

# Montignagno

## *Description of Arms :*

Inquartato : nel 1° e 4°, di rosso al leone d'argento ; nel 2° e 3°, d'argento al biscione visconteo ; col capo dello scudo di rosso caricato di un leone d'argento, coronato d'oro ; sul tutto : d'oro, all'aquila bicipite, spiegata, di nero, coronata e cimata delle lettere F III.

**Principal Title :** Prince of Montignagno.

**Creation :** Holy See, 1858.

**Subsidiary Titles :** See text.

**Family Name :** Castelbarco Albani Visconti Simonetta.

**Family History :** The title may look quite young but the family most certainly is not. It is of feudal and noble origin and records go back to 1142. The Emperor Maximilian extended the title of Baron di Gresta in 1508. Then came other honours : Baron dei Quattro Vicariati ; Count of the Holy Roman Empire (1664) ; Count di Gallarate ; Marquis di Cislago ; *consignore* di Somma, Crenna and Agnadello. From the Visconti family, they inherited the rank of Grandee of Spain.

Then, in 1848, at the hands of Pope Pius IX they were made Princes of Montignagno. This was reconfirmed in 1858 and then, in 1886, authorisation was given for the Albani name to be added to the family name. Pope Clement XI (1649-1700-1721) was a member of the Albani family. The addition of the name Simonetta came about as a result of a marriage contracted in 1753.

With all these honours, it is not surprising that they are addressed as "don" or "donna".

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