

On October 1, 1497 Baron Giovanni Carlo Tramontano of Sorrento was given the city of Matera in the southern Italian region of Basilicata as his country by the King in Naples, Ferdinand II of Aragon.

Giancarlo Baron Tramontano was given the title *Count of Matera* and built the famous *Castello Tramontano* ("Tramontano Castle").

The aristocracy and the people of Matera considered the Count a very arrogant tyrant who ruled without mercy—especially because he demanded a lot of taxes from the people in order to be able to live in luxury.

On December 28, 1514 the Count demanded that the aristocracy and the people pay him 24.000 ducates—so that the Count could pay his debts.

The people wouldn't accept this. The night after—on December 29, 1514—Count Giancarlo and Countess Elisabetta went to the mass in the church. When the Count and the Countess came out of the church the Count was brutally stripped and beaten to death by a group of unknown men. The Countess was allowed to escape.

After the murder the church bells rang constantly to mark the death of the Count. All over the city the people celebrated this event.

The King in Naples considered the murder of Count Gian Carlo as a political assassination and as an attack on the throne. Therefore he sent a commissary to Matera to solve the crime. Four innocent men were hanged but the guilty criminals were never found.

Script written by 5 Classe via Berardi.

Narr: In 1497 Giancarlo Tramontana was appointed Count of Matera;

Earl: Don't worry: with me rich people will have many benefits and privileges, poor people will not have to pay more taxes

Narr: Over time.... goodbye promises.

- 1) How to pay taxes?
- 2) I'm desperate and tired of this Earl

3) Soon I can not to buy bread !

4) My children, poor children!

5) The fee also animals? 100 ducats

Narr: but the people were even more angry because the Earl had the right to be with girls during the wedding night

1)I can't think about it, my girlfriend with him....

2) He is a tyrant

3) I don't want to get married

Man: We must kill him

Woman: that terrible night! This is not right

Everybody: Kill him!

Narr: Many guys waited for the Count to the cathedral .

He was unarmed.

They surrounded him and left him in shreds in a pool of blood.