

Virdis, Antonio. *Sos battudos. Movimenti religiosi penitenziali in Logudoro* (Sassari: Asfodelo Editore, 1987). 279 pp.

The first part of this volume (pp. 11-84) is a study of Sardinian flagellant confraternities (the *battudos*) that focuses on confraternities in the diocese of Sassari and the adjacent region of Logudoro (north-west Sardinia). The second part (pp. 87-276) is a transcription of the *Libberu* of the flagellant confraternity of S. Croce, in Torralba, a small town S-E of Sassari.

Part One consists of five chapters. Chapter 1 (pp. 11-19) is a brief introduction to the flagellant movement in general, with special reference to the events of the mid-13th and late-14th centuries. Chapters 2-4 examine in reverse chronological order the nature and activities of confraternities in the diocese of Sassari. Chapter 2 (pp. 21-27) deals with the 'contemporary' period, from the time of archbishop Marongio Delrio (1871-1905) to the present day; chapter 3 (pp. 29-39) with the period from the Council of Trent to the mid-19th century; chapter 4 (pp. 41-46) with the period from the Middle Ages to Trent. A fifth chapter examines the *Libberu*, or "Regole," of the Disciplinanti di S. Croce in the town of Torralba. The chapters are complemented by extensive critical notes (pp. 53-84).

The texts in Part Two are taken from a manuscript at the Archivio della Curia Arcivescovile di Sassari. This *Libberu* contains the offices, rites, statutes, indulgences, and the *laudario* of the flagellants of the Logudoro. It is written partly in the local dialect (*logudorese*) and partly in Latin. Although the volume was compiled in 1762, the texts can be traced back in a fairly rectilinear fashion earlier compilations in the near-by towns of Bonnanaro (1619), Ossi and Borutta, Banari (1592), Osilo (1549), and Sassari (14th century)—which in turn seems

to have been based on an Italian original dating back to the second half of the 13th century.

The texts included in this second part are the "Regola dei Disciplinanti di Torralba" (pp. 85-155), divided into six sections (Discipline, Funeral Rites, Elections, Recruitment and Admission, Internal Statutes, and Indulgences). The seventh section is the "Laudario" (pp. 159-255). Both the "Regola" and the "Laudario" are accompanied by a detailed scholarly apparatus, footnotes giving the Italian equivalent of unusual Sardinian words, and endnotes. An appendix gives the 16th-century Italian "Regola" of the flagellants of Borutta (pp. 263-276).

This volume, in its two-fold nature of study and text, is an invaluable addition to the very scarce bibliography on Sardinian confraternities. The careful transcription and publication of documents in Sardinian dialect should be of interest to historians of language, as well as to historians of lay spirituality.

William R. Bowen
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