

Alliata



Description of Arms :

D'oro a tre pali di nero .

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Principal Title : Prince Alliata.

Creation : Italy, 1925.

Subsidiary Titles : Prince of the Holy Roman Empire.

Family Name : Alliata di Montereale E Villafranca.

Family History : This is the second branch of this much-honoured family ; the senior line appears under the title of Villafranca. A third line is listed under Pietratagliata. There is even a fourth branch, which uses the title of marquis.

Originally from Pisa, the family emigrated to Sicily in about 1300 and now forms one of the dominant clans on this island

This branch was confirmed as princes of the House of Villafranca and Montereale (which extended to all male and female offspring) in the year 1906. The head was then confirmed as Prince Alliata (primogeniture male) in 1925 and then, in 1941, the Style of Prince of the Holy Roman Empire was recognised.

There is always a problem when a country is unified, as had been the case with Italy, or when one country absorbs another. Russia is an example of the latter situation. Old styles and titles, perfectly well recognised, have to be sorted out and recorded. Documents have to be examined. Furthermore, if high-ranking citizens chose to serve a newly-established authority, the new king or emperor often rewarded this fact by offering new titles, as well as recognising existing ones.

In this case, the rank of prince of the Roman Empire goes back to 1723. It may be assumed that the later awards are of a more personal nature, relevant to the recipient, and designed to clear up any possible misunderstandings as to their authenticity and standing.

The Alliatas keep close to their roots, each listing as his main home, an address in Palermo.

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