

The Koran is the real problem

di **Ida Magli**

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The complicity of the silence that almost always surrounded the actions of the European governors is such that hundreds of millions of citizens - Catholics, Protestants and Orthodox - never had a real awareness of this process. This is also due to the fact that in a good part of the Christians the intensity of faith diminished, after so many years in which they were invited to have no reactions, in the name of 'tolerance'. The Christians are unable to think that their Churches accepted such a transformation without raising their voices. Few years ago it was proposed to mention the Christian roots of Europe in the European Constitution, but this idea was put forward with no real conviction, and was easily set aside.

With Muslims, things are completely different, though. Turkey always was a problem, even if the Americans strongly want it to become part of the European Union, for strategic and military reasons, and also because Turkey already is a member of NATO. The very soft request of "respect for Human rights" that European institutions are making, cannot be translated in the terms proper of the Koran.

How can we pretend - in fact - that 70 millions of muslims renounce for instance to the assertion of the Koran that "women are one step below men"? This seems a very grave assertion to us, but it is an insignificant example compared to the fact that Islam is a vision of the world which creates a 'total model' of values, meanings and behaviors. This is the main reason why Islam gives so much strength to its followers: in his faith, the believer finds the explanation for his life and his death, for fatigue and pain; and most of all, he finds the certainty that God is looking at him, is accompanying him and will reward his actions.

What will the Turkish do with the "rewards" of the European Union? It is certain that they will not let themselves be bribed - even at the highest

price - as until now the Christians did, even the most catholics of all such as the Polish and Irish.

And we cannot trust or hope in the good will of the Turkish governors, who were asked to achieve some results in terms of Human Rights, as if the subjects were a sheep that must be kept calm in the sheepfold. The chiefs of the European Union have a very strange idea of religion; and even stranger is what they mean with the word "european". Are the Turkish europeans, or are they not?

For several years we thought about the possibility of including Turkey in the European Union: it was a big mistake. This idea should never have come out, and the relationship with a friendly State should have been governed with agreements and diplomatic treaties. How can we get out of this situation without losing our face? Or - which would be worst - without jeopardizing our good relationships with our neighbors, at least as far as Italy is concerned?

When the time of a decision will come, Italy should propose a referendum about this matter, in all the States of the European Union. Giving to all citizens the possibility of screaming "NO" - as everybody would like to do - would be a very convenient solution even for the most incautious politicians.

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