

Glossary

The purpose of this glossary is to help readers not familiar with the vocabulary of medieval Italian society. The aim has been to provide brief explanatory keys, not precise or full definitions, to help with the comprehension of some words used in connection with institutions in this book.

1. TOPOGRAPHICAL

1. *Burgi* (also *subburgi*): suburbs, i.e. built-up areas outside the city walls.
2. *Contado*: the area of the commune's jurisdiction outside the city and *Masse* (see below). Its inhabitants are styled *comitatenses* in this book, since the Italian form 'contadini' (= peasants) is ambiguous.
3. *Contrade*: neighbourhoods or regions (not necessarily formal divisions), usually within a city or town.
4. *Masse*: the area close to the city of Siena, the subject of special juridical and fiscal arrangements, being more directly under the commune's authority than the *contado*.
5. *Popoli*: the districts into which Siena was divided, drawing their names mainly from parish churches; they numbered thirty-four in 1318. (Not connected with the institution 'Popolo' described below under 2b.)
6. *Terzi*: the three 'thirds' into which the city of Siena was divided, i.e. Città, San Martino, Camollia.

For further information see *Repertorio* and Redon. The map in the latter work is particularly helpful about the whereabouts and extent of the *Masse*.

2. INSTITUTIONS

A. Connected with the commune

1. *Balia* (plural: *balie*). An *ad hoc* committee.
2. *Biccherna*. The central financial office of the Sienese commune.
3. *Camerlengo* (Latin *camerarius* = chamberlain). The principal financial official of the commune.
4. *Cavallata*. The obligation to perform cavalry service or tax payable in lieu of this.
5. *Consiglio della Campana* or *Consiglio Generale*. The principal council of the commune.

6. *Dazio*. Direct tax.
7. *Dogana*. Fiscal monopoly.
8. *Emendatori*. Officials charged with revising the statutes.
9. *Gabella*. Indirect tax; office concerned with indirect taxation.
10. *Lira* (Latin *libra*). Assessment for direct tax; grouping for direct taxation on a topographical basis.
11. *Maggior sindaco*. Non-Sienese official charged with ensuring obedience to the commune's statutes.
12. *Ordini* (Latin *Ordines*). The leading magistracies, comprising the Provveditori, the consuls of the Mercanzia and the consuls of the Knights (alternatively known as Captains of the Guelf Party).
13. *Parlamento* (or *arena*). General assembly: see chapter 3, excursus 2.
14. *Placitum*. Court of 'pleas', concerned with the wardship of minors.
15. *Podestà*. Principal non-Sienese official of the commune. His own subordinate officials or retainers were sometimes known as his *curia* (court).
16. *Provveditori*. Four principal Sienese officials of the Biccherna.
17. *Radota*. Additional members co-opted to councils.
18. *Savi* (Latin: *sapientes*). Elected advisers, members of *balie*.
19. *Sindacatio*. Process of inspection of accounts etc. of officials on their leaving office.

For the titles of the leading officials at different periods (Twenty-four, Thirty-six, Fifteen, Nine) see table 4.

B. Others

1. *Anziani* (Latin: *antiani*, literally 'elders'). Elected officials, usually of the Popolo.
2. *Arti*. Gilds, i.e. merchant and craft gilds.
3. *Consuls*. Normally applied in this period to officials of gilds, though the 'knights' (i.e. elements not members of the Popolo) also had consuls.
4. *Mercanzia*. The merchant gild.
5. *Popolo*. An organization proclaiming an anti-oligarchical programme (see chapter 5). Unconnected with the topographical unit of the same name. Members: *popolani*. The leading official (captain) from the 1250s was the *Capitano del Popolo*.
6. *Priors*. Office-holders sometimes enjoyed special powers during that part of their period of office when they served as seniors or 'priors'.
7. *Tallia* (literally: 'share'). An alliance embodying an agreement covering military contributions made by its members.

3. MISCELLANEOUS

1. *Balitori*. Messengers.
2. *Bannum*. Judicial ban or outlawry (*rebannimentum*: release from the ban).
3. *Carroccio*. The ceremonial waggon of the commune.
4. *Casato* (plural *casati*). Family; specifically family formally identified as of magnate status, i.e. aristocratic or powerful.
5. *Fondaco* (Latin *fundacus*). A complex of buildings possessed by a leading family; a trader's store; or premises of traders resident in a town or land which is not their own.
6. *Masnadieri*. Followers, retainers.