

The academic branches of the Order of Saint Lazarus

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Abstract

The Order of Saint Lazarus has always been proud of its historical traditions and has actively investigated facets of its historical past by commissioning academics to investigate and write up the history of the Order through the centuries setting up in the 18th century the post of *historiographe*. In the 20th century, the Order has tried to promote the academic study of its history by establishing support organizations to serve as academic arms of the Order.

Introduction

The Order of Saint Lazarus had long identified itself with its historic past and thus encouraged research into its origins and history. The *Ordres Royale de Notre-Dame du Mont-Carmel et de Saint Lazaire de Jérusalem* created the post of *historiographe* in about 1772 with the first appointee being Pierre Edme Gaultier de Sibert (*1735 †1797), a member of the *Académie Royale des Inscription & Belles-Lettres* and eventually also *Commissaire au Trésor des Chartes de la Couronne*. De Sibert in 1772 produced his momentous history of the Order entitled *Histoire des ordres Royaux, Hospitaliers-Militaires de Notre-Dame du Mont-Carmel et de Saint-Lazaire de Jérusalem* [Paris: Imprimerie Royale, 1772, +514pp. +108pp.]. In 1777, Jean Baptiste Louis Gresset (*1709 †1777) was appointed in the post of *historiographe* to the Order of Saint Lazarus, but this appointment was very short-lived since Gresset died in the same year.¹

¹ *Épître à Monsieur Grand Maître de l'Ordre de Saint-Lazare composed by Jean-Baptiste-Louis GRESSET translated by Annette Scerri with a commentary by H.E. the Chev. Charles Savona-Ventura*. Malta: Grand Priory of the Maltese Islands-MHOSLJ, 2018, +16pp.

In 1780, Abbé François Arnaud (*1721 †1784) of the *Academie Française & de celle des Inscription & Belles-Lettres* was appointed as de Sibert's assistant. Abbé Arnaud was after his death replaced by Bon-Joseph Dacier (*1742 †1833) of the *Académie Royale des Inscription & Belles-Lettres*. The two officers continued to serve in these posts until the turmoil of the 1789 French Revolution forced the Order to go into exile. During the Bourbon Restoration in 1822, Dacier resumed the post of *historiographe* holding office to at least 1830 after which the Order no longer continued to enjoy Royal protection and thus was no longer listed in the *Almanach Royale*.²



Jean-Baptiste Gresset



Abbé François Arnaud



Bon-Joseph Dacier

The Association de la Chevalerie

In 1937 in the official journal of the Order of Saint Lazarus *La Vie Chevalersque*, Paul Bertrand announced the setting up of the new *Association de la Chevalerie*. The objectives of this association were defined as aiming to make a contribution to the knowledge of chivalric traditions and their maintenance in the modern world. The association was set up in the belief that the Chivalric traditions did not belong to one or other of the Chivalric Orders and thus could not be appreciated by looking simply at the history and traditions of any one particular Order

² *Almanach Royal pour l'ans M.DCC.I - M DCCC XXXVIII présenté a sa Majesté.*
Paris, 1701-1838.

but needed to be considered as a whole encompassing the histories and traditions of all the chivalric orders.³

Paul Bertrand de la Grassière (*1895 †1977) had been admitted to the Order of Saint Lazarus in France in 1927/29. A lawyer by profession, he further established himself as a historian and playwright, he served as Director of the *Revue nationale* (1916-1928), editor-in-chief of "*La Vie Chevaleresque*" (from 1933), member of the *Académie pontificale Tibérine*, the *Académie du Var* (1916), and of the *Société des études historiques*. Author to several historical works on the chivalric Orders, he published the first edition of the *Histoire des Chevaliers-Hospitaliers de Saint-Lazare* in 1932 (revised and reprinted in 1960). A long-time member of the Order of Saint Lazarus, he eventually served as Grand Capitular of the Order. He was also a chevalier of the Legion of Honour and knight of the Sovereign Order of Malta serving further as Commissioner of Proofs for the French Association of the Order of Malta.⁴

The *Association de la Chevalerie* was apparently closely linked to the Order of Saint Lazarus. Its admission certificates were issued under the signature of comte Charles Otzenberger-Detaille who then served as General Superintendent of the Order of Saint Lazarus then under the grand magistracy of H.R.H. Francisco de Paula de Borbón y de la Torre (magistry 1930-1952). The administrative headquarters of the association was sited at 75, rue Blanche, Paris (IX^o) which also served as the Grand Magistral Office of the Order.⁵ Charles Otzenberger-Detaille (*1881 †1944) had been admitted to the Order of Saint Lazarus in France in 1911. Born in Alsace, he moved to Barcelona during the First World War. In 1919, he opted to adopt French nationality and became more closely involved with the Order's administration serving as registrar in

³ *La Vie Chevaleresque* 1937, 18, p.25.

⁴ *The Green Cross – La Croix de Sinople* 1965, 1(3/4):p.8.

⁵ *La Vie Chevaleresque* 1937, 18, p.25.

1926 and as superintendent from 1929 to his death in 1944.⁶ H.R.H. Francisco de Paula de Borbón y de la Torre (*1882 †1953), cousin to King Alfonso XIII of Spain, was admitted to the Order of Saint Lazarus in France in 1929 and a year later was invited to serve as Lieutenant General of the Order. He was exiled from Spain in 1932 following the Spanish Revolution and thus settled in Paris. He participated in the Spanish Civil War of 1936-1939. He was conferred as the 44th grand master of the Order in 1935 retaining his post until his death in 1953 thus re-establishing the link of the Order of Saint Lazarus with the Bourbon family. He was the first *Hautes membres d'honneur* to be admitted in the *Association de la Chevalerie*.⁷

Admission to the association entitled the candidate to wear the insignia of the association. This was originally described as "*La plaque que nous avons adoptée pour insigne indique nos sentiments à cet égard. Elle a la forme d'une croix pattée, rappelant comme silhouette celle de l'Ordre de Sainte-Marie de Jerusalem; sur chaque branche une fleur de lis apparaît. Enfin, sur un écu central qui réunit les quatre branches, est reproduite l'image de saint Louis.*"⁸ It was worn either as a breast cross insignia pinned directly or on a blue ribbon, as a neck collar on a green ribbon, or at the end of a white-edged green sash. Another form was apparently adopted, probably for the non-French members, whereby the image of King Saint Louis was replaced by Saint George slaying the dragon.

⁶ E.C. Zeiniger de Borja. L'Ordre de Saint-Lazare. *Hidalguia – La Rivista de Genealogia, Nobleza y Armas* 1953, 1(3):pp.501-532

⁷ Francisco de Borbón y de la Torre. *Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia* 2018, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francisco_de_Borb%C3%B3n_y_de_la_Torre

⁸ *La Vie Chevaleresque* 1937, 18, p.25.



Insignia depicting St. George killing the dragon [measuring 55x50mm]

Membership took the form of various categories including: *Hautes membres d'honneur*; *Membres d'honneur*; *Membres agrégés*; and *Membres affiliés*.⁹ While open to all those interesting in promoting chivalric traditions and ideals, the early membership of the *Association de la Chevalerie* was particularly limited to members of the Order of Saint Lazarus in France and beyond. Besides the *Commissaires* of the association, that included comte Otzenberger-Detaille and Paul Bertrand, the early years of the association [1937-1938] saw the admission of seven *Hauts membres d'honneur*, all high-ranking members of the Order. These included the grand master H.R.H. Duke Francisco de Paula de Borbón y de la Torre and his spouse H.R.H. Françoise de Bourbon, the coadjutor of the Order H.R.H. François de Borbón y de Borbón, the Spiritual Grand Prior H.E. Archbishop Mgr. Gregorios Haggear, H.R.H. François Henri de Borbón, H.R.H. Prince Frédéric de Honenzollern, and H.R.H. Duke Georges de Mecklembourg. There were in addition 26 *Membres d'honneur* of whom only four were not members of the Order of Saint Lazarus, 17 *Membres agrégés* of whom only one was not a member of the Order of Saint Lazarus, and 18

⁹ *La Vie Chevaleresque* 1938, 19/20, pp.50-51.

Membres affiliés of whom eleven were not members of the Order of Saint Lazarus [cf. appendix].¹⁰

Academia Internacional de Nuestra Senora del Monte Carmelo

The development of the *Association de la Chevalerie* appears to have been adversely influenced by the onset of the Second World War. The association does not appear to feature in the subsequent history of the Order of Saint Lazarus receiving no mention in the post-war revival.



**Lapel pin of the
International Academy
of Our Lady of Mt Carmel**

A new academic-based academy was set up as a Spanish academy in the early 1990s. Following the first Congress of Historical Studies of the Order, the then reigning grand master Francisco de Borbón y Escasany on the 30th November 2002 formally set up the *Academia Internacional de Nuestra Senora del Monte Carmelo – International Academy of Our Lady of Mount Carmel*. This academy was envisaged to serve as ‘an international corporation of studies of the chivalry, heraldry, genealogy and the

noble, born in the womb of the Order of St. Lazarus, independent in political terms, for the conservation of the chivalrous spirit, with its historical traditions, genealogical and cultural, and to defend and promote the thorough investigation, critical analysis of the sources, the methodological rigor and clarity of our customs and tradition.’

The appointed board included: the Protector – H.E. Francisco de Borbón y Escasany, Duke of Seville, Grand Master; the Honorary Councillor – H.B. Patriarch Gregorios III Laham; Councillor – H.E. Carlos Gereda de Borbón, Marqués de Almazán; Director – H.E. General Sabino Fernández Campos, Count of Latores replaced after his death by H.E. Antonio de Fortuny; Vice-Director - Christian de Paupet-Vauban;

¹⁰ *La Vie Chevaleresque* 1937-38, 18, p.25; 19/20, p.50-51; 21/22:pp.89-90; 23:pp.126-127

Secretary – José María de Montells y Galán; Treasurer – Joaquín Cayuela Vergés; and Members – Roger Carlton Sherman, Manuel Rodríguez de Maribona y Dávila, and Xavier Bastard d'Andeville. Membership of the Academy was divided into three classes – academic, merit, and corresponding. The initial list of members included a majority of Spanish individuals [7 members]. There were furthermore three members from France, two members each from Portugal, the United States, and the United Kingdom [2 members], and single individual members from Germany, Greece, Malta, Sweden, Finland, Puerto Rico, Argentina, and Mexico. The insignia of the Academy, consisted of an oval medal charged in its center, with an amaranth purple eight-pointed cross of accompanied in each alternate canton with two golden anchors, flukes upward, and paired right lateral golden axes. This was bordured in white with the inscription INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL. The whole is crowned with the ancient crown, lined green. It was to be worn on the neck, suspended by a green ribbon.¹¹ The Academy was relatively active but rather restricted to the Spanish jurisdiction. It published a number of relevant publications. Following the re-organization brought about by the re-unification, this academy continued to function as the Spanish association for historical research in respect to matters affecting the Order of Saint Lazarus.

- J.M. de Montelles. *Historia Apasionada de la Religión de San Lázaro*. Academic Internacional de Neustra Senora del Mont Carmel, Madrid, 1992
- C. Papet-Vauban. *La descendance de S.A.R. Don Henri de Bourbon et de Bourbon, Infant d'Espagne, Duc de Séville - La descendencia de S.A.R. Don Enrique de Borbon y de Borbon, Infante de Espana, Duque de Sevilla* Academic Internacional de Neustra Senora del Mont Carmel, Madrid, 2004.

¹¹ *Estatutos de la Academia Internacional de Nuestra Senora de Monte Carmelo - Statutes of the International Academy of Our Lady of Mount Carmel*. Madrid: MHOSLJ, 2002

- F. de Borbón y Escasany. *Don Francisco de Borbón y Castellú - El Homvre, el Militar*. Academic Internacional de Neustra Senora del Mont Carmel, Madrid, 2016

Sancti Lazari Ordinis Academia Internationalis

In the aftermath of the 2006 re-unification process and re-organization of the united Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem, the new grand master H.E. Carlos de Géreda y de Borbón in 2013 set up a Historical Research Commission under the chairmanship of Chev. Prof. Michael Ross. The new Commission set out to resuscitate the *Academia Internacional de Nuestra Senora del Monte Carmelo* and to establish this as a legal academic entity. Finding that a legal entity with the name ‘Academy of Our Lady of Mount Carmel’ was already in existence as an educational establishment in



New Jersey, U.S.A.,¹² the new legal entity was named *Sancti Lazari Ordinis Academia Internationalis – International Academy of the Order of Saint Lazarus*. The Statute of this academy was approved unanimously after review during an Academic Meeting held in Palermo on the 1st June 2017. The object of the present Academy is ‘to promote the historical knowledge related to the Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem, and other Crusader and related orders of chivalry as this relates to the hierarchy, their components, their traditions and ancient history, as well as their relations with Christian Churches’.¹³ The insignia of the new academy is an oval medal charged in its yellow center, with alternating green and amaranth purple arms of the eight-pointed cross. This was bordured in white with the inscription ACADEMIA INTERNATIONALIS SANCTI LAZARI ORDINIS. The whole is crowned with the ancient crown, lined green.

¹² *ACADEMY OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL*, U.S.A.: Tenafly, NJ, 2019 – <https://academyolmc.org/>

¹³ *Statutes of the Sancti Lazari Ordinis Academia Internationalis – International Academy of the Order of Saint Lazarus*. Malta: MHOSLJ, 2017.

The Academy has to date organized two International Academic Meetings – one in Malta in 2015 and one in Palermo, Sicily in 2017 – the proceedings of which have been formally published.¹⁴ It has set up its own dedicated website [<https://mhoslj.weebly.com/>] and published other relevant publications.

- *Acta Historiae Sancti Lazari Ordinis. Proceedings Sancta Lazari Ordinis Academia Internationalis. Malta meeting, 19-20 November 2015.* Malta: Sancti Lazari Ordinis Academia Internationalis, 2016, +124p.
- *Acta Historiae Sancti Lazari Ordinis. Proceedings Sancta Lazari Ordinis Academia Internationalis. Monreale meeting, 1 June 2017.* Malta: Sancti Lazari Ordinis Academia Internationalis, 2017, vol.2, +118p.
- R. Pyatt, M. Ross, and C. Savona-Ventura. *The Handbook of the Order of Saint Lazarus: The Insignia, Decorations, Commemorative Medals, Uniforms, and Heraldry of the Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem in the Twenty-First century.* Malta: Sancti Lazari Ordinis Academia Internationalis, 2017, +238p. [2nd edition, 2019, +338p.]
- R. Pyatt. *Dressing for the Order of Saint Lazarus.* Malta: Sancti Lazari Ordinis Academia Internationalis, 2019, +104p.

Appendix – Association de la Chevalerie: List of admissions 1937-38

A: Hauts members d'honneur

- H.R.H. François de Borbón y de la Torre, duke of Seville – grand master
- H.R.H. Henriette de Borbón – dame grand cross of justice
- H.R.H. Françoise de Borbón y de Borbón – coadjutor
- H.R.H. Françoise Henri de Borbón – knight grand cross of justice
- H.R.H. Frédéric de Honenzollern – knight grand cross of justice
- H.R.H. duke Georges de Mecklembourg – knight grand cross of justice
- H.E. Archbishop Mgr. Gregorios Haggear – Spiritual Grand Prior

¹⁴ The Third Meeting of the International Academy was held in Malta on the 24-26 October 2019.

B: Membres d'honneur

- H.E. Marquis de l'Eglise de Ferrier de Félix – knight grand cross of justice
- H.R.H. Charles de Schwarzenberg – knight grand cross of justice
- H.E. marquis Adrien Colocci Vespucci – knight grand cross of justice
- H.E. chev. Adam Steblowski – knight grand cross of justice
- H.E. Pietro de Amorio et Castel Alberico – knight grand cross of justice
- H.E. chev. dr. José-Maria Macdowell da Costa – knight grand cross of justice
- H.E. count Luigi Criscuolo – knight grand cross of justice
- H.E. baron Schmidt von der Launitz – knight grand cross of justice and devotion
- H.E. Maurice de Hanot d'Hartoy – knight grand cross of justice and devotion
- Chev. Silvio Pizzardo de Helmsburg – knight grand cross of justice and devotion
- H.E. baron dr. Woldemar de Barkow – knight grand cross of justice and devotion
- H.E. Armand Calinesco – knight grand cross of honour
- H.E. Milita Constantinesco – knight grand cross of honour
- H.E. Joseph Nyman – companion grand cross
- H.E. countess Otzenberger-Detaille – dame grand cross of justice
- H.E. Renie Bertrand – dame grand cross of justice
- Mgr. Antoine d'Okolo Koulak – prelate grand cross
- H.E. Mgr. Ignace Dub-Dubowski - prelate grand cross
- Archbishop Mgr. Aldo Fontanesi d'Albinelli – prelate
- Mgr. Paul Fonteny – prelate
- Chev. Silvio de Pizzarello de Helmsburg - knight of justice
- Chev. Antonio Rodriguez de Larrosa – knight commander
- Chev. Gustave J. Jonckbloedt – not a member
- Dr. Fasul Suadal Mande – not a member
- Paul Schlattery – not a member
- H.E. Mgr. dr. Francoise-Jean-Edmond de Barwell-Walker – not a member

C: Membres agrégés

- Chev. H.E. Frederico Beltran Masses – knight grand cross of justice
- Chev. Maurice Arnoux – knight

- Chev. Georges Koubik – knight
- Chev. Marcel Erhart – knight of justice
- Rev. John Power - chaplain
- H.E. chev. Emile Bertrand – knight grand cross of justice
- H.E. chev. prof. Joseph F. Power – knight grand cross of justice
- H.E. chev. Humberto Fasulo – knight grand cross of justice
- Count Louis Fouquet – knight of justice
- Chev. Salvador Emilio Paradas – knight
- Chev. Roger Conchon – knight
- Chev. Ernest Erhard – knight
- Rev. André Lesain – chaplain and prelate
- Chev. dr. Eliseo Soaje Echague – knight of justice and devotion
- Count Fouquet de Belle-Isle – knight of justice and devotion
- Chev. Leon Guillemaind – cross of merit
- Chev. dr. Albert-Marie Cohen-Carlier – not a member

D: Membres affiliés

- Gustave Léopoldsson de Horn – companion of justice
- Alan Weaver Hazelton – companion
- Count Oscar Hedenfeldt d’Anderstorp-Fryebo – associate
- Boris Goldfeld – 1st class cross of merit
- Dr. Frederic Arthur Mucke - commander
- Sammuel Westendorf – knight of honour
- Chev. Léo V. Goriansky – knight of honour and justice
- H.E. prof. Manuel Rodriguez Serra – not a member
- Manley Nicolas Bendall – not a member
- Léopold Gustafsson de Horn – not a member
- Catherine Gustafsdottwer de Horn – not a member
- Jean Ursesco – not a member
- Michel Rameaud – not a member
- Joseph de Sigali – not a member
- Rouben A. Arvanoff – not a member
- Edouard Henry Meunier – not a member
- Victor-Joseph Micelis – not a member
- Abbé Camille Lebonvallet – not a member