

Social Structure

The Duskaran social order is deeply communal, with Wind-Kins forming the backbone of society. These extended families pool labor and resources for mutual survival, guided by kin leaders who mediate disputes and represent their groups in broader councils. Age-grades define roles within this structure, with youth learning survival skills, adults managing critical tasks, and elders serving as repositories of wisdom and tradition.

Governance is anchored by the **Council of Elders**, who oversees decision-making in each settlement, balancing tradition with practical needs. **Water management** castes oversee the allocation of this vital resource, while Weatherworking Lineages are families known for psychic abilities hold hereditary roles in guiding settlements during environmental crises. Cross-settlement alliances, often solidified through trade and marriage, ensure political stability and resource sharing, maintaining harmony across the linear civilization.

Knowledge of Earth history carries prestige among certain intellectual circles, with Archivists holding elevated status for their guardianship of ancient records. However, this scholarship is viewed by most as academic curiosity rather than practical wisdom. The divide between "Earth-obsessed" elites and pragmatic laborers occasionally sparks tension, particularly when resources are diverted to preserving data crystals rather than expanding water infrastructure.

This guardianship has led to the development of unique skills. The most revered and secret of these is **Songa-roho (Spirit-Binding)**, an ancient technique originally used for imprinting history and consciousness onto data crystals for long-term preservation. This practice allows an Archivist to form a deep, empathetic psychic link with a subject, a process requiring "absolute empathy." Some rare practitioners have adapted this technique beyond its original purpose, applying it to sentient atmospheric phenomena to understand and resolve their traumatic origins.

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