Alqueria: The origins

The origins of Alqueria are a matter of record. Archaeological and documentary evidence supports local lore and tradition regarding the first major upheaval. This occurred during the time of the Moors and involved the Caliph Rojeram-all and one Randy Rafael a local youth.

What occurred during the fateful year of AD932 is not on record. Compelling archaeological evidence suggests that the village underwent a complete but precise dissection and a later reconstruction in the valley below. Local legend suggests that the Caliph ordered the village moved after one of the inhabitants, Rafael, upset the venerable gentleman. A sheep's bladder, an amphora of olive oil and one of the Caliph's wives formed the basis of the tale. Precisely following the original layout the builders faithfully reconstructed the village including the mirador and castle. The views from the mirador allow for scrutiny of the cliff face. While the village boasts the only castle which can be attacked from above making it useless as a piece of military architecture.

The second fateful episode occurred in 1492 when the Catholic Monarchs Isabella and Ferdinand were busy dashing around the country reconquering it in the name of Christianity. After they had sorted out Granada and handed over wads of cash to an itinerant Italian by the name of Columbus they headed for the village of Alqueria bent on bringing it into the Christian fold. Entering the Village they were immediately belted with rocks, stones and a wide variety of rotting vegetables. The inhabitants of Alqueria hated authority and Isabella and Ferdinand, not being covered in effluent from the bad drainage like most Alquerians, were obviously of some importance.

While taking refuge in the Bar La Casa Devante, until some semblance of order could be established the two Monarchs had the misfortune of coming face to face with Tonto Leonardo, an ancestor of Loco Paco. Leonardo was just as daft as the present

day Paco and he soon had Isabella and Ferdinand talking to and caressing his imaginary Patagonian Mara named Ronald. After extricating themselves from Leonardo 's lunacy they were immediately assailed by 'Marta the Promiscuous' an ancient relative of Manuela's. She promptly made a pass at Ferdinand and when he rejected her advances she turned her charms on Isabella.

At this point the Monarchs had had enough and headed out of Alqueria as fast as their pampered horses could carry them. When asked if Alqueria was once again part of Christian Spain, Isabella's reply was a hurried “Not bloody likely”.