

A RELIGIOUS CELEBRATION OF THE CITY OF SASSARI: I CANDELIERI

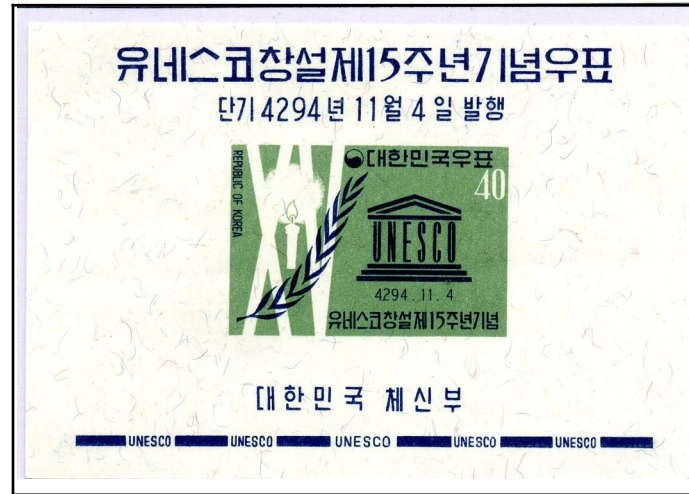
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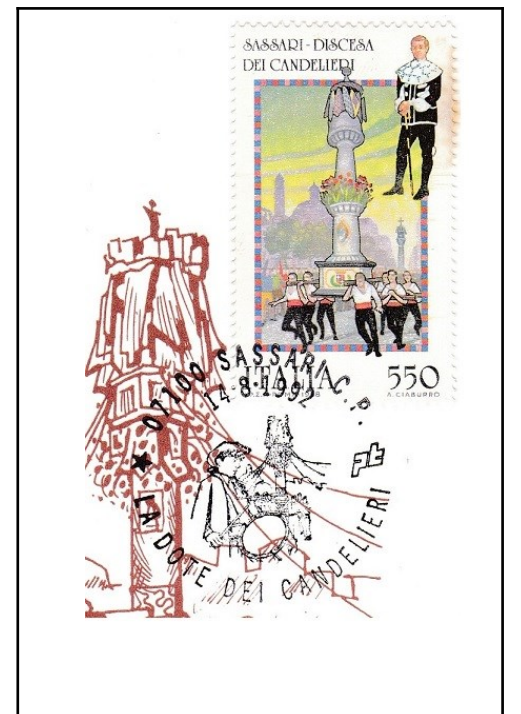
I **Candelieri** are huge candles made of wood with which the city of Sassari expresses its devotion to the **Virgin of the Assumption**, who saved it in the 1500s from a terrible pestilence, through its ancient trade guilds: the **gremi**.



They have been part of the **UNESCO** World Heritage Site since 2013



Their structure consists of a base, on which the candle stands, and at the top are flags of the guild offering the vote. The candle is moved by eight carriers, who walk at a rhythm that is marked by a drummer.



The event includes the entire old part of the city. It starts from where the remains of the **ancient castle** are located. Once a majestic building, today only its basement remains because it was modified into military barracks at the end of the 19th century, destroying its entire structure.



The procession ends at the **ancient church of Santa Maria**, where the vote to the Virgin is broken.

By ancient tradition, the first to enter is the Candeliere of the Massai, the ancient landowners who were the city's most presti-

Cancellation of the Sassari philatelic counter with postcard depicting an ancient image of the church of Santa Maria, dating back to the 13th century
Postcard reduction 80%