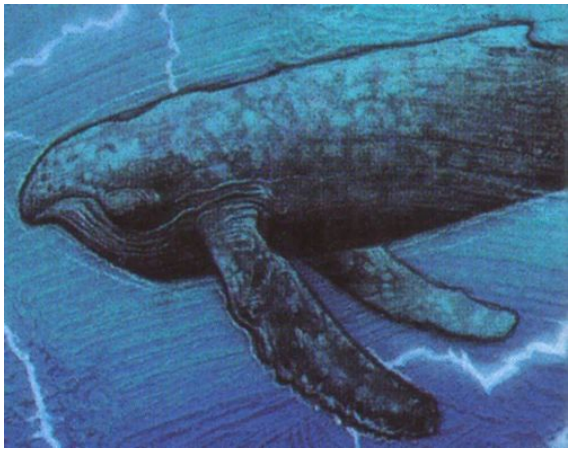
Creatures D6 / Whaladon (Sentient Cetacean)



Name: Whaladon
Designation: Sentient
Classification: Cetacean-based mammal
Average length: Up to 30 meters
Point of origin: Mon Calamari
Habitat: Ocean
Diet: Plankton, minnows

Dexterity: 2D+1
Knowledge: 4D
Perception: 2D+2
Strength: 7D

Special Abilities

Primitive: Although intelligent and capable of communicating with other creatures, Whaladons are hampered by their totally aquatic nature and lack of manipulator limbs. This means they cannot build or use technology unless it is specifically modified for them.

Low Light Vision: Their eyes, located on either side of the snout, close to the pectoral fins, grant them low-light vision for navigating deep trenches and the ocean depths.

Oxygen Breathers: In order to breathe, Whaladons had to rise from oceanic depths, and surface. But could hold their breath when submerged for long periods of time, needing to surface only once per hour.

Move: 20 (Swimming)

Description: Whaladons were large sentient mammals that were native to the oceans of Dac. With a civilization totally separate to that of their neighbors, the Mon Calamari and the Quarren, the Whaladons communicated using sing-songs, and lived relatively peaceful lives. The poaching of Whaladons was forbidden by Mon Calamari law, but when the Galactic Empire occupied the planet, they did away with the old policies, and began hunting the mammals.

Following the Battle of Endor, Captain Dunwell set up the Whaladon Processing Center, and due to hunting by him and his Aqualish crew, the Whaladons soon found themselves endangered as a species. The rare white hump-back breed of Whaladon was almost totally wiped out, save for Leviathor, leader of the Whaladons. He attempted to rally the aid of the New Republic, and thanks to their efforts, Dunwell was stopped, and his poaching operation disbanded. Over a century later, the Whaladons, along with the other inhabitants of Mon Calamari, fell prey to spores unleashed into the oceans by Sith scientist Vul Isen. Although many Whaladons died, some were successfully evacuated thanks to the efforts of the Galactic Alliance Remnant.

Biology and appearance

Whaladons were large, sentient, humpbacked whale-like creatures, and could grow up to the size of a small starship at about 30 meters in length. Cetacean-based mammals, they had a large, 10-meter-long horizontal tail fin, which propelled them through Dac's depths, and dual pectoral fins for

maneuvering. Some Whaladon breeds had three large humps on their backs, and whiter skin than their more common cousins. The underbelly of the Whaladon was scored with ridges that ran parallel to the length of the creature. They also had large mouths, which ran across their snouts, from one pectoral fin to the other. Their eyes, located on either side of the snout, close to the pectoral fins, granted them low-light vision for navigating deep trenches and the ocean depths. In order to breathe, Whaladons had to rise from oceanic depths, and surface.

Society and culture

The Whaladons enjoyed sing-songs, and would teach songs that they had accumulated to their younglings. Their songs were recognizable by other sentients, and were a means of identification to them. The songs were also used as a form of communication, and Mon Calamari, such as Gial Ackbar, could understand them. The music came in a variety of forms: folk songs, classic songs, ballets, and operas. These would all be performed by the Whaladons on special occasions.

They had separated their culture from that of their neighbors, the Mon Calamari and the Quarren, and were willing to attack their submarines and boats, should the aliens cross their territory. Apart from those transgressions, Whaladons were relatively peaceful, and were regarded as wonders of the deep. They would swim in the deep trenches of the Seascape Mountains, and had to surface for air at least three times a day. For foodstuff, the Whaladons ate plankton, which grew on the sea floor. They also ate schools of minnows for sustenance.

History

Volcanic cataclysm

The Whaladons coexisted alongside the Quarren and Mon Calamari for thousands of years, establishing an unofficial embassy in the surrounds of the city Aquarius. Years before the Galactic Civil War, the Whaladons had to face the impending threat of a volcanic eruption that would spell doom for their race. The great white humpbacked Whaladon, Leviathor, helped coordinate the Whaladons, and through his efforts they were able to survive the cataclysm. For this, Leviathor was chosen to be the leader of the Whaladons.

The Whaladon Processing Center

Prior to the Imperial presence on Dac, it was highly illegal to hunt and kill Whaladons. When the Empire occupied the planet, however, they did away with the Calamari laws. They set up a Whaladon processing plant in the city of Aquarius, converting the city's industry for their own uses. The Imperials were processing Whaladon meat and oil, which prompted the Whaladons to attack; whether or not the large mammals succeeded in flooding Aquarius is unknown. In 5 ABY, Captain Dunwell set up a Whaladon poaching system on Mon Calamari. His actions caused the Whaladon species to become endangered, but Dunwell expressed no concerns over the matter. He had allies in the Central Committee of Grand Moffs, and received ample business from them, since Whaladon meat was considered a delicacy. The Moffs constantly purchased Whaladon meat to be served at their frequent meetings, but it was reserved only for them; slaves and stormtroopers were forbidden to eat the meat.

Dunwell had the Whaladon Processing Center created, as well as a gargantuan submarine, that would allow him to accelerate his Whaladon hunting endeavors. The Center and the submarine featured large whirlpool generators that would draw Whaladons in from nearby waters, and deposit them into internal chambers. The Whaladons were then skinned by Dunwell's Aqualish employees, and chopped into large segments for shipping. The slabs of Whaladon were then taken to the Whaladon Meat Quality Control Division. When they had finished harvesting the meat and blubber from the Whaladons, Dunwell's men would consistently deposit all the bones at one location, effectively creating a Whaladon graveyard.

As a result of Dunwell's poaching, the Whaladons found themselves endangered. Young Whaladons were left motherless and uncared for, and the adult ones found themselves hiding in caves, escaping the wrath of the poachers. More damaging still, without the Whaladons to eat it, plankton was able to grow unfettered, and through photosynthesis, it began to use up Mon Calamari's carbon dioxide, potentially damaging the planet's ecosystem.

Aid from the New Republic
Leviathor realized that something had to be done to save his species, and thus he attempted to contact the city of Aquarius. There, he came across Ackbar and Luke Skywalker, who were on Dac for New Republic business. Ackbar was one of the few Mon Calamari who could understand the Whaladons' sing-song, which told of their plight, and the poaching operations of Dunwell. Ackbar, disgusted, resolved to help the harried mammals.

Meanwhile, Trioculus, a man who sought to wrest the Imperial throne from Ysanne Isard, toured Dunwell's facility, inspecting the processing of Whaladon meat. He intended to retrieve the Glove of Darth Vader from Dac's depths, and use it against his enemies in the New Republic. Dunwell had apparently located the Glove, and set out with Trioculus to find it, in his new Whaladon hunting submarine. Skywalker and Ackbar began tracking Dunwell's sub, hoping to stop his operation. At the same time, Leviathor had been able to round up a group of Whaladons, in the hopes of finding them asylum somewhere safe. Dunwell's men on the submarine, however, spotted Leviathor's pack, and used the ship's whirlpool generators to capture them.

Skywalker and Ackbar, horrified, pursued the submarine into the Seascape Mountains, a place thought by Ackbar to have no Whaladon activity. The Glove of Darth Vader was in fact located there, however, this was not known to Skywalker or Ackbar. In the Mountains, they boarded the submarine, and confronted Dunwell. Using his droid, R2-D2, Skywalker freed all of the captive Whaladons from their chambers, and set the ship to self-destruct. The Whaladons swam free, and Dunwell perished when his ship exploded.

To celebrate, Leviathor and the Whaladons held a sing-song concert at Aquarius, and invited the New Republic staff that had fought for their freedom. They performed water ballet, classical and folk sing-songs, and an opera composed by Leviathor detailing his rise to the position of Whaladon leader. But the celebrations were bittersweet, as Leviathor was now the last of the great white breed of Whaladon.

Genocide of Dac
In 137 ABY, Mon Calamari, or Dac as it was now more commonly known, was the target of complete and utter devastation at the hands of Darth Krayt's Galactic Empire. At the behest of Darth Wyyrlok, who issued the will of Emperor Krayt, Sith scientist Vul Isen released Viral spores into Dac's currents, and within a matter of days, millions of the planet's inhabitants had been wiped out, Whaladons amongst them. During the subsequent evacuation attempt launched by Admiral Gar Stazi of the Galactic Alliance Remnant, a portion of the Whaladon population was evacuated aboard YZ 3000 tankers. Despite the best efforts of Stazi and his allies, only a portion of Dac's overall population was saved from Isen's spores.

After the defeat of Darth Luft, a number of Whaladons stated their intention to return to the now-flooded Mon Calamari Orbital Shipyards.

Whaladons in the galaxy
One of the Whaladons still alive during Dunwell's poaching raids was Leviathor, known to Ackbar as "Wise One of the Calamarian Seas." Following a volcanic cataclysm, he was elected leader of

the Whaladons. He was incensed by Dunwell's actions, and mourned the loss of family and friends. He was constantly hunted by Dunwell's Aqualish men, and even encountered the captain's gargantuan submarine. He was, however, able to elude capture and death. Realizing that something had to be done to save his species, he sought help at the Domed City of Aquarius. He found it in the form of Luke Skywalker and Ackbar, and with his new allies, he was able to end Dunwell's oppressive poaching.

Due to their immense size, Whaladons were often used as a yard stick against which something was measured. Large ships were sometimes labeled "Whaladons" due to this. Holographic Whaladons were used for amusement at theme parks, where they were presented as rides for children to enjoy. Seven months after the Battle of Yavin, a hologram of a Whaladon was used as part of an attraction at Hologram Fun World, under the supervision of Baron Administrator Danna Fajji. Children were allowed to "ride" the Whaladon at "Sweetsand Lagoon." Under the influence of the Nightmare Machine, Zak and Tash Arranda were "swallowed" by the Whaladon, but they were able to escape without injury. Whaladons could also be found on Agomar, at some time prior to the Clone Wars.

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