

Fealty Oath (version 1)

Officer/Peer/Citizen: This day do I, a(n) (Officer/Peer/Citizen) of Artemisia, render homage and fealty to the Crown and Kingdom of Artemisia. This I do swear, by this sword and my honour.

King and Queen: Then do We, _____ and _____, King and Queen of all Artemisia, witness this oath and for our part swear fealty to these (Officers/Peers/Citizens) of Artemisia, to protect and defend them with all our abilities, until these crowns shall pass from our hands.

Herald: Rise, (Officers/Peers/Citizens) of Artemisia.

Fealty Oath (version 2)

Officer/Peer/Citizen: This day do I, a(n) (Officer/Peer/Citizen) of Artemisia, render homage and fealty to the Crown and Kingdom of Artemisia, unto whom I offer honour and loyalty, and such support as it is in my power to give. These things do I swear, by this sword and by mine honour. So say I, _____.

King and Queen: Then do We, _____ and _____, King and Queen of all Artemisia, witness this oath, and for our part swear fealty to these (Officers/Peers/Citizens) of Artemisia, to protect and defend them and their households with all our abilities, until these crowns shall pass from our hands, death takes us, or the world ends. Rise, (Officers/Peers/Citizens) of Artemisia.

Ceremony of the Sword Oath (version 1)

Herald: All fighters and their consorts wishing to enter the Crown list of Artemisia, step forward and declare yourselves.

(The fighters and their consorts shall approach the king. All knights shall state their names. All non-belted fighters shall be named by the knight who speaks for them. The king shall accept each fighter in turn. The fighter shall then introduce his or her consort.)

Queen: May you inspire your Lord/Lady to great deeds this day.

Herald: My lord and lady fighters, place your hands on the Sword of State, and swear this oath after me:

I, _____, do declare my intent to compete in the Crown Lists of the Kingdom of Artemisia. I swear by all I hold sacred that I shall conduct myself upon this field in chivalrous and honourable manner. I swear by this sword that a gentle Lady/Lord has given me her/his favour and has agreed to rule as my Queen/King should I be the victor this day; that I shall count the blows dealt me fairly and honestly. I shall accept all fights that fall my lot in this list. I swear that should I succeed this day and become heir to the Crown that I will rule to the utmost of my abilities, sparing no efforts to fulfill my duties as King/Queen. All these things I swear, by this sword, and by mine honour.

King: Fight well and show honour to Our Kingdom. You may go and prepare.

Herald: (Announce time the Lists will start)

Kingdom Officers' Oath of Service

Herald: All kingdom officers of the kingdom of Artemisia, present yourselves before the royal thrones.

This day do I, _____, render homage to my sovereign, the King and Kingdom of Artemisia. I do swear an oath of service to our King and Kingdom, and I will endeavor to my greatest ability in the execution of my office. So say I, _____.

King and Queen: Thank you for your oath of service.

Field Investiture of the Crown Prince & Princess (version 1)

(Victor kneels in front of the King and Queen with his/her consort. The King and Queen take their hands.)

King and Queen: You have been victorious this day. Are you prepared to accept the rights and responsibilities of the Crown Prince of Artemisia this day?

Crown Prince: I am.

King and Queen (holding coronets): Then do we, _____ and _____, King and Queen of Artemisia, recognize _____ and _____ as Our heirs this day and proclaim them as Crown Prince and Princess of Artemisia.

(King and Queen place coronets on heads. Crown Prince may wish to place the coronet on his consort's head himself.)

Field Investiture of the Crown Prince & Princess (version 2)

Herald: Their Majesties do call before them _____. (Crown Prince kneels before the king and queen.)

King: _____, you come before Us as victor this day. Is there one here present who is your inspiration?

Crown Prince: There is.

(Ask Herald to call forth the consort, who kneels before the king and queen, beside the Crown Prince.)

King (holding coronet): Now do I declare you the heir to the Griffin Throne and Crown Prince of the Kingdom of Artemisia. (King places coronet on Crown Prince's head. The Queen or the Crown Prince places the coronet on the consort's head.)

(Herald reads oath.)

Oath of the Crown Prince

I, _____, do swear fealty to the Crown and Kingdom of Artemisia, and to these nobles of Artemisia, and to their households, to protect and defend them, and their rights and duties, against every creature, with all my power, and to hold as my sacred trust, this the Coronet of the Crown Prince of Artemisia. And I do swear that no man, who will not guard the Honour of the Peers, nor defend the principles of Chivalry, nor protect rigourously the rights of all the subjects of the lands of Artemisia, and in particular those privileges, ordained by statute and established by custom, to be the exclusive prerogatives of the nobility, nor shall swear this solemn oath so to do, shall hold this, the Coronet of the Crown Prince of Artemisia, after me. So say I, _____.

The Investiture of a Count

Herald: May it please Your Majesties, Your loyal subject, _____, having by his skill, valour, and strength of arms, won the Crown of Artemisia, and having ruled and served as Crown Head of this Kingdom, and thusly earned the title and estate of a Count of this realm, comes before you this day, that at Your Majesty's pleasure, he may be invested with the dignities of this high estate.

King: Let this man approach Us.

(The candidate and his entourage approach the Crown and render due homage and respect, with the herald proclaiming the gentleman's name and acts of valour and chivalry. The King rises.)

King: We, _____, by right of arms King of Artemisia, do recognize this noble man's just claims, and We do so command that the investiture of the rank and title of Count be carried out for this gentleman.

(The mantle-bearer brings forth the mantle and presents it to the King.)

King: We do this day clasp about your shoulders this mantle of a Count, an outward symbol of your new estate.

(The coronet bearer comes forward and presents the coronet to the King. The King places it on the head of the candidate.)

King: We, _____, King of Artemisia, hereby crown you with the coronet of your new rank. Let the scroll be read.

(The herald reads the scroll and presents it to the King. He presents it to the Count.)

King: Rise, Count _____. People of Artemisia, We present to you Count _____.

(The herald exhorts cheers from the populace, and the Count retires to the crowd.)

The Investiture of a Countess (and the Order of the Rose)

Herald: May it please Your Majesties, Your loyal subject, _____, having by the grace of her champion served as Queen of this kingdom, and having thus earned the rank and title of a Countess of this realm, wishes to come before you this day, that at Your Majesty's pleasure, she may be invested with the dignities of this rank.

King: Let this lady approach Us.

(The candidate and her entourage approach the Crown and render due homage and respect, with the herald proclaiming the lady's name and accomplishments. The King stands.)

King: We, _____, King and Queen of this fabulous land of Artemisia, do recognize this lady's just claims, and We do so command that the investiture of the rank and title of Countess be so done.

(The mantle-bearer brings forth the mantle and presents it to the Queen.)

Queen: We do this day clasp about your shoulders this mantle of a Countess, an outward symbol of your new estate.

(The coronet bearer comes forward and presents the coronet to the King. The King places it on the head of the candidate.)

King: We, _____, King of Artemisia, hereby crown you with the coronet of your new rank. Let the scroll be read.

(The herald reads the scroll and presents it to the King, who in turn presents it to the Countess.)

King: Rise, royal lady. People of Artemisia, We present to you Countess _____.

(The Queen comes forward and presents the Countess with a rose. The herald calls forth all Ladies of the Rose.)

Queen: My lady Countess, be welcomed into the Order of the Rose, whose token this is, and be henceforth, as you have hitherto, a model of honour and grace to the ladies of this realm.

King: My lady Countess, may you always be good, faithful, and true to this, your new rank.

(The processional returns to the populace as the Herald exhorts cheers from the populace.)

The Creation of a Territorial Baron & Baroness

Herald: The Crown now commands that their loyal subjects _____ and _____ come forward.

(The retinue approaches and reverences before the Crown.)

King: It has pleased Us to appoint barons, that Our baronies might be more closely and fairly ruled. Having been pleased with your fine work, it is Our wish that you be created the Baron and Baroness of the Barony of _____ to achieve these ends.

(The premier chevalier presents the Sword of State.)

King: Will you now swear an oath of office before your king?

Candidate(s): I will.

Herald: I, _____, Baron(ess) of _____, do this day render homage and fealty to my sovereign lord king of Artemisia, to be His liege man of life and limb. I shall rule his lands justly and honourably, in the name of the Crown. This I do swear, by my honour and chivalry.

King: Then do We, _____, King of mighty Artemisia . . .

Queen: And We, _____, Queen of gentle Artemisia . . .

King: Do hear your oath this day, and swear to Our fealty to Our subject, to protect and defend you with all of Our power until the stars fall, the world ends, or these crowns may pass from Our hands. Therefore, We, _____, King of Artemisia . . .

Queen: And We, _____, Queen of Artemisia . . .

King: Do proclaim you, _____ and _____, Baron and Baroness of _____.

(The king places the coronet upon the baroness' head as the queen places the coronet upon the baron's head, and about their shoulders the mantles of state.)

King: Rise, Baron and Baroness. I do place in your hands this symbol of your earthly power, that through you the King's justice and power may be seen. Rule justly and honourably. People of Artemisia, I present to you _____ and _____, Baron and Baroness of _____.

(Herald exhorts cheers from the populace.)

Creation of a Territorial Baron and Baroness

HERALD:

The Crown now commands that their loyal subjects _____ & _____
come forward.

The retinue approaches and reverences before the Crown.

KING:

It has pleased Us to appoint Barons,
That Our Baronies might be more closely and fairly ruled.
Having been pleased with your fine work,
it is Our wish that you be created
the Baron/ and Baroness of the Barony of _____
to achieve these ends.

The Premier Chevalier presents the Sword of State.

KING:

Will you now swear an oath of office before your King?

CANDIDATE/S:

I will.

HERALD AND CANDIDATE/S:

I, _____, Baron/ess of _____,
do this day render homage and fealty
to my sovereign lord King of Artemisia,
to be His liege man of life and limb.
I shall rule his lands justly and honorably,
in the name of the Crown
This I do swear, by my honor and chivalry.

KING:

The do We, _____, King of mighty Artemisia,
And We, _____, Queen of gentle Artemisia,
Do hear your Oath this day,
and Swear to Our fealty to Our subject,
to protect and defend you with all of Our power
until the stars fall, the world ends,

or these crowns may pass from our hands.
Therefore We, _____, King of Artemisia,
and We, _____, Queen of Artemisia,
do proclaim you, _____ and _____,
Baron and Baroness of _____.

*The King places the Coronet upon the Baroness' head as the Queen places the
Coronet upon the Baron's head and about their shoulders the Mantles of State.*

KING:

Rise Baron and Baroness.

I do place in your hands this symbol of your earthly power,
that through you the King's justice and power may be seen.

Rule justly and honorably.

People of Artemisia, I present to you, _____ and _____, Baron and
Baroness of _____.

Herald extorts cheers from the populace.

Notes for Preparing a Vigil

Purpose: To provide a quiet space for the candidate to contemplate the elevation to peerage, for peers to advise the candidate, and sometimes, for friends to offer private congratulations.

Components: - a quiet space, away from the main traffic of an event. At events with outdoor space, this may be a pavillion; at

indoor events, a small office or classroom.

- comfortable seating for the candidate and one or two others.

- regalia, masterwork, and/or tools of the candidate's craft.

- a pitcher of water and drinking vessel. (The candidate may be there for a while.)

Ceremonial: The candidate will be escorted by members of the Order, and possibly by the Royalty. Ceremony from this point can vary greatly, but may include such elements as: the candidate changing into a ceremonial white garment, ritual hand washing, and guards at the entrance of the site. The Royalty are usually the first to speak to the candidate in the privacy of the vigil site.

Participants: Usually vigils are open to all, sometimes with a proviso that Peers be allowed to address the candidate first. Occasionally, a vigil may be limited to Peers only, and rarely to members of the Order only. Vigil preparation is an ideal way to allow friends of the candidate who are not members of the Order a chance to participate.

The Order of the Gryphon of Artemisia

Herald: From time beyond memory, the people of the lands known as Artemisia have taken the Gryphon as their symbol. Fantastical in its beauty, the Gryphon exhibits fierceness and bravery in battle, grace in flight, and gentle care for those who have need of its protection. There are those who have even questioned whether such a beast exists. Indeed they do, though they are rare.

Herald: In Artemisia, there are those who show by their behavior the highest ideals and values of our Current Middle Ages. There are those who question whether such nobles exist. Aye, they do, but they are rare.

Herald: That all may know these nobles, John and Ayna, second King and Queen of all Artemisia, did create the Order of the Gryphon of Artemisia. It is the prerogative of the King to name to this Order such persons who, through their behavior, have shown the highest ideals and values of our Current Middle Ages. These gentles shall be styled Gryphons of Artemisia, Defenders of the Dream, and permitted and requested to proudly wear upon their person the insignia of the order, a representation of a Gryphon. The King is permitted to name only one person to this honour during His reign. In July, Anno Societatis XXXIII, did name _____ the premiere of this Order. Look on and mark you well, people of Artemisia, as His Majesty does name the newest Gryphon of Artemisia, Defender of the Dream.

The Order of the White Scarf

Herald: In this kingdom of Artemisia, there are fighters who face opponents armed with steel, armoured in little more than their skill and honour. To honour those rapierists who exemplify skill in the Art of Defense, and who share their knowledge, the Order of the White Scarf was created in the kingdom of Ansteorra, and Tivar Moondragon was made the premiere. By treaty, the Order of the White Scarf has spread throughout the Laurel Kingdoms. The kingdom of Artemisia did adopt the White Scarf treaty in the reign of Thorfinn and Sarah, the premiere Crown of Artemisia. The symbol of the Order is a white scarf worn about the left arm.

(For use if a prize was fought.)

Herald: Your Majesties, noble lords and ladies: This day, _____ did play a prize for his White Scarf, meeting all challengers in every form, and comporting himself with skill, honour, wit, and style. He asks leave to come before this assemblage and claim this honour.

(The candidate is called forward.)

Herald: Their Artemisian Majesties do call _____ unto Their Presence. Their Majesties also call forward the lady who inspires him, and any Defender of the White Scarf who would speak for him.

(The candidate kneels before the Crown. The consort and sponsor should be a short distance back. It is assumed that all answers will be in the affirmative by the sponsor.)

Herald: Don _____, do you speak for _____?

Herald: Fights he well?

Herald: Fights he with honour?

Herald: Does he show great prowess in single combat and in melee?

Herald: Is he a commander?

Herald: Is he well-versed in all forms of defense appropriate to one of gentle rank and station?

Does he share his knowledge with all who would learn?

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The Order of the Golden Griffin's Talon of Artemisia

Herald: The Griffin is a fierce beast in battle. It uses its powerful talons to rend its enemies. These same talons are used in the teaching of its young to hunt and fight. There are those in this kingdom that not only show excellence on the field of combat, but also in the skill of teaching the art of chivalry. Thus, in January XXIII, Thorfinn and Sarah, the Premier Coronets of Artemisia, established the Order of the Griffin's Talon, and made Lyonel Oliver Grace its premier. In this tradition, Thorfinn and Sarah, Premier Crowns of Artemisia, established the Order of the Golden Griffin's Talon, and named Sir Michael the Lucky as the premier. Their Majesties _____ and _____ do call forth _____.

The Order of the Golden Maple Leaf

Herald: In this Kingdom of Artemisia there are many talented artisans. They strive diligently for excellence in the field of arts and sciences. Their efforts provide substance to the dream and enrich us all. Thus in January A.S. XXIII, Thorfinn and Sarah, the Premier Coronets of Artemisia, created the Order of the Maple Leaf, and made Jyllian of Bubb the premiere. To honour these craftworkers of our dream, the Order of the Golden Maple Leaf was created. Varia Goffe was named premiere of this esteemed Order by Thorfinn and Sarah, first King and Queen of our land. Their Majesties _____ and _____ do call forth _____.

(The scroll should be read.)

The Order of the Golden Pillar

Herald: There are those who make great sacrifices to serve the kingdom, who through their constant and steady service, have supported this principality and all that she stands for. Like mighty pillars they do hold high the ideals of our Dream. They come in many forms: An officer, a servant, or worthy subject. To honour these ideals, Thorfinn and Sarah, the Premier Coronets of Artemisia, in January of A.S. XXIII, created the Order of the Pillar of Artemisia, and made Pawel of Gdansk the premier. In this tradition, Thorfinn and Sarah, the Premier Crowns of Artemisia, did establish the Order of the Golden Pillar of Artemisia, and did bid Victor Highgate to stand as premier of the Order. In this tradition, Their Majesties _____ and _____ do call forth _____.

(The candidate comes forth, and the scroll is read.)

The Order of Gratia et Comitas

Herald: Our Society exists to return us to a time when courtesy, honour, and grace were the norm. It has long been the pleasure of the Crown to see that most Artemisians know these virtues, and exhibit them so far as their knowledge and abilities permit. However, there are those who are such sterling examples of courtesy, honour, and grace that the Crown wishes to recognize them, that all and sundry may know these gentles and look to them for example. To recognize them, John and Ayna, second King and Queen of Artemisia, in Anno Societatis XXXIII, did create the Order of Gratia et Comitas, and name _____ the premiere. It is the prerogative of the Crown to name to this Order such persons as have been examples of courtesy, honour, and grace. In recognition of their quality, those who hold this honour are permitted and requested to wear a garter of sable and Or, the colours of Artemisia. In this tradition, the Crown calls unto its Presence _____.

The Order of the King's Councilor of Artemisia

Herald: There are those gentles in this kingdom who have served the king, often unbidden and unseen. Among them are those who advise the king with faithful and frank counsel: Confidants who have time and again shown their discretion to be worthy of trust, and all manner of servants whose services range from great matters of state to the mundane but essential details of ruling a kingdom. It has long been known that a king cannot fulfill his duties alone, and throughout the ages there have always been those whose greatest ambition was not for themselves, but rather to be a Councilor to a king. To recognize them, John and Ayna, second King and Queen of Artemisia, in Anno Societatis XXXIII, did create the Order of the King's Councilor, and His Majesty did name _____ the premier. It is the prerogative of the king to name to this Order such persons as have rendered great assistance unto Him. In recognition of the nature of this service, King's Councilors are permitted and requested to wear upon their person an element of the king's personal arms. In this tradition, His Majesty calls unto His Presence _____.

The Order of the Queen's Confidence of Artemisia

Herald: There are those gentles in this kingdom who have served the queen, often unbidden and unseen. Among them are those who advise the queen with faithful and frank counsel, confidants who have time and again shown their discretion to be worthy of trust, and all manner of servants whose services range from great matters of state to the mundane but essential details of ruling a kingdom. It is impossible for a queen to fulfill all her duties of State alone -- even for a Queen of Artemisia. Fortunately, there have always been those whose ambition has not been for themselves, but for the greater glory of the queen -- those who have always understood that there is no greater honour than to have a queen's confidence. To recognize them, John and Ayna, second King and Queen of Artemisia, in Anno Societatis XXXIII, did create the Order of the Queen's Confidence, and Her Majesty did name _____ the premiere. It is the prerogative of the queen to name to this Order such persons as have rendered great assistance unto Her. In recognition of the nature of this service, those who hold the Queen's confidence are permitted and requested to wear upon their person an element of the queen's personal arms. In this tradition, Her Majesty calls unto Her Presence _____.