

snow apes. Certainly, all knowledge of this land was lost by the Hyborian age. On the other hand Loulan may have been nothing but a story mothers used to frighten their children.

MERU

PEOPLE: The people of Meru are identical to the second group found in the Himelians. They, too, are short, stocky, with round faces, dark hair, and oriental features and complexion. Reports often made them out as bow-legged, although this is probably because they rode barrel-chested mountain ponies.

GEOGRAPHY: Meru was a hidden kingdom located in a valley at the heart of the Talakma Mountains. It was hemmed on all sides by peaks and could only be entered through high passes that were constantly patrolled. The valley was jungled and humid. At the valley's center was a huge inland freshwater sea called Sumer Tso.

FLORA AND FAUNA: The commander of the Turanian outpost near Secunderam filed a report (recently discovered and translated) in which he tells of the capture of several half-starved and sun-burned men. These men told him of their time spent as prisoners in Meru. His report obviously discounts this as ravings, but he did fill several long dispatches with their statements. Using this, a previously translated document could be identified as part of these dispatches. Scholars previously thought this document was a travelogue of the southern lands since it described creatures that lived there—tropical birds and rhinoceros. In actuality, these were the animals that supposedly lived in Meru.

SOCIETY: A Nepalese dig has provided information on the life in Meru. According to the woodcarvings so far translated, there were seven cities on the shores of the sea—Shamballah, Throana, Thogara, Shondakor, Auzakia, Issedon, and Paliana. These were called the seven Sacred Cities. All were ruled by a rimpoche, or god-king, from the capital Shamballah. This city was called the City of Skulls. The Nepalese dig has turned up a large number of skulls, apparently cemented together to form walls or towers. Regular galley sailings maintained a steady flow of trade from city to city. The cities were built and used by the Azweri, the settlers of Meru.



NAMELESS CONTINENT

This was somewhere beyond the Western Ocean. It is only mentioned as existing. There were numerous small islands around it.

NEMEDIA

PEOPLE: The Nemedians, in their own chronicles, and elsewhere, are described as being of moderate height, lean, and dark-haired, although those on the Brythunia border were often blonde. In many respects, they are similar in appearance to Aquilonians.

AKIVASHA



CREATURES

In my Hyborian studies, I have come across references to many creatures now extinct or dismissed as childish myth by the real world. I am convinced of the existence of these creatures and believe them to have been real foes of the inhabitants of Hyboria. The "scientists" will not accept these views, I know. Facts! That is what they demand and believe in. Little do they understand the intuitive understanding of one's field—the knowledge that what one says is truly real.

Consequently, I have devised a system to equate the abilities of these creatures into mathematical formula. By doing so, I hope to be able to direct the energies of fellow researchers along a scientific path. Thus armed with the figures and data so dearly loved by those skeptical scientists, we will convince them once and for all of the reality of the Hyborian world and its inhabitants.

AKIVASHA

PROWESS	FIGHT	END	KNOW	PER	IN
5	3	20	10	10	11
STR-35	DIRK-20	DAM-50	LORE-50		MIND CNTRL-30
MOV-15	BRAWL-15	MAG-50	ARC-50		SUMMON-30
		WILL-50			PER MAG-50
		POI-50			

Akivasha was a beautiful female princess of ancient Stygia, who became a vampire-like creature living just outside of Khemi. Her abode was an ancient pyramid tomb. At night, she rose and stalked the countryside for male victims. She attempted to use her mind control to command the victim to kiss her. With her kiss she would drain the life force from the victim.*

BABOON DEMON OF SET

PROWESS	FIGHT	END
8	20	Special
STR-50	CLAW-50	
MOV-30	BITE-50	
	WRES-50	
	BRAWL-50	

It was neither baboon nor hound but looked like both. This beast had great strength and yellow eyes that seemed to draw the soul into some horrible fate. The body was black and the face was mummy-like. It was a flawless tracker, able to find its quarry no matter what the distance. It would be summoned by wizards to hunt down people or items, a task it would execute faithfully. The creature was immune to all normal weapons and attacks, although one could restrain it. It could only be slain by a specially enchanted weapon. Once slain, it disappeared in a crumbling cloud of vapor and slime.

* Unless a successful check is made is made against the character's General Endurance.

She was not affected by specific wounds, but could be killed instantly by a stake or weapon driven directly through her heart.

IBIS: A god or goddess who was an enemy of Set.

ISHTAR: A goddess worshipped by the Shemites. She was represented by an ivory image.

JHEBBAL SAG: An ancient god of all life. He was little known by the Hyborian age, but those men and animals who remembered him were joined by a common bond of brotherhood. They could "speak" to each other and the priests could control the animals. The belief was universal throughout the Hyborian world. There was a mystic sign of Jhebbal Sag that could be used as a simple magic to warn off those animals who remembered him.

JHIL THE MERCILESS: A god or goddess who accepted human sacrifices. It was worshiped in southern Stygia.

JULLAH: A god worshipped by the commoners of Kush in opposition to Set, the official god of the ruling class.

MITRA: The one god of the Aquilonians. His followers did not perform animal or human sacrifices. The priests wore black robes.

NAMELESS OLD ONES: Gods from a pre-Hyborian time.

PTEOR: A bull-headed god of Shem. His appearance is noted as being monstrous and obscene.

SET: The evil snake-god associated with the Stygians. Their priests slay their victims by leaving a black handprint on the chest of the victim, right at the heart. The sign of Set was a scaled serpent, coiled, holding its tail in its mouth.

TARIM: A god or goddess of Turan.

YAJUR: A god of Kosala, whose human sacrifices were strangled.

YAMA: A god worshipped, through the god-king, by the people of Meru. He was commonly called "The King of Demons."

YEZUD: An evil spider god, who was commonly worshipped in Zamora.

YMIR: A god of ice and snow, worshipped by the Vanir or Aseir. He had several children who lived in the snowy wastes, appearing to those about to die.

YOG: Known as "the Lord of the Empty Abodes," he was a desert god worshipped in Zamboula. He received human sacrifices.

YUN: A god of Khitai.