

Conclave of the New Dawn

Blue Bloods, The Establishment, The Guiding Hand, The Illuminati

A dependence on the people is, no doubt, the primary control on the government; but experience has taught mankind the necessity of auxiliary precautions. -James Madison

History

Power accumulates. It pools in the hands of those most capable of wielding it. Those hands, or so they would have you believe, belong to the Conclave of the New Dawn. Founded by a coalition of Napoli merchants and bankers in 1386 in response to Pope Urban VI's wildly unpopular rule. The sole purpose of the early Conclave was to use their vast fortunes to ensure that the reins of power belonged to those sympathetic to their concerns.

Over the years, the Conclave would bring new blood into their organization by spreading throughout Europe and beyond. In 1524, a merchant from Timbuktu discovered the society and, through clever negotiations, secured both membership and a lucrative trade route with the Elect. Another notable expansion happened with an arranged marriage between a Genoian textile merchant and a member of the Ministry of Revenue within the Ming Dynasty in 1557, leading to the reopening of China's borders for trade. By the end of the 18th century, the Conclave of the New Dawn could honestly claim to be the power behind the throne in at least one nation on every continent.

In modern decades, even as the Conclave's influence has grown more widespread, they have taken a step back from direct influence. Political action committees, campaign donations, newspapers, and blogs - these are the tools of the new millennium. Where once they might have funded armies, now a subtle whisper in the back room of an exclusive club can be far more powerful. Why waste money when words will do?

Structure & Organization

Loosely organized, ranking among the Establishment is based on a combination of personal wealth, influence, and social standing. The most influential members of the Conclave are invited to join the Elect, the shadowy ruling council that oversees the organization's policy and arbitrates disputes when conflicting influences meet. Although membership amongst the Elect is ostensibly secret, for most members, the flow of power and exchange of favors far outweigh the benefits of discretion.

Philosophy & Goals

The Conclave of the New Dawn ultimately exists for but one purpose: the consolidation of wealth and influence to steer the course of mankind's destiny. What that destiny may be is a topic of debate among the Conclave. Each member has their own view of what society could be. The only truly common factor is that the guiding hand of the Conclave is necessary to get it there.

Sample Characters

Lobbyist	Movie Star	Old World Nobility	Social Media Influencer
Kingpin	Scion of Wealth	Investment Banker	Adventuring Philanthropist

Granted Skill

Wealth and Influence: When you are a participant in a ritual, you may use your wealth to procure higher-quality materials. This allows you to place two marbles of any color combination black or white into the ritual bag.

Aesthetic

Style is the watchword for members of the Conclave of the New Dawn. Cutting-edge fashion and immaculately tailored suits dominate the boardrooms and the private clubs of the blue bloods. The following link contains images to give a feel for the aesthetics of a typical member of the Conclave of the New Dawn. Feel free to use this as inspiration when picking out your costume.

https://www.pinterest.com/LandsEndGaming/conclave-of-the-new-dawn/