

January 2025 CL & LoAR

A Quick Summary of Changes

Jeanne Marie *Palimpsest*

From Laurel: Dating Letters of Intent

- There have been some cases in recent months where Letters of Intent were dated significantly earlier than when they were finalised. In pre-OSCAR days, a letter could indeed be postmarked up to a week after its nominal date, but those days are long past.
- We remind everyone that according to section V.B.2.g of the Administrative Handbook, a Letter of Intent should be dated for the day when it is finalised in OSCAR. At the same time, we acknowledge that a kingdom may have a legitimate need to submit more than one letter at the same time, and in such cases it is possible to date one of them for the previous day. However, the Administrative Handbook is explicit in that a letter will only be treated as having been submitted on a particular month if it is finalised no later than the first day of the next month,



What this means:

- An Lol dated December 31st and finalized December 31st or January 1st will be considered a December Lol.
- An Lol dated December 31st but finalized January 2nd will be considered a January Lol.

From Laurel: Transferring Heralds' Titles

- Laurel overturned the June 2013 precedent that heraldic titles could not be transferred from branches to individuals.
- Titles that have been consistently used by a person receiving them may be transferred to a Herald Extraordinary at no cost.

From Pelican: Alternate Titles from the Indian Sub-Continent

Indian - Sanskrit Language Group

Sanskrit (Later Vedic Period, 1200 BCE - 600 BCE)

Rank	Gender Neutral	Masculine	Feminine
Crown		Samrāj/Rājan	Samrājni/Samrājyi
Coronet		Rājaputra (heir)/Rājan (territorial)	Rājaputri (heir) /Rājani (territorial)
Peerage Order		Dampati	Dammaha
Award or Grant of Arms		Rājanya	

Note: See "Titles of Nobility in the pre-1650 CE Indian Sub-Continent" by Sara al-Garnatiyya for more information.

Note: In period, Samrājni was used for the Crown consort and Samrājyi for a Queen in her own right. In the SCA both terms may be used by a Queen who is either Sovereign or Consort.

Sanskrit/Prakit/Early Hindustani (Gupta Dynasty, 270 - 550 CE)

Rank	Gender Neutral	Masculine	Feminine
Crown		Mahārājadhirāja	Mahādevī
Coronet		Yuvarāja (heir)/Mahārāja (territorial)	Yuvarāni (heir)/Yuvadevī (heir)/Mahādevī (territorial)
Peerage Order		Āchārya	Upadhyāya
Barony	Uparika	Uparika	Uparika

Note: See "Titles of Nobility in the pre-1650 CE Indian Sub-Continent" by Sara al-Garnatiyya for more information.

Updates can be found at <https://heraldry.sca.org/titles.html>.

Sara's article can be found at <https://sarasartsandsciences.wordpress.com/2024/06/16/titles-of-nobility-in-the-pre-1650-ce-indian-subcontinent/>.

From Pelican: Alternate Titles from the Indian Sub-Continent

Indian - Dravidian Language Group

Tamil (Sangam Period, 200 BCE - 200 CE)

Rank	Gender Neutral	Masculine	Feminine
Crown	Vēntaṅr	Aracaṅ/Iṛai/Vēntu/Vēntaṅr	Vēntaṅr
Coronet		Kōcar (territorial)	
Peerage Order		Kōṅ/Kōmāṅ/Kōcar	

Note: See "Titles of Nobility in the pre-1650 CE Indian Sub-Continent" by Sara al-Garnatiyya for more information.

Note: The last title listed for Crown (masculine) includes a slash in the transliteration, Vēntaṅ/r.

Tamil (Chola Empire, 800 CE - 1270 CE)

Rank	Gender Neutral	Masculine	Feminine
Crown		Chakravartigaḷ/Rājaśraya	Mahādevī
Coronet		Rājakēsari (heir)	

Note: See "Titles of Nobility in the pre-1650 CE Indian Sub-Continent" by Sara al-Garnatiyya for more information.

Updates can be found at <https://heraldry.sca.org/titles.html>.

Sara's article can be found at <https://sarasartsandsciences.wordpress.com/2024/06/16/titles-of-nobility-in-the-pre-1650-ce-indian-subcontinent/>.

From Pelican: Alternate Titles from the Indian Sub-Continent

Persian Language Group

Persian - Delhi Sultanate (1206 CE - 1526 CE)

Rank	Gender Neutral	Masculine	Feminine
Crown	Sultan	Sultan	Malikah-i-Jahan/Sultan
Coronet		Malik/Naib-i-mulk/Naib-i-mulk <territory name> (territorial)	Malika/Naiba-i-mulk/Naiba-i-mulk <territory name> (territorial)
Duchy		Khan	Khatum
County		Khan	Khatum
Viscounty		Khan	Khanum
Peerage Order		Khan	Khatum
Baronage		Malik/Naib-i-mulk/Naib-i-mulk <barony name> (territorial)/Amir	Malika/Naiba-i-mulk/Naiba-i-mulk <barony name> (territorial)
Award or Grant of Arms		Amir	Amira

Note: See "Titles of Nobility in the pre-1650 CE Indian Sub-Continent" by Sara al-Garnatiyya for more information.

Note: In period, Malikah-i-Jahan was used for the Crown consort and Sultan for a Queen in her own right. In the SCA both terms may be used by a Queen who is either Sovereign or Consort. The terms Amir and Amira are also appropriate as generic titles of nobility.

Persian - Mughal India (1526 CE - 1650 CE)

Rank	Gender Neutral	Masculine	Feminine
Crown		Pādishah	Pādishah Begum
Coronet		Mitza (heir)/Rāja (territorial)	Begum (heir)/Rāna (territorial)
Baronage		Thakur	Thakurani
Award or Grant of Arms		Amir	Amira

Note: See "Titles of Nobility in the pre-1650 CE Indian Sub-Continent" by Sara al-Garnatiyya for more information.

Note: The terms Amir and Amira are also appropriate as generic titles of nobility.

Updates can be found at <https://heraldry.sca.org/titles.html>.

From Pelican: Requests for Reconsideration

- Pelican clarified what qualifies as a request for reconsideration:
 - If the name was changed because of a request for authenticity or to make the name registerable, a request for reconsideration must:
 - be for the name as originally submitted, with new evidence showing that it met the request for authenticity or was registerable as submitted...
 - or a request the original name be considered without considering the original request for authenticity...
 - or be a request to change the name based on information provided in either the kingdom or Pelican decision.
 - For example, if the decision stated that either *Smith* or *Smyth* would be registerable and the name was changed to (and registered) as *Anna Smith*, the submitter could submit a request to reconsideration to *Anna Smyth* but not to *Anna Smithson*.
 - If the name was not changed, it is not a request for reconsideration unless Pelican offers the submitter options and says that they may make a request for reconsideration if they prefer one of those options.
 - Additional cases may be considered as a request for reconsideration on a case-by-case basis. In such instances Submissions Heralds should consult with Pelican prior to issuing the Lol.
- If the submitter wishes to retain the registered name, it is a name change not a request for reconsideration.

From Pelican: Miscellaneous

- In accepting the proposed Japanese alternate titles last month it was noted that the form of address for an AoA or GoA was [Kakka]. That was incorrect. The correct forms of address are either [-sama] or [-dono]. The List of Alternate Titles (<https://heraldry.sca.org/titles.html#Japanese>) has already been corrected to show these forms of address.
- This month, we had a submission where the submitter included non-ASCII characters on the "Name Being Registered" line of the submission form. We do not register non-ASCII characters, and including such on the "Name Being Registered" line is an impediment to registration. The "Name being submitted" or "Society Name" fields should show what the submitter wishes to be registered. Glosses and clarifications should be included in the name documentation section.

Not Registrable

Олександр (Cyrillic/Russian)
義 (kanji/Japanese)
解 (kanji/Chinese)
Ἡλιάς (Greek)
오이 (Hangul/Korean)
رازي (Arabic)

Registrable

Oleksandr
Yoshi
Xie
Helias
Yi
Raziya

From Wreath: Few-Petaled Flowers

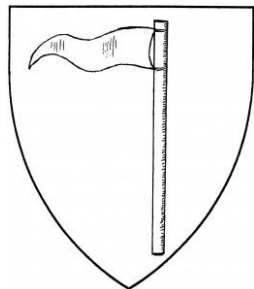
- Wreath has revised how we treat roses, foils, and other few-petaled flowers:
 - Foils are treated the same as flowers with the same number of petals.
 - Though there is no SC for type between few-petaled flowers affronty, in some cases there may be a DC for type.
 - There is generally a DC for type between few-petaled flowers affronty with three petals and those with four or more, though there may be exceptions to this for flowers with outlines that blur the distinction (for example, depending on how they are arranged, a flower with three heart-shaped petals may more closely resemble a six-petaled flower).
 - Flowers with four, five, or six petals all conflict with each other.

From Wreath: Glossary of Terms Table 5

- References have been added for charges beginning D-F.
- Added cross-references related to charges beginning with D-F.
- Added definitions for: dividing iron, flesh-hook, fundou, and winnowing fan.
- Revised the definitions for: dice, drop spindle, fasces, fetterlock, fish, frauenadler, and fruit.

From Wreath: Miscellaneous Charges

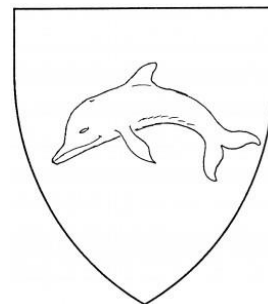
- **Pennons:** When pennons are independent charges, by default they are attached to a pole and stream to dexter. The pole need not be blazoned unless it is a different tincture than the pennon. When attached to other charges such as ships and pageant wagons they are considered blazonable artistic details that do not contribute to difference and the direction that they stream need not be blazoned.
- **Dolphins:** Dolphins, both heraldic and natural, are naiant to dexter by default. Heraldic dolphins are usually embowed counter-embowed, though they are sometimes depicted simply as embowed. Natural dolphins are usually depicted as embowed, but likewise may be shown as embowed counter-embowed. No difference is granted between *naiant*, *naiant embowed*, and *naiant embowed counter-embowed*. The fact that the dolphin is embowed or embowed counter-embowed is generally not blazoned. Some older blazons use *embowed* or *embowed to sinister*; this is equivalent to *naiant* (or *naiant to sinister*).
- **Tambourines:** We are defining *proper* for a tambourine as "argent skin, brown wooden frame; the tincture of the jingles/zills is an optionally blazoned artistic detail. It takes its tincture from the skin." The default orientation is fesswise, as if lying flat on a table. It is shown with a slight trian aspect so you see the front portion of the frame as well as the skin.



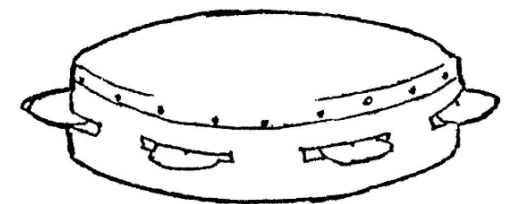
A pennon



A dolphin



A natural dolphin



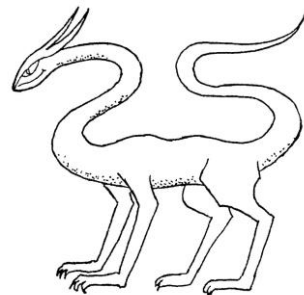
A tambourine

From Wreath: On Dragons

- **Dragon:** The default dragon; it has four legs and wings. It is segreant (or rampant) to dexter by default.
- **Dun Dragon:** An invented charge resembling a two-horned dinosaur. For conflict purposes it is considered a wingless dragon and has a DC from the default (winged) dragon. A Dun dragon is no longer registerable.
- **East Asian Dragon:** Has four legs but lacks wings. It is passant to dexter by default. An East Asian dragon has a DC from the default dragon for the removal of the wings. It is granted no difference from a wingless dragon.
- **Chinese Dragon:** For conflict purposes this is an East Asian dragon. No difference is granted between types of East Asian dragons.
- **Japanese Dragon:** For conflict purposes this is an East Asian dragon. No difference is granted between types of East Asian dragons.
- **Lion-Dragon:** A period heraldic charge; it is a chimerical monster with the forequarters of a lion and the body and tail of a wyvern. It lacks wings and has two legs. It is *sejant to dexter* by default. However, as with a wyvern, this posture is granted no difference from *statant* as the two emblazons are interchangeable. There is a DC between the default dragon and a lion-dragon. We decline to rule at this time on the difference (if any) between a lion-dragon and an East Asian dragon.



A dragon (from heraldicart.org)



A Dun dragon passant (from the PictDict)



An East Asian dragon (from heraldicart.org)



A lion-dragon (from the PictDict)

From Wreath: Demi-Beast and Demi-Monsters

- **Demi-Beast:** Couped, erect to dexter; if the full beast defaults to affronty (e.g., bats and eagles), the demi-beast also defaults to affronty.
- **Demi-Human:** Couped, erect affronty
- **Demi-Monster:** Couped, erect to dexter; if the full monster (e.g. humanoid monsters) defaults to affronty, the demi-monster also defaults to affronty.



A *demi-lion* is a demi-beast and defaults to erect (from Siebmacher)



A *demi-eagle* is a demi-beast but defaults to affronty since an eagle defaults to displayed, which is affronty (from *Lucas Cranach: Deutsches Stammbuch*)



A *demi-woman* is demi-human and defaults to erect affronty (from Siebmacher)



A *demi-griffin* is a demi-monster and defaults to erect (from *Wappen der Reichshofräte im Jahre 1582*)



A *demi-mermaid* is a demi-monster that default to affronty since mermaids default to affronty (from *Livre armorial des escriptz et blasons des armes des chevalliers commandeurs de l'Ordre et milice du Saint-Esprit*)

Open LoPaDs and Lols

- The following LoPaDs are currently open. Please review and comment. If you lack commenting privileges, comments may be mailed to the relevant Sovereign of Arms.
 - January 12th LoPaD:
 - Request for commentary on whether Giovanni Cini or Pope John XXII are significant enough that their names and epithets should be protected.
 - Request for commentary on grammatical and lexical issues with the name *Hypatia Xanthippina ho Aipolin*.
 - Request for commentary on the household name *Clann Ruaidhri Maoil*.
 - February 4th LoPaD
 - Request for commentary on whether or not the use of a *mi'na* and/or *houmyou* (types of Japanese name elements) for a living person is a presumptuous/religious act, and whether it be considered religious appropriation.
 - Request for commentary on whether or not the use of the Japanese name *Rikyuu* is presumes on the Buddhist monk *Sen no Rikyū* who was also a tea master and considered the most important influence on the Japanese Tea Ceremony.
 - Request for commentary on whether or not we should allow names from two regional naming groups (such as Gaelic and English) when using the Branch Name Allowance. This is currently prohibited by SENA PN2C2d.

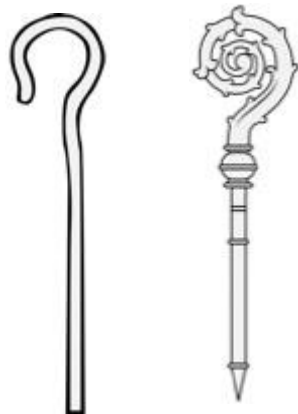
Laurel: laurel@heraldry.sca.org **Pelican:** pelican@heraldry.sca.org **Wreath:** wreath@heraldry.sca.org

From the LoAR: Names

- Regarding the byname *Blaeygr*: Evidence was presented for the byname construction [adjective]+[body part] in Old Norse, together with several specific instances of the adjective *blá-eygr*, meaning blue-eyed, to describe people. Based on this evidence, this adjective is a registerable Old Norse byname. [Kaðall Blaeygr, 01/2025, A-An Tir]
- The evidence presented showed that Cree compound names were sometimes recorded as a single element and sometimes as multiple elements. Like Mongol names, these compound names can be considered to have two (or more) name elements and thus satisfy the requirements of SENA PN2B. [Mihko Pîsim, 01/2025, A-Ealdormere]
- Based on period example, the order name pattern of *Order of [someone] with [a heraldic charge]*, where [someone] can either refer to a saint, e.g., Saint George, or a group of people, e.g., Cross Bearers, that could be used as an order name in its own right, e.g. *Order of Saint George*, is registrable. A Rules Letter has been opened to add this pattern to SENA Appendix E2b. [Caer Galen, Barony of, 01/2025, A-Outlands]
- The name follows the pattern of *kunya + ism + nasab + laqab + laqab + geographical nisba* -- we do not have evidence of the pattern of a double *laqab* being used in period. [Umm Abba `Afiya bint al-Faruk al-Farasha al-Zarqa' al-Iskandariyya, 01/2025, R-An Tir]
- The submission included a request that this badge be associated with *War of the Phoenix*, an event hosted by the submitter. *War of the Phoenix* is not a generic designator, so the name would need to be registered to the submitter to use it as an association. To the best of our knowledge, we have never registered a name of an event, nor have we associated a badge with that event. [Atenveldt, Kingdom of, 01/2025, R-Atenveldt]

From the LoAR: Updates to the Glossary of Terms Tables

- Table 4 – Conventional "Proper" Colorings
 - *A shepherd's crook proper* is brown. [Cassandra Felicia, 01/2025, A-Middle]
- Table 5 – Default Postures and Orientations
 - *A shepherd's crook* and a *crozier* default to palewise, with the hook opening to dexter. When fesswise, the hook is to base.
- Table 7 – Default Arrangements
 - None
- Table 8 – Default Charge Types
 - None



A shepherd's crook and a crozier

From the LoAR: New/Redocumented Charges

- The *oleander plant* appears in *The Herball Or Generall Historie of Plantes* by John Gerard in 1597, so is an acceptable charge per SENA A2B2b. An oleander flower is considered a few-petaled flower for the purposes of conflict. [Moire de Faie, 01/2025, A-An Tir]
- A *pair of horns of consecration* were artifacts used to mark Minoan buildings of religious significance and were also used to a charge in Minoan seals. [Vestia Antonia Aurelia, 01/2025, A-An Tir]
- The *saguaro cactus* is native to the south western United States and north western Mexico, in areas inhabited by humans in period. A saguaro blossom is considered a multi-petaled flower for the purposes of conflict. Despite its rather robust slip and seeding, this blossom takes its tincture from the petals. [Fionnghuala inghean Ghearailt, 01/2025, A-Atenveldt]



An oleander flower (registered) and from Gerard's Herball.



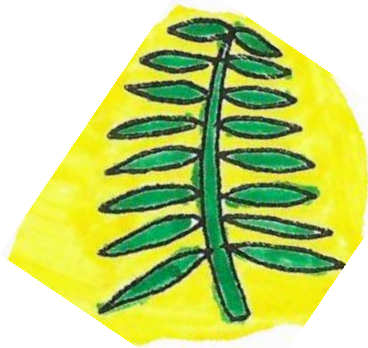
A pair of horns of consecration (registered) and from the Archaeological Museum of Heraklion



A saguaro blossom argent seeded Or slipped vert (registered) and in nature.

From the LoAR: Armory

- Precedent (09/2010) holds that a fern frond conflicts with a pine tree. While a palm frond is in the same leaf category as a fern frond, both palm fronds and pine trees are period charges. As there is no evidence that they were used interchangeably and there is some visual difference between the two, Wreath granted a DC between a palm frond and a pine tree. Wreath declined to rule whether or not there is a DC between a fern frond and a pine tree under current standards. [Elena de la Palma, 01/2025, A-Æthelmearc]
- A common period depiction of a charge with *wings addorsed* is to have only one wing visible; the assumption being that the far wing is hidden behind the near one. [Illadore de Bedagrayne, 01/2025, A-Æthelmearc] (and [Aldwynn of Canterbury, 01/2025, A-Ealdormere])
- The basket of a *urinal* is the equivalent of a sustained secondary charge. [Nikippa Lakaina, 01/2025, A-An Tir]



Elena's palm frond.



A winged bull from the *Stammbuch of Jodocus Nagel* and a winged sea-horse from a German *Wappenbuch* (*Premonstrátský klášter Nová Říše, NŘ 88*)



A *urinal* (from heraldicart.org)

From the LoAR: Armory

- We note that cants don't just use the literal meaning of names, but also sound-alikes. For example, the town name of Arundel, in West Sussex, means "valley of the horehound"; but because it sounds like the Old French "arondelle", meaning "swallow", both the town and families who have taken the town name as a surname use swallows in their armory. So despite the byname *Martelli* literally meaning "hammers", a *martlet* is a reasonable cant. [Leonora Analea Maria Martelli, 01/2025, A-Artemisia]
- Wreath extended the step from core practice for non-lion quadrupeds in the *sejant erect affronty* posture to include non-lion demi-beasts in affronty postures. This also applies to all felines other than lions. [Judith le Alefondere, 01/2025, A-East]
- The type of script a letter is written in is an optionally blazonable detail not worth difference. [Keziah Planchet, 01/2025, A-East]
- Nettle leaves are considered "leaf-shaped". [Muirgel Bera, 01/2025, A-East]



A nettle leaf

From the LoAR: Armory

- In armory using an [animals]-cut line of division will have a DC from other armory with an [animals]-cut line of division if the heads as charges would have a DC. [Sisuile Butler, 01/2025, East]
- In registering the device of Lazarus Fish it was noted "The lower end of the bend issues from roughly the place where the top of the ford meets the edge of the shield. This is the expected way for a bend and base to interact." [Lazarus Fish, 01/2025, A-Lochac]
- Wreath noted that evidence of hummingbirds in period armory has been found. The arms of the town of Tzintzuntzan, Mexico (<https://arqueologiamexicana.mx/mexico-antiguo/escudo-de-armas-de-tzintzuntzan-michoacan-siglo-xvi>), from 1595, include *hummingbirds rising* in the third quarter. [Davock Walkere, 01/2025, A-Meridies]



For example, *ounces-cut vert and Or* has a DC for type from *bears-cut Or and sable* and from *wolves-cut palewise inverted sable and Or*

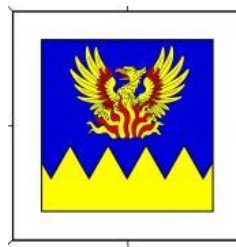
Lazarus's device

From the LoAR: Armory

- Unlike tinctures, postures are not assumed to apply to all previous charges unless those charges are the same. [Avelyn Loveday, 01/2025, A-Meridies]
 - What this means: The blazon *a dog and a cat rampant addorsed* is incorrect as it means that the cat is rampant but does not describe the posture of the dog. The correct blazon would be *a dog rampant contourny and a cat rampant*.
- Counterchanging a bordure over a central ordinary is a step from core practice; further counterchanging both the bordure and the ordinary over a divided field removes this design from core practice altogether. Similar designs will not be accepted without documentation of this sort of counterchanging. [Umm Abba `Afiya bint al-Faruk al-Farasha al-Zarqa' al-Iskandariyya, 01/2025, R-An Tir]
- This badge is returned for using a marked monster. *Marked* in blazon describes having parts of an animal in a different tincture from the rest of it in an expected, natural pattern. *Marked* can't be used for many monsters as there is no expected pattern of tinctures. This does not apply to monsters composed of parts of other creatures with expected markings, so though a *griffin argent marked sable* wouldn't be registerable, a *monster composed of a natural tiger argent marked sable and the head of a dragon argent* would be. [Atenveldt, Kingdom of, 01/2025, R-Atenveldt]



Not registrable due to excessive counterchanging.



Atenveldt's badge. Not registrable due to using a phoenix Or marked gules.

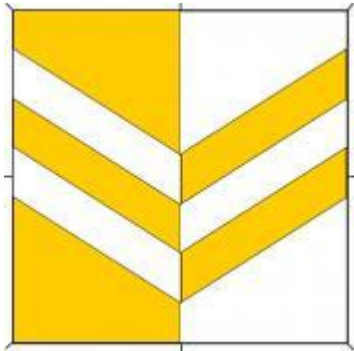
Armory Registered via an IAP



Gules, six crescents inverted two, two, and two checky argent and sable, for augmentation the dexter chief crescent checky Or and argent.

Documentation was provided by the submitter showing that all elements of the base design are found in period Italian armory, giving examples of complex charges divided of two low-contrast tinctures, and showing that changing the tincture of a single charge in a group is a period style of augmentation.

[Juliana de Luna, 01/2025, A-An Tir]



Per pale Or and argent, two chevrons inverted counterchanged.

Documentation was provided by the submitter showing that all elements of the design are found in period Italian armory, giving one closely matching example of multiple low contrast ordinaries counterchanged over a line of division, and bracketing examples of single low contrast ordinaries counterchanged over a line of division, multiple low contrast ordinaries, and good contrast ordinaries counterchanged over a line of division. [Lisette de la Rose, 01/2025, A-An Tir]

Webbed Updates

- SENA Appendix F3a and Appendix M1 have been updated.
- Glossary of Terms Table 4, Table 5, and Table 8 have been updated.
- List of Alternate Titles has been update.