

TRADITIONAL SHOWS WITH BULLS ("CORREBOUS") AND ITS REPERCUSSION IN LES TERRES DE L'EBRE

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FINAL DEGREE PROJECT - JUNE 2022



INTRODUCTION & OBJECTIVE

In many towns of Terres de l'Ebre the “**correbaus**” has become the festive practice that arouses the most opposing passions: on the one hand, the staunch fans who defend the tradition as an element of **identity of the territory** and, on the other hand, the entities and members who want to put an end to these events and take a step forward in the **defence of animals**.

The aim of this work is to offer an overview of the popular festivities with bulls in Terres de l'Ebre and their impact on the social sphere and as an element of territorial identity. The origins of the tradition, the different modalities and various aspects related to the festivities will be analyzed.



Fig. 1 Photograph of an "embolat" bull in La Ràpita, 2013. Image taken from the archive of the Agrupació de Penyes i Comissions Taurines.

In Terres de l'Ebre, these events are held in 27 of the 59 municipalities (**45%**), being more common in the area closest to the delta.

There are different types of “correbaus”, some more typical than others, the most common are: bulls in the square, running of the bulls, “capllaçat” bull and “embolat” bull.

The aim is to show the participants' ability to chase and avoid the animal during the event.

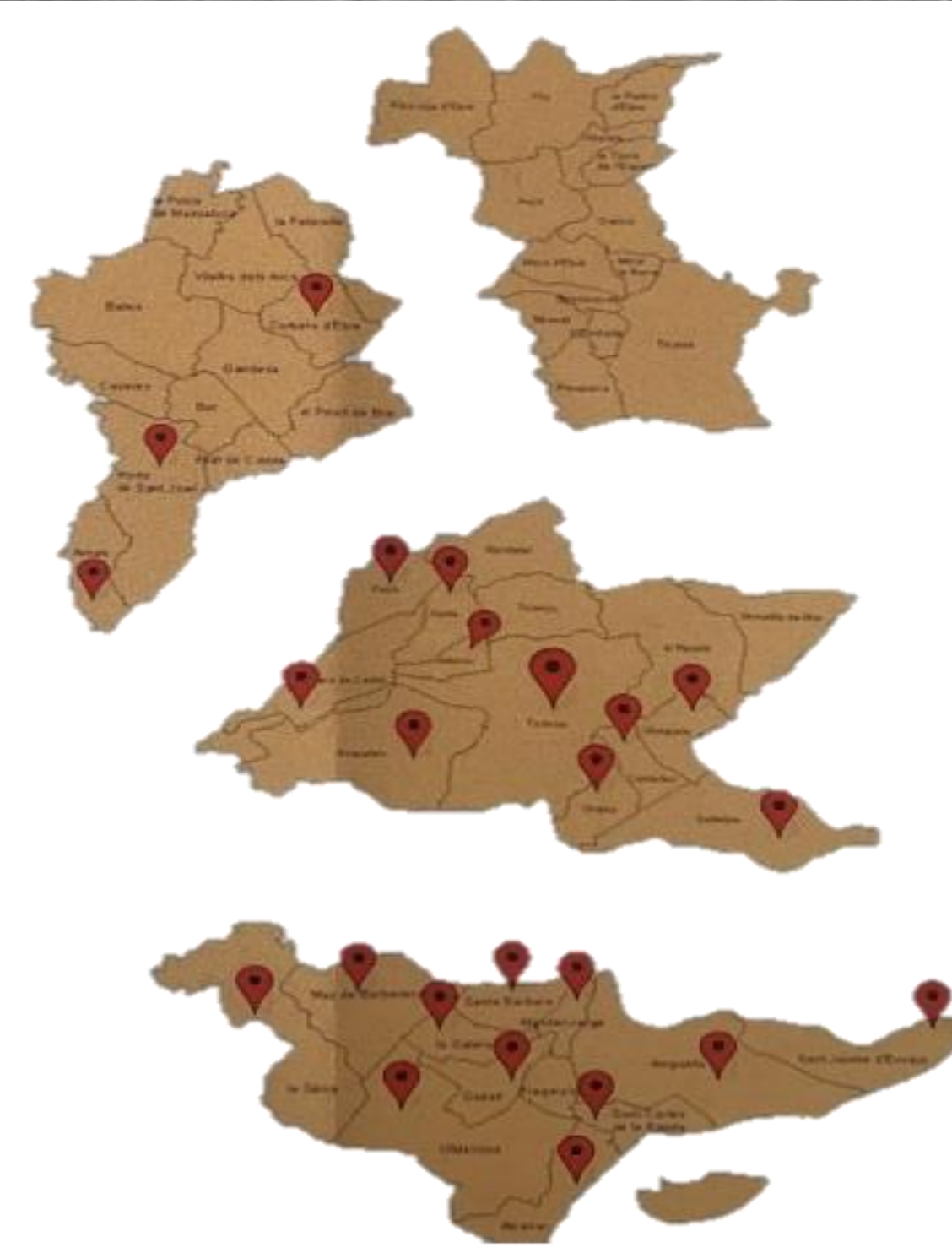


Fig. 2 Map of all the towns in Terres de l'Ebre where bullfighting festivals are currently held. Image taken from the archive of the "Agrupació de Penyes i Comissions Taurines".

CONCLUSIONS

- ✓ The “Festes dels bous” are a distinguishing and, at the same time, identifying element of Terres de l'Ebre. They are part of its history and tradition and are closely linked to the festive and ludic aspect.
- ✓ These events do not involve, nor have they ever involved, the death of the animal.
- ✓ The events have been evolving, thanks to animal rights organizations, incorporating regulations that guarantee respect for the animals that take part in them.
- ✓ The "penyes taurines" play an important role in raising the awareness of the participants in the fulfilment of the norms and requirements demanded.



Fig. 3 Photograph of an "embolat" bull taken by "La penya taurina sense nom" in Amposta, 2018.



Fig. 4 Photograph of a "capllaçat" bull taken by "Anima Naturalis" in La Ràpita, 2011.



Fig. 5 "Plataforma Prou Correbaus" logo.

Society is now in a divided position regarding this tradition. There are entities that fight for the disappearance of it and others that were created with the aim of protecting it.

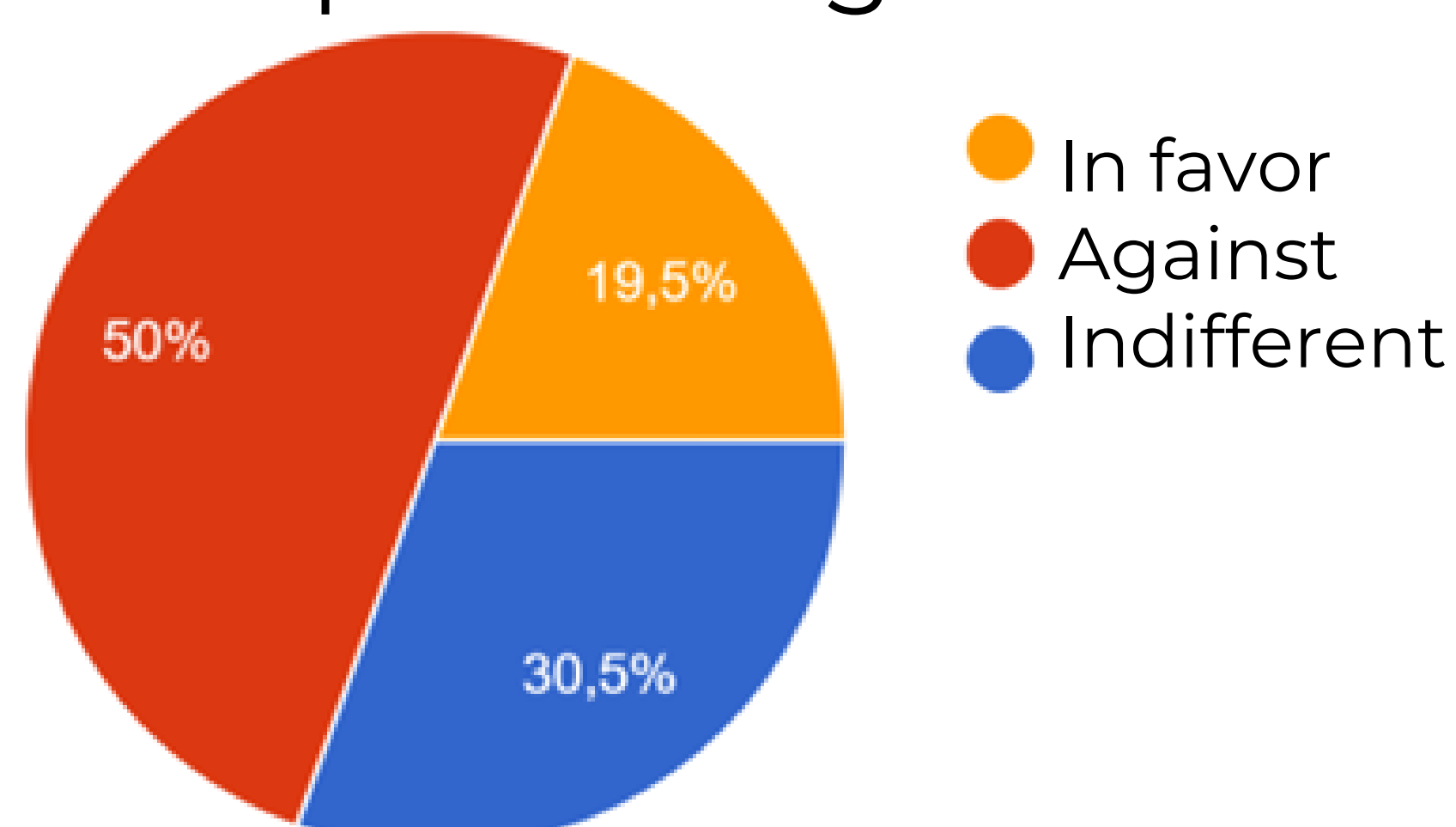


Fig. 6 Percentage of respondents in favour and against bullfighting festivals. Information extracted from an own survey with 256 answers.

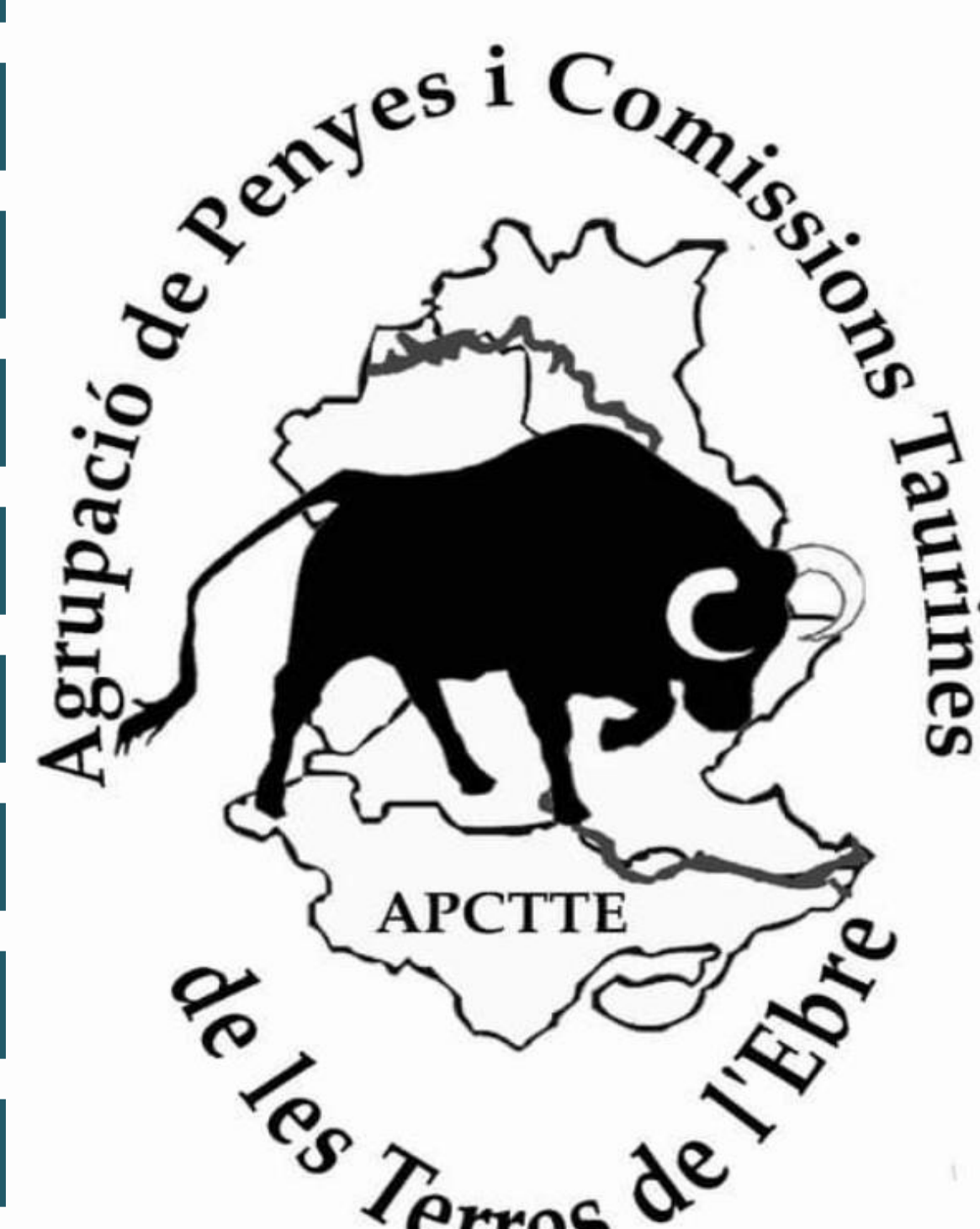


Fig. 7 "Agrupació de Penyes i Comissions Taurines" logo.