



IL DUCE

Leader – Teacher - Guide – Comander
Capo Guida

Benito Mussolini
1883 – 1945

Philospher Politico
Filosofo Politico

Italian Prime Minister
Statesman
1922-1943

Italiano Primo Ministro
Uomo di Stato
1922-1943

THE LAST CENTURION



Pius XII speaks about Benito Mussolini:

As affirmed by Pope Pius XII, *<the greatest man I have ever met and without doubt among the most kindhearted: for this matter I have a lot of evidence to prove it>*. 1952

Come ha affermato il Papa Pio XII, *<il più grande uomo da me conosciuto e senz'altro fra i più profondamente buoni: al riguardo ho troppe prove per dimostrarlo>*. 1952

He was the one honest, brilliant, political mind the Allies feared more than any other man in recent political history. His altruistic legacy of original ground-breaking governmental laws, concepts, and programs caused them many sleepless nights and vast amounts of energy and money to combat the persistence appeal of Fascism to the intellectual mind and to the toiling masses of the world. We who see Mussolini as a political genius can be his only judge and jury at the moment!

As you are aware, several thousand books, essays, websites, etc. have been written and published in the sixty four years since Mussolini's death inn 1945. Some are complimentary and correct in their appraisal of these years of Italian history, but most are the product of a race of political minded men, Italian and others, who for their own purposes, have corrupted the legacy of this man and this history of the Italian people. Their vicious, deplorable lies and fabrications must be exposed and dammed for the evil that they do and cause to be done in every nation, in every region of the world.



Mussolini: Speech of the 10 June 1940, Declaration of War on France and England

Soldiers, sailors, and aviators! Black shirts of the revolution and of the [Fascist] legions! Men and women of Italy, of the Empire, and of the kingdom of Albania! Pay heed!

An hour appointed by destiny has struck in the heavens of our fatherland. (Very lively cheers).

The declaration of war has already been delivered (cheers, very loud cries of "War! War!") to the ambassadors of Great Britain and France. We go to battle against the plutocratic and reactionary democracies of the west who, at every moment have hindered the advance and have often endangered the very existence of the Italian people.

Recent historical events can be summarized in the following phrases: promises, threats, blackmail, and finally to crown the edifice, the ignoble seige by the fifty-two states of the League of Nations. Our conscience is absolutely tranquil. (Applause). With you the entire world is witness that Fascist Italy has done all that is humanly possible to avoid the torment which is throwing Europe into turmoil; but all was in vain. It would have sufficed to revise the treaties to bring them up to date with the changing needs of the life of nations and not consider them untouchable for eternity; it would have sufficed not to have begun the stupid policy of guarantees, which has shown itself particularly lethal for those who accepted them; it would have sufficed not to reject the proposal [for peace] that the Fuhrer made on 6 October of last year after having finished the campaign in Poland.

But now all of that belongs to the past. If now today we have decided to face the risks and the sacrifices of a war, it is because the honor, the interests, the future impose and iron necessity, since a great people is truly such if it considers sacred its own duties and does not evade the supreme trials which determine the course of history.

We take up arms to resolve, after having resolved the problem of our land frontier, the problem of our maritime frontiers; we want to break the territorial chains which suffocate us in our own sea; since a people of forty-five million could is not truly free if it does not have free access to the ocean.

This gigantic struggle is nothing other than a phase in the logical development of our revolution; it is the struggle of peoples that are poor but rich in workers against the exploiters who hold on ferociously to the monopoly of all the riches and all the gold of the earth; it is the struggle of the fertile and young people against the sterile people moving to the sunset; it is the struggle between two centuries and two

ideas.

Now that the die are cast and our will has burned our ships at our backs, I solemnly declare that Italy does not intend to drag into the conflict other peoples bordering her on land or on sea.

Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey, Egypt take note of these my words and it depends on them and only on them whether or not they will be rigorously confirmed.

In a memorable meeting, that which took place in Berlin, I said that according to the laws of Fascist morality, when one has a friend, one marches with him to the end. ("Duce! Duce! Duce!"). This we have done with Germany, with its people, with its marvelous armed forces. On this eve of an event of century wide scope, we direct our thought to the majesty of the King and Emperor (the multitudes break out in great cheers for the House of Savoy) which as always has understood the soul of the fatherland. And we salute with our voices the Fuhrer, the head of great ally Germany (The people cheer Hitler at length). Proletarian and Fascist Italy stands up a third time, strong, proud, and united as never before. (The crowd cries with one single voice: "Yes!") The single order of the day is categorical and obligatory for all. It already spreads and fires hearts from the Alps to the Indian Ocean; Victory! (The people break out into raucous cheers). And we will win, in order finally to give a long period of peace with justice to Italy, to Europe, and to the world.

People of Italy! Rush to arms and show your tenacity, your courage, your valor!

If we want to survive we must fight. It is the only way to bring an end to this war which the enemy has forced upon us.

Mussolini knew that if the Allies defeated Germany in their ongoing war that they would immediately attack Italy the next day to put an end to the government he had built since 1922

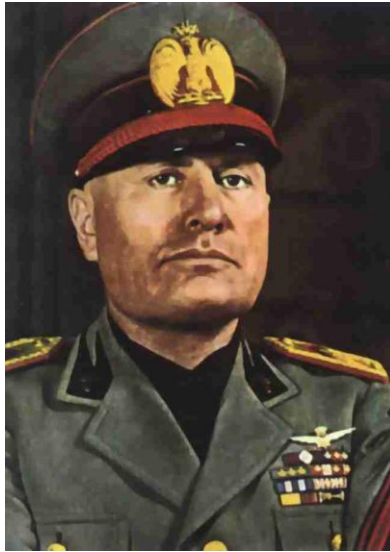
ITALY LIVED THROUGH ONE OF ITS DARKEST DAYS OF ITS MILLENNARY HISTORY.



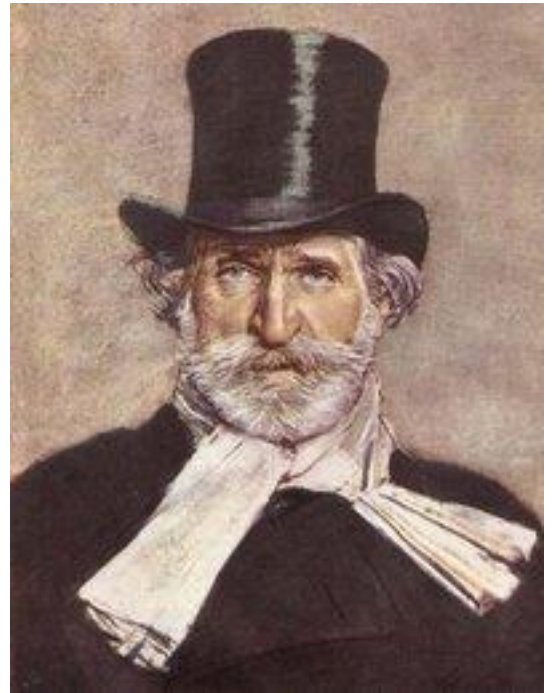
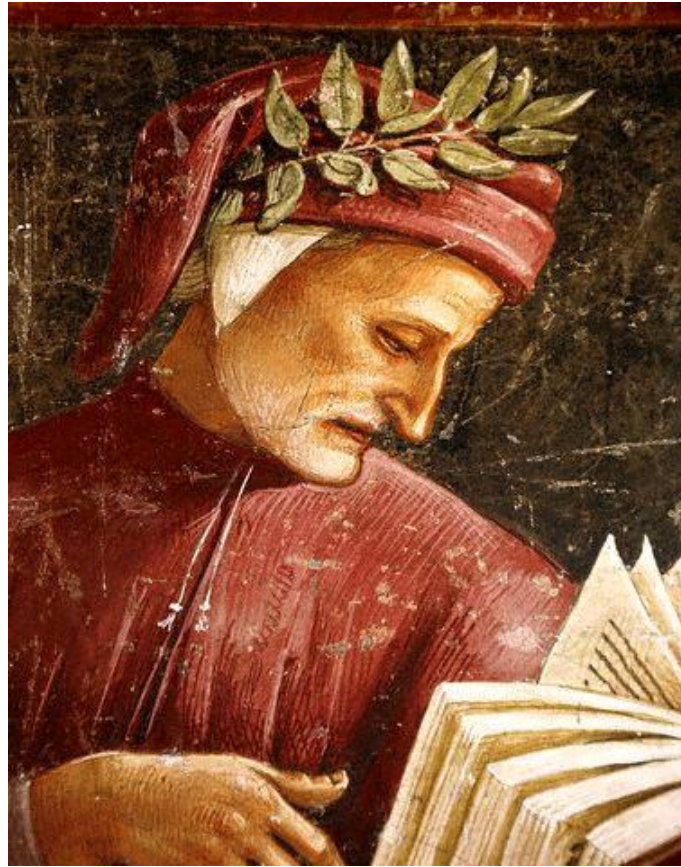
LE MOI SUISSE
LITTERAIRE ET POLITIQUE
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LA MORT DU DUCE
BY PAUL GENTIZON

After a brilliant career, at the end of an unfortunate war, the leader who since 1920 had appeared as the living symbol of the deepest aspirations of the Italian people, Mussolini, was the victim of a horrible ending.

Nevertheless, his entire life was only a moving and tragic attempt to awaken Roman victories, to convert Italy again into a great power. Often, when he addressed young Italians in order to stir them, Mussolini loved to ask the question: Isn't it preferable to die in battle than to succumb to illness? As a matter of fact he did not aspire to die between two bed sheets. He would have liked to die in the trenches or, even better, in a cloud of a glorious sky. But the daughters of Hades, the Parches, masters of the destiny of mankind, they refused to grant him the treatment equivalent to his exceptional life: a death worthy of him. After wanting so often to force destiny in order to earn the privilege of dying a hero, he fell as a martyr. He died in order to defend his ideals and his political faith. He died for Italy. He was never a weakling in the framework of his civil, military and patriotic actions. He never despaired. Even to the end he was heroic and loyal. In July 1943, even though he was struck harshly by injustice and by the weakness of men, he never let himself go. From the day following liberation, in spite of the painful and chaotic situation, he went back to work. He recaptured his superhuman strength for the salvation and resurrection of Italy. Within a few weeks he rebuilt a government, an administration, renewed the structure of the party, set up the base of a new army, reformed the state. But it was not to be up to him that the land of his forefathers would be saved. He gave all his strength, his entire heart to his country. He gave it his life. He fought up to end in order to let Italy keep the right to recuperate in the world its place of honor and glory acquired at various intervals, during many centuries, with the sacrifice and the blood of forefathers. He personified, up to the last minute, the hope and fortunes of the Fatherland. His dramatic death reflects still the ideals of his life to the many Europeans who had admired him



*Anima eius et animae omnium fidelium defunctorum requiescant in
pace*



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EDIZIONI RICORDI