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## Churchmen and Urban Government in Late Medieval Italy, c. 1200–c. 1450

Why, when so driven by the impetus for autonomy, did the city elites of thirteenth-century Italy turn to men bound to religious orders whose purpose and reach stretched far beyond the boundaries of their often disputed territories? *Churchmen and Urban Government in Late Medieval Italy: Cases and Contexts* brings together a team of international contributors to provide the first comparative response to this pivotal question. Presenting a series of urban cases and contexts, the book explores the secular–religious boundaries of the period and evaluates the role of the clergy in the administration and government of Italy’s city states. With an extensive introduction and epilogue, it exposes for consideration the beginnings of the phenomenon, the varying responses of churchmen, the reasons why practices changed and how politics and religious identity relate to each other. This important new study has significant implications for our understanding of power, negotiation, bureaucracy and religious identity.

FRANCES ANDREWS is Professor in Mediaeval History at the University of St Andrews.

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*Cases and Contexts*

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*Edited by*

Frances Andrews with Maria Agata Pincelli



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## Acknowledgements

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The project from which the chapters in this volume stem dates to a decade ago, when I first undertook an exploration of the broader implications of the engagement of the Italian order of the Humiliati outside the cloister. An initial focus on the attitudes of these and other regular or professed religious to ‘work’ soon evolved into a more concentrated interest in their employment in public offices. This was an obvious theme for a historian of the order. Already in the eighteenth century Girolamo Tiraboschi had drawn attention to Humiliati activities in various communal positions, while in the early twentieth century, Luigi Zanoni made it a major element in his own account of their origins and early expansion. It was soon evident, however, that any effective updating of this account must encompass members of other orders and range over central and northern Italy. After an initial exploration of the situation in Siena in the thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries and more extensive research undertaken during a year at Villa i Tatti in 2004–5, the scale of the questions raised and the sources available drove me to ask other historians to become involved. A first workshop partly funded by the British Academy in June 2007 demonstrated that there were plenty of thought-provoking angles to be explored. Encouraged by this and by a generous award from the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), I undertook a substantial expansion of the research. This volume is the first major result of that work. Some of the contributors have previously tackled the issue from the perspective of a particular city or order but have generously agreed to re-examine the question in the context of the issues raised by the project. Others have brought to the endeavour expertise on a particular city, region or order and have explored the questions (and particular archives) from scratch. Still others have added an important comparative angle. The result is a volume which has only been possible because of the efforts of a large number of individuals. As well as the contributors, I should like first of all to thank Dr Maria Agata Pincelli, the postdoctoral research fellow on the AHRC project, for her support and gentle diplomacy (as well as for

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xiv      Acknowledgements

producing the bibliography and initial index) and her predecessor, Dr Caroline Proctor, who got the AHRC element of this project off to a strong start. I should also like to acknowledge all the participants in the original meeting in 2007, whose stimulating papers and discussions helped shape the work to follow. Isabella Lazzarini, in particular, provided very valuable suggestions for the introduction to this volume, though not all could be taken on board. I am also grateful to Robert Bartlett and the anonymous readers for Cambridge University Press, who made very useful comments, often reminding me of what needs explaining to those outside the immediate field. Nor could any of this have happened without the accumulated and generous support of the Leverhulme Trust, the Humboldt Stiftung, the AHRC, the British Academy, the Harvard Center for Italian Renaissance Studies at Villa i Tatti and the University of St Andrews. And of course, those funds would not have been available without the enthusiastic support of various referees, to whom the greatest thanks are due.

# Abbreviations

|   |   |
|---|---|
| AC  | Archivio Capitolare   |
| <i>AFP</i>  | <i>Archivum Fratrum Praedicatorum</i>   |
| Andrews, ‘Regular<br>Observance and<br>Communal Life’ | F. Andrews, ‘Regular Observance and<br>Communal Life: Siena and the Employment<br>of Religious’, in <i>Pope, Church and City: Essays<br/>in Honour of Brenda M. Bolton</i> , ed.<br>F. Andrews, C. Egger and C. M. Rousseau<br>(Leiden: Brill, 2004), pp. 283–357 |
| AS  | <i>Archivio di Stato</i>  |
| ASC   | <i>Archivio Storico Comunale</i>  |
| ASPP  | <i>Archivio Storico per le Province Parmensi</i>  |
| BSP   | <i>Bollettino Storico Piacentino</i>  |
| CDC   | <i>Codex diplomaticus Cremonae 715–1334</i> , ed.<br>L. Astegiano, <i>Historiae Patriae Monumenta</i> ,<br>ser. 2, 21–2, 2 vols. (Turin: Bocca, 1896 and<br>1898; repr. Sala Bolognese: Arnaldo Forni<br>Editore, 1983)   |
| DBI   | <i>Dizionario Biografico degli Italiani</i>   |
| <i>Italia Pontificia</i>                              | P.F. Kehr, <i>Italia Pontificia sive Repertorium<br/>Privilegiorum et Litterarum a Romanis<br/>Pontificibus ante annum MCLXXXVIII</i> ,<br>vol. III: Etruria (Berlin: Weidmann, 1908)   |
| MGH   | <i>Monumenta Germaniae Historica</i>  |
| PL  | <i>Patrologia Latina</i>  |
| RIS   | <i>Rerum Italicarum Scriptores</i>  |
| Salimbene,<br><i>Cronica</i> , ed. Scalia             | Salimbene de Adam, <i>Cronica</i> , ed. G. Scalia,<br>2 vols. (Turnhout: Brepols, 1998–9)   |
| Trexler, ‘Honor<br>Among Thieves’                     | Richard Trexler “‘Honor Among Thieves’”.<br>The Trust Function of the Urban Clergy in the<br>Florentine Republic’, in <i>Essays Presented to Myron<br/>P. Gilmore</i> , ed. S. Bertelli and G. Ramakus<br>(Florence: Sansoni, 1978), pp. 317–34                   |

Map A



Map A Key places mentioned