnapped *Börte*, Temüjin's wife, early in his rise. Even after suffering defeats, Merkit leaders such as *Toqto'a Beki* remained dangerous opponents and had strong reasons to support anti-Temüjin coalitions
- **Tatars** – A powerful eastern steppe group with a long history of conflict with Temüjin's family; Mongol tradition blamed Tatars for the death of Temüjin's father. Temüjin later defeated major Tatar forces, leaving surviving Tatars divided between resistance, survival, and integration into his growing coalition.
- **Jamukha's Coalition** – Less a single ethnic faction than an alliance of nobles, chiefs, and groups opposed to Temüjin. *Jamukha*, Temüjin's former sworn brother, became a rallying point for leaders who feared Temüjin's growing authority or preferred the older aristocratic order.
- **Oirat and other smaller steppe groups** – Groups such as the *Oirat*, *Tayichi'ud*, *Qorolas*, *Suldus*, *and Jirgin* could shift the balance between larger powers. Their leaders often had their own grudges and ambitions, meaning they might join a coalition temporarily without being permanently loyal to it.

The steppe was not divided into neat permanent political blocs; alliances frequently crossed tribal and family lines, and loyalty could change quickly depending on marriage, warfare, personal rivalries, and survival.

TOPIC HISTORY

Among the most influential figures of the late twelfth century Mongolian Steppe were Temüjin, a member of the Borjigin clan; Jamukha, his childhood companion and later political rival; and Toghrul Khan, the ruler of the Kereit confederation. His father's death weakened the family's standing among neighboring groups, forcing Temüjin to navigate a political landscape in which loyalty was little heard of. Temüjin gradually established a following through personal alliances and military combat. His relationship with Jamukha, with whom he shared a close childhood bond, initially provided an important source of companionship and support. However, their opposing governing approaches would eventually contribute to their separation.

One of the defining events in Temüjin's early rise was his marriage to Börte of the Onggirat people. Börte was abducted by members of the Merkit tribe. Temüjin sought assistance from both Toghrul Khan and Jamukha, and was able to recover Börte, strengthening his reputation and expanding his network of alliances. This campaign symbolized collaboration between tribal leaders.

Nevertheless, the alliances that supported his rise were not longlasting. As Temüjin accumulated followers, support, and authority, his relationship with Jamukha increasingly deteriorated into a struggle over leadership and the question of who would lead the future organization of the Mongol tribes.

Toghrul's support helped Temüjin's growing influence as well as offered Toghrul an opportunity to expand and accelerate his own regional authority. However, Toghrul's son, Senggüm, and other influential members of the Kereit elite grew increasingly suspicious of Temüjin's ambitions and the possibility that he would overtake their political standing. Jamukha, whose rivalry with Temüjin had intensified, also became associated with the opposition to him.

By 1203, tensions between Temüjin and Toghrul had escalated into open conflict. A proposed marriage alliance between their families became entangled in disputes. Temüjin sought to strengthen their relationship through marriages between their families, but Senggüm and other Kereit elites viewed his growing influence with suspicion.

TOPIC HISTORY CONT.

According to traditional accounts, Senggüm and his supporters attempted to lure Temüjin into an ambush under the pretense of advancing the marriage arrangement. Temüjin was warned of the plot and avoided the initial trap, but the breakdown of relations between the two leaders soon led to a military confrontation.

The resulting Battle of Kalakajid Sands in 1203 pitted Temüjin's forces against the Kereit army led by Toghrul, with Jamukha aligned with the opposing coalition, leaving Senggüm wounded during the battle as well.

In the immediate aftermath of Khalakajid Sands, Temüjin faced the challenge of regrouping his followers. His remaining supporters had to decide whether to maintain their allegiance despite the defeat. Meanwhile, Toghrul and Senggüm had to consider how to preserve their authority and manage the consequences of their confrontation with Temüjin. Jamukha's continued opposition further complicated the situation, as his rivalry with Temüjin represented not merely a personal conflict but a competing vision for leadership among the Mongol tribes.

With alliances fractured, loyalties tested, and political authority still contested, the aftermath of Qalqaljid Sands marked a critical turning point in the struggle for dominance over the Mongolian steppe. No single leader had yet secured unquestioned authority over the region, and the future of the competing confederations remained uncertain.



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Your Goals

1. Take immediate steps to adjust history and determine the right action your character should take after the events of the Battle of Khalakhaljid
2. Sands to ensure their safety and power.
3. Decide your character's best interest in joining Temujin, Jamukha, Toghrul, or another steppe's alliance. Dissect their origin, skills, tactics, and moral governance to propel them to their fullest potential.
4. Utilize the culture of conquering in this time period and use tactics such as ancestry ties. military success, astuteness, loyalty, wealth, marriage, favor of nobles, or the support of the Steppe to cultivate your path in this committee.
5. Know when loyalty should be utilized and unkempt, or dropped to manipulate relationships around you.
6. Conquest at any strategic opportunity to grow your steppe of factions governance, growing your power, and spreading a uniformed culture to the farthest corners of the globe.
7. Research the history of the rise of the Mongol Empire. Specifically the detailed events leading up to and after the Battle of Khalakhaljid Sands to enter this committee understanding what actions in the past have led to certain events or effects, and strategically manipulate this committee to rewrite the outcome in your favor. Or accomplish far beyond what has been conquered in the past.

Questions to Consider

8. Can Temüjin survive without Toghrul, or has the Kereit betrayal permanently destroyed his political future?
9. How should marriage, adoption, hostage exchange, and blood brotherhood influence political alliances?
10. How can characters both utilize the modern customs of that time and traditional antics of warfare to their benefit while staying historically realistic and culturally accurate?

Extra Resources for Preparation

- **National Geographic, “Who Was Genghis Khan? | The Secret History of the Mongols”- Youtube**
- **DW Documentary, “Rise and Fall of an Empire” - Youtube**
- **“The Mongol Empire”- Prime Video**

Prawdin, Michael. *The Mongol Empire: Its Rise and Legacy*. Routledge, 2017.

Nyamdaa, Otgonsaikhan. "Silk road and trade of the Mongol empire." *Mongolian Diaspora. Journal of Mongolian History and Culture* 3.1 (2023): 69-79.

May, Timothy. "Strategy in the Mongol Way of War." *Routledge Handbook of Medieval Military Strategy*. Routledge, 2024. 314-326.

Zhang, Cybele. "Sorghaghtani Beki and the influence of Mongol noblewomen on succession." *Emory Journal of Asian Studies* 3 (2021): 1-16.

1. Birge B, Broadbridge AF. Women and Gender under Mongol Rule. In: Biran M, Kim H, eds. *The Cambridge History of the Mongol Empire*. Cambridge University Press; 2023:628-654.

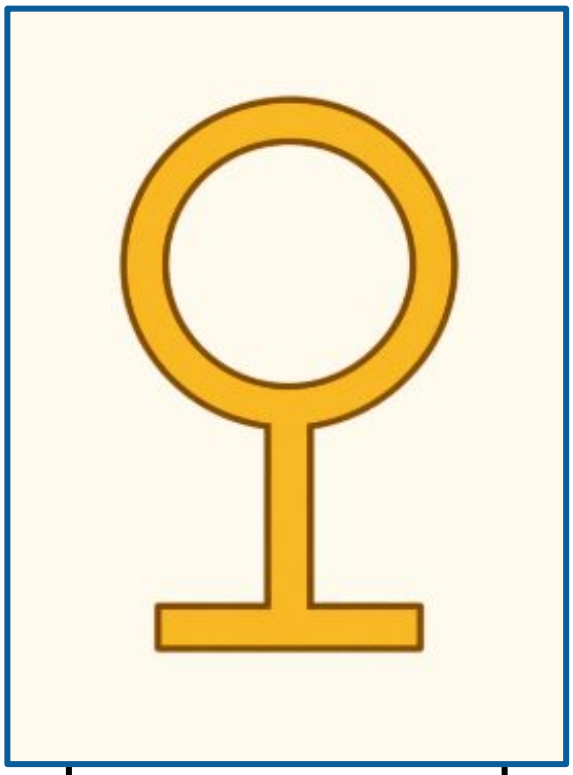
Mongolia - Nomads, Steppes, Tribes | Britannica, www.britannica.com/place/Mongolia/Ethnography-and-early-tribal-history. Accessed 15 Sept. 2026.

“Captivity, Slavery and Forced Migration in the Early Mongol Empire” - Ancient History Sites

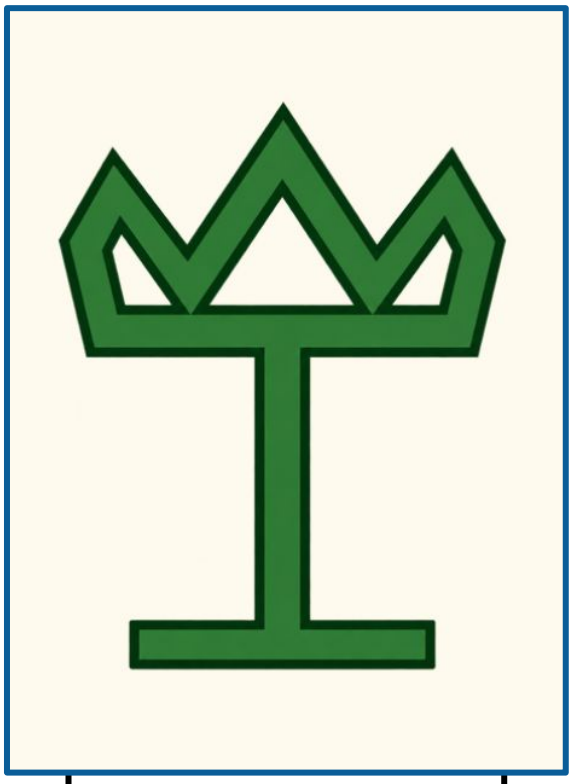
***You are encouraged and expected to research the topic of this committee beyond the resources provided above**

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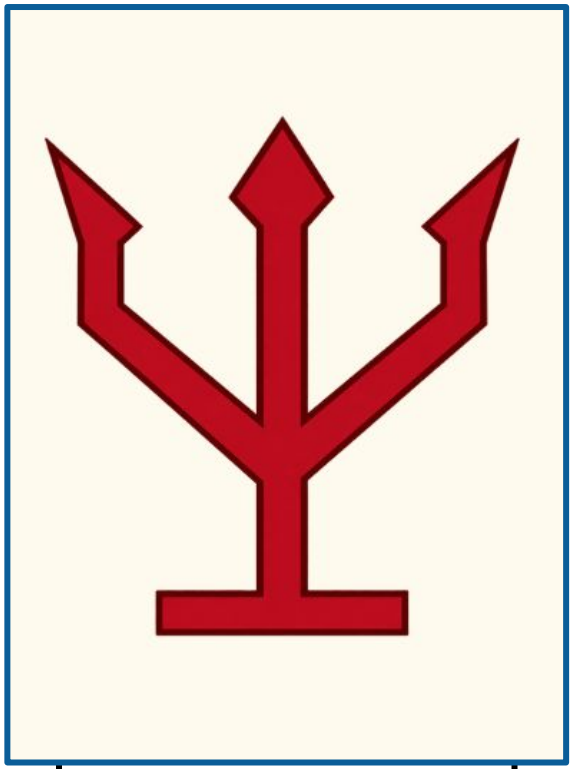
Character Emblem Key



Temujin Alliance



Toghrul Alliance



Jamukha Alliance



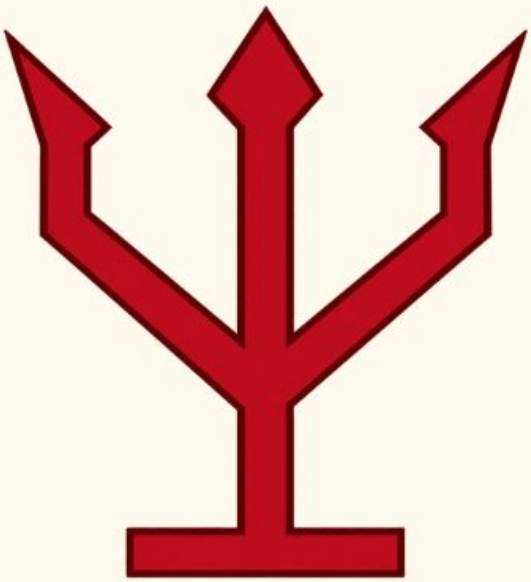
Steppe Alliance

Characters



Temüjin

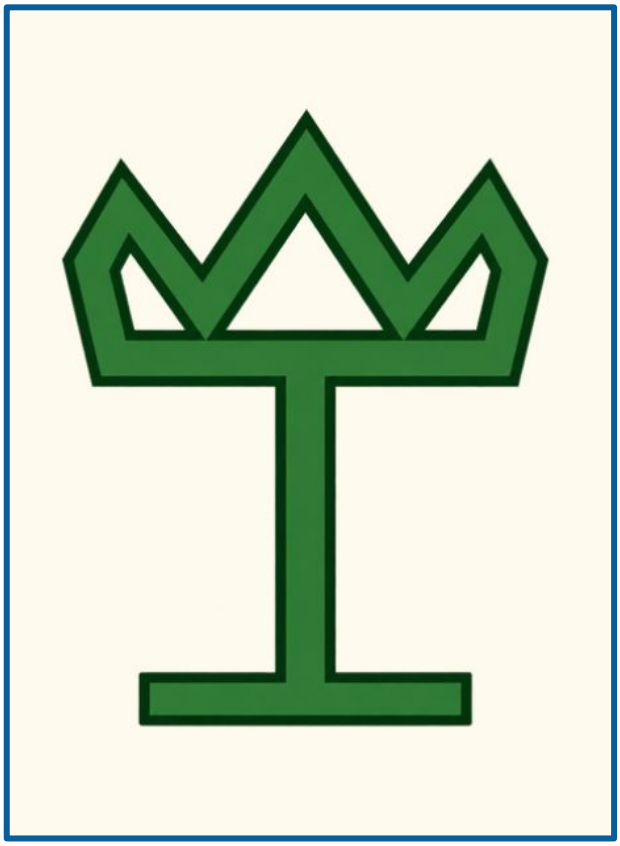
An exile from the Borjigin clan after a rival murder of his father, Temujin grew up surrounded by extreme hardship. His clan now vulnerable without a leader, abandoned Temujin and his family on the harsh Mongol Steppe. He used that feeling of betrayal to propel him through the 1180's and became a local chieftain. Temujin has now rose as one of the leading rising Chieftain in 1203. His ruling and power acquittal is centered around power, strategy and political unity. Temujin also relied extensively on a meritocracy form of government despite his personal skills and tactics of coercion, war strategy, battlefield tactics and psychological warfare. We meet Temujin in this committee at one of his lowest points. However, his legacy post 1203 is anything but, becoming the infamous Genghis Khan and founded the Mongol Empire in 1206- the largest contiguous land empire in history. However who is to say his future is set in stone?



Jamukha

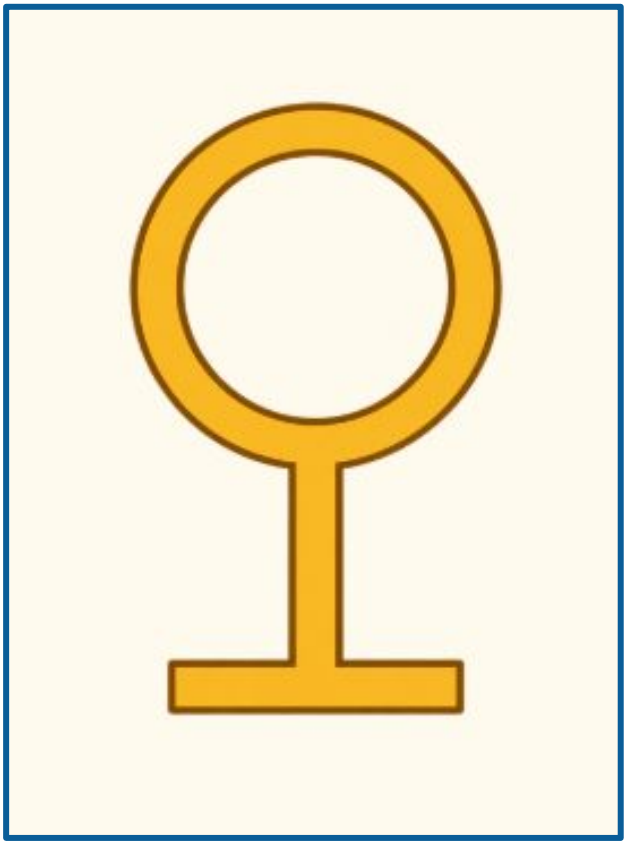
Born into the Jadaran Tribe Jamukha is known as being an aristocratic tribal leader who initially had a sworn blood bond of loyalty and brotherhood with Temujin and worked closely with him. During 1180s, the two began to develop increasing political friction as Jamukha stayed closely tied to the old aristocracy, while Temujin began developing his own meritocracy of loyal followers. Elected as Gur Khan (Universal Ruler) of the Mongol Steppe in 1201 by a rival tribe coalition to challenge the ongoing rise of Temujin, Jamukha became Temujin's greatest enemy. He possessed great aristocratic legitimacy, and with his experience as a commander with great political intelligence, the battle between the two could have easily been anyone's victory. After a tremendous defeat in late 1203, he requested Temujin to have him honorably executed.

Characters



Toghrul Khan

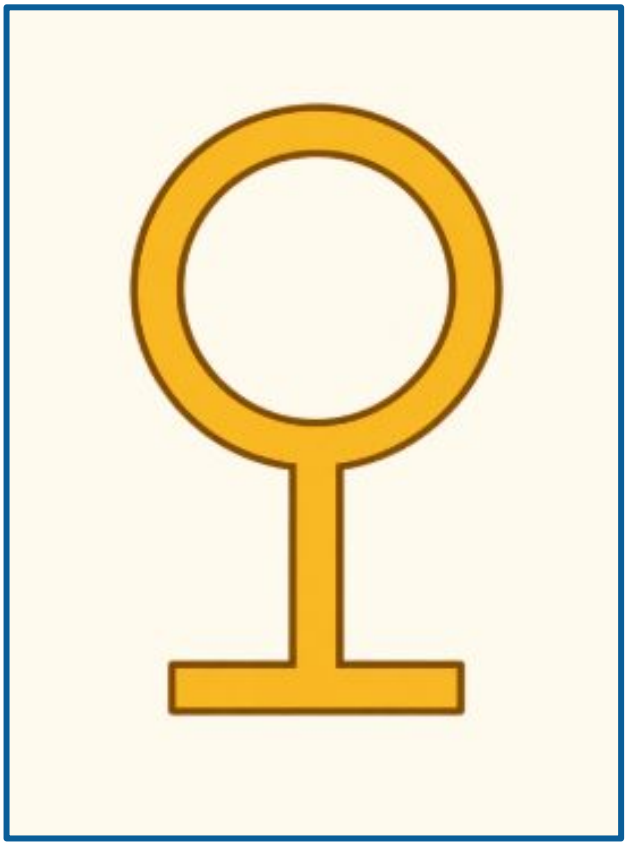
Khan of the Kereit Tribe, Toghrul (Ong) Khan is best know as serving as a foster father figure (Brother of Temujin's deceased father) of Temujin. He remained a close ally to Temujin until 1203, when his ambitious son, Senggüm, was convinced by Jamukha into believing that Temujin was a major threat to the Mongol Steppe. Toghrul possesses substantial military resources, political network, and aristocratic legitimacy. He allike Jamukha wanted to preserve the original aristocratic political order of the Mongol Steppe. Under Jamukha and Senggüm's influence, he orchestrated an assassination attempt on Temujin, which failed, but nevertheless led to a major battle in 1203 in which Temujin's forces were completely destroyed. However historically after the events in 1203, his platoon was destroyed and he was killed by Temujin in fall of 1203, but with immense resources and an extensive network, who is to say history can be repeated.



Börte Üjin

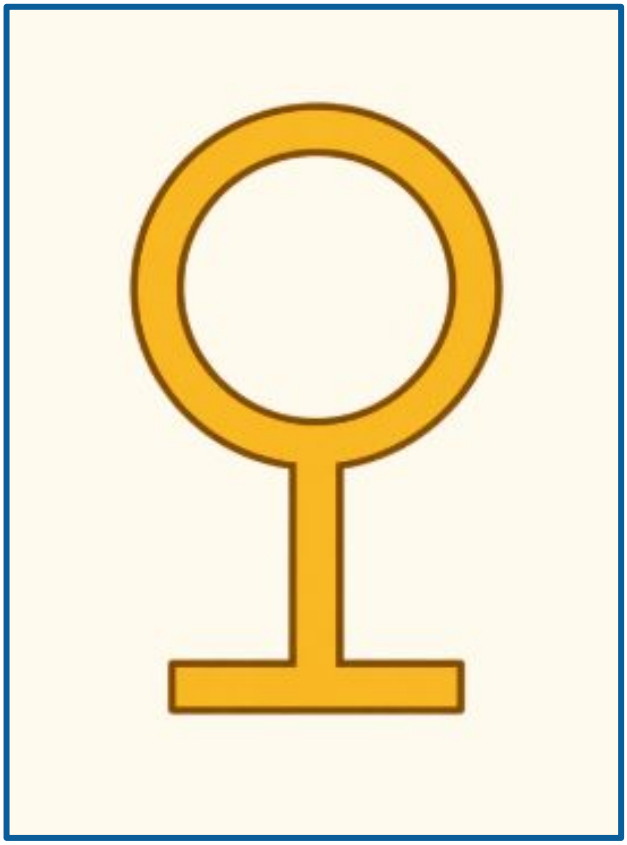
Borte was the first and principal wife of Temujin, and supported him throughout his his rise in reign. Originally from the Onggirat tribe, Borte was married to Temujin in 1178, granting him ties to aristocratic networks. She held immense influence and resourcefulness as the senior woman of the imperial household. Her leadership was defined under a dynastic matriarch: kinship, household authority, and dynastic legitimacy. While her start in Temujin's life began as a political marriage organized by Temujin's late father, she stood by Temujin during very strenuous times and his early hardship earning his respect and admiration. In ~1180-1184, she was kidnapped by the Merkit Tribe, and Temujin allied with Torghul and Jamukha to rescue her. They reunited after months and a victorious conquering of the tribe sect camp. She went on to be the mother of Temujin's nine children. Beyond the events of 1203, she became the dynastic marital matriarch of the Mongol imperial family. How curious is it to ponder what could have happened under any different circumstances.

Characters



Hö'elün

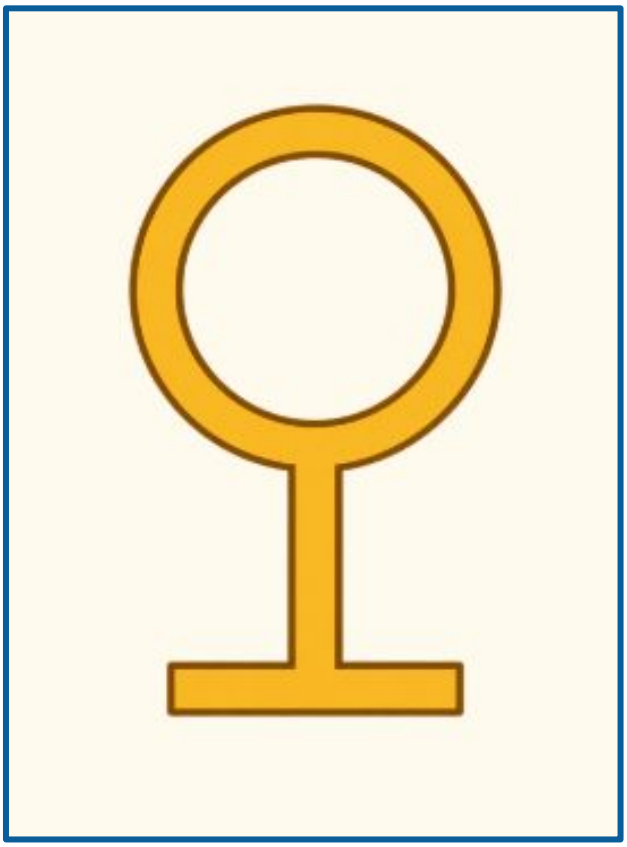
The mother of Temujin, Ho'elun came from the Olkhonud Tribe, and was abducted from her husband by Temujin's father, Yesugei, and married to him. She served as the senior matriarch of the Borjigin household/clan. Borte's (Temujin's first wife) abduction later on by the Merkit people is understood to be a form of retaliation for Yesügei's actions. She raised Temujin during a time of family hardship when the clan abandoned them after Yesugei's death. She helped Temujin and his siblings through rigorous survival tactics in the harsh steppes. She strived within tactics of motherhood, household authority, survival, and endurance. Historically she went on to serve as the senior matriarch of the imperial household, but is it likely that title can be restored when history is rewritten?



Jochi Qasar

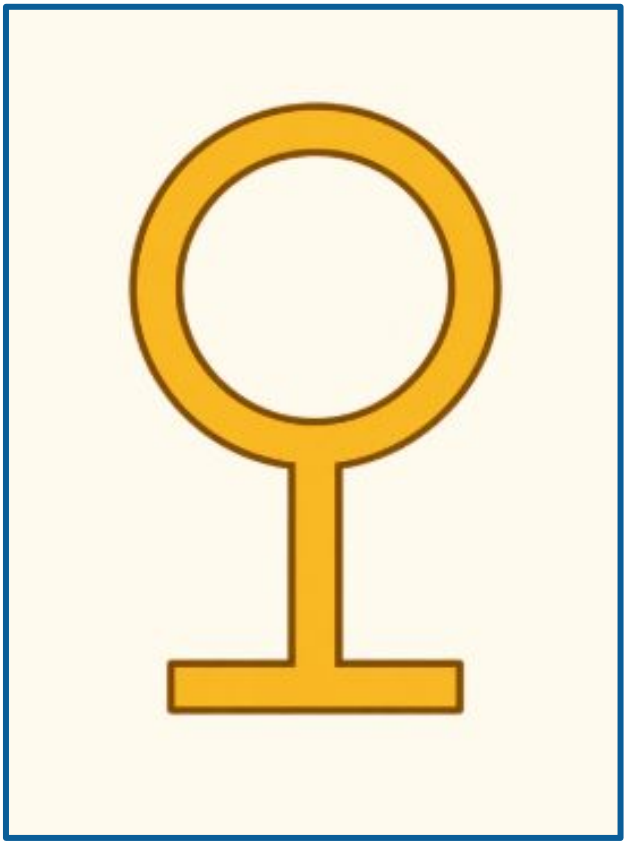
Qasar grew up with Temujin under Hö'elün's maternity after Yesügei's death. Belonging to the Kiyad-Borjigin Tribe, Qasar was known to be a skilled archer who helped with hunting and fishing during early impoverished hardship of the abandoned step. Archery, hunting, mobility, and command assisted him throughout his reign of conquer. He was broadly loyal to Temujin during his early rise, though there were some tensions in which Hö'elün had to mediate. Overall he supported his brother through battlefield mobility, as an ambitious and loyal soldier. Post 1203, he went on to become a Leftwing commander of the Mongol military after Temujin became Genghis Khan. But his future is not secured nor is anyone else's.

Characters



Temüge Otchigin

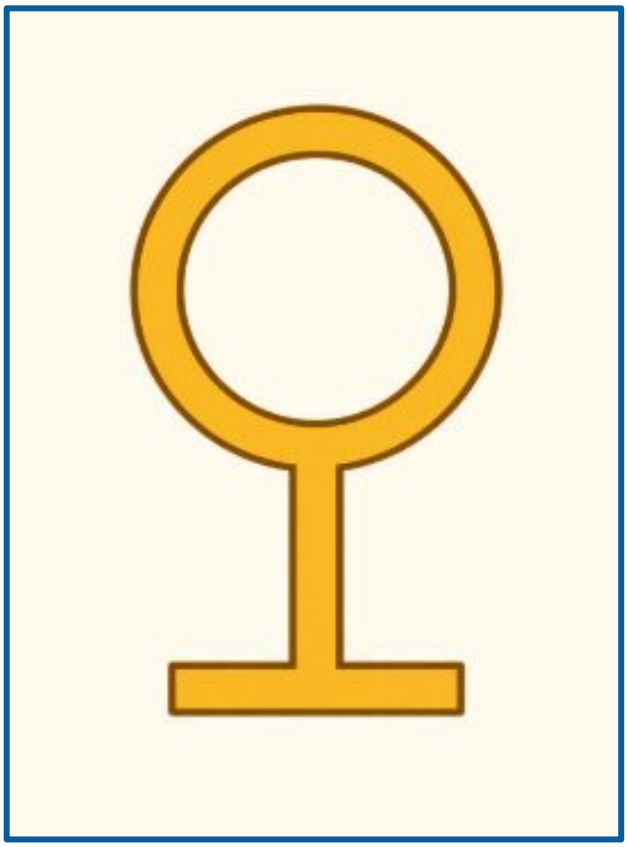
Temuge is the youngest sibling of Temujin by 6 years. Along with the majority of his siblings and half siblings, temuge was raised under maternity of Ho'elun. With her guidance temuge and his family learned numerous survival skills and techniques, leading them to grow up very equipped among the steppe. Although brother to Temujin, he is linked to the Kiyad-Borjigin tribe. Not only did he hold those connections and related power, but as Temujin's "Otchigin"(Youngest Sibling), he was entitled to certain dynastic inheritances. Temuge was able to acquire a lot of initial authority, wealth, and power, with very little work. Because of his status and possessions, Temujin trusted him with homeland influence, and took a lead in the shaping of what would become the Mongol Empire as homeland ruler.



Belgütei

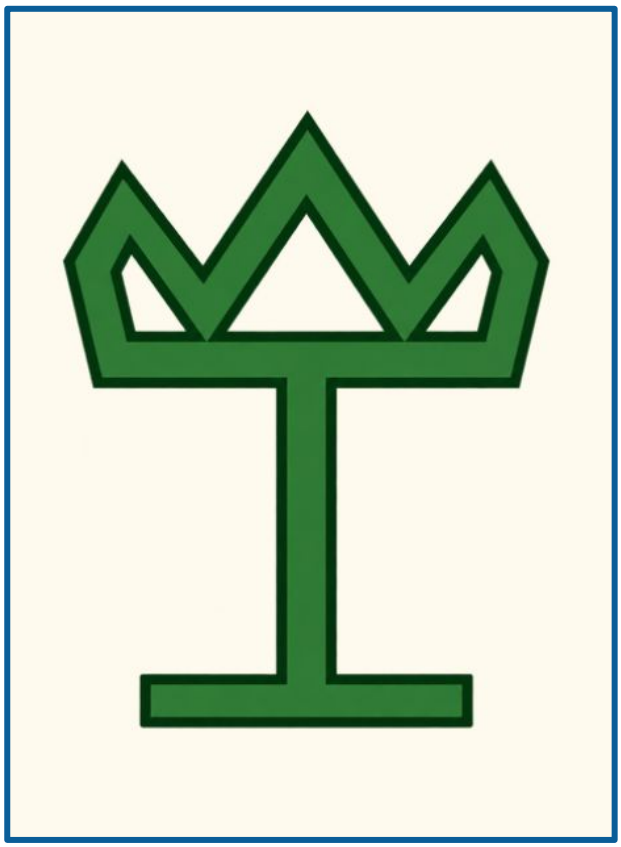
Belgutei was a half brother of Temujin. Along with the majority of his siblings and half siblings, Belgutei was raised under maternity of Ho'elun. With her guidance temuge and his family learned numerous survival skills and techniques, leading them to grow up very equipped among the steppe Kiyad-Borjigin Tribe. He accumulated great skills of a warrior commander, and dynastic prince. Known to be incredibly strong, Belgutei often was often first choice for wrestles and hunting. Temujin entrusts him for diplomatic work, warrior capabilities, and administration. As well as being a skilled diplomat and messenger, Belgutei was also known for his imperial standard of health, being one of the oldest men to die at that time.

Characters



Shigi Qutuqu

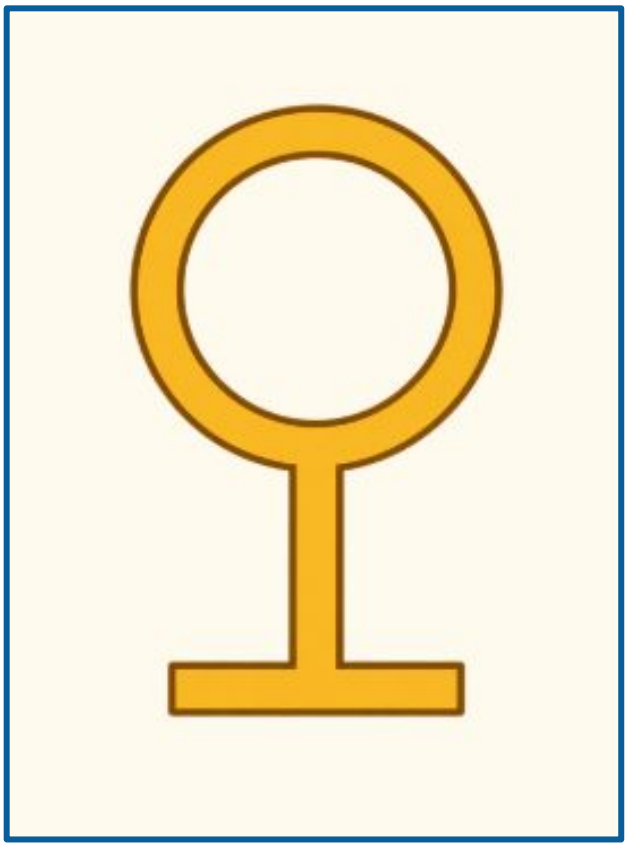
Despite being a member of the Borjigin household, he was likely born into the Tartar aristocracy before being taken in by Hö'elün following the defeat of the Tartars. He became a trusted member of the family quickly and was regarded by Temujin as a half-brother in his own right and every way that mattered. His influence continued after the events in 1203, and historically in 1206, he was appointed Supreme Judge of the Mongol Empire. He believed to have been a major source of information for The Secret History of the Mongols, contributing to the preservation of early Mongol history, through written time sakes, literature, and narration.



Senggüm

As the son of Torghul, ruler of the Keraits, he held significant political influence through his aristocratic legitimacy, extensive political connections, and access to considerable resources. Influenced by Jamukha, he began to view Temujin as a serious threat to the established aristocratic political order and pressured his father into plotting against him. Convincing Torghul to launch an attack against Temujin became his greatest political success, but ultimately led to his greatest failure. Despite an initial victory, Temujin's counterattack resulted in the destruction of the Keraits in 1203. His legacy following the conflict remains uncertain, as historical sources suggest he died sometime between 1203 and 1204 under unknown circumstances. However, following the fall of the Keraits, he reportedly fled Mongolia, and his whereabouts remain unknown as of the committee's current timeline.

Characters



Bo'orchu

Bo'orchu was one of Temüjin Khan's earliest and most trusted companions, playing an important role in his rise to power and the formation of the Mongol Empire. Born into the Arulad clan, he first encountered Temüjin as a young man and helped him recover stolen horses, establishing a lifelong bond of friendship and loyalty. As a nökör, or personal loyal retainer, Bo'orchu supported Temüjin through numerous military campaigns and political struggles, earning a reputation for his courage, reliability, and leadership. His close relationship with Temüjin granted him considerable influence within the Khan's inner circle, while his battlefield experience and military abilities established him as a respected commander.



Gürbesü

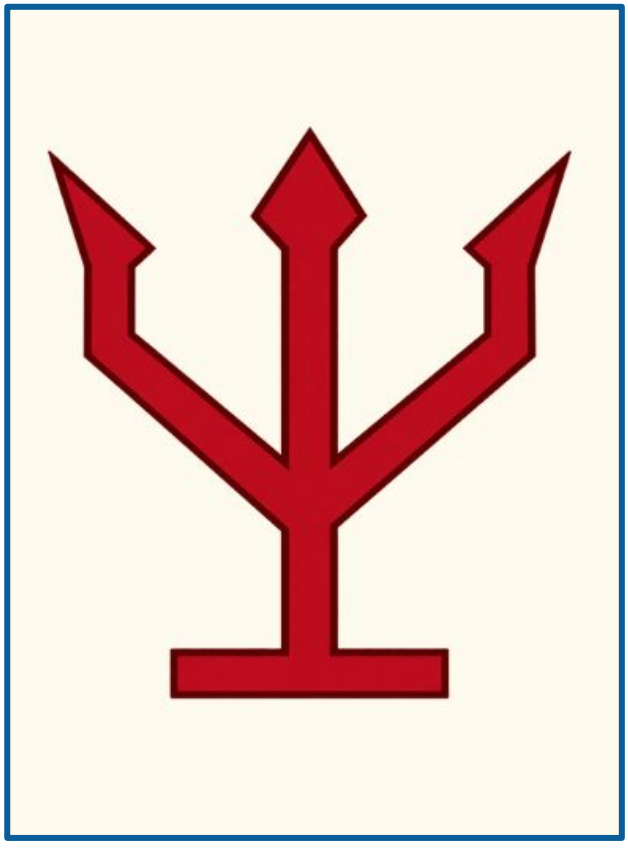
As a senior woman of the powerful Naiman ruling family, Gurbesu was the wife of the former Naiman ruler and stepmother of Tayang Khan. Her position within the royal family gave her intense influence over the Naiman court, where she strongly valued the wealth, military strength, and aristocratic status. Proud of the Naimans' established power, she openly looked down upon Temüjin Khan and the Mongols, viewing them as inferior to the Naiman ruling elite. With devoted loyalty to the Naiman aristocracy, she favors preserving Naiman independence, political influence, and traditional authority against Temüjin Khan's growing power. With Gurbesu's rank and coalition at will, she could easily be Temujin's greatest obstacle in conquest.

Characters



Kökse'ü Sabraq

Kökse'ü Sabraq was a senior and experienced military commander of the Naiman tribe, known for his battlefield leadership and military reputation. Serving the Naiman ruling family, he played an important role in defending against rival Mongol and Kereit forces. He successfully ambushed the Kereit army of Toghrul Khan, capturing members of Senggüm's household, along with substantial livestock, supplies, and tribal followers. His military successes forced Toghrul to seek assistance from Temüjin Khan, whose commanders eventually rescued Senggüm and recovered his people. Recognized as a formidable warrior and experienced military leader, Kökse'ü Sabraq gained influence through his battlefield achievements, strategic judgment, and position within the Naiman military.



Altan Otchigin

Altan Otchigin was a prominent member of the Borjigin family and the youngest son of Qutula Khan, a former ruler of the Mongols. His noble lineage gave him significant political influence and a strong noble claim to leadership within the Mongol tribes. As a senior relative of Temüjin Khan, Altan initially supported his rise to power and played a role in his early recognition as Khan. Despite possessing a stronger traditional claim to the title, Altan declined the opportunity to become Khan, allowing Temüjin to assume leadership. His influence came primarily from his aristocratic legitimacy, family connections, and standing within the Mongol political hierarchy. However, as Temüjin consolidated his authority, tensions emerged between his growing centralized leadership and the traditional power of established Borjigin nobles.

Characters



Daritai Otchigin

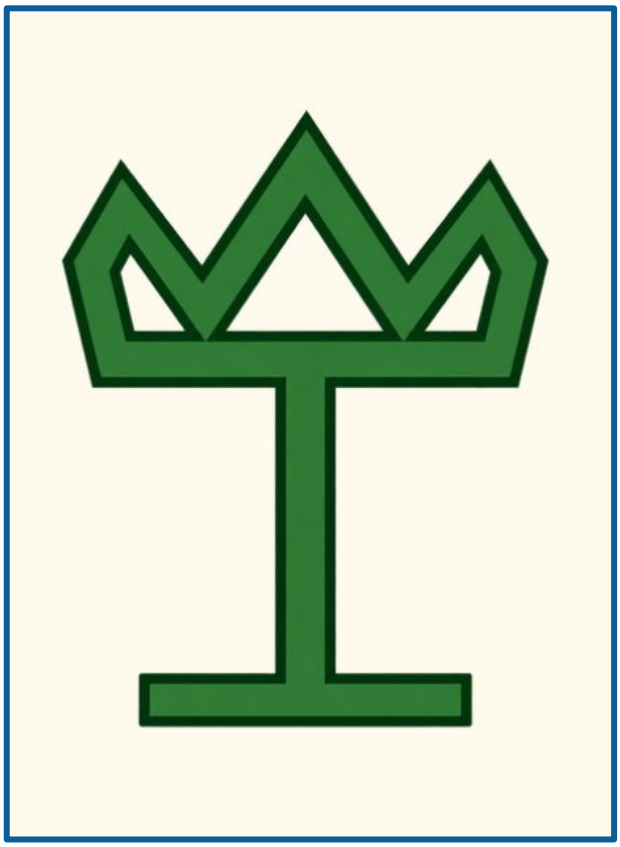
Another uncle of Temüjin Khan and brother of his father, Yesügei, Daritai was a senior member of the powerful Borjigin family. Just as Toghrul, he initially supported Temüjin's rise to power and participated in his early military campaigns, establishing himself as an influential leader with his own followers and military authority. His position within the Borjigin dynasty granted him political legitimacy and influence independent of Temüjin Khan. However, as Temüjin continued to grow power and strengthen his authority over the Mongol tribes, their relationship became increasingly strained, which played a part in the growing tensions between traditional dynastic leadership and Temüjin's centralized rule.



Toqto'a Beki

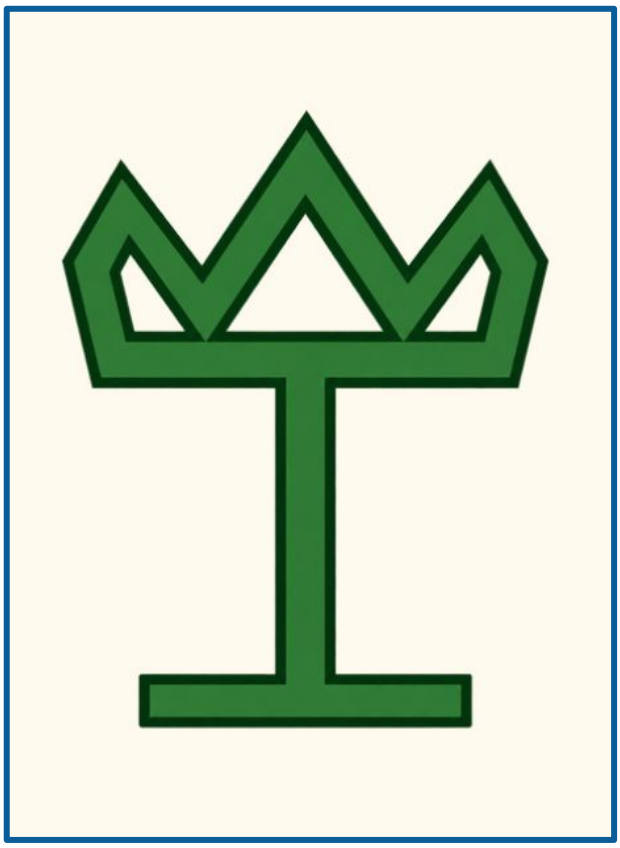
As a major chief and military leader of the Merkit tribe, Toqto'a was a longstanding enemy of Temüjin and his tribal family. He led the Merkit raid that resulted in the capture of Temüjin's wife, Börte Üjin, an attack partly motivated by revenge for the earlier abduction of Hö'elün from the Merkit. Despite repeated military defeats, he continued to resist Temüjin's growing power and remained an influential figure within the Merkit leadership. Known for his experience in tribal warfare, strategic raiding, and forming alliances, he relied on his military capabilities and political connections to challenge Temüjin's efforts to unite the Mongol tribes.

Characters



Qadaq Ba'atur

Qadaq was an experienced military commander within Toghrul Khan's Kereit forces, serving as the leader of the Jirgin contingent. Known for his exceptional loyalty and battlefield experience, he played an important role in defending the Kereit leadership against rival forces. During the Kereit conflict of 1203, Qadaq fought against Temüjin Khan's army and remained committed to Toghrul even as the Kereit forces suffered devastating defeats. His determination to continue fighting despite the collapse of Toghrul's authority demonstrated his strong sense of loyalty and military discipline. His influence came primarily from his battlefield experience, leadership of the Jirgin warriors, and reputation as a devoted commander within the Kereit military hierarchy.



Qori Šilemün Taiši

As the commander of Toghrul Khan's personal guard, he held a trusted position within the Kereit military hierarchy, leading approximately one thousand elite bodyguards responsible for protecting the Khan and his household. His role required exceptional loyalty, military experience, and the personal confidence of Toghrul Khan. Commanding some of the Kereit army's most trusted warriors, he possessed considerable military authority and influence within the royal court. During the Kereit conflict of 1203, he fought against Temüjin Khan's forces in defense of Toghrul's leadership. His influence stemmed primarily from his command of elite troops, close relationship with the Khan, and responsibility for the security of the Kereit ruling family.

Characters



Tayang Khan

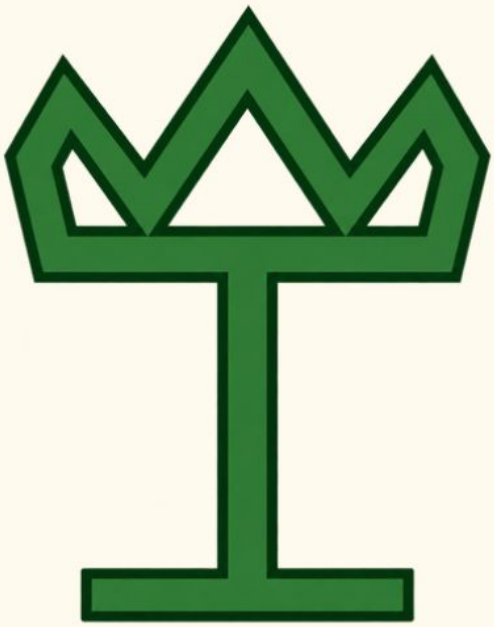
As the ruler of a major portion of the powerful Naiman tribe, Tayang Khan held significant political and military authority within the Mongolian steppe. He was the brother and political rival of Buyruq Khan, with the two brothers controlling opposing factions of the divided Naiman. Despite this internal rivalry, Tayang Khan commanded substantial military forces, territory, and political influence, making him one of the most prominent leaders of the region. His authority stemmed from his aristocratic lineage, control over Naiman warriors, and position within the ruling family. By 1203, Temüjin Khan's growing military strength and efforts to unify the Mongol tribes posed an increasing threat to Naiman independence and Tayang Khan's established authority.



Yesüi Khatun

As the daughter of a Tatar noble, she was born into the Tatar aristocracy, a powerful group with a long history of conflict against the Mongols. Historically speaking Temüjin Khan's defeat of the Tatars in 1202, she entered his household and eventually became one of his wives. Her position granted her considerable status through both her noble ancestry and marriage to Temüjin Khan. As a member of the defeated Tatar elite, she represented an important political connection between Temüjin's growing authority and the remnants of the Tatar aristocracy. Her influence within the Mongol court stemmed primarily from her aristocratic background, her position in the Khan's household, and her connections to the Tatar nobility. However her connection Temujin is not guaranteed in this committee, as any actions taken by this delegation could disrupt the timeline.

Characters



Jakha Gambhu

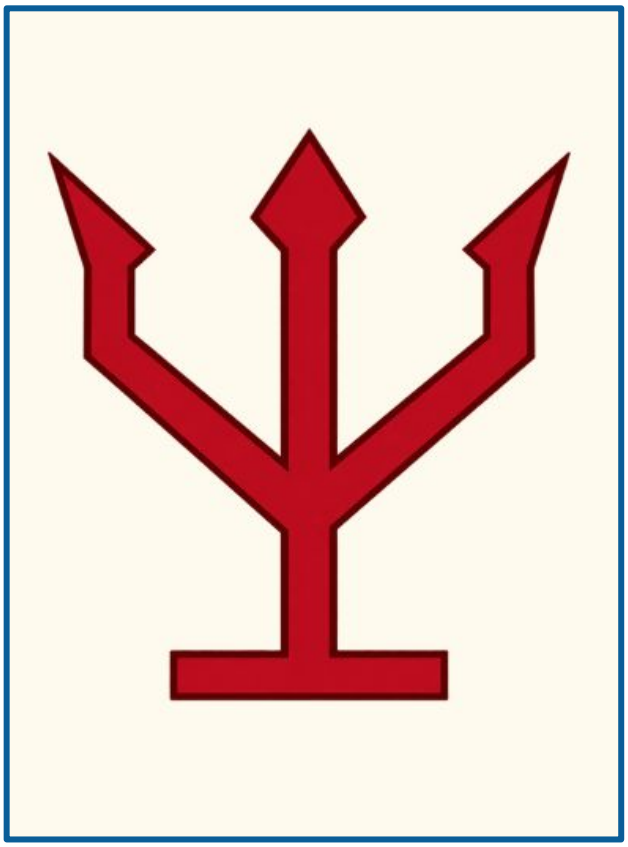
As a Kereit prince and one of Toghrul Khan's closest political associates, he held considerable influence within the Kereit aristocracy. Raised within the ruling elite, he developed strong political connections and established himself as a respected figure within his own faction. A firm supporter of Kereit independence and traditional authority, he sought to preserve the tribe's political influence and autonomy amid the growing power of Temüjin Khan. Known for his military leadership and diplomatic abilities, he played an important role in shaping political alliances and military decisions within the Kereit leadership. His influence stemmed primarily from his noble lineage, personal connections to Toghrul Khan, and ability to command both political and military support.



Sorqan-Shira

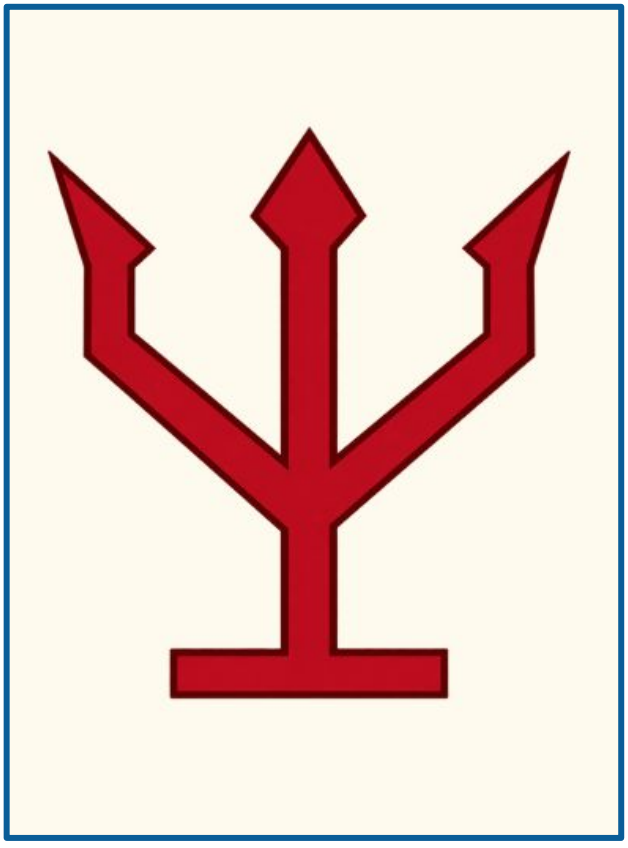
As an elder member of the Suldus clan, Sorqan-Shira was raised in a traditional clan environment that emphasized family ties, loyalty, and established customs. Despite his upbringing, he valued personal loyalty over rigid clan hierarchies, believing that trust and individual relationships were essential to maintaining strong alliances. His position within the Suldus clan granted him moderate political influence through his connections and standing among fellow clan members. Known for his ability to compromise, mediate disagreements, and provide thoughtful advice, he served as a respected voice within Temujin's tribe and coalition. His influence stemmed primarily from his clan relationships, diplomatic judgment, and ability to navigate political tensions through negotiation rather than military force.

Characters



Buyruq Khan

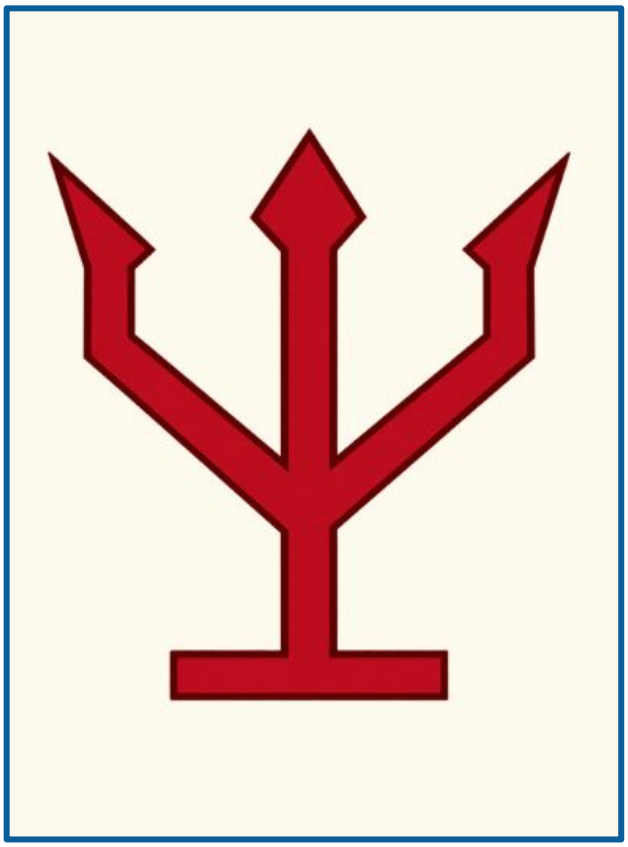
As a ruler of a powerful Naiman tribe, Buyruq was born into the aristocracy and held significant political and military authority over his faction. A strong defender of Naiman sovereignty, he sought to preserve his people's independence, territorial control, and traditional political power against rival tribes. Buyruq's position as ruler granted him considerable influence through his noble lineage, military forces, and extensive political connections. Known for his expertise in warfare, strategic alliance-building, and intelligence gathering, he used both military strength and diplomacy to protect Naiman interests. His influence stemmed primarily from his leadership, command of loyal warriors, and ability to navigate the complex political rivalries of the Mongolian steppe.



Qutuqa Beki

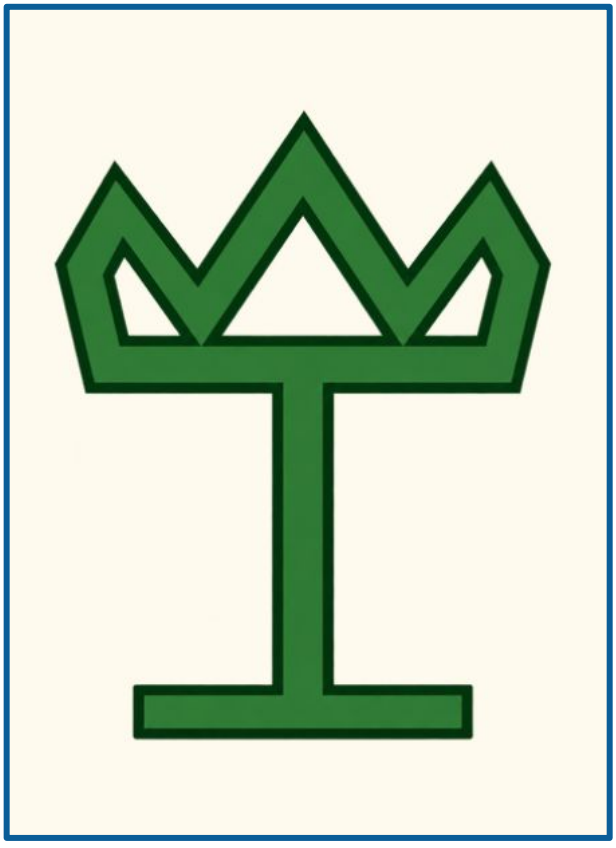
As a chief and defender of Oirat independence, Qutuqa prioritized the preservation of his tribe's freedom, security, and political autonomy amid the growing power of Temüjin Khan. Although his influence was more limited than that of rulers commanding larger tribal coalitions, he maintained considerable authority within the Oirat community through his leadership and military skills. His experience in warfare, knowledge of difficult terrain, and ability to navigate the challenges of the Mongolian wilderness made him a valuable military and political figure. Historically, Qutuqa Beki initially opposed Temüjin Khan, joining Jamukha's coalition in 1201. He later submitted to Mongol authority in 1207 and secured his family's position through marriage alliances with the Borjigin dynasty.

Characters



Targhutai Kiriltuq

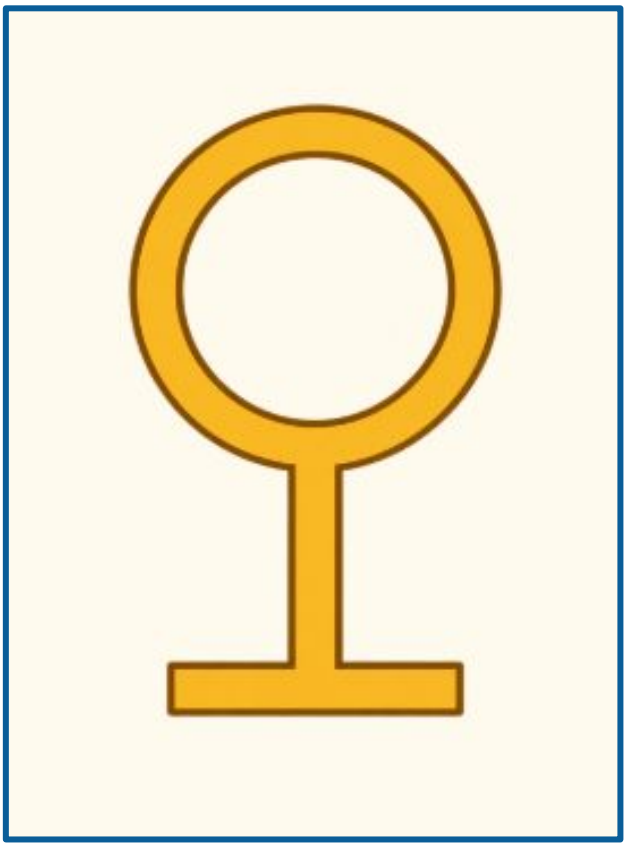
As a chief of the powerful Tayichi'ud tribe, Targhutai was raised within the traditional Mongol aristocracy and held considerable political and military authority among his people. A major opponent of Temüjin Khan, he sought to preserve the established clan-based political order and resist Temüjin's efforts to centralize power. His position within the Tayichi'ud leadership granted him significant influence among the Mongol factions opposed to Temüjin's growing authority. Known for his ability to organize resistance, navigate clan politics, and maintain alliances, he played an important role in challenging Temüjin's rise to power.



Achiq-Shirun

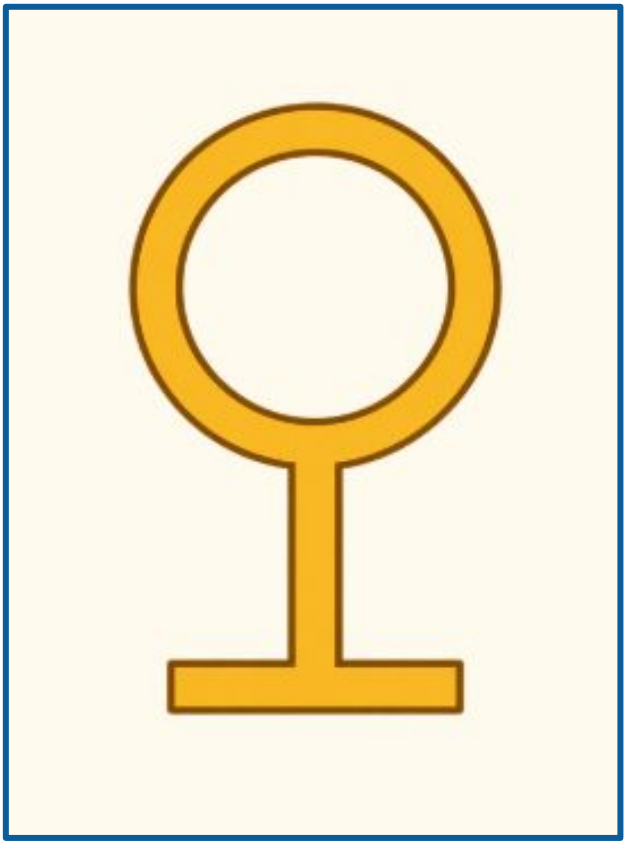
As a military commander serving Toghrul Khan and the Kereit tribe, he was raised in an environment that emphasized martial skill, discipline, and battlefield experience from a young age. Rather than involving himself heavily in political affairs, he focused primarily on immediate military concerns, including combat, reconnaissance, and the defense of Kereit interests. His position granted him significant military authority and influence over the warriors under his command. Known for his combat abilities, tactical awareness, and skill in gathering intelligence, he played an important role in supporting the Kereit military leadership. His influence stemmed primarily from his battlefield experience, command of troops, and ability to respond effectively to military threats.

Characters



Badai

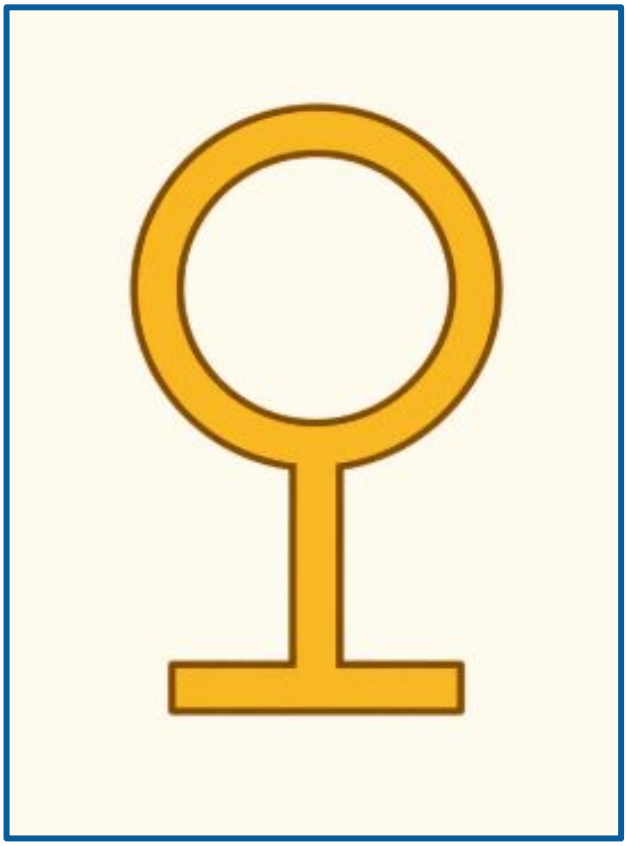
As an informant for Temüjin Khan operating within Kereit society, Badai used his personal connections and familiarity with the tribe to gather valuable intelligence on its political and military activities. Raised in an environment closely connected to the Kereit, he developed an understanding of its leadership, internal relationships, and political tensions. Motivated primarily by self-interest rather than loyalty to a particular faction, he used his position to advance his own interests while providing information to Temüjin Khan. Although he held relatively little formal political authority, his intelligence-gathering abilities made him a valuable asset.



Qoridai

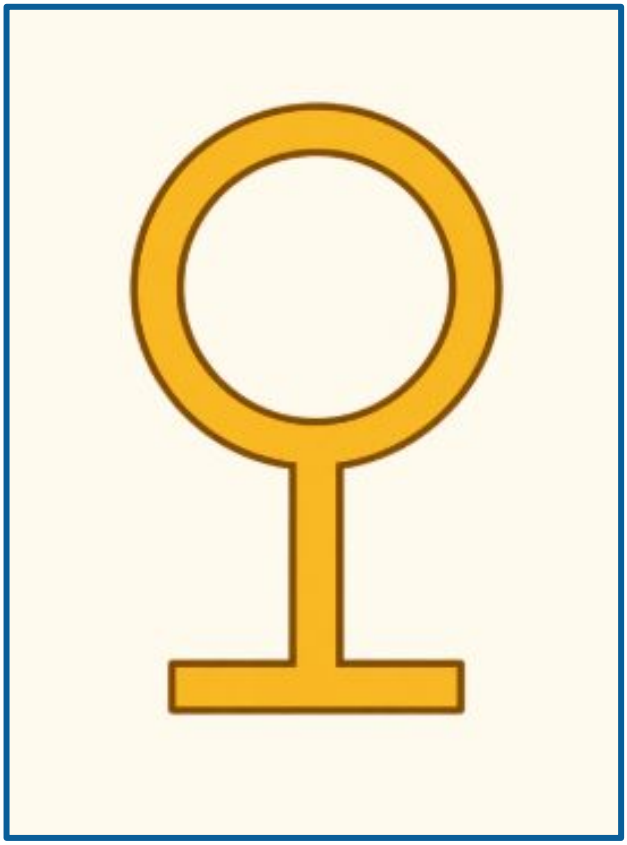
As an informant for Temüjin Khan, Qoridai maintained connections within the Qorolas tribe, allowing him to gather valuable intelligence on its political activities, leadership, and internal affairs. Raised with ties to Qorolas society, he developed an understanding of the tribe's social structure and political relationships, which he used to his advantage. Motivated primarily by self-interest, he supported Temüjin Khan in exchange for potential personal benefits rather than out of unwavering loyalty. Although he held limited political influence and formal authority, his intelligence-gathering abilities made him a valuable asset to Temüjin's growing network.

Characters



Jebe

As a warrior serving Temüjin Khan, Jebe rose through the military ranks by demonstrating his combat abilities, loyalty, and dedication to Temüjin's leadership. Rather than relying on noble ancestry or traditional clan status, he strongly supported Temüjin's merit-based political system, which emphasized individual skill and personal loyalty. His position as a commander granted him moderate military influence, although he continued to seek opportunities to prove himself and strengthen his standing within Temüjin's forces. Known for his exceptional skills in mounted combat and archery, he demonstrated the qualities valued within the emerging Mongol military hierarchy.



Jelme

As one of Temüjin Khan's most trusted advisers and personal bodyguards, Jelme held a position of considerable influence within the Khan's inner circle. Having grown up closely connected to Temüjin's family, he developed a strong personal bond with him, establishing a sense of loyalty and trust that extended beyond traditional political alliances. His close relationship with Temüjin granted him significant authority and access to important military and political decisions. Known for his exceptional combat abilities, tactical judgment, and dedication to protecting the Khan, he served as both a capable warrior and a valued adviser.

APPENDIX

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