



*Boston University Academy Model United Nations Conference X*

*Saturday, January 29th to Sunday, January 30th, 2022*

*Boston University Academy*

*Boston, MA*

# **Avatar: The Last Airbender**

JOINT CRISIS COMMITTEE

**Fire Subcommittee**

**Background Guide**

## ***Introduction from the chair and vice-chair:***

Hello, Delegates:

I am V Woolf, a freshman here at Boston University Academy, and I am your 2022 Chair for BUAMUN X, specifically JCC:ATLA:Fire. Dominic Iafrate ('23) is my vice-chair. The committee will be modeled on the fictional and fantastical world of *Avatar: The Last Airbender* [ATLA], in which this committee will serve as the fire nation.

I started Model UN [MUN] in general five years ago, with BUAMUN being one of my favorite and last conferences. BUAMUN has always held a special place in my heart, with BUA being my top choice high school and MUN being one of my main passions in middle school. My first MUN conference was Northeastern's MSMUN, and I was anxious beyond reckoning. I soon realized how welcoming the MUN community is to new delegates, as well as how much MUN itself inspired me to speak, both at conferences and in life. Over my MUN career, I have won seven or so awards, with most being best position papers and one as best negotiator, won at BUAMUN no less. However, my favorite part of MUN and being a chair at BUAMUN is the supportive atmosphere that is incited at MUN conferences and the fun of the conference itself!

As cliché as this will sound, try to not sweat the small details of the conference as it approaches, I'm positive that whatever work you put in will be more than exceptional as long as you put effort into it. The idea of MUN, the founding virtue, is to debate your opinions and to be united as delegates who come together to change the world. Moreover, remember to speak up and collaborate with fellow delegates, as that is the end goal and most important part of the conference. I am looking forward to seeing you all, as well as seeing what kind of trouble we can stir up for the other nations in the debate. With that, I formally welcome you, delegates, to BUAMUN X 2022! Let the MUN-ing begin!

Best,

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## ***Committee Information:***

The Crisis Committee is slightly more challenging and, I believe, a more entertaining type of committee in MUN. Crisis is similar to GA with moderated and unmoderated caucuses. Moderated Caucuses are the primary form of debate in any Model UN setting.

In Moderated Caucuses or “Mods” delegates speak for a set time and topic. The topic for a Mod has to apply and be relevant to the committee’s topic and is typically a smaller idea. Mods are voted by most disruptive on whether the mod should pass. The previously mentioned unmoderated caucuses, known also as “unmods,” are more informally based caucuses. Unmods are not given topics but are given times, and are mainly used to form communiqués, directives, and other multi-delegate documents. Communiqués are full committee statements or communications that are sent to other committees. This includes press releases, propaganda, communications to other committees, etc. The last important crisis specialized document is directives, which are similar to resolutions however, directives have only operative clauses. Also, include important historical points about the committee and the main focus of the committee. Maybe write about a few challenges your assembly has overcome. JCC:ATLA:Fire will focus on the sudden reappearance of the Avatar and the conquering of all nations against the Fire Nation. The challenges that this committee will have to overcome is the previously stated reappearance of the avatar as well as the opposing Water and Earth Nations.

This committee will dive into and change the history of the material realm, and some topics we will have to deal with including the previously stated two are the stabilization of the fire nation and control over the empire. This committee will follow the politics of the fire nation, war, or not if decided against, and the reemergence of the avatar after one hundred years of absence.

## ***Position Paper Guidelines:***

**This committee requires one position paper.** It should be written from the perspective and opinion of your assigned character. The absence of at least one position paper will disqualify you (the delegate) from receiving an award. The quality, depth, and clarity of your position paper will influence award decisions. Each position paper should be 1-3 pages and double spaced. This includes citations which are preferably in the format of footnotes. To insert a footnote, simply click *Insert > Footnote*. Note: A footnote goes after the period. Position papers should follow a general outline with three paragraphs. This is only a suggestion, as long as the paper fits the aforementioned specifications, the number of paragraphs will not be taken into consideration.

### **Possible position paper outline:**

- 1) Introduction to your delegation and the topic as a whole
- 2) The position of your delegation
- 3) Your delegations proposed solutions

Furthermore, the position paper must be titled in the following format:

**Delegation:**

**School:** Boston University Academy

**Committee:** JCC: ATLA: Fire

**Position:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Topic:** The Reappearance of the Avatar and The Conquering of All Nations

## ***Topic: The Disappearance of the Avatar***

### **General Overview:**

“Long ago, the four nations lived together in harmony. Then everything changed when the Fire Nation attacked. Only the Avatar, master of all four elements, could stop them, but when the world needed him most, he vanished.”

The avatar has been missing for 100 years exactly and most believe the cycle of the avatar to be broken, and the avatar to be dead. The Fire Nation is close to winning the Hundred Year War, and the water and earth nations are nearing defeat. The Fire Nation, led by Fire Lord Ozai, is the second-largest nation in the material world, with a strong police-like infantry and an even stronger navy. With the fire nation’s geographical situation of being an archipelago, the navy is a key part of the fire nation’s army. The fire nation is a complete monarchy, with a ruling fire lord and five advising fire sages. The ATLA dates are kept using the system of AG and BG, with AG being after the Air Nomad Genocide and BG being before the genocide.

### **Fire Nation Background:**

The Hundred Year War, also recognized as the Great War, is an expansion of the fire nation. This usurping is, as the name suggests, a hundred years long, and was started by Fire Lord Sozin, who wished to share the wealth and prosperity of the Fire Nation by expanding the empire. The war began with the genocide of the Air Nomads in 0 AG has continued for ninety-nine years since. Throughout the next three generations, the Fire Nation invaded the Earth Kingdom and established several colonies on the mainland, in what was once Earth Nation Territory. The Fire Nation also proved itself a formidable opponent on the seas, initiating attacks on the Northern and Southern Water Tribes, which laid waste to the South, though the Northern tribe is mostly untouched. By 99 AG, the Fire Nation had effectively eradicated the Air Nomads, virtually annihilated the Southern Water Tribe, and controlled most of the Earth Kingdom, to the point of near victory. The last strongholds able to defend themselves were the Northern Water Tribe and the Earth Kingdom cities of Omashu and Ba Sing Se. The Capital of the Fire Nation is Capital City and the current ruler of the fire nation is Fire Lord Ozai with the five fire sages available if the royal family requests. The Fire Nation has an army, navy, and no official air force. The nation itself is known for its innovation, authoritarianism, believed superiority, and culture. The Fire Nations’ religious beliefs are mainly dealt with by the fire sages, and the upper class no longer believes in the power of the spirit world as the working class does. The class division of the Fire Nation is a large gap, with most lower-class citizens working labor-intensive jobs, including but not limited to factory workers, farmers, and foot soldiers.

## **Questions To Consider:**

- Do you believe in the superiority and expansion of the Fire Nation?
- What action can you partake in to support your beliefs?
- What is your role in the one-hundred-year war?
- What are your opinions on the avatar's disappearance, do you think they were reborn?

## **Bloc Positions:**

**Azula** - Azula is the princess of the Fire Nation, sister of Zuko, and daughter of Ursa and Fire Lord Ozai. An influential and powerful firebender, she is a manipulative strategist who will stop at nothing to achieve her goals. She holds immense power and has power over the military, rivaled only by other family members.

**Iroh** - Iroh is a former crown prince and retired Fire Nation General, as well as being formally known as "The Dragon of the West". He, though a powerful firebender, is only a mentor to Zuko, as he lost his political power after his retirement

**Zuko** - Zuko, a banished crown prince of the Fire Nation, is determined to regain his honor and title by capturing the avatar. He has limited military and political power, as he is banished from the royal family but is resolved to reclaim his power both as a member of the royal family and politically

**Mai** - The only child of the Fire Nation Governor, Ukano, she is part of Azula's personal group and holds a decent amount of political power. She also is a former love interest to banished Prince Zuko and has the immense respect of the royal family.

**Ty Lee** - Ty Lee is a daughter of a Fire Nation nobleman and another person in Azula's personal group, and similarly, to Mai, she holds the respect and political power with being acknowledged by the royal family.

**Admiral Zhao** - Admiral Zhao, formerly Commander Zhao, is a main rival to banished prince Zuko, and one of the leaders of the Fire Nation's military. He holds extensive power in the military and has a very close connection to the royal family. He is an extremely aggressive and ruthless military officer and is also extremely ambitious.

**Chan (Fire Nation Captain)** - Chan is a Fire Nation Captain in the Navy. He has succeeded Admiral and Former Captain Zhao as a captain and has a mentionable amount of power over the navy. He has multiple fleets of ships to control and has sway over the rest of the navy.

**Jusai (Fire Nation Airship Admiral)** - Jusai is the Fire Nation Airship Admiral in the newly made Airforce. He, being a higher-ranking officer on the air force, can control one of the fire

nation's biggest weapons. The fire nation's might is no longer limited to land and sea, and Jusai, answering only to the royal family and other admirals, has control over it.

**Shyu (Fire nation head sage)** - Shyu is the Fire Nation's head sage and he, along with the other sages, leads over the religious portion of the Nation. As he has complete authority, along with other sages, is responsible for identifying the Avatar's incarnation when they are reincarnated into the Fire Nation. Other nationwide powers Shyu has are guarding the fire temple, conducting coronations, and planning weddings and funerals for the royal family. He has a direct and personal relationship with the family as well. He is not completely loyal to the fire nation, and his loyalties lie first with the Avatar, not the Fire Nation.

**Rao (Royal Guard Captain)** - Rao is the leader of the personal guards of the Royal Family, and the Royal Family as a whole are meant to trust him personally with their lives. He is stationed in and around the palace and has grown up extremely close to the family and palace. He controls all the Royal Guards.

**Jeong (Fire Nation Rebel)** - Jeong is one of the main fire nation rebels. He, along with his group, disagrees with the tyranny of the Royal Family. Jeong, and his group, will stop at nothing to free the fire nation from the royal family's control. Jeong is a royal guard as a job and he has authority over the rebels.

**Joonho (Captain of *Sulan's Smile*)** - Joonho is the captain of the Royal Family's personal pleasure vessel, the *Sulan's Smile*. He controls the workers on board and has access to all information released, accidentally or purposefully, by the Royal Family. Joonho has known the royal family for many years and is trusted by them as he has seen them at their weakest points.

**Kunyo (Fire Nation Firebender Teacher)** - Kunyo is the private teacher of fire bending to the royal family, and has seen Azula and Zuko grow from a young age. Kunyo has taught them everything they know about fire bending, and their mutual trust is extremely important and strong.

**Liva (Fire Nation Merchant)** - Liva is an extremely influential and important Fire Nation Merchant. Her company supplies necessities to all citizens of the Fire Nation, from civilian customers to the Royal Family to the Fire Nation's Military itself. She has a lot of influence over products that reach the masses and has close contact with the royal family's supplies.

**Mongke (Leader of the Rough Rhinos of the Fire Nation Military)** - Mongke is the Leader of the Rough Rhinos, a freelance military group that has claimed loyalty to the Fire Nation. Mongke holds complete authority over the group and he, as well as the others, are weapon specialists. The group is feared and revered and Former General Iroh himself knows them personally.

**Nishi (Mayor of Fire Nation Colony in the western Earth Nation)** - Nishi is the Mayor of the Fire Nation Colony in the Western Earth Nation, a colony that was conquered during the Hundred Year War. She is an important figure to the colony and is in control of the colony in such a hostile nation as the Earth Nation. The Fire Nation trusts her greatly to not relent to the Earth Nation Rebel Groups.

**Niuan (Loyalist Fire Sage)** - Niuan is the second in command of the Fire Sages, and unlike Shyu, Niuan is completely loyal to the Fire Nation. Niuan has powerful information over Shyu and could destabilize the rebel forces by outing Shyu with the Head Fire Sage's true loyalties.

**Yiro (Pirate Lord/Captain)** - Yiro is the Pirate Lord and representation of all Fire Nation Pirates. He is enlisted under the Fire Nation's Navy to plunder and commandeer all enemy ships. Yiro also can smuggle in information and goods to the, and out of, the Fire Nation. He is not completely loyal to the Fire Nation as he was forced into piracy for the Nation.

**War Minister Qin (Overseer of the Fire Nation military's technology)** - Qin is the overseer of all technological advancements of the Fire Nation Military. He influences what weapons are made, and handles all the technological bugs and development.

**Ukano (Fire Nation Governor)** - Ukano, the father of Mai, is an influential governor of the Fire Nation. As someone who has a close personal relationship with the royal family, he has both political power and personal power. Ukano is highly influential to the Fire Nation, especially in politics and the upper levels of government.

### **Further Research:**

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