A Look At An Indigenous Fantasy - The World of Na'a Honung'a

Tamika S. Williams
twilliams4@eagles.ewu.edu

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Shapeshifters land on the east shores of Na’a Honung’a. Humans

279 AE

A second civil war breaks out in Teiam between the humans that covet the land and the shapeshifters.

279 AE

Shapeshifters land on the east shores of Na’a Honung’a. Humans welcome to shapeshifters.

The shapeshifters and the humans have a remarkably amicable first meeting. The shapeshifting refugees from Teiam exchange gifts with the native humans of the island they call Na’a. Which roughly means home in the proto-language of what would eventually be called Honung’a.

C. 300 AE

The great city-state of Teiam falls after a second, greater civil war leaves it too weak to stave off invaders from the north, people from the early days of the future Pearl Kingdoms.

During its reign, Teiam was a powerhouse of trade and, more importantly, a haven for migrants of full-blooded shapeshifters who would most often have children with humans, spearheading the half-human shapeshifters as a people of their own.

C. Early 300’s AE

A great boom of migrating refugees from Teiam flee west at the behest of those that went before them decades prior. A steady stream of them make it to the island of Na’a and are accepted into new homes on the east shores.

C. Early 400’s AE

By this time, the island of Na’a is now commonly referred to instead by it’s new name: Na’a Honung’a to mean home of the shapeshifters. A new culture emerges as half-human shapeshifters become increasingly common, halving the population of the island by the middle of the century.

During this time, the elder kingdom of Kilia holds a small empire with the lands north of the island continent and the northern half of the continent itself.

G. Late 400’s

The different peoples of Na’a Honung’a unite to expel the Kilian occupants. However, by 400 AE, they’ve expelled the Kilians and turned inward in their strife for domination of the land and it’s most precious resources.

Two factions arise: the North with the militant Matam as it’s capital and the South with the wealthy Sir’z’a to lead them. The North and the South clash on numerous occasions in the final formative years of the century.

Tea’ale’a was a great warrior who fought in the war against Kilia and it is believed to be the earliest known ancestor of the Mahanale’a family as either the father or even grandfather of The First King.

512 AE

The First King unites Na’a Honung’a under the Mahanale’a family in Ang’amak’e.

Early 500’s AE

The fashion of teeth blackening dies out and this is a large indicator of The First King’s background.

The former ruling classes of Na’a and, later, Na’a Honung’a participated in teeth blackening as was considered fashionable and beautiful. However, the First King was not from these classes and the fashion died out after he came to power. Rather, he was of lower birth and united and conquered Na’a Honung’a through a combination of strength, alliance and rarity of magical gifts.

998 AE

The Mahanale’a are deposed.

Upon the success of the coup that deposed the Mahanale’a family, every known member of the family was executed as to end the line and secure the new regime.

Unbeknownst to the world, Vani Mahanale’a was the last child born to the Last of the First Kings through a yet to be declared second wife.

1025 AE

Vani Mahanale’a becomes queen of Na’a Honung’a, restoring the reign of the Mahanale’a family and averging her family by executing King Pulan, his staunchest warriors and even the wife who had encouraged him to execute her brothers and sister.

King Pulan had one son, Prince Mai, who betrayed his father and turned on him in favor of Vani Mahanale’a, after being years of transgressions against himself and the escalating humiliations of his mother, his father’s first, but least favored wife due to their marriage being wholly political, tying the Rong to them through marriage. To King Pulan’s disappointment, his father’s second, favored wife -- the wife he made his official Queen -- bore him no children and, therefore, no heir that he desperately needed to secure his throne.

1026 AE

The Marriage Rebellion sparks to life a year into the reign of Queen Vani Mahanale’a, in an attempt to avenge King Pulan’s second [and executed] wife by her family.

King’s Pulan’s reign was doomed from the start due to executing all members related to the royal family, including those who could trace ancestry to them and those who had married into the family. Despite this, he maintained peace and had a mind for politics whereas the new queen’s reign had already started with much blood.

Queen Vani is able to put down the rebellion, but decides not to execute anyone. Instead, she takes every last unmarried member of the family and marries them to her staunchest loyal followers, especially those related to her. Thereby, stripping them of their ability to make alliances through politically advantageous marriages for the time being.

1438 AE

Taiana Mahanale’a ascends the throne after her decisive victory at the Battle of the Bridge. She personally sees to the death of her father, King Mai’kai, and brother, Kova Mahanale’a, in battle. Queen Taiana was ruthless and iron-fisted. She did not tolerate defiance, but was an indubitably effective ruler and a brilliant administrator, putting the country on the gold standard, reforming trade and bringing her kingdom back from the brink of collapse after an era that saw three civil wars in less than a century.

1470 AE

Empress Jayang of Jiasao ascends the throne in an event known as the Corpse Ascension.

Though a terrifying event, the previous emperor, her father, was considered a poor ruler and a tyrant steeped in his own opulence. The greater population didn’t object to the change of regime in the early years of her reign. Opponents of Empress Jayang, however, had either been killed in the event or dealt with in a similar manner later on and replaced.

1495 AE

Princess Jayang, last living child of Empress Jayang, flees west and lands on the shores of Na’a Honung’a.

1495-1497 AE

Empress Jayang demands the return of her daughter three times. Princess Jayang three times refuses. King Kaisi three times refuses.

1497 AE

Princess Jayang weds Prince Ale’a Mahanale’a.

1497 AE

Jiasao declares war on Na’a Honung’a.

Summer 1498 AE

Princess Jayang bears her first child and heir, a daughter, with Prince Ale’a.

Her naming ceremony is held in the same season. King Kaisi bestows her the name Nima and presents her as a daughter under the sun god, Ang’aiamai.