

Imperiali



Description of Arms :

D'argento al palo d'oro cucito, caricato da un'aquila spiegata di nero coronata d'oro e linguata di rosso.

Principal Title : Duke and Marquis Imperiali.

Creation :

Subsidiary Titles : Prince as belonging to a branch of the Francavilla family.

Family Name : Imperiali or Imperiale.

Family History : Originally known as Tartaro, this family is of ancient Genovese extraction. In addition to giving three cardinals, its real source of power stems from the four Doges it gave to rule over Genoa. These spanned a full century and the dates of their inauguration were: 1617, 1684, 1711 and 1719.

Before this, they had exercised lordship over the island of Corsica, way back in the XIV Century.

The Imperiali form a branch of the Francavilla family and this, in 1639, was raised to the rank of prince. It is a frequently employed custom, in Italy, to refer to the main or senior lines of one's family. In this case, it even forms part of the name. One branch has gone to live in Belgium and his title is Marquis Imperiali des princes de Francavilla.

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