

Yimis Species Information



The Yimis are a piscine species hailing from [Yamara](#), they were discovered by the [Empire](#) sometime in IE 4770 via one of the many Imperial probes sent out to explore the galaxy. Yimis were in the early industrial age when first discovered, but by the time the first Imperial had arrived Yimis had sent their first objects into space. Being amphibious, Yimis can make the best of living space in the large oceans and lakes of their home, while taking advantage of technological and social advancements only attainable on land.

When first contact was established, the Yimis were in the midst of a brutal global war that had spilled into space. This conflict was shortly ended by the Imperial expeditionary fleet and Yamara was absorbed into the Empire.

Adult age:

19 [ISY](#).

Average lifespan:

125-180 ISY Pre industrial.

80-120 ISY In their industrial age.

150-250 ISY With modern medicine.

Effectively Biologically immortal with access to [Imperial](#) Medicine.

Average height/length:

1.5m-2m Juvenile, 3.25-4.5m Adolescent, 5-10m Adult, 10-20m+ Elder.

Pre Imperial Yimis are often much smaller than their full potential allows.

Dominant Gender:

Males.

Physiology:

Yimis, as you might expect, are almost fully amphibious piscines. They fair almost as well as [Zeiooph](#) outside of the water, and only typically need [vaporators](#) and other protective suits in the utmost dry of environments. On Yamara, it is more typical to find Yimis wearing light clothing without a moisture retention layer in the tropical regions. In higher more temperate and arctic latitudes both warm clothing and moisture retention garments are used, as well as in space, due to the issue high humidity poses on spacecraft.

Typically in the dry environments of space, Yimis also use vaporators for comfort. Vaporators do have one particular advantage as well, since Yimis have much better oxygen absorption via wet gills versus dry. Thus Keeping fully hydrated allows Yimis to exert themselves far more, and so vaporators have high popularity among Yimis in the military and those doing manual labour. Yimis overall have an efficient oxygen transport system as well, allowing for quite a lot of exertion before tiring out.

Yimis respiratory systems primarily are based on bimetal heme-proteins. In the case of Yimis, these are iron and silver. The large, complex molecules do mean that Yimis blood cells are larger, but also have more efficient oxygen transport. Dubbed hemo-fero-argentum by Imperial science, the complex blood protein in Yimis oxidises a rich purple-black, and when deoxygenated turns pale grey-crimson. Myo-fero-argentum is the cousin heme-protein that resides in Yimis muscle tissue and serves a similar oxygen storing role.

While not often talked about, many non-hemoglobin metalloproteins are rather impervious to destruction by carbon monoxide. This renders Yimis (and other species) immune from poisoning. While less pertinent in modern times, in Yimis history it allowed for much less care to be taken with internal combustion engines and ventilation around them. Yimis can still suffer [inert gas asphyxiation](#) from CO, however. A downside of Yimis large and heavy blood cells is increased trouble from high G-forces.

This is countered in the Empire by using specially designed blood thickeners, or other body augments to increase blood-pressure, heart strength, and vascular integrity for Yimis exposed to high G-loads. In the past, Yimis issues with G-loads, such as in fighter craft and space launches, required extreme training and advanced G-suits. If compared to humans, Yimis would be at a disadvantage as a pilot when both are entirely natural. This pushes many space-born Yimis towards body modification.

Yimis, like many large Imperials, possess quite a strong skeletal structure. Their bones are based off of metal-halide bonds in a lattice of collagen-like proteins for elasticity. The resulting structure is almost comparable to industrially made polymers. The strength to mass ratio is quite astounding, especially compared to other species whom have metallic bones. One odd quirk of these polymer bones is that in some cases, they may bend via elastic and plastic deformation rather than fracture, this can be an advantage or disadvantage depending on the situation.

Notably, Yimis bones take eons to decompose in nature due to their composition, only a handful of deep-sea organisms can process the materials their bones are made of. While many Yimis opted for burial at sea, those who were buried on the land linger as skeletons for millenia. These bones have a black tinge that fades to yellowed-white when exposed to sunlight. Young Yimis are known for their black teeth that fade to a pale yellow as they reach adulthood. Dental bone is also much more highly mineralized, giving its opaque surface a slightly whiter colour to begin with.

Land based creatures on Yamara do not share the same skeletal adaptations as Yimis, having broken off much earlier and moved onto land. Yimis ancestry comes from the depths of the oceans on Yamara, moving up into shallower waters and eventually coming onto land. Their ancestors remained mostly terrestrial, only breeding in water for some time, before again returning to the sea full time. Finally primitive Yimis adapted to spending time on land and sea, endowed with the ability thanks to their ever transitional ancestors.

Much like how other hominids died out on Earth, Yimis are the only members of their genus alive on Yamara as well. Only very distant fully-aquatic cousin species in offshoot genus remain alive from the period of recorded Yimis history forward, though the resilient bones of their ancestors remained in abundance on land, making their evolutionary path easy to trace for Yamaran and Imperial archaeologists alike. This biological isolation played a significant role in post-biological evolution of the Yimis.

When it comes to reproduction, Yimis have a moderate rate of breeding via sexual reproduction of male and female pairs. While not unheard of, functional hermaphrodites are quite rare in the Yimis species. For their maximum age, they have a fertility window and reproductive cycle roughly comparable to humans. After the age of roughly 17 ISY, most Yimis can reproduce without much issue. For fully modern Yimis this fertility window extends up to around 200 ISY, or nearly 500 ISY for those in the Empire. It takes roughly 1 ISY from conception to birth for Yimis offspring, the first part of which is spent in the mother's womb.

After the first trimester, a Yimis mother will encapsulate their young in an egg sack, then lay them into a body of water. The young then spend the remaining two trimesters incubating and growing before hatching. Young Yimis are more confined to the water than their parents, until they reach about 1.5 ISY of age after hatching. They then quickly learn how to walk and function on land, primarily staying there into adulthood. When needed, Yimis can also incubate their young inside their stomach, though typically this is a last resort when there are no better options.

In order to incubate the young, a Yimis' stomach will actively oxygenate the inside and produce a special slime that the egg sack and hatched young can effectively breathe. This environment is actually tolerable for most known sapient aquatic species, making Yimis somewhat of a desirable caretaker for the young of other aquatic species in the Empire. Female Yimis can also lactate more or less on demand, without needing a hormonal pregnancy state. The rich milk is suitable for a wide number of species within the Empire, further making Yimis desirable surrogate caretakers.

Yimis have quite a wide array of senses, like many aquatics, and in water Yimis are electroreceptive. On land and water changes in pressure and be sensed by a specialized set of organs that run along their flanks and down their spine, these also respond strongly to temperature changes and, when in water, mildly to scents. The lateral receptor organs also play a role in equilibrioception, in concert with their ears. The ears themselves are entirely internalized, somewhat limiting their directional hearing on land.

Electroreception is primarily carried out by the antennae like barbels on a Yimis' head, which vary in number from 2 upwards to 10 in total depending on the ethnicity and genetics of the individual Yimis. The overall number of barbels doesn't cause a massive difference in electroreception, with only a 60% increase seen between those with 2 barbels versus a full 10. When a barbel is removed, the remaining barbels increase in sensitivity to compensate. Yimis can regrow lost barbels and other extremities over time, though there are limits to their regenerative abilities.

Yimis eyesight is particularly keen both in water and on land. Their forward-pointing eyes facilitate land predation well, but have a wide range of motion, and can focus independently for increased awareness underwater. Being able to focus on two separate things requires a specialized visual cortex, allowing Yimis to have either a panoramic 290 degree view, or a binocular 90 degree focus with an additional 90 degrees of motion and colour sensitivity in the peripheries. This makes Yimis ideal scouts in military and hunting roles.

The Yimis sense of smell is passable on land, but when underwater, it really comes into its full function, using their lateral sensing organs to pick up on even minute traces in the water around them. Yimis astute senses make up for their more modest mobility in land and water, prey are almost always found by Yimis first, letting Yimis slowly sneak up on their target. Their secondary strategy is to use their rather impressive endurance to chase prey to exhaustion. Their heightened senses help in this, allowing them to track prey exceptionally well, even if it outruns them.

Compared to species like [Zeiooph](#), [Ixxith](#) and [Verroth](#), Yimis sport a more modest regenerative healing. They can regrow extremities, and partial limbs, as well as damaged organs. However, limbs entirely amputated, and fully removed organs cannot regenerate. The threshold for regeneration seems to require about 55% of a limb to remain as well as at least 20% of a given organ to remain. In comparison of regeneration speed, Yimis regrow lost tissues only half as fast as [Zeiophine](#) species, still putting them ahead of many other species.

Yimis have a moderately complex digestive tract, allowing for a wide and opportunistic diet. The typical diet is omnivorous, though Yimis can survive on a purely carnivorous or herbivorous diet if need be. Generally Yimis favor fruit, seeds and sugary low-fiber vegetation, but can process tough fibrous vegetation when more ideal food is scarce. Yimis teeth are more designed for food that doesn't need much mastication, having primarily conical teeth in two rows that merge into one row at the front. Further mastication of food is handled by a hind-gut filled with gastroliths.

Yimis have an expandable pouch in the base of their neck to hold ingested items, this is commonly used to bring food back to young or mates busy protecting the young. However, it also serves a dual purpose, coupled with a Yimis' wide jaw and throat gape, and drainage ducts at the bottom of the pouch, it can be used to catch small and medium prey. Much in the same way baleen whales on earth work, Yimis can scoop up large mouthfuls of water and small prey, then drain the water while retaining their catch. The water is drained down through channels that let out through a Yimis' lower gills.

Once the pouch is full of prey, Yimis can consciously turn it out directly into the start of their esophagus, or push it back up the throat to share the catch mouth to mouth. Yimis have also been observed to use this pouch to store various other types of food, from fruit, to even prepared meals. Aspects of this anatomical feature also play a part in modern Yimis culture. The actual stomach is situated in the lower abdomen, starting just below the entrance to the lower gill slits.

The large chamber of the stomach is connected to the rest of the gullet by a short esophagus and lined with a complex series of flesh baffles, internal musculature and dense papillae. The baffles and musculature allow Yimis to section off portions of their large stomach to process food more effectively, particularly plant matter. Instead of having a fully chambered stomach, Yimis guts adapt to the diet at hand, forming between two and ten separate chambers. Gut bacteria housed in the papillae aids in digestion of dietary items in conjunction with somewhat weak digestive juices.

Yimis are effectively dependant on their gut-flora to do the bulk of their digestion, living in symbiosis. Along with the actual food they eat, a good portion of a Yimis' nutrition comes from processing the bacteria after it has fed on their food and converted it into useable compounds. Upon contact with specialized enzymes in the Yimis' intestines, most strains of their gut flora effectively self destruct to feed their host. Some strains pass through to the lower intestine, where their life-cycle continues before being consumed.

Yimis dependance on healthy gut-flora makes use of non-targeted antibiotics problematic. Especially since every Yimis tends to have a unique microbiome partially modeled on their family members. If this microbiome is ever wiped out, restoring it can be quite difficult. And without it, Yimis more or less have to eat a liquid diet either provided by family members, or formulated in a lab until their digestive system is restored.

The hind gut is connected directly to the stomach, and is smaller and conforms to the bottom of the stomach. Its muscular walls, and [gastroliths](#) work in tandem to masticate food that Yimis cannot effectively chew. This includes fibrous vegetation, bones, connective tissue, shells and entire small prey.

Depending on the initial composition of the gastroliths, the Yimis' diet, and the time spent in their gut, these stones can emerge turned into spherical gut pearls. Spending decades in the gut of a Yimis, both gastroliths and tough bone fragments are encased in a glue-like substance and slowly mineralized. Eventually they are excreted, varying in size and colour. In Yimis culture, these are sometimes given as gifts, when the result is alluring in colour and reflectivity.

Behaviours:

Yimis are a predatory, omnivorous species that retained much of their wild hunting prowess even into post-industrial civilization due to strong hunting traditions. Yimis can be fairly aggressive when threatened, though overall are one of the more docile species adopted into the Empire. A large portion of behaviour and mental state is defined by their hunter-predator focus. Overall Yimis are cunning creatures and excellent at solving practical puzzles with minimal effort or conscious cognition.

This ability to solve problems and utilize abstract thinking has made modern Yimis quite adept at utilizing and inventing technology and sciences of their own, a trait not shared by all Imperial species. In particular Yimis stand out as they were first discovered as an interplanetary species spanning many worlds in their own system with active space travel of their own design. While not drawn to technology and science inherently like some other species in the Empire, most Yimis are amply capable of advanced scientific concepts.

In spite of their modern civilization, Yimis are still quite connected to more wild behaviours such as hunting and elaborate courtship rituals. Many Imperial anthropologists would classify Yimis as a perfect species for the Empire, balancing instinct and modern society well. Yimis integrated into the similar Imperial culture rather fast overall after being uplifted, compared to some other species that required generations to integrate.

Yimis breeding behaviour often involves rather elaborate courtship rituals, displays of colour and virility started out as necessity in the wild, but over time have become a part of modern Yimis culture as well. Psychologically speaking, most Yimis are attracted to vivid displays of colour and motion, particularly rhythmic motion like dancing. This tends to couple with a natural lean towards more heavy figures that is very noticable in the Yimis population. During copulation, Yimis physically tie together via adaptations in their genitals.

This process can last for hours, and sometimes days, ending when pheromones released by the female signal the male that her eggs are fully fertilized and have implanted within the uterine wall. This is a holdover from pre-civilized Yimis who often had to fight for mates and would try to out-breed each other. Effectively ,this behaviour prevents any other male from breeding a female until the first has fertilized all available ovums. Along with their elaborate courtship and knotting practices, Yimis are also dedicated and protective parents.

Typically Yimis selected calm tidal pools around river deltas as nesting sites to lay their young after the first trimester. Such spots were often fought over in the past, but modern technology has supplanted such needs. Some Yimis still do take a more natural approach though. Yimis typically stay close to their nesting site to protect their young, with both parents taking turns guarding the nest while the other hunts. Once the young have hatched, the parents will follow them into the water and continue to protect them until they are ready to come up on land.

For spaceborn yimis, the option for stomach incubation is more typically taken. Combined with intravenous nourishment, this option works well for spacers with limited room to set up an aquarium to nest youngsters in. Some even go as far as to keep the young inside until they are old enough to live on land, keeping their stomachs filled with water. In modern and Imperial Yimis culture, the debate of natural versus technological versus stomach-hatched is quite a hot debate as to which is best for the young. Though it's mostly a matter of personal preference and convenience in truth, rather than an objective benefit to any of the three options.

In their past, Yimis were tribal, remnants of this can be seen as recently as the nation states of their pre-imperial civilization. Some isolated pockets of uncontacted Yimis living mostly in the oceans and isolated islands still maintain a tribal nature and offer a window into their past. This phenomenon of cultural isolation seems common among post-industrial civilizations, including Humans on Earth. These tribal Yimis are primarily hunter gatherers and quite territorial. The tribals and ancient Yimis both use crude stone statues to mark their territory, and offer navigational landmarks.

Many such structures can be found in the oceans and seas where Tribal Yimis live, with some others preserved through history by modernized Yimis. The compulsion for this seems to be more than just learned cultural behaviour, as the marking of territory is prevalent in modern Yimis architecture. Even Yimis far removed from their native culture have been found to mark habitations with personally identifying symbols, indicating the behaviour is likely overall more instinctually driven than learned.

It is notable that Yimis prefer more sedentary lives to anything nomadic. Yimis forced to move around a lot have been shown to have higher levels of stress and a trend to shorter life spans and reduced happiness. Having a stable, long-term home to return to has been linked to increased happiness, reduced stress and increased lifespan in Yimis both Pre-Empire and post. This behavioural trait somewhat limits Yimis in a spaceborn lifestyle, though having the ability to have a permanent, private quarters aboard a ship tends to be sufficient to satiate the subconscious need for a permanent home for most Yimis.

Just having a more permanent place to call home isn't enough, usually a Yimis will first get a mate before staking claim, then begin a new family. Being isolated from other Yimis is often hard for an individual too, though some have been shown to form those important familial bonds with members of other species. Yimis are compulsively privative with their lives within their home territory when it comes to non-family members, which can make an issue with Imperial society's use of observational AI's in most domiciles.

Many Yimis cope with this by including the AI as part of their family, as it can seldom be avoided entirely. In this vein, AI's within Yimis populated areas either adopt visual representations and vocal patterns that match Yimis primarily, or use them when communicating with Yimis. Many also adopt family specific avatars and names to provide Yimis with greater comfort, further reinforcing them as part of the family. Some very large families even have their own dedicated intelligences who aren't shared among other families at all.

Cultural Traits:

Yimis culture is a rich one, built by very long lasting nations that date back to the earlier epochs of their civilization. Some aspects of their culture have been compared with that of East Asian cultures on Earth. Having a culture of honour and respect and strong discipline. Most Yimis take pride in almost everything they do, striving to always better themselves and perfect their skills. Yimis are no strangers to war, having fought themselves for centuries before the Empire arrived.

Yimis also have strong familial traditions, right down to how they name their offspring. First and foremost a house name, not unlike a clan or tribe acts as a prefix. Next is their given name, which is chosen by their parents, often to represent a hope for the future. The last name is taken from the father's given name for males, and the mother's for females. In some cases this tradition is averted, such as for orphaned young, or for those more homogenized into Imperial or [Zeiophine](#) culture.

The overall biological alienation from all land life and most sea life played a role in the evolution of Yimis sapience and society, leading to a long held belief of superiority through difference even greater than typically seen in sapient species. In many now defunct Yimis religions, a common theme was that the Yimis were placed upon Yamara by a higher power. Though as science rose and showed a long hidden evolutionary path, the notion fell out of favour. Around about the time that this practice fell out of favour, the Yimis entered a time of turmoil.

The long standing belief that all Yimis were greater had brought a certain unity over their tribal past and constant territorial disputes. But without it, those disputes returned in force, resulting in the rise of several different nation states and much bloody conflict over the centuries leading up to the greater conflict that nearly destroyed the Yimis and left their world mostly in ruins. Since the arrival of the Empire, and the fall of the former nation states, the Yimis have grown more connected once more, adopting the collectivist ideals of the [Empire](#) with time.

One of the more lasting pre-Imperial parts of Yimis culture is the cuisine and culture around eating. Yimis cuisine took off quickly in the Empire as a new, interesting assortment of flavours and ingredients. While simultaneously, Yimis given access to entirely new ingredients began to experiment, creating a new culinary revolution. The Yimis practice of large familial meals also fit in well with other traditions present in the Empire, kicking off a small trend of in-home parties with large banquet-style meals involving friends and family.

In pre-Imperial Yimis society, it was a common practice to consume a second meal after the first meal of the day (Typically a light meal, for the first.), this second meal would be stored in the throat pouch for later and ingested mid-day to save on the need for a lunch break. This is typically followed up by a nap in a shaded or underwater location to pass the hottest part of the day, and digest the second daily meal. The nap portion was largely abandoned by more northern Yimis cultures, though the pre-consumed meal remained.

Throughout Yimis history, the gift of particularly fine gut-pearls has been a way for them to flirt and show camaraderie. Typically, two Yimis will exchange more attractive pearls with each other, often after converting them to wearable jewelry. Commonly, the longer a pearl has formed, the more lustrous it becomes, and the more rich its colour. The pigment of a Yimis' internal flesh plays a role in pearl colour, as does composition of the core and diet. This typically means that each Yimis produces unique pearls.

This makes it easy to identify what Yimis made any given pearl in question. An exchange of pearls is particularly common between mates and lovers, and sometimes between platonic family members and friends as well. Some Yimis do gift pearls to other species in the Empire, typically to those who understand the cultural significance of it, ontop of being close to the individual Yimis. In the wider galaxy, these pearls are prized for their beauty and rarity. Typically, outside the Empire any pearls available are stolen or produced via forced labour of indentured or otherwise imprisoned Yimis.

Wearing non-gifted pearls is seen as a major faux pas in Yimis culture, as is re-gifting pearls in many situations. The only situation that isn't shunned, is returning of pearls to family members of the creator as a sign of respect, usually if the creator perished. It is common for Yimis to give children pearls made by a deceased parent as a form of condolence for their loss, and to surround them with memories of their lost family member. This often extends to mates and siblings, as well as children to parents. Sometimes if there is no close family remaining, pearls are left at grave sites by surviving friends and family.

Given their behavioural trends of staying in one place once they settle down in adulthood, it's no surprise that home are often very important to Yimis. During much of their history, Yimis families would pass down their homesteads from generation to generation. Though as Yimis lifespan and population boomed, many young Yimis set off to claim their own home territory, rather than waiting to inherit that of their parents. More important than the actual land itself, are the family members with which the territory is shared.

Due to a deep instinctual need for familial bonds as well as a permanent home, family is a very important concept in Yimis culture as a whole. This can be seen in Yimis having their family name prominently displayed and ordered first in their naming structure. Most Yimis tend to stick to their large familial units, living only places where an entire family can find work and housing together. A few break from this cultural norm though, and satisfy their instinctual needs and cultural comforts by forming a familial bond with members of other species.

This culture is predominantly found in Yimis spacers, who often treat their ship as a home, and form a familial bond with the crew, Yimis or not. While their home might move around a lot, the ship itself, or quarters on the ship become the Yimis' home. The importance of home is also notable in that it is a faux pas to enter a Yimis' home without invitation. Even in terms of police investigation on Yamara before the Empire, breaking this tradition is taboo. And many Yimis had trouble adjusting to the level of inbuilt domestic surveillance within the Empire.

History:

Yamara has a history not unlike that of Earth, though the Yimis started out in the sea primarily, their ancestors grew more and more adept at life on land. From there the amphibious Yimis discovered fire, agriculture and metallurgy. Having untapped access to land and sea, the Yimis thrived, engaging in both land and sea farming, ranching and occupancy. Most industry was limited to areas more far inland, as the coast was desirable real estate to live comfortably. But as Yimis entered industrialization proper, sea platforms increased the available land for industry that wouldn't function underwater.

Being that Yimis had access to their whole planet, their impact on the other species was less pronounced than Humans of Earth. Fewer species were driven to extinction or endangerment by early and middle Yimis civilization. However, as Yimis entered the space and information age, that would change. Unstable nation states, nationalism and an out of control oligarchy drove the Yimis to many wars over resources. These wars would settle as asteroid mining vastly increased available resources, but as the demand normalized, they would begin anew.

Before the Empire reached Yamara and made first contact, a belligerent nation by the name of [Cresé](#) plunged the entire inhabited area of the star system into a bloody and costly war. The so named "Arashi Barumak" (roughly "Star Conflicts", translated.), would cost untold numbers of Yimis lives, both directly through combat and collateral damage, and via starvation in the later eras of the lengthy war. Use of asteroids as kinetic weapons was commonplace, all but destroying Yamara's climate and native ecosystem.

By the time the Empire arrived, Yamara was suffering a nuclear winter and famine, with Cresé still clutching onto power. Cresé maintained this power by pointing mutually assured destruction at the non loyal Yimis, hoping to starve out the opposition and retake control. This would ultimately fail to pan out as the [Empire](#) arrived and chose a side. The rather [TSU](#)-like Cresé was deemed incompatible with Imperial ideals, and the Anti-Cresé coalition was given the full support of the Imperial expeditionary fleet.

A vast technology gap ensured the conflict was ended in mere weeks, though the raw power wielded by these advanced aliens made many fearful that the Empire would just wipe any who displeased them out. Seemingly with the conflict decisively resolved, and the similar ideals of the Coalition and Empire, things remained peaceful. The visitors helped rebuild Yamara, helped to repair the environment and uplift the Yimis. These more benevolent actions won over many Yimis, but still left a substantial number wary.

It would take a long time for the Yimis to fully trust what seems to be an autocratic, if not at least oligarchic force that wielded such power with impunity. But as time went on, more and more opted to go with the new flow. Yimis looking for meaningful work would enlist into the Imperial military, and droves would move to other worlds while Yamara was being rebuilt. Some intended to return, but found their new homes nicer, some simply wanted to get away from the past entirely.

In some 50 [ISY](#), the Yimis were well integrated into the Empire, many fully patriated into it, considering themselves Imperials first. A few though did decide to abandon their savours, never growing to trust them, and resentful that they had effectively annexed Yamara. It wasn't an incorrect assumption, as Yamara and its star system were entirely absorbed into the Empire. But it was a trade off, for their annexation the Yimis were granted their own representation in the Imperial Council and High Council.

Medicine, technology and education were vastly improved along with quality of life. But no matter how good a change is, some will inevitably resist it. These few abandoned Yamara and fled to the stars, often stealing Imperial technology to enable their flight from the Empire. This of course left them as fugitives, and as it reflected dishonourably on the rest of the Yimis, they also viewed them as traitors. Eventually the deserters would rename themselves in opposition to what the Yimis had become.

Calling themselves Salaran (A Yimis word meaning roughly "the ones who see truth"), the splinter group would end up on their own, keeping distance from the Empire until eventually forming a coalition against them with the [TSU](#). This is seen as a black mark by the loyalist Yimis, one they seek to erase from existence. For the Salarens, the TSU isn't the utopia they assumed it would be from the outside, and many end up fairing much worse than the Empire they fled.

Unfortunately for the Salarans, there is no turning back, as their reactions to initial amnesty burned any remaining bridges they had. This combined with the controlling, crushing nature of the TSU and its general abuse of non-humans keeps Salarens more or less indentured to the TSU, with the penalty of death if they were to try and flee. And with no Imperial amnesty, they would have little chance of escaping TSU retaliation or recapture if they did initially escape anyhow.

For the most part, Yimis loyal to the Empire do not hold anything against the Empire for the lack of Amnesty to the Salarans. A combination of feeling betrayed by those Yimis, and the TSU's heavy use of spies and infiltration to wage a guerrilla war has made them wary of any former traitor claiming to have a change of heart. While the future is bleak for the Salarans, it is much brighter for the rest of the Yimis. Their homeworld was repaired, their cities rebuilt, and quickly becoming political equals within the Empire with their own direct representation has left most Imperial Yimis quite satisfied with the annexation.

Invariably, as the new species within the Empire, the Yimis have enjoyed an almost celebrity status. With their new countrymen eager to learn about them and their culture, Yimis are much more than simply tolerated or accepted. Though as all trends do, eventually the popularity of Yimis culture will wane as it further incorporates into the Empire. But given the bleak outlook of being left to their own devices (Or worse, joining the TSU.), most Yimis see this eventual assimilation as a much better outcome.

The future of their species is looking much brighter and more stable than their recent past. But ultimately, only time can tell their entire story. How, and if it ends are likely a long way off from their integration into the Empire.

Glossary:

- **ISY:** The Imperial Standard Year, equal to about 3.1 Earth years.
- **The Empire:** An interstellar Empire within the milky way, and the largest singular faction within it. Its full name is the Pan-Galactic Oligarchic Hibiki Empire. The Empire is built of many races with a fairly egalitarian society. While semi-autocratic, it's leaders are specifically engineered for the role of leadership. The Empire's modus operandi is to seek out and integrate the best forms of life into itself.

This policy of expansion does put the Empire at odds with other entities, particularly those not deemed worthy of being invited to join, or those who find themselves as an obstacle for the Empire.
- **Yamara:** An Earth-like planet with roughly the same split of ocean and land some 1.25 Earth masses. Yamara has a very tropical climate over much of its surface, with only the highest latitudes experiencing a more winter-like cold season. Its axial tilt and atmospheric composition are mostly responsible for this, as well as its parent star being in an active phase projected to last for another 1.2 million years.
- **Zeioth:** An amphibious aquatic species native to the [Zeiothine](#) system. Generally used as a measuring stick for other aquatic species. Notably the Zeioth and their cousin species are believed to be the results of genetic engineering by a now extinct civilization.
- **Vaporator:** A device that allows creatures with gills to breathe comfortably outside water whether or not they are truly amphibious. Yimis developed their own Vaporator technology before the Empire's arrival, primarily for use in the dry environment of space-craft interiors.
- **Ixxith:** A feral but sapient species, believed to once be technologically advanced enough to have engineered all other sapient life within the [Zeiothine](#) system. Known for their bioluminescence and regenerative abilities.
- **Verroth:** A cousin-species of Zeioth, originating upon the worlds in the [Zeiothine](#) system. Likely engineered by the Ixxith. Known for their speed, regenerative abilities, and overall durability.
- **Zeiothine:** A planetary system that is home to Zeioth, Ixxith, Dross and Verroth. Zeiothine is known for its abundance of sapient life, watery worlds and the unique culture and even more unique history. Zeiothine is also known for being the seat of power for all of the [Lapis Territories](#), a semi-autonomous region of the Empire filled with mostly aquatic worlds and species.

- **Cresé:** One of the largest and most powerful nations on Yamara, Cresé used economic and military power to keep other nations in line by force. Lax internal policy allowed the wealth and control to settle with a top percentile of the population, who ultimately became the de facto rulers of Cresé. Nationalism and propaganda fed to the citizens would turn most quite hostile to the rest of Yamara.

Widespread belief in Cresé was that the other nations of Yamara were backwards, inferior, riddled with problems that just didn't exist in Cresé. And with use of its large and often over-funded military, Cresé would work to keep the other nations mostly under its boot, either as subjugated allies, or enemies constantly torn at by wars fought with or sponsored by Cresé itself.

Cresé's belligerence would ultimately be its own undoing, turning its elite into an enemy even for their own people.

- **TSU:** The Trans Stellar Union is a human-lead coalition which externally proclaims its democratic nature and proposes to fight the tyranny of the [Empire](#). In actuality, the TSU is run by wealthy oligarchs in shadow, and uses a mix of propaganda, manipulated news and self-inflicted harm to hold power for its true leaders. The TSU is built on a millenia old feud with the Empire for sizing Earth, but it's mostly irrelevant.

The Empire mostly serves as a boogeyman and scapegoat to hold the TSU together. Most wars fought between the two are half-hearted by the TSU, just enough to keep up appearances. Due to its overall clandestine nature, and the asymmetrical way the TSU fights, the Empire has yet to be successful in wiping it out. However, from time to time, old wounds do cause the TSU to lash out to actually harm their long time enemy.

Next to the Empire, the TSU is the second largest political player in the galaxy, and the only one capable of really rivaling the Empire technologically or militarily.

- **Lapis Territories:** A set of Imperial worlds predominantly inhabited by Zeiophine species such as Dross, Verroth and Zeioph along with other aquatic and semi-aquatic species. This territory is semi-autonomous and ruled by Samira more directly, with relevant members of the Imperial High Council relevant to these worlds serving as a sub-council under Samira.

Being mostly inhabited by aquatic species, the Lapis territories have their own culture that is fairly distinct from the rest of Imperial culture, but still complimentary. Yamara would eventually become part of this Territory within the Empire due to fitting into it better, and overall proximity to other Lapis systems.