

 3.5



Otherlands

HILDEBRANTS GUIDE

To

CALIS

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

Explore the mysteries of the Calisian empire and their military structure.

By
Ace Gunsolley

The Calisian Empire and it's military structure

The empire of Calis, located in the northern part of the southern hemisphere, is an expansionist regime that seeks to bring structure and law to what it sees as barbaric regions. Although basically a lawful good society, Calis has a humanocentric view that brings it into conflict with other races. It is due to this view that humanoid races such as elves, dwarves, gnomes, and other similar races are considered monsters and are exterminated on sight as a matter of general policy.

In Calis only citizens have the right to own property. Becoming a citizen is a matter of serving either in the legion or in the government learning how to properly manage infrastructure and people. The primary reasoning to this is that once one has served the empire and learned the proper skills necessary to bring law and prosperity to the people of an area that they are then ready to serve as a land holder. Where this comes into conflict with conquered territories is that when Calis occupies an area, all land holders are stripped of their lands and properties until such a time as they become citizens of the empire. As one can imagine this does not often sit well with the landholders.

The Calisian empire is known for building things such as roads, aqueducts, and city structures or a hallmark of the empire. They employ a crude form of concrete in their constructions allowing them to quickly build large constructions and utilities that otherwise would not be able to be constructed. Within the empire, roads are well maintained and often paved with day cabins built along the paths for weary travelers. This facilitates a free flow of commerce and wealth within the empire. Among the many amazing constructions created by the legions of the empire, the hanging gardens of Alexandria are recognized as one of the most magnificent sights in the world.



For humans living within the empire, peace and prosperity are easily earned. The elimination of humanoid races expands the available territory for the growth of human civilization. Unfortunately, this comes at a great cost. Often, in the beginning, life under a military regime can be harsh. As the legions draw troops from conquered areas, often without the guidance of the guard Pretoria and its paladic policies, the legions often become a haven for brutality especially in border conquered lands. This however quickly changes once the guard arrives to take control of a given territory. Lawlessness and ruthless behavior are not tolerated by the paladic guard and senatorial members. The emperor himself serves in the legion. All prospective emperors and senators within Calis must by imperial law serve coming up to the ranks of the legion and must be drawn from the ranks of the guard Pretoria. It is widely known that should an emperor not uphold the values of the guard, the guard Pretoria will replace the emperor with a more suitable candidate. In the history of Calis this has happened three times. As the title is not hereditary, this ensures the empire is run correctly as determined by praetorian policy.

Organization of the Calisian Imperial Legion

In the Calisian army, a full strength legion is officially made up of 6,000 men, but typically all legions are organized at under strength and generally consist of approximately 5,300 fighting men including officers.

The basic structure of the army is as follows:

- Contubernium (tent group): consisted of 8 men.
- Centuria (century): was made up of 10 contubernium with a total of 80 men commanded by a centurion.
- Cohorts (cohort): included 6 centuriae or a total of 480 fighting men, not including officers. In addition, the first cohort was double strength but with only 5 centuriae instead of the normal 6.
- Legio (legion): consisted of 10 cohorts.

Additionally each Legion has a 120 man Alae (cavalry unit) called the Eques Legionis permanently attached to it possibly to be used as scouts and messengers.

Calisian Legionary Ranks

The following list indicates ranks from highest command to lowest common soldier:

Senior Officers of the Roman Legion

Legatus Legionis

The overall Legionary commander. This post is generally appointed by the emperor, and is a former Tribune who held command for 3 or 4 years, although could serve for a much longer period. In a province with only one legion, the Legatus is also the provincial governor and in provinces with multiple legions, each legion has a Legatus and the provincial governor has overall command of them all.

Tribunus Laticlavus

Named for the broad striped toga worn by men of senatorial rank. This tribune is appointed by the Emperor or the Senate. Though generally quite young and less



experienced than the Tribuni Angusticlavii, he serves as second in command of the legion, behind the Legate.

Praefectus Castrorum

The camp Prefect. Generally he is a long serving veteran who has been promoted through the ranks of the centurions and is 3rd in overall command.

Tribuni Angusticlavii

Each legion has 5 military tribunes of equestrian (knight) class citizens. They are in many cases career officers and serve many of the important administrative tasks of the Legion, but still serve in a full tactical command function during engagements.

Primus Pilus

The "First File" is the commanding centurion of the first cohort and the senior centurion of the entire Legion. Service in this position also allows entry into the equestrian social class upon retirement.

Mid-Level Officers in the Roman Legion



Centurions

Each Legion has 59 or 60 centurions, one to command each centuria of the 10 cohorts. They are the backbone of the professional army and are the career soldiers who run the day to day life of the soldiers as well as issuing commands in the field. They are generally moved up from the ranks, but in some cases can be direct appointments from the Emperor or other higher ranking officials. The cohorts are ranked from the First to the Tenth and the Centuria within each cohort ranked from 1 to 6, with only 5 Centuria

in the First Cohort (For a total of 59 Centuria and the Primus Pilus). The Centuria that each Centurion commands is a direct reflection of his rank. (Command of the First Centuria of the First Cohort is the highest and the 6th Centuria of the 10th Cohort is the lowest). The 5 Centurions of the First Cohort are called the Primi Ordines, and included the Primus Pilus.

Pilus Prior

The commander of the first cohort of each Centuria (except the first), with the following titles for the Centurions in sequence throughout each Centuria.

- Pilus Posterior
- Princeps Prior
- Princeps Posterior
- Hastatus Prior
- Hastatus Posterior

Low-Level Officers in the Roman Legion

Principales

The Principales is the equivalent of modern-day non-commissioned officers and had the following rank structures from highest to lowest:

•Aquilifer

A single position within the Legion. The Aquilifer is the Legion's Standard or Eagle bearer and is an enormously important and prestigious position. The next step up would be a post as a Centurion.

•Signifer

Each Centuria has a Signifer (59). He is responsible for the men's pay and savings, and the standard bearer for the Centurial Signum, a spear shaft decorated with medallions and often topped with an open hand to signify the oath of loyalty taken by the soldiers. It is this banner that the men from each individual Centuria rallies around. A soldier can also gain the position of Discentes signiferorum, or standard bearer in training.

•Optio

One for each Centurion (59), they are appointed by the Centurion from within the ranks to act as his second in command.

•Tesserarius (Guard Commander)

Again, there are 59 of these, or one for each Centuria. They act in similar roles to the Optios.



•Cornicen (Horn Blower)

They worked hand in hand with the Signifer drawing the attention of the men to the Centurial Signum and issuing the audible commands of the officers.

•Imaginifer

Carried the Standard bearing the image of the Emperor as a constant reminder of the troop's loyalty to him.

The Rank and File of the Roman Legion

Immunes

These are trained specialists, such as surgeons, engineers, surveyors, and architects, as well as craftsmen. They are exempt from camp and hard labor duties due to the nature of their work, and will generally earn slightly more pay than the Milites.

Discens

Milites in training for an immunes position.

Munifex (or Miles Gregarius)

The basic private level foot soldier.

Tirones

The basic new recruit. A Tirones can take up to 6 months before becoming a full Milites.



Senātus Populusque Calisianus English: "The Calisian Senate and People"; or more freely "The Senate and People of Calis"), is an emblematic abbreviated phrase referring to the government of the Calisian Empire. It appears on Calisian currency, at the end of documents made public by an inscription in stone or metal, and in dedications of monuments and public and civil works.

The Calisian Eagle Standard

Many ages ago an unknown powerful wizard created to eagle standards that are carried by the Calisian army. these powerful artifacts shut down all magic both arcane and divine within 150 mile radius. It is unknown what purpose this wizard had to create such an item as effectively removed his own spellcasting capabilities within the boundaries established by the standards. These standards have been born by the legions for so long that they do not even remember what magic is. Given their use of advanced military tactics and the standards abilities to nullify magic the legions of Calis have a very strong tactical advantage in warfare. These very powerful anti-magical devices have become the center point of every Calisian military encampment.

These standards are powerful enough to even quell the breath of Dragons and remove their flying capabilities as such abilities are augmented but the magical dragon Pearl housed within their brains. While this undoubtedly reduces the combat effectiveness of Dragons they still represent several tons of heavily armored very angry reptile. The legions have recently found this out the hard way as they begin to conquer Dragonia which lies to the east of Calis. Half Dragons and dragonborn also lose their breath weapons and magical abilities within the range of these standards. The loss of these abilities often create havoc within the ranks of the Dragonian army. Old tactics relying on magic that are familiar in battle can no longer be relied upon when fighting the Calisians. (With the loss of even clerical magic skills such as treat injury become a necessary component of character composition. A good knowledge of herbology will also serve well if the DM allows such things.) Dragonian troops must rely on size, strength, an sheer ferocity to overcome the advanced tactics of the Calisian army. As history has proven out brute force seldom overcomes skill in warfare, however a 7 to 12 ton dragon with heavily armored scales and claws like swords still presents a difficult opponent.

(Calisians use group fighting formations and tactics similar to the Roman army on which they were loosely based. For Enterprising DM's who do a little research this can become a major game function.)



The Empire wants you!

"Welcome to the heart of the Calisian Empire. Now that we have subjugated your kingdom there are a few details that you will need to know to live comfortably under the rule of the Emperor and his vast legions."

Explore the mysteries of the Calisian Empire's military might and learn what motivates their government.

Although not a complete guide, this book contains enough information to get a campaign going. Look for other Supplements as well as maps and notable NPC's to be coming out soon.



Advanced
Dungeons & Dragons

Otherlands

