

# READING THE STEMATOTEQUE AND THE MUSOTHEQUE

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Specific titles and formats used in the *Estematoteca* “Stematotheque” and in the *Musoteca* “Musotheque” have been retained in most translations posted at *Sangrial*.

The symbol “Nx” is used in the Spanish text (as well as in its English translation) in place of an unknown given name: *Don Nx de Cardona* “Lord Nx of Cardona”.

The sign “◇” is used in place of an unknown number. If the number is absolutely unknown, a single “◇” is employed. If the number is partially known, the sign “◇” stands for a single digit: “85◇” corresponds to any number from 850 through 859; “19◇◇” corresponds to any number from 1900 through 1999.

The first time that a personal name appears, the full name is given in the language of the general text, followed by its native form (if different). In certain cases, the usual or shorter form of the name is given also (firstly), and some names are given in more than one language. If its native alphabet is Hebrew, Greek or Cyrillic, the native form usually appears first in its own alphabet and then in its Latin equivalent. Otherwise, the Latin alphabet is the only one used. The main given name and surname are given in bold letters, as are the individual’s blood title and patriarchal name (if applicable).

The title *Brahan*, *Brahaness*, should be given exclusively to agnate descendants of Saint Abram “Abraham” ≈ ’Abram ben Terah ≈ ’Ab-ram ben Tareϣ ≈ ’**Abu-ramuy** ben Taruy, **Brahan of Abramia** {2163-2338} \1697-1522\, **Apostle of God** ≈ ’**Abu-ramuy I, Patriarch** {2371-2338} \1555-1522\, whom God named the first *Brah-an* “spiritual sovereign” and, thus, the *’Abu-brahan* “Brahan Father” (agnate ancestor of the Brahans). However, because some pedigrees have been corrupted during the course of millennia, the use of this title is withheld until the lineages be confirmed, possibly with the aid of deoxyribonucleic acid. Thus, the title given to Brahans is the one corresponding to princes of the same dynasty who are not agnate descendants of Saint Abram “Abraham”, but collateral to him, that is, *Anax*, *Anakess*, reviving the ancient Greek title that is also derived from the earlier title *An* ~ *En* “sovereign”, “prince”.

The title *Archon* “ruler, prince” is used for all sovereign princes other than *Emperors*, *Kings* and *Dukes* (in the medieval sense). This conversion includes various titles, such as: Western European *Count*, *Potestas*, *Prince*; Hellenic Δεσποτης {*Despotēs*}; Hebrew נָסִי {*n.s.j*} → *Nasi*; Arabic *Sheik*, *Amir*, etcetera. Sovereign (medieval) *Vice-Counts* “Viscounts” are titled *Vice-Archon*, to avoid confusion, since there were some sovereign *Counts* and *Vice-Counts* who used the same toponym. These styles are retained for the non-regnant but rightful successors of earlier sovereigns. This nomenclature was adopted because the same titles have often very different rank in diverse times and areas, while titles corresponding to equivalent ranks in other areas are usually unknown to most European languages. Thus “Count of Cardona” (corresponding to a medieval sovereign) is rendered “Archon of Cardona”, but “Count of Cardona” (a title of nobility created with Grandeanship of Spain in 1722) is rendered “Count of Cardona Grandee of Spain”. Princes titled “Duke”, whose fief was not a real duchy (in the medieval sense), but a county, are not titled “Duke” but “Archon” (thus, “Archon of Bourbon”, “Archon of Nassau”, etcetera).

It should be added that titles styled “Duke” and “Prince”, when they are mere titles of nobility (thus, not sovereign), are rendered as “Peer-duke” and “Peer-prince” respectively. Such blood titles of nobility as Western European *Prince*, Hebrew נָשִׁיךְ {*Nayj*} → {*Nayji*} → *Nasi*, Russian Князь {*Kniaz*}, German *Fürst*, Spanish *Ricohombre*, Catalan *Noble*, Arabic *Amir*, Italian *Patrizio*, are rendered *Patrician* (with the toponymic denomination of the issuing State), or *Procer*, *Proceress* (with the family’s own dynastic denomination). The title *Prince*, *Princess* (with its own dynastic denomination) is reserved exclusively for all agnate descendants of hereditary sovereigns.

Additionally, the title *Infanzon*, *Infanzoness*, designates an agnate descendant of a hereditary feudal lord of the same denomination: Lord William of Alcarras ≈ **Guillem d'Alcarràs**, **Infanzon of Jorba** /1140-.../, Baron of la Riba /1177-.../, Baron of Montblanch /1177-.../, was an agnate descendant of the *Barons of Jorba*, and his designation an *Infanzon of Jorba* indicates that *Jorba* was (as far as we know) the oldest or principal state of his agnate ancestral lineage.

However, when a House is intrinsically *Patrician*, instead of *Infanzon*, the title used is *Procer*, *Proceress*: Lord Raymond Peter of Erill ≈ **Ramon Pere d'Erill**, **Procer of Erill** /...-1173/ ≈ Ramon III, Baron of Erill /1153-1173/, belonged to the intrinsically patrician *House of Erill*, while Don John Joseph Margarit ≈ **Josep Joan de Margarit** i de Biure, *prisce Bertran*, **Infanzon of Gelida-Llaneres-Viladamat** /1602-1685/, Patrician of Catalonia, 1<sup>o</sup> Marques of Aguilar /1653-1685/, Baron of Llaneres → Castell-empordà, Baron of Vallespinosa, Baron of Montiró, Baron of Pelacalç, Baron of Viladamat, Baron of Sant Feliu de la Garriga, Baron of Palau Borrell, belonged to a family initially surnamed *Bertran*, which held the Baronies of Gelida, of Llaneres → Castell d'Epordà, and of Vilademat, and was *raised* to the patriciate.

When the surname used by an individual is not the oldest known surname of his agnate ancestors, the oldest known agnate surname (preceded by *prisce*) follows the full name: Don **Ángel Alfonso de Armas y Rivero**, *prisce Alfonso ab Texina* /...-1768/, was an agnate descendant of Don **Gonzalo Alfonso de Armas**, *prisce Alfonso ab Texina*, neighbour of the Valle de Guerra, Island of Tinirfen → Tenerife; himself son to Don **Juan Alfonso**, and to Doña **Catalina de Herrera**, *prisce de Quirós*, who married in /1604/, Texina → Tejina, San Cristóbal de la Laguna, Island of Tinirfen → Tenerife; grandson paternal to Don **Baltasar Martín Alfonso**, and to Doña **Gracia María**; grandson maternal to Don **Gaspar de Quirós**, and to Doña **Gaspara de Armas** Gómez, *prisce Gómez*, whereas the said Don Baltasar Martín Alfonso, was his oldest agnate ancestor known to us. In this case, we add *ab Texina*, to identify this family by its place of origin, since there is a very large number of different families surnamed *Alfonso*. Don **Juan Antonio Abad Valdés-Navarrete**, *prisce Nx ab Habana* /1740-1820/, was a foundling of the Royal Home for Foundlings in Havana, where he was baptized on 10 May /1740/, and given the surname *Valdés* (as was given to all foundlings in that orphanage, by concession of its founder). He added the surname *Navarrete* when a woman so surnamed adopted him (it is unknown if she was related to him). This is an unusual case, because, even though the identity of his parents is unknown, it is notorious that his father had substantial influence at the Royal Court, and for this reason, the King granted the foundling a patent of Nobility (though without naming his parents). In modern Castilian use, the title *Don* “Lord”, *Doña* “Lady”, is used immediately before the given name of a nobleman, regardless of rank, although its equivalents in Catalonia (*En*, *Na*), and Portugal (*Dom*, *Dona*), are reserved for patricians, as was the Castilian title in the Middle Ages. Modern Castilian usage is followed, but as the usage has been chaotic and frequently degraded since the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, occasional misuse may have penetrated our texts inadvertently.

In the case of an intrinsically *patrician* family, instead of *prisce*, the title *Procer*, *Proceresa*, is used: Lady **Elvira** Gabriela Faustina Modesta de los Dolores del Corazón de Jesús de la Santísima Trinidad **de la Torre y de la Torre**, **Proceress of Cifontes** /1892-1971/, was an agnate descendant of the Magnificent Lord **Diego de Cifontes**, **Procer of Cifontes** /1530-1614/, a *notorious Patrician (Ricohombre of blood and nature)* whose ancestral genealogy is unknown to us, although it was certainly well known in his time, and his wife the Magnificent Lady **María de la Torre y Roxas**, **Proceress de la Torre-Castilnovo**. This illustrates that it is sometimes difficult to distinguish when the denomination of the title *Procer* corresponds to the *oldest known agnate surname of a notoriously patrician family* (as *Procer de Cifontes* in this case), when it corresponds to the *principal fief of an intrinsically patrician family* (as *Procer of Erill* in a previous citation), and when it is a hybrid (as *Proceress de la Torre-Castilnovo*, where the Lordship of *Castilnovo* was the particular fief of a branch of the intrinsically patrician *House de la Torre*).

Instead of using the initials A.M. (Anno Mundi), B.C. (Before Christ) and A.D. (Anno Domini), years corresponding to dates before the Christian Era are placed between back slashed, while those

corresponding to the Christian Era are placed between slashes. Years dated after the creation of the world (essentially corresponding to the Hebrew calendar or A.M.) are placed between braces. For relatively modern dates, when chronology is deemed to be reasonably certain, accent marks are used for uncertain dates. Examples follow:

{0030} means “30 A.M.”  
 \1812\ means “year 1812 B.C.”  
 /0903/ means “year 903 A.D.”  
 /ˈ1240/ means “/1240/ or before”  
 /1682ˈ/ means “/1682/ or after”  
 /1927/ means “20<sup>th</sup> Century, perhaps circa /1927/”  
 /1927/ means “1920’s A.D., probably about /1927/”  
 /1900/ means “circa end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century or beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.”  
 /2001.12.15/ means “15 December /2001/”  
 /ˈ1972.04.01/ means “1 April /1972/ or before”  
 /1972.04.01ˈ/ means “1 April /1972/ or after”  
 /1231-1234/ means “from /1231/ to /1234/”  
 /1231.03-1270.11.01/ means “from March /1231/ to 1 November /1270/”

The remaining peculiarities should be understood without the need for further explanations, except for some linguistic equivalencies used, as per the following table.

TRANSCRIPTION OF HEBREW LETTERS WITHOUT LATIN EQUIVALENT				
STEMATOTHEQUE	HEBREW ALPHABET	INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC SIGN	EUROPEAN TRANSCRIPTION	PRONUNCIATION
ʾ	א	ʔ	ʾ	<i>glottal hiatus (no European equivalent)</i>
ע	ע	ʕ	ע	<i>glottal hiatus (no European equivalent)</i>
J, j		j	j y	<i>j (Late Latin semi-consonant) y (Spanish semi-consonant)</i>
שׁ, שׂ	שׁ	ʃ	sh	<i>x (Catalan, Portuguese, Old Castilian) sh (English) sch (German)</i>
כּ, ךּ	כּ	χ	kh ch	<i>χ (Greek) x (18<sup>th</sup> Century Spanish) j (20<sup>th</sup> Century Spanish) ch (Scottish and German)</i>