

IC proc. 8233 - Maria de Lousada

Maria de Lousada, a Christian-new, married with Francisco Ramos, a tender, half Christian-new, natural and resident in Vinhais, detained in Coimbra. 1660

Arrested in the morning of 9-2-1658 delivered to the Coimbra Inquisition (IC) warden by Captain António Bandeira de Torre de Moncorvo. When she was checked, she was found with her \$152 reais that were delivered to the treasurer and loaded under her title.

In the afternoon the inquisitors sent IC warden Manuel Quaresma to the 10th cell in the new corridor upstairs.

Accusation

Extracted from the process of Florença de Carrião, New-Christian, widow of Fernando de Lousada, New-Christian, cobbler, native of Bragança and resident in Vinhais, mother of the defendant.

Florença Carrião was arrested for the crimes of Judaism in the IC on 28-12-1657.

At the first session, on 12/29/65, she began to confess her crimes.

She said she was 70 years old.

At the genealogy session on 11-1-1658 she asked to continue his confession.

12-1-1658: Denounced her daughter. Follows the transcription of Florença's process in which she denounces her daughter.

She recalls that four years ago her children went to see her in her house: António de Lousada, New-Christian, cobbler and his wife Isabel Cardoso, also New-Christian; Henrique de Lousada, New-Christian, cobbler and his wife Leonor Mendes, New-Christian; Maria de Lousada, New-Christian, married with Francisco Ramos, half New-Christian, grocer. All residents in Vinhais. Being all together they told her that the next day it was of a great fast, "or another of their law," and that everyone wanted to keep it; and she told them that if she was not so sick she would do it also. All declared themselves believers, living in the Law of Moses in which they waited for their salvation. Two days later, Leonor Mendes, said that everyone had fasted. But they did not say who taught them, nor who they spoke to. Signed at her request by the clerk Bento de Gouveia.

The inquisitors unanimously give ordinary credit to these statements.

Accusation

Extracted from the process of Isabel Cardoso, New-Christian, wife of António de Lousada, cobbler, natural and inhabitant of Vinhais, sister-in-law of the accused.

Isabel Cardoso was arrested for guilty of Judaism and taken to prisons in Coimbra on 15-3-1658. She said she was 35 years old.

She began to confess her guilt on 18-3-1658 and on 23-3-1658 said against this accused the following:

She said that in 12-1657, 8 days after the arrest of her mother-in-law Florença de Carrião, in Vinhais, her brother-in-law Henri (New-Christian, cobbler), Maria (New-Christian married to Francisco Ramos, almocreve) dwellers in Vinhais, and the 3 ones said they believed and lived in the Law of Moses "because she had thus taught the said Florença de Carrião their mother; and then the said Henrique de Louzada and Maria de Louzada both said, and each one by himself, who also were raised and lived in the same Law of Moses, in the same way their mother Florença of Carrião had taught them". She remembers nothing else, having no say with whom and how she practiced the Law.

For not knowing how to read the clerk signed the proceeding.

The inquisitors gave the ordinary credit.

Inventory

3 pages where the creditors of the defendant are included.

Confessions of Maria de Lousada

Several times questioned, she always added new data to her story. The inquisitors, in possession of more complete information given by other defendants, but, in the normal course of procedure, omitting it to the accused, insisted with her to confess all her faults, otherwise would be considered as scanty.

The inquisitors concluding that they would not have a voluntary confession, they decide to send her to torment what happens on 4-2-1660 by 9:45. Admonished and faced with the "things she saw in there" [under the threat of torture], she remembered more facts.

About six years before in her house in Vinhais she was with her cousin André Gonçalves, a New-Christian, cobbler, natural, resident and married in Bragança, both realizing then that they believed in the Law of Moses for the salvation of their souls. She does not know the name of his cousin's wife.

She said that five years before with her second husband, Francisco Ramos, a New-Christian, merchant, they also realized that they believed and lived in the Law of Moses for the salvation of their souls, and for their sake they made Jewish fasts on different days.

She said that about eight years ago in her house with Luís de Sá, a New-Christian, dealer, natural and resident in Bragança, she did not know whether he was married or single, or whose son he was, they realized that they believed in the Law of Moses ("they were both alone").

Also about eight years earlier in her house with a Gonçalo who she does not know the surname, New-Christian, single, but she does not know whose son he is but knows that he is the brother of Isabel Rodrigues the wife of Antonio Dias and of which he had already spoken, cobbler, natural and resident in Bragança, declared themselves, etc.

After this the inquisitors were satisfied.

Genealogy

19-2-1658 begins the genealogy session of Maria de Lousada (see GenoPro file).

Verdict

Heresy and apostasy have been proved, but the confession and repentance of the defendant determines the removal of the greater excommunication. She is sent in auto-da-fé in the usual way and there hear her sentence - abjure publicly and have for perpetual penalty prison and penitential vest. She will be instructed in the causes of faith and more spiritual penalties and penances that are imposed upon her.

Left in the auto-da-fé of 23-5-1660.

Contains abjuration in form and term of release and oath of secrecy, this of 24-5-1660. She is obliged to remain in Coimbra without being able to leave without a license and to present herself whenever she is required.

10-6-1660: License to return to Vinhais, which was designated as her place of imprisonment (the village and its environs) where she could not leave without a license, this for being sufficiently instructed in the faith. She would have to wear the penitential habit over the garments.