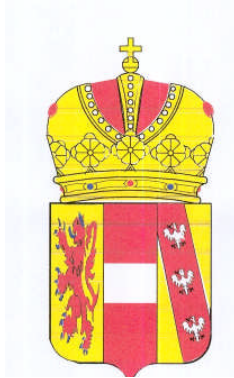


Habsburg



Description of Arms :

Tierced in pale : 1st, or, a lion rampant gules, crowned azure, Haabsburg ; 2nd, gules, a fess argent, Austira ; 3rd : or, on a bend gules, three alerions argent, Lorraine.

N.b. This is a simplified form of a much more complicated achievement. The crown is the imperial crown of Austria.

Principal Title : His Imperial and Royal Highness, Archduke Otto von Habsburg.

Creation : Various, since several centuries.

Subsidiary Titles : At times, this family has held the following : Emperor of Austria, King of Hungary, Dalmatia, Croatia, Esclavonia, Illyria ; Duke of Salzburg, Styria, Teschen, Tuscany, Modena, Parma and Piacenza, Carinthia, Carniola, etc ..

Family Name : Habsburg-Lorraine.

Family History : There is no grander family than this one. For nearly one thousand years, they dominated the history of central Europe ; they gathered around them, some of the best generals and cleverest politicians of any age, whilst never losing control. Until, that is, 1918, when they lost their thrones, like so many of the neighbouring colleagues.

The present head, Otto von Habsburg, however, remains revered by virtually everybody. He sits as an European Member of Parliament for a seat in Bavaria and is very occupied with European affairs. In this capacity, he is often interviewed. Even the most republican of reporters feel constrained to address him with respect - though he prefers to be known simply as Doctor Habsburg (not even the von) or as Mister Deputy.

One story, perhaps, illustrates the magical hold the family still has : when the widow of the last emperor, Zita, died in 1989, the whole of Vienna came to a halt for what was, after all, a private funeral. The supervising cardinal wore the same vestments as had his predecessor, when the Emperor Karl had been interred in 1922. Cupboards were ransacked by the descendants of chamberlains for the same uniforms, although no heads of state had been invited. The Habsburgs bury their dead in a nearby monastery and, when the Funeral Mass has been heard, the cortège winds its way through the streets of Vienna to its doors - which are closed. A chamberlain strikes on the portals and a monk inside enquires who seeks entry. The roll of honour is read out; but the monk replies that the applicant is unknown. A second time, when the roll of titles is abbreviated, but the response is the same. The third time, the chamberlain announces (roughly translated) "a simple sinner seeking penitence and peace". This time the doors are thrown open and the coffin is allowed in.

Which other non-ruling family could close a whole city down for a private funeral ?

Habsburg

Charles VI (1685-1740), Emperor, King of Hungary and Sicily
 = (1708) Elizabeth (1691-1750), daughter of Louis, Duke of Brunswick-

Maria Teresia (1717-1780), Empress of Austria, Queen of Hungary, Queen of Bohemia
 = (1736) François III (1708-1765), Duke of Lorraine and Bar, Holy Roman Emperor

Maria Anna (1717-1744)
 = (1744) Charles, Duke of Lorraine (1712-

Joseph (1741-1790), Emperor (1765)
 = (1765) Maria (1745-1792), daughter of King of Spain

Marie-Antoinette (1755-1793)
 = (1770) Louis XVI of France

3 daughters and 3 sons

Franz (1768-1835), Emperor
 2nd = (1790) Maria Theresa of Naples (1772-1807)

1 daughter and 9 sons

Marie-Louise (1791-1829)
 = (1810) Napoleon I

Ferdinand I (1793-1875), Emperor, abdicated in 1848

Franz-Karl (1802-1878)
 = (1824) Sophia of Bavaria (1805-1872)

2 daughters

Franz-Joseph I (1830-1916), Emperor from 1848

Maximilian (1832-1867), Emperor of Mexico (1864)

Karl (1833-1896), Archduke of Austria
 2nd = (1862) Maria of Two Sicilies (1843-1871)

Louis Victor (1842-1919)

Franz-Ferdinand (1863-1914), assassinated at Sarajevo
 = (1900) Sophia (1868-1914), Duchess of Hohenberg

Otto (1845-1906), Archduke
 = (1886) Marie-Joseph von Saxe (1867-1944)

2 daughters and 1 son

Dukes of Hohenberg

Karl (187-1922), Emperor
 = (1911) Zita de Bourbon-Parme (1892-1989)

Maximilian (1895-1952)

OTTO (1912-), Archduke
 = (1951) Regina von Saxe-Meiningen

ROBERT (1915-)

FELIX (1916-)

CARL-LUDWIG (1918-)

RUDOLF (1919-)

KARL GEORG 5 JOHANNES

LORENZ GERHARD MARTIN

KARL RAIMUND ISTVAN

RUDOLF CARL

CARL SIMEON

Eleonore Archd. FERDINAND AMEDEO JOACHIM

FELIX Sophia ANDRAS PAUL

JOHANNES

CARL CHRISTIAN ALEXANDER

JOHANNES THOMAS FRANZ-LUDWIG MICHAEL JOSEF 2

IMRE CHRISTOPH