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The heirs of the Knights Templar have launched a legal battle in Spain against the Pope to salvage the reputation of the order accused of heresy and dissolved 701 years ago.

Members of the Association of the Sovereign Order of the Temple of Christ claim that when the order was dissolved by Clement V in 1307 more than 9000 properties and commercial ventures belonging to the knights (worth \$168 billion) were appropriated by the church.

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