The BR. Shi Has , New DARK . S Dawned

for beroes beneath the Dark sun, it is a new age - a time for the best and bravest 18 stop forward to shape the desimy of Athas and help rave our duing world. . After a decade of turmpil, even nature seems to reade us. Earthquakes tear the land asunder. Revolution rages like wildfire across the Tyr Region. Far to the north, the alien thri-knean empire rices, ready, to invade. To these couth, in the obsidian wasteland, the ground trembles with the emergence of the undead. With the coming/of each day, new and more temple dangers appear. But I see these as merely the panes of birth. for a new Athas looms on the horizon, With weapons of bone and obsidian, chields of reptile scales, armor of mekillot hide, and the powers of our minds, we heroes of the new age must stop the chaos. We must defeat the threats from lands of once thought to be nothing more than legends - and we must seek help from / quarters not dreamed of in the past. This new age may be a time, but our hope epringe from the well of victory, for the Dragon and dark fis concener-kings have been dectroyed, showing us that we can make a difference in a our savage would beneatly

> the Datk Sun. 7 The solvation of Athas promises to be no casy task



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DARK: SUN From the Designer

"The DARK SUN" campaign world enters an exciting new age with the release of the Expanded and Revised Campaign Setting for Athas, a land of savage adventure where the most powerful AD&D player characters battle to survive and prosper against overwhelming odds. It's a dynamic world of unfolding stories and ancient mysterics, full of explosive new role-playing challenges and brutal action. From its volatile political atmosphere to unyielding natural disasters, from terrible new villaine. to unexpected new allies, from vast stretches of unexplored territory beyond the Tyr Region to unparalleled opportunities to forge a more promising future for the world. hever has the DARK Sun setting been more spectacular or thrilling for loyal players-or more accessible to new players daring enough to enter the burning land. With new areas to explore, a streamlined, complete-in-the-box psionice system, new rules, and more, Dark Sun continues to demonstrate its alien and fierce nature. • Open the box and see why adventures set beneath the crimson sun are different from those in any other AD&D setting And watch upcoming products for revelations that point toward Athas's ultimate restoration-on its ultimate destruction. Now, more than ever, the fate of the world depends on the actions of its heroes."



How

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A DECADE OF

I live in a world where blistering heat is the companion of days long and cold, where fear-filled darkness rules the night. I am the Wanderer, traveling far and wide to learn the secrets of Athas so that I may write them down and share them with the world.

I have much to tell for change is brewing in this harsh wasteland. But before one can understand the here and now, one must learn well of the past. For it is from the past that Athas's dark secrets were first born.... Ten years have come and gone since the start of the great change...ten years since King Kalak attempted to cheat nature much like Borys had done two millennia past. His plan was to perform the entire ten-stage metamorphosis process to become a full dragon in one grand ritual. To stop his ruthless design, a new decade was born. I call it the Decade of Heroism, because heroes stepped forward to save our city of Tyr. Led by Rikus, the gladiator, these heroes were able to kill Kalak and save the lives of thousands. There was another significant and hopefully far-reaching result of their great feat: Tyr became the first city-state to free its slaves.

As the dec others trie mantle of : sought po venues. T recovered found the the Drago Tower. Tit Kalak's pla looked to a source c The Drago destroyed sorcerer-k and a sord queen fell. Ancient Rajaat, the

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nd inds.

ly neir e to As the decade progressed, others tried to gain the mantle of sorcerer-king or sought power from other venues. The Dark Lens was recovered. Sadira of Tyr found the power to oppose the Dragon in the Pristine Tower. Tithian, who took Kalak's place as king of Tyr, looked to ancient Rajaat as a source of immortality. The Dragon was destroyed, and two sorcerer-kings and a sorcererqueen fell. Ancient

Rajaat, the First Sorcerer, the Warbringer, escaped from prison. Yet that was but a short-lived victory for evil. Soon forced back into the Hollow that had contained him for two thousand years, Rajaat lives there still, and, hopefully, for all eternity.

The results of this decade are all around us. The Tyr Region is in turmoil as the power-hungry and ambitious vie to fill the vacuum left by the deaths of the sorcerer-kings. Rajaat's defeat formed the Cerulean Storm, a huge rainstorm that continues to rage over the Sea of Silt. About the same time as Rajaat was confined, a great earthquake thundered from the west. Aftershocks still threaten the Tyr Region, and a gaping rift was opened by the quake that leads to parts of Athas that were once sealed from the lands of the sorcerer-kings.

Will this age of heroes continue? I fervently hope so, for Athas needs heroes if it is going to survive.







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Hinterlands

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