

## **YEAR 1208**

### **SPRING 1208**

#### **THE HUNT FOR A CHAMPION**

Rumors reach the remaining Lion provinces that Akodo Dairuko's body was not found among the fallen at the siege of the Capital. Based on this glimmer of hope, Akodo Kano, acting as Champion in his sister's absence, sends a party to search for her, living or dead.

#### **A LAST STAND**

After the devastation of the Islands of Silk and Spice, the remaining members of the Yoritomo family converge in Crane lands to plan their vengeance against the forces that ruined their home. What transpires, ripples waves throughout every court.

### **SUMMER 1208**

#### **NOTHING IS SACRED**

Reports from the lands of the Kitsune family reach various courts that the Crab Clan's war machine, ever hungry for additional resources to fuel their war against the Darkness, is no longer respecting the sanctity of their forests. Kaiu lumber teams have come under attack by denizens of the Spirit Realms as the Kitsune Mori itself attempts to repel the invaders, with little success. The Kitsune reach out to other Clans, pleading them to intervene, but without the prestige of the Mantis Clan to back them, their words fall on deaf ears. The remaining Clans in the Empire are too concerned with the defense of their own lands to spare their forces in defense of such a small family.

#### **BROKEN STORM**

Court invitations emerge from Broken Wave City, claiming to be from the new Champion of the Mantis Clan, Yoritomo Ichido. Many remaining Samurai of the House answer the call, but any reply from the Clan's colonial holdings are silent. The Kitsune family, seeking military backing against the Crab's costly war, swear their allegiance. The Moshi Family appear divided with many of the more traditional members of the house seeing a chance to rededicate the old Centipede Clan's direct service to the Sun rather than a mercenary warlord, while others are eager to continue their allegiance to a clan that has served their ambitions. Only the Tsuruchi family pay no heed to the invite for reasons known only to them.

### **FALL 1208**

#### **A POINT OF LIGHT**

The Boar Clan, still in the infancy of its rebirth, has become a refuge for those whom the war has taken its toll. The Minor Clan is more than welcoming of those whose lands are taken from them, either by the needs of a Great Clan or the nightmarish forces of Jigoku, and their population swells in the few short years since its reinstatement. Led by their Champion and Daimyo, Heichi Tochiko, and with the newly reawakened Shakoki Dogu shielding the land from the view of the Tainted, the Boar build a haven in the shadow of Kanpeki's army.

### **WINTER 1208**

#### **A WINTER OF DISCONTENT**

After years of warfare attrition, Kanpeki attempts to consolidate his base of power by calling upon the power emanating from the Second Pit his father had torn a generation ago within the mortal realm. However, when his call goes unanswered, he decides to take matters into his own hands. In his mad quest for power, he traverses the pit, walking into the infernal realm himself. He appoints

no regent or second in command in his place. Across the face Empire, coordinated attacks cease as the now masterless oni simply lash out, directionless in their rampage. In the chaos, his generals consolidate their own power bases amid the ruins of various castles across the Empire. Their alliances are uneasy and several look upon the conquests of others with eyes of jealousy.