

GIUSEPPE SANNAZZARO NATTA DI GIAROLE DE SANCTO NAZARIO

A THOUSAND YEARS OF A FAMILY BETWEEN ART, FREEDOM AND TERRITORY

This book tells a story of a family that lived for over a thousand years between Lombardy, Piedmont, Monferrato, Naples and Spain, with forays into the Middle East. The author, a member of said family, defines it as "normal", and he still lives in the castle of Giarole founded by his ancestors in 1163, where he has continued the agricultural activity of his ancestors, whilst developing the tourism and cultural aspects by opening the castle to the public.

In fact, throughout the thousand years the Sannazzaros had important relationships with at least four emperors of the Holy Roman Empire (Frederick I "the Barbarossa", Federico II, Henry VII and Wenceslas of Bohemia) from which they obtained important concessions between 1163 and 1395, carrying out administrative, political, diplomatic and military roles of importance in the Marquis of Monferrato under Paleologus, in the duchy of Milan with the Visconti and Sforza; with Gonzaga in the duchy of Mantua and Monferrato, and in the kingdom of Piedmont and Sardinia under the Savoy.

The Sannazzaro supported the fine arts from the fifteenth century onwards, protecting artists of value including Guglielmo Caccio, known as "the Moncalvo", Pier Francesco Gualla, brothers Paolo and Emilio Rodolfo Morgari, and musicians, actors and theater performers in the eighteenth

and nineteenth centuries. There is also a brief but intense chapter on the Sannazzaros of Naples and the figure of the great poet and humanist Jacopo Sannazzaro.

The volume also collects interesting information, drawn mostly from the important family archive, on economic life in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in Piedmont, on the philosophical and political ideas - sometimes conservative but sometimes very liberal - and on technical and engineering innovations as applied to agriculture at the end of the nineteenth century. There are also curious and lively details about court life and the mundane rituals of nobility that can intrigue and captivate even the less experienced readers of history.

In short, a "normal" family.

THE AUTHOR

Born in Genoa in 1962, he has studied in Britain and has obtained a degree in Monetary Economics at Bocconi University in Milan. He has worked in finance, developing major industrial and infrastructure projects, traveling extensively around the world, and achieving significant results in the Middle East, China, Southeast Asia, Mexico, Argentina and Brazil, whilst also following projects of innovative startups and industry renewable energy.

Whilst continuing to pursue his pro-

fessional activity, he has moved into the family castle in Giarole, which he has opened to the public and where he also follows the farming and tourism activities. It has been a part of the municipal administration of Giarole for several years. He has always been fond of history, with a keen interest in the Middle Ages, Roman antiquity and the Middle East.

