

The Ethiopian Lore Behind the Book!

LAST GATE OF THE EMPEROR

PLACES

Though the setting of Last Gate is fictional, many names are taken from actual locations.

- **Axum:** The advanced spacefaring empire of the book is named for the city of Axum, located in modern-day Ethiopia. In ancient history, it played a key role in international trade. Axum is also a name for the ancient East African kingdom, part of which became the country of Ethiopia.
- **Oromia Region:** This is a regional state in Ethiopia and is the home of the Oromo people.
- **Awasa:** A city in southern Ethiopia on the shores of Lake Awasa. The Ibis wears a cap for a football team that shares a name with the real city.
- **Ghebbi Fortress:** The mysterious Ghebbi Fortress is based on a fortress located in Gondar, Ethiopia that was built in the 17th century. **Fasilides Castle**, or Fasil Ghebbi as it is now known, was home to many Ethiopian emperors.
- **Gondar:** The Gondar campaign Yared and the Ibis discuss is named after a city in the Amhara Region of Ethiopia. Before it became part of the Amhara Region, Gondar was the capital of the independent northern Begemidir province.
- **The Great Temple of Yeha:** Another HKO campaign based on a real place. This is the oldest standing structure in Ethiopia, and dates back to 700 B.C.

HISTORY

Last Gate takes a lot of inspiration from real Ethiopian history, especially its famous leaders.

- **King Kaleb:** The namesake of The Hunt for Kaleb's Obelisk game is the most well-known king of Axum.
- **Menelik:** Likewise, the intergalactic Menelik drives are named after this famous Emperor of Ethiopia. He ruled between 1889 and 1913, and was King of Shewa (a historical region of Ethiopia) from 1866 to 1889.
- **Ezana:** The sleek warship IAN Ezana is named after another famous king of Axum who ruled before King Kaleb in the 4th century AD.
- **Shotel:** These beautiful curved swords were wielded by the **Meshenitai**, elite Ethiopian warriors who fought both unmounted and on horseback.

CULTURE

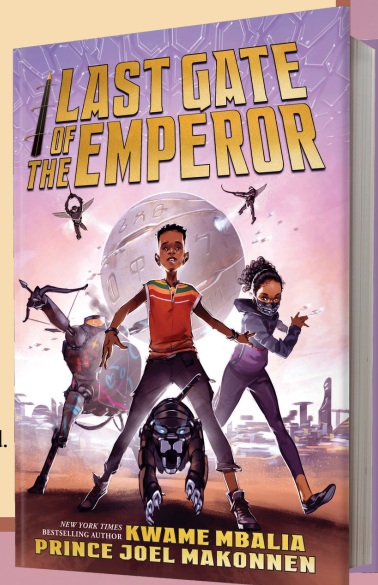
Many of the terms, creatures, and context for this story are based in Ethiopian culture.

- **Bulgu:** The bionic creature Yared faces off against is based on a story passed down by the Oromo people. It's very scary!
- **Gebeya:** Gebeya means *market*. This airborne district is a floating marketplace!
- **Woreda:** The Amharic word for *districts* in Ethiopia. Addis Prime has many of these.
Kebele: Small areas of land as divided after the Derg military rule began in 1974. Similar to neighborhoods or wards, they subdivide woredas.
- **Birr:** As in Addis Prime, this is the name for the currency of Ethiopia.

FOOD

Last—but certainly not least—the food encountered in Last Gate is based on delicious real-world dishes!

- **Yasa Tibs:** Yared falls into a truck full of this sauteed fish dish. Great to eat, but probably not to wear.
- **Mitmita:** A spice used in various dishes. Uncle Moti doesn't prepare a meal without it. Be careful, it's very spicy!
- **Bunamechs:** Buna is coffee, so these are robotic coffee sellers. Very convenient!
- **Jebena:** KKamali's bunamech uses this pot to pour buna. It's an important component of coffee time, because sharing coffee with family and friends is very ceremonial in Ethiopian and Eritrean culture.
- **Teff:** A fine grain from Ethiopia and Eritrea that is most notably known to make injera, a staple part of cuisine in Habesha culture.
- **Shekla Tibs:** A stir-fry type beef dish.
- **Doro Wat:** A spicy chicken stew usually enjoyed at special occasions, but it can be eaten any time.
- **Shiro:** A meatless stew made of chickpeas that have been powdered.



**An epic game. A forgotten myth.
A destiny waiting to be unlocked.**