

= Onneca Fortúnez =

Onneca Fortúnez or Iñiga Fortúnez (c . 848 ? after 890) was a Basque princess from the Kingdom of Pamplona , later known as the Kingdom of Navarre . She was the daughter of Fortún Garcés of Pamplona and his wife Auria . At the time of Onneca 's birth , which occurred between 848 and 850 , the Iberian Peninsula was largely under the domination of the Muslim Umayyad dynasty . Only the northern kingdoms of Asturias and Pamplona remained under Christian rule , perpetuating the Hispano @-@ Roman Visigothic traditions . Onneca was a member of the Íñiguez dynasty , named after her great @-@ grandfather Íñigo Arista , who founded the Kingdom of Pamplona .

Information about Onneca 's life is sketchy . Biographical details about her come from two main sources : the Roda Codex and the accounts of Muslim Andalusí historians , who refer to Onneca by the Arabic name Durr (??) , meaning " pearl " . Onneca is primarily known for marrying into the Umayyad dynasty . Although matrimonial unions between Christian slave @-@ concubines and Muslim rulers were common , Onneca 's case is one of the few examples of a Christian princess marrying into Muslim royalty . Her marriage created family ties between the Christian and Muslim ruling families of the Iberian peninsula , initially leading to close collaboration between the Christian House of Íñiguez and the Muslim Umayyads . The political effects resulting from Onneca 's marriages continued to be felt long after her death , which occurred at an unknown date .

= = Marriage to Emir Abdullah = =

Onneca 's father Fortún Garcés , the then heir to the throne of Pamplona , was captured in 860 in the town of Milagro during a punitive expedition led by Muhammad I , the Muslim emir of Córdoba , against the small Kingdom of Pamplona . The expedition resulted in the devastation of the Christian kingdom 's territory and the seizure of three castles by the Muslim forces . Fortun Garcés , nicknamed al @-@ Anqar (?????) by the Muslims because he was one @-@ eyed , was taken to Córdoba where he was detained for two decades in gilded captivity . Onneca accompanied or followed her father to Córdoba , where she was wedded to Muhammad I 's son Abdullah around 862 / 863 . It is not known when or how she came to Córdoba . She may have been captured with her father , or sent to join her father at the emir 's court at a later date . Onneca was presumably still a teenager when she bore Abdullah a son named Muhammad in 864 . As Abdullah 's wife , Onneca became known as Durr . According to some sources , she converted to Islam .

In addition to Muhammad , Onneca bore Abdullah two daughters : al @-@ Baha ' and Fatima the Younger . Abdullah became emir in 888 , and Onneca 's son Muhammad was named heir to the throne . However , Muhammad was assassinated by his younger half @-@ brother al @-@ Mutarrif on 28 January 891 . There is disagreement among historians as to whether al @-@ Mutarrif acted on his own or at the instigation of his father Abdullah . Al @-@ Mutarrif himself was beheaded in 895 under orders of his father . As a result , Muhammad 's son Abd @-@ ar @-@ Rahman , who was born three weeks prior to his father 's assassination , was the one who succeeded his grandfather Abdullah as emir of Córdoba . Known in the West as Abd @-@ ar @-@ Rahman III , he later elevated himself to the position of caliph .

Onneca was thus the paternal grandmother of Abd @-@ ar @-@ Rahman III , who inherited from her as well as from his mother Muzna hailing from the Pyrenees (probably a Basque) European facial features such as blue eyes and light reddish hair that he attempted to alter (notably through hair coloring) in order to look more typically Arab .

= = Marriage to Aznar Sánchez de Laron = =

In about 880 , after two decades in Córdoba , Onneca abandoned her Muslim family , and returned with her father to Pamplona , to which he would shortly succeed . Shortly after her return , Onneca married her first cousin Aznar Sánchez de Laron . Together they had a son and two daughters , probably born between 880 and 890 : Sancho , Toda and Sancha . Their son Sancho Aznar is only known from the Roda Codex genealogies and may have died young . Their daughters Toda and

Sancha would both become queens consort of Pamplona by marrying into the Jiménez dynasty , which came to power in 905 after displacing Onneca 's father Fortún Garcés from the throne . Toda married Sancho I Garcés , thus uniting the royal houses of Íñiguez and Jiménez . Toda 's sister Sancha was wedded to Sancho I Garcés ' brother and successor Jimeno Garcés , and was later killed in France by her son García Jiménez .

= = Alternative chronology = =

The Roda Codex , the sole source for Onneca 's Christian marriage , places this union with her cousin Aznar Sánchez de Laron before her marriage , as a widow , to Abdullah of Córdoba . Based on this , French historian Évariste Lévi @-@ Provençal developed a chronology for Onneca 's life that placed her birth date around 835 . Lévi @-@ Provençal believed that Onneca did not accompany her father when he returned to Pamplona in 882 , either because she had already died , or because she had converted to Islam and chose to remain in Abdullah 's harem . However , such a chronology is problematic since it implies that Onneca 's children by Aznar were born before or only shortly after her father 's capture in 860 , thus making Onneca 's daughter Toda Aznárez a sexagenarian at the time of her son García Sánchez I 's birth (which is known to have occurred in either 919 or 922) , and nearly a centenarian at the time of her 958 visit to Cordoba . Therefore , most historians addressing the question have concluded that the Roda Codex was in error with regard to the order of Onneca 's two marriages .

= = Legacy = =

Onneca 's historical importance stems from the fact that she provided an important genealogical link between the Muslim caliphs of Córdoba and the Christian kings of Pamplona , as well as between the first two royal dynasties of Pamplona .

= = Family tree = =

The following family tree shows the relationship between Onneca and her immediate relatives . Solid lines indicate descent , while horizontal dashed lines indicate marriage . The names of the three dynasties to which Onneca was directly related are in big capital letters : the Íñiguez dynasty into which she was born and married , the Umayyad dynasty into which she married , and the Jiménez dynasty into which her two Christian daughters married .