

some Hindi, some Hebrew

The Whorl list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 04 Dec 2001

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/whorl/1493>

Exported from an unofficial mirror of a public mailing list. Copyright in each message remains with the person who wrote it. Email addresses are obscured as `user at host`, the form the original archive published. This file was rebuilt from parsed fields rather than retained headers, so it is faithful in content but not byte-exact.

mark millman — 04 Dec 2001, 15:27

"Choorā" is a specific word for a type of Afghan military knife, from the region around the Khyber Pass, meant to pierce mail armor; it's single-edged, sharply tapered, and has a reinforced spine.

I don't have any idea of what "gaon" might mean in Hindi; but I wonder if it mightn't have suggested itself to Wolfe through the association with the Hebrew word "gaon", genius (in the sense of a remarkable intellect, not spirit, as in the Latin genius loci). The word is probably best known to English-speakers as the epithet of the eighteenth-century Rabbi Eliyahu (Elijah ben Solomon Zalman) of Vilnius, who was known as the Vilna Gaon.

Nacre

At 06:10 AM 12/3/2001 -0800, alga wrote:

Eule wrote:

Hindu---not so sure about the
accuracy but fwiw:
choora - four (the Rajan's knife)

I can count to ten in Hindi--though I need
a jog to get started. Choorā is not four.

[snip]

gaon - knowledge understanding knowing

[snip]

-alga

matthew.malthouse — 10 Dec 2001, 12:33 · follows mark millman

On 04/12/2001 15:27:53 mark millman wrote:

"Choorā" is a specific word for a type of Afghan military knife, from the region around the Khyber Pass, meant to pierce mail armor; it's single-edged, sharply tapered, and has a reinforced spine.

Makes me think Thrax... :-)

Matthew