

CHESS · VARIANT 146 OF 153

Turkish Great Chess III

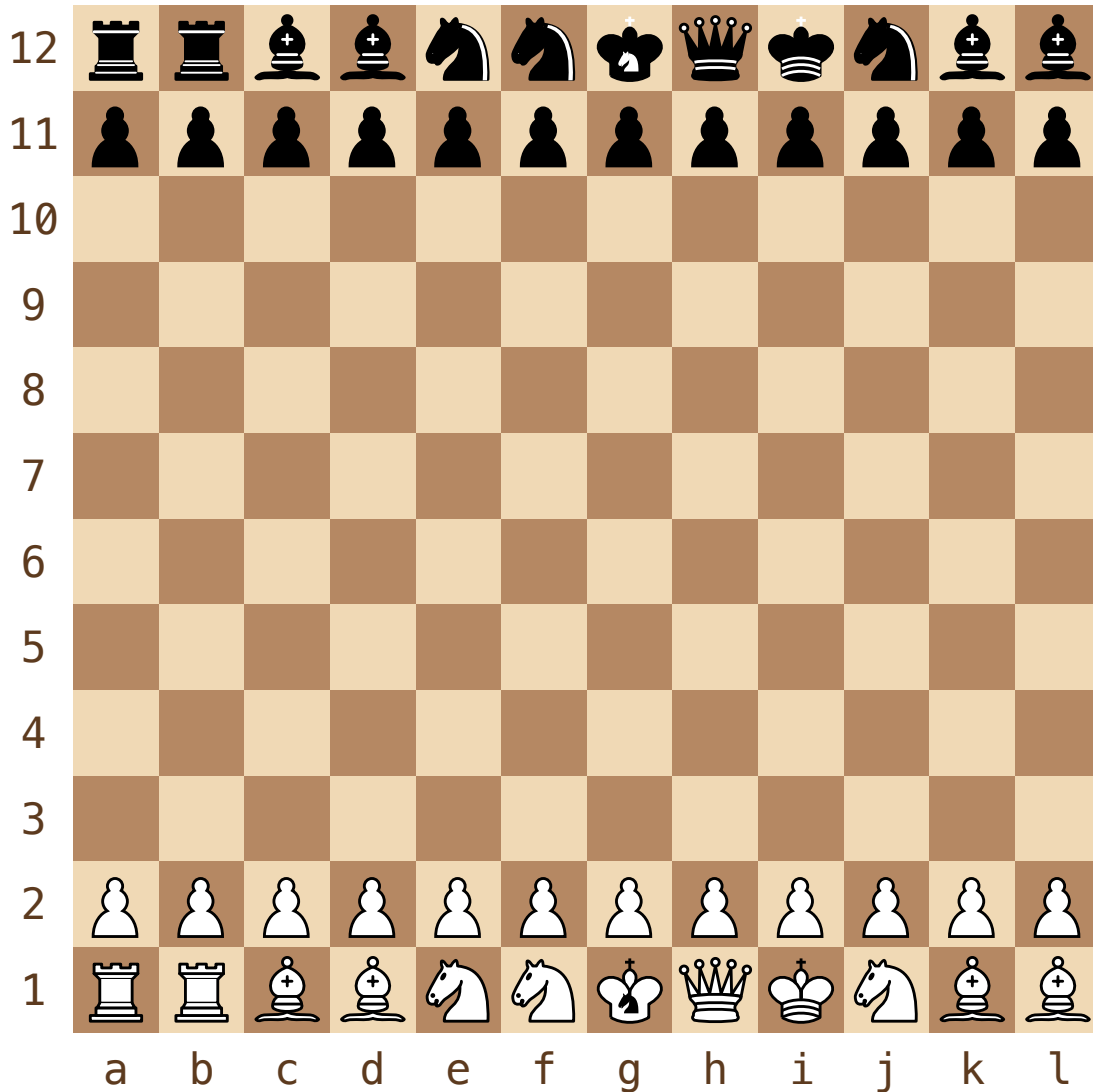
12×12

BOARD

2

PLAYERS

TURKISH GREAT CHESS III



Turkish Great Chess III – starting position

<https://engine.moddable.games/play/?game=chess&variant=turkish-great-chess-iii>

Turkish Great Chess, Variation III is a historical large chess variant played on a 12×12 board. It is one of four large chess variants catalogued by John Gollon from H. J. R. Murray's *A History of Chess* (1913). The game uses an expanded piece set where several pieces move as Bishops, the Wazir moves as a full Queen, and separate Rook-like pieces (Ratha/Chariot) are added.

THE BOARD

12×12 (144 squares). Uncoloured in the original; shown checkered on chessvariants.com for clarity.

STARTING POSITION

Rank 1 (White):

SQUARE	PIECE
a1	Rook
b1	Ghora (Knight)
c1	Dahja (Standard)
d1	Ratha (Chariot)
e1	Fil (Elephant)
f1	Wazir
g1	Padshah (King)
h1	Fil (Elephant)
i1	Ratha (Chariot)
j1	Dahja (Standard)
k1	Ghora (Knight)
l1	Rook
a2-l2	Pawns (12 pieces)

Black: mirror on ranks 12 and 11.

PIECES

PIECE	NAME(S)	MOVEMENT	COUNT
Padshah	King	As King in chess	1 per side
Wazir	Vizir / Minister	As Queen (slides ortho and diag)	1 per side
Fil	Elephant	As Bishop	2 per side
Ratha	Chariot	As Rook	2 per side
Dahja	Standard	As Bishop	2 per side
Ghora	Horse	As Knight	2 per side
Rook	—	As Rook	2 per side
Pawn	—	As Pawn (no double first move)	12 per side

Note: Both the Fil and the Dahja move as Bishops, giving each player 4 Bishop-type pieces per side.

RULES

- ♦ No castling
- ♦ Pawns have no multiple steps on first move
- ♦ Stalemate and bare King rules unknown from historical sources
- ♦ Pawn promotion: reaches last rank and promotes to Wazir
- ♦ Win: Checkmate the opponent's Padshah

ATTRIBUTION

Turkish Great Chess, Variation III. John Gollon's version, sourced from H. J. R. Murray's *A History of Chess*. Documented by John Ayer on chessvariants.com/large.dir/greatchessiii.html.