

THE TRIBES

There are three basic groups of deities involved in the Norse mythological lore. The Aesir gods, which typically stand for society. War, conflict, society, law, and order are usually involved in the deities of this tribe. Led by the All-father, Odin himself, the Aesir are watchers of Midgard, (Earth) and fight against giants that would lead the world back to chaos. In fact, Asatru means "Believe in the Aesir" or "Faith in the Aesir" and this is because what the Aesir gods stand for, and the peace and harmony they bring to the human realm.

The second tribe would be the Vanir, and these set of gods typically stand with nature, fertility, wisdom, magic, and foresight. The Vanir originally from Vanaheimr, traded some of their tribe members with the Aesir, to set a peace treaty between the tribes, having some of their tribe live with the Aesir. Major deities of this tribe are Njord, his two children Freyr, and Freyja.

The third tribe or deities would be all the mentions in old sources of old Scandinavia, such as Jotunns, Trolls, Elves, Beasts, Monsters etc. Examples of this tribe would be Fenrir, the father of wolves. Jormungandr, the world serpent. The Norns that weave our fates at the bottom of Yggdrasil, Urd (Past), Verdande (Present), and Skuld (Future) and much more!



Together all of these deities give us a mythological poems, and stories for our faith. With deeper meaning behind every word, this is where Asatru gets its nickname, "Faith of study" because we believe our ancestors weren't silly. All the myths, poems, and stories hold such deep meaning than what is translated, and this is where we as believers can do our homework.

Many deities in these families are translatable to other pagan beliefs in other regions and cultures of the world. Each deity may have slight differences, and some may only be mentioned in certain cultures, but it is because at one time, the world believed in similar gods and goddesses. A culture clear across the world could have a god of the sky, with minor differences, that match up with another's God of the sky. There were many forms of paganism around the world back then, and even today with paganism making its way back into people's lives.