

Unto the Mouth
From toes in the Utolian States

Honored Mouth,

We have long been directed to report anything that we felt was becoming a problem and otherwise to silence ourselves.

Therefore we bring two reports to you:

1. As the trickle of refugees reaching the Utolian (City) States increases, concerns among the people about the resources needed increase as well. As you know, the City States have a broad, but rather weak defensive alliance, but no overarching governance. Each state reserves its own stocks of food, and those northernmost are seeing an influx of refugees that they fear will continue through the winter and that concerns them.
2. Perhaps more importantly, as the refugees bring news of the failure of the Empire of Hanal and its possible dissolution, considerable fear and paranoia are setting in among the people that, with the balance between Hanal and Masque gone, an invasion from Masque is inevitable and will occur. Some even believe that it may be a ruse by Masque, sending refugees on to them in order to divert their resources and potentially weaken their defenses, or even put betrayers inside their walls.

We are worried that this combination may lead to violence toward refugees who are arriving with nothing but the clothes on their backs, and sometimes not much of those, and we thought you should be aware.