

Caramanico



Description of Arms :

Inquartato : nel 1° e 4°, bandato d'oro e di rosso : nel 2° e 3°, troncato d'argento e di rosso al leone dell'une nell'altro.

Principal Title : Prince of Caramanico.

Creation : Naples, 1641.

Subsidiary Titles : Prince of San Severo (1587), Duke of Casoli (1645). See also text.

Family Name : Aquino.

Family History : The Aquino family, one of the Seven Great Families of the Kingdom of Naples, goes back as far as 860. It has always, really, been considered as being of noble blood. To this family belonged Saint Thomas Aquinas (as his name suggests), together with the Dukes of Gaëte and the first Grand Prior of Capua.

The main branch reads like a history book of Southern Italy. In 1316, they were patricians of Benevento, nobles of Taranto in 1507, Princes of Caramanico in 1641, Dukes of Casoli in 1645, Counts of Palena in 1656 and Marquises of Francolise in 1713. In 1844, Tomaso d'Aquino married Teresa di Sangro and, through her, acquired the further titles of Prince di San Severo (created in 1587), Duke di Torremaggiore (1572), Prince di Castelfranco (1708) and Marquis di Castelnuovo (1500). In 1911 and again in 1933, all these titles were confirmed, together with the appellation of "don" and "donna".

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