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Citation: Conde Solares, Carlos (2011) Social continuity and religious coexistence: the Muslim community of Tudela in Navarre before the expulsion of 1516. *Continuity and Change*, 26 (03). pp. 309-331. ISSN 0268-4160

Published by: Cambridge University Press

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0268416011000233>
<<http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0268416011000233>>

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Social continuity and religious coexistence: the Muslim community of Tudela in Navarre before the expulsion of 1516

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ABSTRACT. This article evaluates the presence of Muslim communities in the Kingdom of Navarre in the late Middle Ages. Following the Christian Reconquest of the Navarrese bank of the Ebro in 1119, a sizeable Muslim community remained in Christian territory until 1516. This article focuses on the fifteenth century, a period for which religious coexistence in the smallest of the Iberian Christian kingdoms is in need of further contextualisation. An analysis of existing scholarship and new archival evidence throws light on the economic activities of the Muslims in Tudela as well as on their relationship with the Navarrese monarchy, their collective identity, their legal systems and their relationships not only with their Christian and Jewish neighbours, but also with other Iberian Muslim communities including those of Al Andalus, or Moorish Iberia.

1. INTRODUCTION

Tudela, which was the main urban settlement of the Merindad de la Ribera throughout the Middle Ages, housed the largest *Mudejar*, Moorish or Muslim community, of the Kingdom of Navarre for over four centuries.¹ In early 1119, the Navarrese–Aragonese kingdom of Alfonso I, also known as ‘the Warrior King’, regained the Navarrese bank of the Ebro for Christianity.² However, the Moors would not leave these lands until 1516 when Navarre, four years after uniting with Castile, finally adopted the 1502 Castilian law which ruled that Moorish communities had to convert to Christianity or else go into exile. During the four centuries

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FIGURE 1. Iberian kingdoms in the early fifteenth century. (Source: Seph Nesbit.)

between 1119 and 1502, the vast majority of the *Mudejar* community remained in Tudela's Moorish quarter (*Morería de Tudela*) as an urban population but, according to primary source documents, there were also other Muslim districts in the rural areas of southern Navarre. These groups existed in the villages of Mosquera, Albea, Ablitas, Ribaforda, Pedrizas, Urzante, Cortes, Valtierra and Murillo de las Limas. There were, therefore, in addition to the urban *Mudejar* community in Tudela, sizeable agricultural Muslim settlements in the fertile valleys of the Merindad de la Ribera where farming was relatively prosperous.

The Muslim communities of Navarre have historically attracted less critical attention than those in the bigger kingdoms of the Iberian peninsula (see Figure 1). However, the social, legal and economic peculiarities of the *Mudejars* in the Ribera of Navarre merit further study because of their unusual relationship with the Christian authority. Akio Ozaki was the first to explore *Mudejar* taxation in Navarre, collating a number of documents from the Municipal Archive of Tudela and from the Archive of Protocols.³ Scholars such as Juan Carrasco have done an invaluable job when it comes to studying medieval taxation in Navarre. Some of Carrasco's works offer a comprehensive picture of Tudela's financial regime in the fifteenth century, which included the Moorish contribution to the economy of the Merindad de La Ribera.⁴ Previously, Mercedes García Arenal had been the first modern scholar to adopt a global approach to the late medieval religious minorities in Navarre,

covering social aspects of both the Jewish and Muslim communities.⁵ However, in order to offer a wider perspective on what life as a religious minority would have been like for the Muslim population, we need to place this minority in context by asking several questions. Why did they stay in Navarre as religious outcasts for four centuries? How did they interact with their Christian and Jewish neighbours? What was their relationship with the monarchy and their legal status? Did they interact with other Muslim communities in the Iberian Peninsula, even with Al Andalus, the region of the peninsula governed by the Moors? Finally, and most importantly, what did they do for employment? Answering these questions will allow us to understand to what extent the Muslims were a well-integrated minority in Navarre. It will also reflect whether their expulsion in 1516 was a consequence of any real social unrest, or if it was part of an ideological agenda of the Catholic Monarchs which had little to do with day-to-day life in that area of the Iberian Peninsula.

The presence of the *Mudejar* community is well documented in the General Archive of Navarre, and also in the Municipal Archive of Tudela. This article aims to answer the above questions in the context of the period 1387 to 1479, which encompassed the reigns of Carlos III and Blanca of Navarre, the turbulent period under Juan II of Navarre–Aragon, the time of influence of Carlos of Viana and the regency of Leonor of Navarre.⁶ Despite being a minority group, the role of the *Mudejar* community, both as a group and as individuals, was key in fifteenth-century Navarre for many reasons, ranging from their generous contribution to the coffers of the kingdom to the way they dominated the arts, crafts and liberal professions. Their location in La Ribera, near a belligerent Castile and in a place of great strategic importance for the economic wealth of the area as well as for its political stability, was also important. The Merindad de la Ribera was loyal to Juan II during the mid-fifteenth-century civil wars and Tudela was also the Kingdom of Navarre's only navigable port allowing access to the Mediterranean.⁷

2. CONTINUITY AND STABILITY: FROM 1119 TO THE REIGN OF CARLOS III (1387–1425)

From the year 1119 up to the first years of Carlos III's reign the situation of the *Mudejar* community in Navarre was relatively stable in terms of its geographical distribution, demography and its position as a minority in a kingdom that also had large Jewish communities. It can be argued that the main difference between the Moorish and Jewish groups in Navarre was that the Moors had a collective identity and were organised as a community, having their own institutions; while the Jews, on the other hand,

were mostly scattered over Navarrese cities and had less cohesion as an autonomous minority.⁸ In the decades before 1119 and the Christian Reconquest of La Ribera, the Muslims of Tudela had a certain measure of autonomy in the form of a *taifa*, an independent Muslim principality.⁹ The structural strength of their small *taifa* remained intact even when they were conquered by the Christians. In fact, the Moorish population of Tudela did not decrease with the Christian Reconquest, as might have been expected, but rather increased considerably, since the number of exiles was largely offset by the arrival of *Mudejar* people from Northern areas of the Navarrese territory and also by other Moors coming from Castile and even Portugal.¹⁰ This phenomenon can be explained by the advantageous capitulation signed in 1119: it secured not only the right for Tudela's Muslim community to stay where it was, but also validated the community's way of life, property rights, legal status and religious practices.¹¹

The *Mudejar* inhabitants of Tudela maintained their privileges until the end of the fifteenth century, as evidenced by the documentation in the General Archive of Navarre's Chamber of Accounts, which relates to their work activities, transactions and the fluidity of their relations with the monarchy. In fact, the only restriction imposed by the 1119 capitulation was that Muslims should live only in the Moorish quarter of Puerta de Velilla, and this was gradually relaxed when it became necessary for the purposes of everyday life. In the fifteenth century itself, a significant proportion of the *Mudejar* population in the tax region of Tudela was living in the *buenas villas* of the Ebro valley, well beyond the margins of the urban Moorish quarter.

The Moors of Tudela paid the same taxes imposed on Christians and Jews for the same kind of commercial activity. However, the overall tax burden on the *Mudejars* was greater than that on either the Christians or the Jews because, as the relevant documents in the Municipal Archive of Tudela reveal, they had to maintain their own Muslim legal and judicial systems, which meant that payments had to be made not only to the inspector of accounts of the Crown (*oidor de comptos*), the tax collector of the Merindad (*recogedor de la merindad*) and the Tudela Attorney General (*justicia de Tudela*), but also to the Ulama (*alfaqui*), the local Muslim religious and legal leaders, in order to finance their own administration.¹² To illustrate the relatively advantageous status of the *Mudejars* on Navarrese soil until the fifteenth century, it can be noted that in 1309, on the occasion of the overall reform of the kingdom's administration, the combined Muslim and Jewish community (*aljama*) of Tudela was granted a tax exemption for many taxable activities on payment of an affordable annual collection of 280 Navarrese pounds, *libras sanchetas*.¹³ For most of

the fourteenth century, the Crown had applied a not very onerous fiscal regime to the *Mudejar* community, given the obvious economic benefits that their presence generated in terms of ordinary income and trade.¹⁴ This scheme included a total exemption from tolls and measurements taxes in 1357 in order to boost business and trade, mainly with Al Andalus.¹⁵ Coexistence on a relatively equal footing with the Christians in the area was reflected in the fact that, according to archival documents from 1382, the Christians and Moors of Tudela both paid the same rates for using the king's mill.¹⁶

By Carlos III's reign in the fifteenth century there was a firmly rooted and well-established *Mudejar* community in the Kingdom of Navarre. It is clear that the Navarrese Crown's attitude in bringing the Reconquest to a close could not be completely detached from the monarchy's perception of their own Muslim communities. Although demographic documentation of the period shows that unconverted Moors made up just over 3 per cent of the entire population in the kingdom, that 3 per cent was of vital economic importance to the Crown's coffers.¹⁷ As an illustration of Carlos III's dubious levels of commitment to the final campaigns of the Reconquest it is interesting to look at a fragment of a confidential letter, signed on 6 June 1404, that the Navarrese king sent to the Nazari Sultan Abū'Abd Allah Muhammad VII. Luis Suárez Fernández, Emilio Mitre, Rachel Arié and Enrique Pérez Boyero have already pointed to the existence of this confidential document in the General Archive of Simancas.¹⁸ This is my translated summary of its second paragraph:

Carlos, by God's grace King of Navarre, to my brother, the King of Granada. I send you all my best wishes, as friends do ... This is to let you know that I am sending as ambassador the chamberlain of my wife the Queen ... to make you aware of some news ... that my brother the King of Castile is coming to Logroño to meet the King of Aragon as well as myself and my wife, and you should know that he is coming in order to plot against you. Hence I advise you to defend your castles and fortresses, as I am being asked to collaborate in an attack against you, which I would never do, as he would plot against me as well, if he could. You know that his will is to conquer every Kingdom around him. Let me know if you need anything from me, as I am intending to send 300 crossbowmen to your aid and three boats full of wheat and many other goods ... My ambassador will be disguised as a merchant pretending to be on a mission to buy silk for my wife the Queen.¹⁹

It is difficult to verify the authenticity of the letter because the document filed in Simancas is a reproduction of a lost original. The actual document was intercepted by Alfonso Fernández de Córdoba, Governor of Alcalá la Real, and revealed to the court of Enrique III in Castile.²⁰ Nevertheless, the contents of this letter seem plausible. It is no surprise that the conquest of Granada was not a priority for Carlos III, who was much more concerned about Castilian expansionism. It is clear that the Reconquest of Granada was more of a threat than an opportunity for keeping the

territory of Navarre intact. Moreover, Carlos III's familiarity with the King of Granada and his pro-Muslim bias in case of conflict also revealed that the Navarrese monarch no longer saw Islam as an immediate threat to his kingdom, just as his thriving *Mudejar* community of Tudela was also seen in a positive light. Whatever we make of it, this document seems to confirm that the policy of cooperation and friendship between Navarre and Castile during the reign of Carlos III was not always as strong and sincere as it has sometimes been understood to be.²¹

3. THE NAVARRESE MONARCHY AND ITS MUSLIM WORKFORCE: PROFILES AND PRAGMATISMS

Accounts documents concerning the relationship between the *aljama* of Tudela and the Crown of Navarre during the reigns of both Carlos III and Juan II show that the understanding between the Navarrese monarchy of the fifteenth century and their *Mudejar* subjects was constant, with a few exceptions, across the entire century, at least until 1492. The Moors took on a wide variety of occupations related to the court, some of which were not strictly undertaken at court. Doctors, squires, architects, musicians, porters, concierges and horsemen would undertake their occupation at court. Others, such as attorneys, shoemakers, wax salesmen, merchants, blacksmiths, carpenters, cuirassiers or lenders would live in the *aljama* of Tudela and the court would be their main customer. For the remaining rural jobs, they would be in the '*buenas villas*', again with the court as one of their main customers.²² Individual cases, taken from relevant documents from the General Archive of Navarre's Chamber of Accounts, can assist in forming a better understanding of what kind of links the *Mudejar* community had with the court.

One of the main economic strengths of the Moorish population was that some lived in the villages on the fertile banks of the Ebro. This allowed them to dominate trade between the agricultural villages and the court, which was the *Mudejars'* main customer. For example, some documents dated between 25 February 1422 and 24 March 1434 mention Ali el Castellano (Ali the Castilian), also referred to as a *moro de Tudela* (a Moor from Tudela) in the files. He was trumpet player to Martín de Lacarra, a rich landowner, but in addition received a number of bonus payments from Carlos III's warden of the exchequer, as he was also in charge of organising the purchase of crops and products from the Muslim farms of southern Navarre.²³ Shortly afterwards, on 1 December 1425, Mahoma de Valencia and Farach, two brothers from the town of Borja, were recorded in various documents as business partners of a certain Roberto, a Christian mercer from Pamplona. This work group was

responsible for the provision of wax and cheese for the royal family.²⁴ Exploitation of livestock in the Southern villages of the Merindad was a very popular activity amongst the rural *Mudejar* population. There is abundant documentation about Moors selling ‘dead meat’, especially lamb and mutton, but also, in some cases, cattle and goats.²⁵ This had obvious implications for urban trades, such as leather manufacture and shoemaking. The Moors also bought and sold live animals in livestock markets of the Merindad. One of the aspects that explained the vibrancy of the *Mudejar* rural community in Navarre is the fact that, in Castile, Muslims were banned from selling food to Christians, unless this was in the form of live animals.²⁶ Clearly, this type of impediment did not exist in Navarre, at least in the fifteenth century.

Between 15 November 1432 and the early months of 1450, Lope Barbicano, another man referred to as a ‘*moro de Tudela*’, was the master carpenter for all royal works, receiving his salary directly from the tax collector of Tudela. Barbicano must have been a key figure for at least 18 years when he was the principal architect during the works that took place to renew and rebuild the castles of Tudela and Corella.²⁷ Barbicano worked with Amet Madraz, Muza Alpelmi and Mahoma de Burgos, a group of local *Mudejar* artists, on the restoration and reconstruction of these two castles. However, he fell from grace in 1450, when Juan II ordered his arrest. He was taken prisoner and replaced by another *Mudejar* architect, Amet Rabanid.²⁸ Eight years after his arrest, in 1458, Barbicano reappeared in Tudela, back in his former role as a royal architect and carpenter. Both blacksmithing and woodwork were popular amongst the Moors of Tudela. The scope of their activity went beyond the Moorish quarter and even beyond the limits of their Merindad, since there are many documents that speak of Moorish carpenters working not only on the castles of Corella and Tudela, but also in the neighbouring Merindad of Olite (see Figure 2). Lope Barbicano, meanwhile, alternated directing works on large castles for the Crown with other minor carpentry-related jobs in private mills, stables, kilns and domestic rooms. He often collaborated on these minor jobs with small work teams of local Moors. One of the most striking team members was a certain Mahoma Madaico. With the title of ‘master of fixing and making boats’ Madaico specialised in rigging boats and worked alongside other Moors in Puente la Reina, again, far from La Ribera.²⁹

The Moors also played an important role in the fruit and vegetable trade. For instance, on 15 October 1434, Amet el Deutón was greengrocer to Diego Gómez de Sandoval, Count of Castro, and Queen Blanca. He received a number of bonus payments from the tax collector of Tudela as a special consideration from the queen.³⁰ Cultivation of the lands of

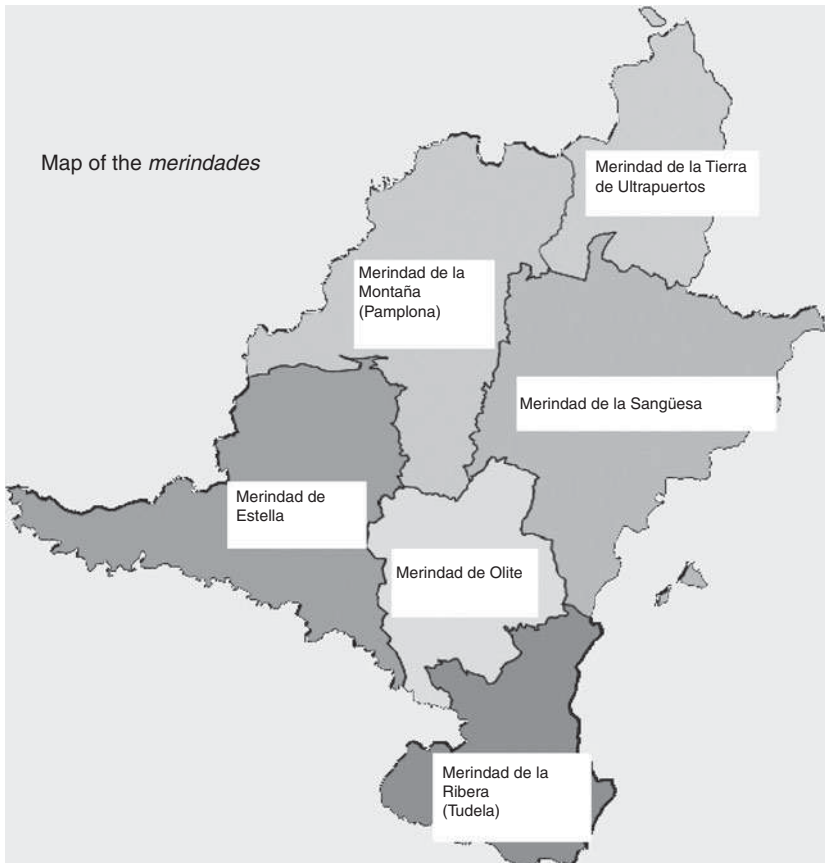


FIGURE 2. Navarre in the fifteenth century. (Source: Seph Nesbit.)

La Ribera was dominated by the *Mudejar* community. According to the village charters for some of the settlements, crops included beans, grapes and olives.³¹ Much of the produce was for domestic consumption; hence taxation in the rural areas was not as high as it was for town-dwelling professionals. Irrigation, incidentally, was one of the most interesting factors in the success of the *Mudejar* rural activity, since it is known that they were not charged any taxes on water usage. The process of extracting water from three different sources in the villages of La Ribera was recorded in Arabic characters, demonstrating that such practices followed Muslim technology and tradition and showed *Mudejar* mastery of the art of natural irrigation, in which Al Andalus particularly excelled.³²

In 1434, Muza Alburet was the governor of the Moorish quarter of Tudela.³³ This *alcadí*, who signed and wrote in Arabic characters, had made a loan of 75 pounds to the Navarrese Crown in 1433; this loan was returned to the Moors on 31 May 1434. Undoubtedly the Moors of Tudela were an invaluable source of funding for the king. The loan of 75 Navarrese pounds amounted to approximately 25 per cent of Tudela's total annual taxation.³⁴ How were the *Mudejars* able to lend such amounts of money? The main source of income for the *Mudejar* community during this period came from blacksmithing.³⁵ They monopolised this business and the Crown was their main customer. For instance, in 1435, Carlos of Viana's servants bought 2 iron torches, 300 cramp irons, a hammer and many other items from Tudela's Moorish forges.

Approaching the mid-fifteenth century, most of the population of Tudela's *aljama* was Muslim. However the city did have two predominantly Jewish quarters, and there were many cases of commercial cooperation between the two religious communities. In 1435, three of the Moorish citizens of the *aljama*, Jayel Cortobí, Amet el Benamí and Ibrahim Alcanello acted as a link between Juan II's chamber and Tudela's Jewish community when the royal family purchased 58 measures of red straw and 34 manufactured chamois surcoats.³⁶ The urban and commercial environment of Tudela did not prevent many of its inhabitants from earning a living through the primary sector of the kingdom's economy, breaking the stereotype of the exclusively urban *aljama*. Such urban trades provided work for about three-quarters of the *Mudejar* population, but their role cannot be fully understood without taking account of the presence of the rural communities. Livestock, for instance, was not only sold (or rented) to ordinary Christian and Jewish citizens, but also to the king's household. As an example of this, on 9 April 1437 Queen Blanca's horsemen, Beltrán Labets and Juan de Sevilla, rented mules and donkeys from the *aljama* of Tudela for use by the queen's entourage.³⁷

When it comes to their social status, however, it is impossible to depict the *Mudejar* community as a whole. Their social mobility in Navarre could, indeed, be remarkable, as the case of Lope Barbicano shows. On 20 January 1436, Mahoma el Culebro was lawyer to nobleman Juan Sarmiento and also squire to King Juan II. His official payment was 100 florins per month and he signed his receipts in Arabic characters.³⁸ Lope Barbicano and Mahoma Culebro were by no means the only privileged Moors of this decade. Perhaps the most remarkable *Mudejar* of this period in Navarre was Muza al Cortobí. From 18 December 1439, at the latest, he was Queen Blanca's personal doctor and physician.³⁹ His annual pension was worth 200 Navarrese pounds, which made him one of the highest-paid courtiers of the whole kingdom, well above most of the

Christian nobility.⁴⁰ Al Cortobí had also been King Juan II's personal doctor from October 1436.⁴¹ This *Mudejar* doctor wrote and signed all his documents using romance characters. Generally, rural Moors and those from the lowest social strata wrote and signed using Arabic characters. On the other hand, and with the only known exception of Mahoma Culebro, Moors of a higher socio-cultural level, such as doctors or architects, signed and wrote using romance characters: their Christian nicknames and their generalised use of Spanish indicate some degree of acculturation. A couple of years later, in 1441, Muza Al Cortobí also became governor of the Moorish quarter, whilst keeping his job as doctor not only to the king and queen but also to Carlos of Viana.⁴²

In 1439 there was evidence that gave a new twist to our understanding of how Muslims and Christians interacted in Navarre. Zalema Amet Margoáin was a *Mudejar* blacksmith and gold trader from Tudela who worked for both Blanca of Navarre and Carlos of Viana and appeared on the warden of the exchequer's payroll.⁴³ One of his jobs was to gild Carlos of Viana's cross and sword immediately before his wedding to Agnes of Cleves. Moors such as Margoáin (who had a Navarrese surname and was presumably the son of a mixed marriage) showed that the mix of Muslim and Navarrese lineages was evident and fairly widespread in Tudela. They were obviously not a majority but there is sufficient archival evidence not to consider his case an anomaly. Margoáin also worked in partnership with Amet Abenaví and Mahoma Ali in the provision of steel crossbows for Carlos of Viana's entourage; all three Muslims also worked permanently for Blanca of Navarre's chamber. The vast majority of the *Mudejar* families working for both Blanca and her son Carlos had previously served Carlos III. This was the legitimate line of succession to the Kingdom of Navarre, and the Prince of Viana, who received his education from his grandfather Carlos III in the castle of Olite, inherited many of the staff that had worked for him, including his *Mudejar* subjects and their descendants.

Therefore, amongst the Navarrese monarchy, Carlos of Viana had the closest relationship with the *Mudejar* community of Tudela, particularly with the blacksmiths. Mahoma Alucería and Juce Almunia were two of his suppliers in 1442.⁴⁴ They sold golden coffers and luxury chains for Carlos of Viana's hunting dogs. Alucería and Almunia belonged to the large contingent of skilled Muslim blacksmiths that worked from Tudela for the royal family. In this category we include all those who were defined not only as blacksmiths, but also with such specific job descriptions as cuirassiers, suit of armour manufacturers, locksmiths, caretakers (in charge of fixing broken items) and weapon manufacturers (who supplied everything from crossbows to cannons). The Muslim blacksmiths of

Tudela who produced suits of armour even specialised in specific parts such as spears, axes, grids, harnesses, revebraces (arm protection) and vambraces (wrist protection), gauntlets (hand protection), bascinets (open-faced helmets), pauldrons (shoulder protection), gussets (joint protection), faulds (decorated abdomen protection) or plackarts (chest protection).⁴⁵ The royal armies were their main customers, giving them some very lucrative business and a very close relationship with knights, nobility and members of the royal family, in particular with Prince Carlos of Viana.

However, relations between the prince and the *Mudejar* community were by no means restricted to blacksmithing; in fact, they were not even restricted to the Navarrese Muslim *aljama*. There is evidence of a certain Valencian *Mudejar*, Impit, who brought sweets, marshmallows and fine desserts from Valencia and from Al Andalus to Tudela, following specific requests from the prince.⁴⁶ As it was his family's custom, Carlos of Viana also inherited his mother Blanca's personal doctor, Muza al Cortobí. He appointed him as his personal physician on 6 April 1442, after his mother's death, with a 50 per cent increase in his annual salary, from 200 to 300 Navarrese pounds.⁴⁷ According to the document, this increase was a bonus in gratitude for his services to Queen Blanca in her final months. Viana was particularly generous with his *Mudejar* servants, as shown by the countless documents reflecting special donations from the prince to the Moors, some of whom worked in his chamber. At least three of them were Viana's horsemen in 1443, when the prince bought several surcoats, capes and other pieces of clothing and equipment for them.⁴⁸ In 1444, Viana bought 900 iron sabatons, a piece of armour for the foot, from *Mudejar* blacksmiths Mahoma el Alí and Ibrahim Alcanit. Apart from this, there was also a healthy trade between the Navarrese *aljama* and other *Mudejar* settlements of the Iberian Peninsula.

During the 1440s, Navarrese Moors, including Juce de Ayn and Mahoma Berraguera, imported large amounts of cereal from the *aljama* of Zaragoza, part of which they then exported to Al Andalus. At the same time these two merchants imported jewellery from Valencia for the Navarrese queen.⁴⁹ As we have seen, the Navarrese Moors were able to import cereal with ease from their co-religionists in Aragon and controlled much of Navarre's wheat, barley and oats production, most of which was cultivated in La Ribera.⁵⁰ The much-reduced Al Andalus of the fifteenth century, isolated in the Iberian peninsula's dry South, lacked these basic products which increasingly resulted in their Muslim settlements becoming bankrupt. The Navarrese authorities used this to their advantage, exporting cereal crops to the Muslim South from a very advantageous position and taxing their *Mudejar* community for this very profitable business. Carlos III, as noted earlier, aware of Al Andalus's

increasing failure to supply itself with grain, had promised the King of Granada ‘boats of cereal’ in his confidential letter of 1404.⁵¹

Although the Prince of Viana had the closest relationship with Tudela’s *Mudejar* community, King Juan II and his second wife Juana Enríquez also had Muslim servants. The Castilian Enríquez, in particular, had a personal porter, called Juce el Catalán, in charge of transporting her luggage from Zaragoza to Tudela and Estella on 23 October 1450.⁵² In the 1450s, the Ulama of Tudela was Jayel Thari, who appeared in several documents lending funds to the Crown.⁵³ These funds were usually returned within a year, although this was not always the case.⁵⁴ Remarkably, Navarre’s external policy changed dramatically once Juan II and Juana Enríquez took power in both Navarre and Aragon. This change, of course, also affected Navarre’s policy towards Al Andalus, which became much more belligerent.⁵⁵ A few months before Alfonso V’s death, Juan II was already managing Aragonese affairs before his coronation in 1458. Around 1457, for instance, several villages of the Merindad de la Ribera, which included the *aljamas* of Tudela and the banks of the Ebro, were paying special taxes for the ‘war against the Moors’; taxes which the *Mudejar* population also paid.⁵⁶

This does not seem to have been problematic for a community that saw itself as subject both to their Ulama and to the King of Navarre. In fact, the Navarrese–Aragonese army had plenty of *Mudejar* foot soldiers in its ranks. In the late 1450s, it is obvious that the final stages of the Reconquest were not a holy war for the Navarrese–Aragonese Crown but rather a proxy war with Castile for domination of the Iberian Peninsula. In this context, the Navarrese Moors were not seen as enemies; they were subjects who played a very important strategic role in both financial and military terms. As was the case in other Iberian kingdoms, *Mudejar* subjects were involved in military action.⁵⁷ However, there were times such as immediately after the capitulation of Tudela, when members of the Muslim communities did not have direct military obligations, although evidence suggests that even during these periods Moors were still recruited as mercenaries.⁵⁸ Moreover, Navarrese Moors referred to as ‘*maestro balletero del Rey*’ (master crossbowman of the king) and ‘*maestro de artillería*’ (master of artillery) were not just blacksmiths but were, in fact, military engineers building all sorts of weapons, even cannons, for the Christian army.⁵⁹

4. COLLECTIVE TAXATION: THE KING AND THE ULAMA

One of the best ways to analyse the evolution of the *Mudejars* as a group in Navarre from 1119 to 1516 is to consider how they collectively paid

taxes. Documents suggest that stability was the common denominator for centuries: the Moors of La Ribera were subject to a relatively flexible tax regime. This partly explains the large numbers of Moorish citizens from other regions arriving in Tudela in the four centuries following 1119. However, internal taxation (that is, taxes paid to the Ulama, not the Crown's tax collector) was always an extra burden for the Moorish community. Evidence of this can be found in the Municipal Archive of Tudela and also in the Tudela Archive of Protocols, as payment of internal taxation did not involve the kingdom's central administration.⁶⁰ Tudela's fourteenth-century census enumerated 30 occupations and goods subject to tax by the royal court of Navarre, which was normally in Pamplona.⁶¹ In Tudela itself occupations included butchers, blacksmiths, shoemakers or wicker workers, and goods as disparate as ovens, ornaments, sawbuck packsaddles, tree gratings and textiles.⁶² In the rural areas Muslims paid taxes on their rented lands, vineyards, mills and hunting areas.⁶³ Some of them also paid rent on their houses. Other sources of income for the Crown were fines received and loans from the Muslims; these loans were interest free and the Christian king often decided if they were repaid. We do know that the *Mudejars* enjoyed the same community facilities as their Christian neighbours in Tudela, both in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.⁶⁴ These included, for instance, four Turkish baths that were shared by the whole population and not subject to any extra tax, as they were in Valencia.⁶⁵ This relaxed practice was unthinkable in other areas of the Iberian Peninsula, including Castile and Al Andalus.

Nevertheless, it is of interest here to evaluate the *Mudejars'* overall contribution to Navarrese coffers with evidence from documents held in the General Archive of Navarre. Perhaps the most revealing of those documents is a paper dated 10 April 1421, in which Muslim taxes were listed by type.⁶⁶ According to this receipt, the annual contribution of the whole Muslim *aljama* of La Ribera (including both Tudela and the rural villages) was 375 Navarrese pounds; 300 levied from Tudela and 75 from the villages, giving a very clear representation of the relative weight of the *Mudejar* urban and rural economies. Obviously, the larger part of their gross economic profit came from trade in the city, but that a fifth of that profit came from the primary sector was significant and partly explains the buoyancy of their trade.

During the final years of Carlos III's reign, in the 1420s, the global *Mudejar* tax in Navarre (*pecha de los moros*) included tolls, weights and measures. These had been eliminated in the fourteenth century as a result of the Black Death and the subsequent loss of population, but they were reintroduced in this period of relative stability.⁶⁷ In 1422, the tax collector for the *Mudejar aljama* was Godofre, Count of Cortes, natural son of

King Carlos III. In that same year the Crown exempted the blacksmiths Ibrahim Madexa and Mahoma el Halí from all taxes and the whole Muslim community saw a cut of one-third in overall taxation.⁶⁸ This document also explains how royal architect Lope Barbicano and members of his family (a son and a grandson) were also exempted from paying any taxes.⁶⁹ Even though the *Mudejar* population remained relatively stable, these documents also allow glimpses of possible movement of people between different settlements and different environments.⁷⁰ During the period from the late 14th century to the late 15th century, the urban areas of Tudela seemed to grow in economic activity; while, at the same time, certain villages slowly lost Moorish inhabitants as, for example, in the case of Monteagudo. In 1423, after Pedro de Uncastillo, then tax collector of La Ribera, informed him that the Muslim population of Monteagudo was now too small to pay the full amount of their taxes, King Carlos III instructed the treasury that the Moors of Monteagudo did not need to pay any taxes for their production of wheat and barley and that all the rents they were paying were to be halved.⁷¹

Following Juan II and Blanca of Navarre's accession to the Navarrese throne, the situation remained fairly advantageous for the *Mudejar* community, at least in the early years of their reign. Soon after his coronation, Juan II ordered the tax collectors of La Ribera to respect and implement the 29 pounds remission on the 1429 fiscal year granted to the Moors of Ablitas, after military skirmishes caused damage to their village.⁷² Perhaps more interestingly, Muslims and Christians in the rural south of Navarre appear to have suffered similar difficulties in the 1430s and, remarkably, they reacted together. On 26 November 1433, for example, as a result of a Muslim and Christian lawsuit against Martín de Lacarra, referred to in the records as '*ricohombre*' (a rich man, possibly a landowner of a large estate), Juan II ruled that both Muslims and Christians from Cortes had the right of passage and the right to work in the Monte del Rey estate.⁷³

During the years of border instability that followed Juan II's arrival in Navarre, it was fairly common for Moors who lived outside the walls of Tudela to suffer the consequences of occasional battles against Castile. This explained much of the noticeable decrease in population (both Muslim and Christian) in certain rural areas. For this reason, Juan II exempted the *Mudejar* communities of Valtierra and Murillo de las Limas from paying half of their annual taxation for 1434. In addition, in 1435, the king forgave all the clergy, laymen, Christians and Moors the 100 Navarrese pounds they owed from previous years as a consequence of both the troubles caused by Castilian troops and a hailstorm which had ruined a significant proportion of their crops.⁷⁴ Already in the 1440s, and under the stewardship of *alcadi* Muza al Cortobí, the annual taxation for

the Moors of Tudela was still 300 Navarrese pounds, the same as decades before under the reign of Carlos III.⁷⁵ All other taxes rose during the same period and there is no evidence of a decrease in the population of Tudela at the time. Therefore, this could be understood as a rather favourable tax policy. Indeed, the king took care to make sure that taxes for his Muslim communities were fair: on 7 September 1444, Juan II, ruling against the tax collector of Ablitas, who was found to be corrupt, reminded him that he should not charge the *Mudejar* community of Ablitas for taxes that they did not have to pay.⁷⁶

Inevitably, the clashes between Juan II and Carlos of Viana were also to bring consequences in terms of the tax burden, not only for the *Mudejars* but for the whole of Navarre, as the population of La Ribera and that of the rest of the *merindades* had to pay taxes to both Juan and Carlos during the civil wars. In 1449, just before hostilities began, La Ribera and the South remained loyal to Juan II. An important document of 4 February 1449 explains how Jaime Díaz de Aux, one of Viana's men, received the *aljama's* 300 Navarrese pounds annual contribution in compensation for losing the castle of Corella to Juan de Beamont, Chancellor of the Beamont party who supported Viana.⁷⁷ In the 1450s further tax exemptions applied in rural *Mudejar* areas. The most significant was in 1457, when Juan II decided that the Muslim contingent of Cortes should not pay any taxes because of their poor harvest.⁷⁸ The situation, however, worsened during the 1460s and 1470s, under the regency of Leonor of Navarre. Some rural communities accumulated substantial debts to the Crown, and on 8 April 1476, it demanded that both the Christians and Muslims of Cortes pay at least half of what they owed with immediate effect.⁷⁹

5. CRIME AND SOCIAL UNREST: AN ARTIFICIAL END TO FOUR CENTURIES OF PEACE

Documents that illustrate the *Mudejar* contribution to Navarre's economy as well as their professional activities have so far been analysed, but in order fully to understand how the community evolved and became part of everyday life amongst the general population of the kingdom, it is important to consider crime and social unrest. Were the three religious groups able to coexist peacefully? The General Archive of Navarre holds only a handful of sentences and rulings referring to conflicts between Muslims. This is because, following legal customs dating from the twelfth century, the *Mudejar* community applied its own law in cases where the conflict only involved Muslims. The Ulama sometimes appealed to the Merindad's Attorney General, or even to the Crown's authority, for

arbitration but this did not happen very often.⁸⁰ Documents recording the rulings concerning conflicts between Moors are mostly held today in the Municipal Archive in Tudela.

Such rulings reveal clear, pragmatic links between *Mudejar* institutions and Christian authorities: the two structures were complementary. Throughout the entire fifteenth century, no more than 15 trials between Moors and Christians were reported. Records of many more trials can be found in the Tudela Municipal Archive and Archive of Protocols, the vast majority of which relate to conflicts between Muslims and disputes between Muslims and Jews.⁸¹ When it comes to sentences involving *Mudejar* subjects, therefore, both victim and perpetrator often belonged to the same religious community.⁸² Instances of attacks by the Christian majority against the Muslim minority were virtually non-existent. Judicial documents from both the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries show that the most common crime amongst Christians was homicide, with debt and blasphemy most frequent amongst the Jews and domestic violence (normally perpetrated by men but against both men and women) amongst the Muslims.⁸³ Very few homicides occurred in the *Mudejar* community in the fifteenth century. Homicide was punished with a fine of 25 Navarrese pounds, if it were committed outside the walls of the city and 50 Navarrese pounds if the crime were committed within the walls.⁸⁴ The full amount was very rarely paid, and most sentences are followed by the phrase 'because he is poor and would not be able to pay the fine for this homicide'.⁸⁵ In the fourteenth century, under Navarrese law, homicide was punishable by death but, in view of the low incidence of this particular crime within the Muslim community, royal authority allowed the Ulama to pass sentence.⁸⁶ Therefore, there were no death sentences against Muslims passed by either the royal authority or the Attorney General of Tudela throughout the entire fifteenth century. The Ulama, on the other hand, applied very strict Islamic law and meted out very severe sentences including the death penalty, particularly in punishment for sexual crimes.

The cases of conflict between Moors and Christians were few and far between. For example, on 26 February 1423, the court ruled against the wife of Amet de Ruillar, a Moor from Valtierra, for insulting Sancha, the wife of Gonzalo, a Christian miller.⁸⁷ Such a ruling is rare because it was normally *Mudejar* men who were involved in this kind of conflict.⁸⁸ In order to illustrate the equal standing between Christians and Moors when it came to judicial sentences, the Court's judges punished crimes perpetrated by Muslims with the same fines as those imposed on crimes committed by Christians.⁸⁹ On 22 September 1433, for instance, the *justicia de Tudela* condemned Christian Pedro González, from Cascante, for throwing a stone at Juce de Gali, a Moor from Monteagudo, and making

him bleed.⁹⁰ González was fined 67 *salarios* and 6 *dineros*. The fine was always the same for the same violent act, whether it was between Muslims, whether it involved a Muslim striking a Christian or vice versa, or whether it was an act of violence between men or women. The same fine was paid for assaulting a priest or a representative of the king's authority. When the Christian governor of Valtierra was punched in the face by a *Mudejar*, the latter was given exactly the same fine as Pedro González: 67 *salarios* and 6 *dineros*. Again in 1433, there was also a very interesting joint sentence passed down from both the Christian and Islamic courts when a Christian subject from Ablitas, Miguel de Villamayor, was fined by both the court prosecutor and by Juce Granada, Ulama of Tudela.⁹¹ It is noteworthy that most court rulings involving *Mudejars* were from rural areas. Clearly, the *alfaquí* was perfectly able to control the self-contained urban environment of the *aljama* in Puerta de Velilla, but when conflicts occurred outside the walls of the city, he sometimes had to rely on central administration to help him enforce the law.

There were a few examples of convictions dictated by the court's attorney within the *aljama*, such as one on 11 March 1441, in which *Mudejar* Armiseu, from Tudela, was condemned to pay a fine of 7 Navarrese pounds and 10 *salarios*, for wounding Pedro el Bueno, his Christian neighbour. In the following file, Pedro el Bueno was fined the same amount for wounding Armiseu.⁹² Throughout the century, the Christian authorities very rarely became involved in conflicts between Muslims, and virtually every time this happened, the incident took place outside the limits of the Merindad de la Ribera. On 15 March 1441, for example, Zalema Roldán paid a fine after a fight against his fellow *Mudejar* Alparent, which had taken place in Olite, outside the Ulama's jurisdiction.⁹³

The number of trials involving Moors corresponded almost perfectly with the percentage of Moors in the population.⁹⁴ There were more fights and quarrels between Moors and Jews, however. In 1441 alone there were several rulings against *Mudejar* people for causing bodily harm to Jews in fights.⁹⁵ Mahoma Goalit paid three florins for wounding Alamanet, a Jew from Tudela's Jewry, without causing any bleeding. On the same day, 10 March 1441, Zalema Roldán, a *Mudejar*, was convicted of wounding Cabanillas, a Jew. A few months later, Muza Milartes, a Muslim blacksmith from Tudela, wounded Judas Levi, a Jew. On the same day, Mahoma Atorrelli was fined for assaulting Moisés Lobo, another Jew from Tudela.

Documents concerning violence against women and sexual crimes are, however, the most significant, without a doubt because they show a cultural clash between both legal systems. The Christian authorities rarely

became involved in other types of dispute between Muslims, but they did so quite frequently when it came to domestic violence. A sentence from 18 November 1441 fined *Mudejar* Ibrahim Atorrelli for assaulting his sister, Genti Atorrelli.⁹⁶ Both the Christian authorities and the Ulama signed death sentences for rape and sexual deviation, including a case of bestiality (*'en fazer quemar a un moro el qual fue sentenciado porque cohabitó con una asna'*, which in English translates to 'to burn a Moor condemned for having slept with a donkey') and one of sodomy (*'Moro que fue quemado en Arguedas por razón de que yacía con otros'*, which in English translates to 'a Moor was burnt in Arguedas because he slept with others').⁹⁷ Adulterous relationships, however, were punished relatively lightly, with fines of 60 *salarios* (significantly less than those for physical assaults). There are cases (although very rare) of Muslim women who had adulterous relations with Christian men. The fines for this type of activity were negligible (about 30 *salarios*), although in the fourteenth century, a Christian prostitute had been burned at the stake after being convicted of offering her services in the Moorish community.⁹⁸

Sexual crimes, although extremely rare, caused more social concern than murder, which was rarely punished with the death penalty, the culprit being most often imprisoned, exiled or fined. As far as can be documented, serious crimes were rare in the fifteenth century, to such an extent that only one or two cases of murder or rape per decade could be identified in the records. Another peculiarity of the relations between the two parallel justice systems had to do with the fact that the Christian authorities were sometimes used as a court of appeal when a convict felt that the punishment meted out by the Ulama had been excessive. On 18 May 1452, the Court's attorney decreed there should be a pardon awarded in the case of three Moors (Amet, Muza Sevilla and Mahoma Xeteví) who had been fined by the Ulama following a fight.⁹⁹ The file highlights that the pardon was granted through the intercession of the queen: two of the Moors were Juana's porters.

All in all, the documents consulted appear to show that the *Mudejar* community of Navarre was, indeed, a very stable and well-integrated minority. The professional activity they undertook was profitable both for themselves and for the Crown, and their varied profiles and skills meant that the kingdom had a very valuable workforce to exploit the fertile lands on the banks of the Ebro, and a dynamic group of people who were an asset in terms of internal and external trade and manufacturing. The *aljama* was a constant source of income for the Navarrese monarchy, and the rate of social unrest was constantly low throughout the centuries, even when, under Juan II, Navarre actively engaged in the Reconquest. Both Carlos III and Carlos of Viana had a very close relationship with their

Moorish subjects, and the fact that neither of them was willing to support Castile in the culmination of the Granada campaigns should be counted as further evidence. Even under Juan II, the *Mudejar* community was valued and respected, received tax exemptions and was generally treated fairly and with a more advantageous autonomy than that accorded to other minorities in different parts of the Iberian Peninsula. The overall picture between 1119 and the expulsion of the Navarrese Moors in 1516 was one of stability, continuity, mutual respect and collaboration.¹⁰⁰ This was a picture that would change abruptly in 1516, when four centuries of peaceful coexistence were discarded.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are owed to Seph Nesbit for his help in producing the maps.

ENDNOTES

- 1 The *merindades* were administrative divisions smaller than a province but bigger than a municipality. These subdivisions were exclusive to the Kingdom of Navarre and their names corresponded to those of the breed of sheep that was predominant in each. They are still in existence today. The Merindad de la Ribera was the Southern part of the Navarrese Kingdom, and the Ribera del Ebro (banks of river Ebro), the farming and agricultural stronghold of Navarre. The *Mudejar* community was made up of Muslims who were allowed to keep their religion, culture and a great deal of their autonomy after the Reconquest reached Navarre. Many others joined this particular community from other parts of the Iberian Peninsula where conditions for the *Mudejar* were rather less favourable.
- 2 See Juan Carrasco, 'Las imposiciones en las Buenas Villas del Reino de Navarra: Tudela a mediados del siglo XV', *Príncipe de Viana* 233 (2004), 790.
- 3 See Akio Ozaki, 'El régimen tributario y la vida económica de los mudéjares de Navarra', *Príncipe de Viana* 178 (1986), 437–84.
- 4 Carrasco, 'Las imposiciones', 789–866.
- 5 Mercedes García Arenal, *Los moros y judíos de Navarra en la Baja Edad Media* (Madrid, 1984).
- 6 Carlos III reigned from 1387 to 1425. His daughter Blanca I was Queen of Navarre from 1425 to 1441. Juan II was consort King of Navarre from 1425 to 1441, King of Navarre from 1441 to 1458 and King of Aragon from 1458 until his death in 1479 when he was succeeded by his younger son Fernando, who would eventually become the Catholic monarch. Carlos of Viana, older son of Juan II and legitimate heir to the throne of Navarre was born in 1421 and died in 1461. Juan's refusal to concede the throne to Carlos sparked the Navarrese civil wars, fought between the clans of Beaumont, who supported Viana, and Agramunt, supporters of Juan II. Leonor I reigned from 1464 to 1479.
- 7 See Carrasco, 'Las imposiciones', 789.
- 8 Jewish communities in medieval Navarre have been thoroughly studied by Carrasco. See Juan Carrasco, 'Juderías y sinagogas en el reino de Navarra', in Ana María López

- Álvarez and Ricardo Izquierdo Benito eds., *Juderías y sinagogas de la sefard medieval* (Cuenca, 2003), 295–340.
- 9 García Arenal, *Los moros y judíos de Navarra*, 63.
 - 10 García Arenal highlights how the conditions following the 1119 capitulation were very favourable for the Moors of Tudela, much more so than in Castile, Portugal or even Aragon; García Arenal, *Los moros y judíos de Navarra*, 62–4. Segura Urrea points out that this only applied to those who lived in the *taifa* – then *morería* – of Tudela; Félix Segura Urrea, ‘Los mudéjares navarros y la justicia regia: cuestiones penales y peculiaridades delictivas en el siglo XIV’, *Anaquel de Estudios Árabes* 14 (2003), 241. Considering that these were the vast majority and that rural *Mudejar* communities were generally very wealthy, I have to agree with García Arenal’s perceptions, especially in view of the fifteenth century Accounts and Judicial documents. With regards to *Mudejar* immigration from Portugal, García Arancón follows specific cases, with her focus on the thirteenth century; Raquel García Arancón, ‘Martín Sánchez, un andalusí converso en Navarra (c. 1230–c. 1263)’, *Anaquel de Estudios Árabes* 3 (1992), 217–22.
 - 11 See Carrasco, ‘Juderías y sinagogas’, 134.
 - 12 The Ulama was a religious authority, a committee of several men. In Tudela, they exercised internal judicial power and law enforcement within the *Mudejar* community. The leader of this committee was also called the Ulama.
 - 13 See Ozaki, ‘El régimen tributario’, 440.
 - 14 *Ibid.*, 441.
 - 15 Soler Milla studied Iberian commercial routes involving the *Mudejar* community, with special emphasis on the Valencian *aljama*; Juan Leonardo Soler Milla, ‘Comercio musulmán versus comercio cristiano: la actividad de los mercaderes mudéjares y la producción de las *aljamas* sarracenas. Valencia, primera mitad del siglo XIV’, *Revista de Historia Medieval* 14 (2006), 229–47. The Moors of Navarre were active in Peninsular trade with Al Andalus, both directly and via Valencia.
 - 16 Ozaki, ‘El régimen tributario’, 441.
 - 17 Carrasco, ‘Las imposiciones’, 789–866; García Arenal, *Los moros y judíos de Navarra*.
 - 18 Luis Suárez Fernández, ‘Castilla (1350–1406)’, in Ramón Menéndez Pidal ed., *Historia de España* (Madrid, 1966), vol. 14, 374; Emilio Mitre, ‘Enrique III, Granada y las Cortes de Toledo de 1406’, in *Homenaje al profesor Emilio Alarcos García* (Valladolid, 1965–1967), 379; Rachel Arié, *L’Espagne musulmane au temps des Nasrides (1232–1492)* (Paris, 1973), 123–4; Enrique Pérez Boyero, ‘Un mensaje confidencial de Carlos III el Noble al Rey de Granada’, *Príncipe de Viana* 194 (1991), 69.
 - 19 Original reproduction in General Archive of Simancas, State Paper 1–1°, fol. 140. The meeting referred to in the letter, incidentally, never took place.
 - 20 Pérez Boyero, ‘Un mensaje confidencial’, 69.
 - 21 *Ibid.*, 69–70.
 - 22 Ladero found very similar occupations among the *Mudejar* communities in Castile and Christian Andalusia; Miguel Ángel Ladero, ‘Los mudéjares de Castilla en la Baja Edad Media’, in *Actas del I Simposio Internacional de Mudejarismo* (Teruel, 1981), 349–90.
 - 23 General Archive of Navarre, Chamber of Accounts (hereafter AGN-Accounts), 108, No. 6, 87 and 133, No. 22, 9.
 - 24 AGN-Accounts, 125, No. 3, 5.
 - 25 Ladero, ‘Los mudéjares de Castilla’, 379–80.
 - 26 Ladero, ‘Los mudéjares de Castilla’, 380.
 - 27 AGN-Accounts, 132, No. 28, 11 and others. Ozaki reported him accompanying Carlos III to Paris in 1405; see Ozaki, ‘El régimen tributario’, 452. This anachronism suggests

- that there might have been two generations of Barbicanos working for the Navarrese crown during the fifteenth century.
- 28 AGN-Accounts, 152, No. 23, 67, signed 11 July 1450 reported the arrest of Lope Barbicano, former royal architect, accused on charges of embezzlement.
- 29 Ozaki, 'El régimen tributario', 453.
- 30 AGN-Accounts, 133, No. 24, 65.
- 31 Ozaki, 'El régimen tributario', 478.
- 32 See Eduardo Manzano Moreno, 'El regadío en Al Andalus: problemas en torno a su estudio', *En la España Medieval* **8** (1981), 617–32.
- 33 AGN-Accounts, 133, No. 15, 41.
- 34 AGN-Accounts, 107, No. 9, 49.
- 35 AGN-Accounts, 137, No. 26, 5.
- 36 AGN-Accounts, 138, No. 10, 15.
- 37 AGN-Accounts, 141, No. 6, 6.
- 38 AGN-Accounts, 138, No. 2, 14.
- 39 AGN-Accounts, 142, No. 17, 11.
- 40 Juan Carrasco worked out the approximate exchange rates between the different currencies used in Navarre and Aragon half way through the fifteenth century; Juan Carrasco, 'Los bienes de Fortuna de Mosse Benjamín, judío de Tudela (1432)', *Príncipe de Viana* **189** (1990), 91.
- 41 AGN-Accounts, 139, No. 31.
- 42 AGN-Accounts, 147, No. 6, 6.
- 43 AGN-Accounts, 147, No. 5, 17 and No. 11, 18 and others, between 8 May 1440 and 13 August 1441 at least.
- 44 AGN-Accounts, 147, No. 15, 17 and No. 20, 20, from 2 March 1442 and 12 March 1442.
- 45 Ozaki enumerated some of the pieces of equipment and ornaments that they produced: 'mallas, arneses, bracerotes, guanteletes, bacinetes, ... braserueles, camadeleros, arnadelas, crisuelos...' See Ozaki, 'El régimen tributario', 447–8.
- 46 AGN-Accounts, 147, No. 20, 68.
- 47 AGN-Accounts, 149, No. 45, 1.
- 48 AGN-Accounts, 147, No. 23, 34.
- 49 AGN-Accounts, 152, No. 28, 20. Carlos of Viana's relation with the *Mudejar* community remained strong during his years of conflict and confrontation against his father. Anecdotally, but still significantly, Viana bought the linen, silks and fabrics required by his wife Agnes of Cleves on her deathbed from the Moor Ezmel, from Tudela, on 6 June 1448 (AGN-Accounts, 152, No. 16, 33). He also purchased six pairs of shoes for her funeral from *Mudejar* shoemaker Abdalá Culebro (AGN-Accounts, 154, No. 54, 4). Shoemaking was a very common job for Muslims in the *aljama*. However, it was nowhere near as profitable as other trades or blacksmithing. Most shoemakers also sold other products such as wine (see Ozaki, 'El régimen tributario', 454).
- 50 Ozaki, 'El régimen tributario', 474.
- 51 Pérez Boyero, 'Un mensaje confidencial', 69–72.
- 52 AGN-Accounts, 152, No. 25, 32.
- 53 See n. 12.
- 54 AGN-Accounts, 170, No. 1, 19.
- 55 Juan II, a Castilian, married to another Castilian and with his focus firmly on securing power in the larger Christian kingdoms of Castile and Aragon, implemented a very different policy to that of Carlos III, whose aim was a defensive one (to preserve

- Navarre's territory from the growing powers of Aragon and, in particular, Castile). Juan II's agenda was expansionist and, in many senses, a prelude to the Reconquest of Granada by his son Fernando (Ferdinand the Catholic).
- 56 AGN-Accounts, 170, No. 25, 6.
- 57 Muslim soldiers were, indeed, very important to Christian armies of the fifteenth century. Perhaps the most remarkable case was Álvaro de Luna's Castilian army. Luna's troops included many *Mudejar* soldiers, most of them brought by Gutierre de Sotomayor from Magacela. Their role in the first battle of Olmedo is believed to have been decisive. See Edward Cooper, *Castillos señoriales en la corona de Castilla* (Salamanca, 1991), 117.
- 58 Ozaki, 'El régimen tributario', 450.
- 59 Ozaki defined them as 'ingenieros'; see *Ibid.* Edward Cooper suggests that the *tiro del puente*, a cannon that was used in Tudela in the fifteenth century, could have come from Bordeaux, although the *Mudejar* blacksmiths of Navarre were perfectly capable of producing such weapons; Cooper, *Castillos señoriales*, 68. This cannon is now on display in Madrid's Museum of the Spanish Army.
- 60 See García Arenal, *Los moros y judíos de Navarra*, 13. Carrasco studied taxation in La Ribera through documental analysis of the Municipal Archive of Tudela between the years of 1480 and 1521; Juan Carrasco, 'La hacienda municipal de Tudela a fines de la Edad Media (1480–1521)', *En la España Medieval* 7 (1985), 89–132.
- 61 Ozaki, 'El régimen tributario', 440–60.
- 62 A tree grating was a metallic web used around the base of a tree for several purposes, such as integrating the tree in an urban environment, 'beautifying' a garden or integrating irrigation systems. Tree gratings are of particular interest because of their obvious impact on the natural irrigation of crops. The *Mudejar* were not taxed on water usage, partly because their use of water was very efficient and technologically sound.
- 63 Ozaki, 'El régimen tributario', 440–60.
- 64 *Ibid.*, 442.
- 65 See Robert Burns, *Muslims, Christians and Jews in the Crusader Kingdom of Valencia* (Cambridge, 1984), 16. They had to pay extra tax in Valencia to use the baths and during some periods just could not afford to use them.
- 66 AGN-Accounts, 107, No. 9, 49.
- 67 AGN-Accounts, 108, No. 3, 51. This was a period of dynastic stability and peace, when Navarre's position in Iberian conflicts was one of splendid isolation.
- 68 AGN-Accounts, 128, No. 9.
- 69 *Ibid.*
- 70 AGN-Accounts, 128, No. 9 and AGN-Accounts, 108, No. 3, 51.
- 71 AGN-Accounts, 122, No. 14, 1.
- 72 AGN-Accounts, 131, No. 21, 7.
- 73 AGN-Accounts, 135, No. 42.
- 74 AGN-Accounts, 137, No. 14, 10.
- 75 AGN-Accounts, 147, No. 9, 65. This annual taxation remained at 300 pounds in 1469 under Juan II.
- 76 AGN-Accounts CO PS, paper No. 2S, No. 50, 3.
- 77 AGN-Accounts, 154, No. 63, 1.
- 78 AGN-Accounts, 158, No. 9, 1.
- 79 AGN-Accounts, 163, No. 4.
- 80 Félix Segura Urra considers Navarre's *Mudejar* community to have lacked judicial autonomy in the fourteenth century; Segura Urra, 'Los mudéjares navarros', 244. This is because of the presence of the *bayle de la corte* (Christian court judge) in most Muslim

trials. However, my perception of the fifteenth-century documentation is that both legal systems were perfectly complementary and worked harmoniously in practice. They simply dealt with different cases. There is no evidence of any symptoms of mistrust between the Court and the Ulama, as both of them agreed on most of the rulings in which they were involved.

- 81 Ozaki, 'El régimen tributario', 439.
- 82 See Segura Urra, 'Los mudéjares navarros', 247.
- 83 Segura Urra, 'Los mudéjares navarros', 247–8.
- 84 General Archive of Navarre (AGN), Register 45, f. 42^r, from 1341.
- 85 Segura Urra, 'Los mudéjares navarros', 248 and 252.
- 86 Royal authority made this distinction precisely because the vast majority of murders were committed by Christians and because there were virtually no cases of Christians killed by religious minorities; Segura Urra, 'Los mudéjares navarros', 253.
- 87 General Archive of Navarre, Court rulings (hereafter AGN-Rulings), S CO PS 2 Leg. 13, No. 75, 35.
- 88 According to Segura Urra, numbers in the fourteenth century were as follows: 85 per cent of crimes committed by *Mudejar* men, 15 per cent of crimes committed by *Mudejar* women; Segura Urra, 'Los mudéjares navarros', 247. Numbers are very similar for the fifteenth century and, incidentally, very similar for the Christian and Jewish communities.
- 89 Segura Urra highlighted how, from the twelfth century, the King of Navarre had traditionally endeavoured to maintain peace and coexistence with religious minorities; Segura Urra, 'Los mudéjares navarros', 249. In the fifteenth century, this rights-based system still applied.
- 90 AGN-Rulings, S CO PS 2 Leg. 16, No. 55, 12.
- 91 AGN-Rulings, S CO PS 2 Leg. 16, No. 55, 13.
- 92 AGN-Rulings, S CO PS 2 Leg. 19, No. 22, 11 and 22, 8.
- 93 AGN-Rulings, S CO PS 2 Leg. 19, No. 22, 7.
- 94 Segura Urra states that, in the fourteenth century, crimes committed by Muslims accounted for 6 per cent of the kingdom's criminality, with their population being around 4 per cent; Segura Urra, 'Los mudéjares navarros', 246. This can be explained by the fact that *Mudejar* people were very closely monitored by both the Christian and Muslim authorities. In the fifteenth century, disputes were rare and criminality rates were perfectly normal.
- 95 AGN-Rulings, S CO PS 2 Leg. 19, No. 22, 10 and 22, 13 and 22, 14 and 22, 16.
- 96 AGN-Rulings, S CO PS 2 Leg. 19, No. 22, 15.
- 97 These cases were extremely rare, but their rarity and the social unrest they created granted them severe punishments, especially by the Muslim authority; see Segura Urra, 'Los mudéjares navarros', 254–5.
- 98 Segura Urra, 'Los mudéjares navarros', 251.
- 99 AGN-Accounts, 156, No. 48, 2.
- 100 Edward Cooper informed me of the existence of a 1502 safe conduct for *Mudejar* people to go to Northern Africa following their expulsion from Spain. There are specific cases of exiles involving members of the Navarrese *aljama* after 1516 in the General Archive of Simancas, but their individual analysis will be part of future research.