

On September 9 2796, Coordinator Jinjiro Kurita, consumed with bloodlust, ordered his troops to slaughter the citizens of Kentares IV to the last man...

And Kurita became the most feared name in the Inner Sphere.

To control his people, the Coordinator of the Draconis Combine must control their ideology. Thus, Draconis society's values are Harmony and Purity—Harmony with the interests and intentions of the Kurita state, and Purity from any thoughts that contradict those of the Coordinator.

Only the powerful, mystical society ComStar could compile this sourcebook on House Kurita and the Draconis Combine. Dozens of full-color illustrations depict famous personalities, scenes, and military ranks, decorations, and Insignia. Also included is Kurita history, from Shiro Kurita's bloody conquests while forging the Draconis Combine to Takashi Kurita's ruthless "justice." Every Combine 'Mech regiment from Rasalhague to Luthien is listed, along with the totalitarian government's structure, a description of the ISF (the Combine's secret police), and excerpts from the *Dictum Honorium*, which spells out the codes of conduct for Kurita citizens.

Threatening to devour both the Federated Suns and the Lyran Commonwealth, the Dragon grows stronger and more fearsome. Every year brings the Draconis Combine closer to fulfilling its destiny of conquering the Inner Sphere.



HOUSE KURITA



The Draconis Combine

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PREFACE

The Draconis Combine is the warlike Successor State located in the northeast quadrant of the Inner Sphere. The history of the region is a long and bloody one, dating back even before the formation of the Combine in 2319. From all apparent indications, the violence of this House will continue into the future.

From the time of the Combine's founding, its leaders have believed themselves destined to conquer all of Human space, a goal still to be achieved some 700+ years and three Succession Wars later. Bordered by House Davion's Federated Suns on one side, House Steiner's Lyran Commonwealth on the other, and no-man's land of the Periphery on the third, the Draconis Combine is surrounded by hostile forces. Until now, however, the balance of power among the rival Successor Houses has tipped in favor of one over the other. With the recent Steiner-Davion alliance, it may be that House Kurita has missed its chance at seizing dominion. The Steiner wealth, combined with Davion's military prowess, may be too potent a combination even for the Kuritans' fanatic devotion to their cult of the Dragon. Those who consult this work may judge for themselves.

This volume is one in a series of studies of the five Successor Houses of the Inner Sphere. The series was commissioned by the First Circuit to give the members of our Blessed Order insight into the workings of the five realms. Though many observers believe that the Combine has missed its chance at conquest over all humanity, ComStar must remain ever vigilant. If the ruthless leaders of House Kurita were to achieve their goal, they would certainly attempt to extend their domination to our own Blessed Order.

This history has been compiled from many sources, including old and rare documents whose existence is known only to ComStar. As these materials were written, interpreted, or pieced together by various past and present authors and ComStar researchers, there may be minor inconsistencies or ambiguities that simply could not be resolved. ComStar has made every effort to verify the accuracy of all material included here, making this volume the only complete reference work available on the Draconis Combine. Indeed, not even the Combine's own historians or archivists could have pieced together a study as exhaustive as this one made possible by ComStar's resources.

In this volume, we trace the history of House Kurita from the 24th century to the present, with additional pertinent background dating as far back as the late 20th century. There is also full information on the economic, political, military, social, and cultural aspects of life under the rule of the Dragon. Though it is not possible to typify the lifestyle of each ordinary citizen in such a vast interstellar realm, we have been able to identify the cultural myths that bind the public to their government and to describe the institutions that shape the average Kuritan's daily life. There are also briefings on key worlds and key personalities of the current era.

—From Gillian Sorenson-Hague, ComStar Archives, Terra

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