



Imperial Civil Service Report

Subject: *Solomon of the Shattered Tower*.....

Report: *Firstly, I would like to remind Angelo i Cenezia i Riqueza that our capacity to investigate the veracity of a visionary's visions requires details we can pursue. Thirty-one scribbled words hardly constitutes a solid foundation.*

Particularly as they lack any dates, or clear locations.

..... Nevertheless, a series of murders does leave a mark upon the Empire's history, especially when they took place after Emperor Nicovar's destruction of the libraries.

..... Reference to a City, a Prince and a North Wall, implies one of the Cities of the League. As does the name Leopold. The reference to murders creates a possible event from around 300 YE. If this is the case, then it seems that Solomon did not spend very long in the Labyrinth at all.

..... In this period, in the City of Tassato, there was a spate of murders seemingly aimed at citizens of lineage. Initially, the militia, warrant officers and magistrates had nothing to go on. There was a suspicion that the crimes were linked to a radical element of an organisation called the Society of the Purifying Flame, but there was no evidence to support this.



..... For context, the Society of the Purifying Flame has its origins in Highguard where it began life as a penitent order of Highguard lineage who sought to “purify” their “tainted” souls through extreme acts of mortification, sacrifice and fanatical devotion to the Paths of Virtue. Whilst ostensibly a public organisation, aspects of its inner workings and traditions were not a matter of public record.

.....The Society of the Purifying Flame had, in this period, succeeded in recruiting one Archbishop Benedict di Tassato and his fellow priests of the Way to their cause, in Tassato. The suspicion was that Archbishop Benedict’s agenda was more than the self-purification of lineaged citizens.

.....A warrant officer of the militia by the name of Mario di Regario agreed to train as a Bishop and join the Tassato branch of the Society under Archbishop Benedict.

.....From what we can glean, Bishop Mario was successful in identifying that Archbishop Benedict was co-ordinating, and participating in, the murder of lineaged citizens including, where possible, excommunicating them first so that they would not be reborn and thus their “taint” would die with them.

.....Mario was able to able to gather the evidence that resulted in the arrest, and subsequent execution, of Archbishop Benedict.



However, in order to sufficiently infiltrate the operation to gather this information, Bishop Mario had to actively participate in the murder of lineaged citizens and thus prove his commitment to Archbishop Benedict's cause. Whilst the Cardinal of Vigilance pleaded clemency for Mario's actions, the magistrates regrettably conceded that Mario had knowingly taken the lives of Imperial Citizens and Mario was sentenced to penal military service, during which he was killed in battle.....

.....The Society of the Purifying Flame in Highguard indicated they were shocked and scandalised by the case, and disowned Archbishop Benedict, claiming no knowledge of what the Archbishop's agenda had included, and affirming their commitment to working within Imperial Law. They experienced a decline in public standing and have been less active since.....

.....Unfortunately, we cannot, from the information we have, precisely identify which of the individuals from this event was the past life of Solomon of the Shattered Tower. Given the significance of their parts in this tale, the most likely possibilities are that Solomon is the reincarnation of Archbishop Benedict or Bishop Mario.

.....We have no record of anyone identified as the Professor, nor can we identify any individual by the name of Leopold, and



can only conclude that this is information that was not made a matter of public record that could be found by our cursory investigations. Better resourced research, such as that carried out by the Minister for Historical Research, may be able to assist in that regard.

.....I hope that this report provides some context for the visionary and potentially satisfies them as to the veracity of their vision..

Signed by:..... *Rodrigo di Tassato, civil service.....*

Date: *Winter Solstice, 377 YE.....*