

The offensive of Islam in multicultural Great Britain

The Unseen side of the Islamic veil

Dear friends,

You might know that in March 2009 the French online paper Riposte Laïque (Secular Riposte) published a book entitled Les dessous du voile. 1989-2009: vingt ans d'offensive islamique contre la République laïque (The unseen side of the veil. 1989-2009 : twenty years of Islamic offensive against the secular Republic).

Indeed twenty years ago Islamists made their first attempt to send girls to school with the veil on. Thanks to the courage of teachers and militants attached to secularity a law was passed on the 15th of March 2004 banning ostentatious religious signs from schools.

The book consists of seventeen chapters written by the editor and sub-editors of the paper and some of their friends. Some names might ring a bell : Annie Sugier, chairwoman of the League of the International Women's Rights, Anne Zelensky, chairwoman of the League of Women's Rights, Pascal Mohamed Hilout, founder of New Islam.

Their aim was to stress the necessity of denouncing the offensive of political Islam against the Republic despite the risk of being considered fascist and racist.

They asked many questions such as : Is it normal for a secular country to let women wear the veil while in Islamic countries women are killed if they refuse to wear it? Is it normal to authorize women to wear the hijab or the burka although these outfits make it impossible to identify them?

The authors blame politicians for supporting Islamists and meeting their demands in order to get votes. They reproach them for defending secularism only when it comes to

criticizing the Vatican while facilitating Islamists' attacks on secularity. They criticize them for not understanding that the interference of religion in politics and social life means the return to the Middle Ages.

The authors' goal is to show that our secular society, its values, rights, women's rights in particular, traditions and customs are threatened by obscurantist fascist people who are believers and political militants at the same time and whose aim is to oppress women and establish a theocracy.

They hope people will rise against the offensive of a political and religious totalitarianism demanding more and more "reasonable arrangements" with the secular principles of our country.

I wrote a chapter about the situation in Great Britain in order to show that multiculturalism has failed and cannot be considered as the ideal model.

Here is the translation of my chapter into English.

I hope you will find it useful.

Yours truly.

Rosa Valentini

THE OFFENSIVE OF ISLAM IN MULTICULTURAL GREAT BRITAIN

In the mid-sixties the British government undertook to institutionalize multiculturalism in order to promote tolerance towards immigrants, respect for their cultures, traditions and religions, which would logically lead to their social integration. Roy Jenkins, Labour Home Secretary between 1965 and 1967, was the first politician to highlight the merits of multiculturalism.

Forty years later it has to be admitted that social peace and harmony between ethnic groups seem to be a nice dream in the face of the offensive of Islam and the gap between people of British extraction and all those who refuse assimilation, declaring themselves Muslim first and foremost and claiming their membership of the ummah, the international Muslim

community, rather than their belonging to British society. It is legitimate to wonder whether multiculturalism is not intrinsically incompatible with the notion of social peace and does not rather favour alienation, segregation and tensions. It is not exaggerated to state that multiculturalism has failed.

Young people born and educated in Great Britain committed the murderous attacks in London in July 2005. Other plots are regularly foiled and British Islamists are given prison sentences.

It is useful to understand why a democratic and tolerant nation is threatened not by an outside enemy but by its own citizens or by immigrants and refugees whom it has welcomed magnanimously.

It is interesting to note that the offensive of Islam is increasing in scale in a system hanging on to the principles of multiculturalism which pretends not to understand that it is not simply the imprisonment of some terrorist or the expulsion of some radical preacher that will counter the Islamic attack.

Islamic terrorism, offspring of the ideology of hatred

On the 7th of July 2005 an Islamic terrorist attack committed in London killed fifty-two people and wounded seven hundred. In August 2006 twelve planes were to explode at Heathrow airport. Fortunately the plot was thwarted. In November 2006, Dhiren Barot, a member of Al-Quaida, was sentenced for attempting to kill hundreds of thousands of people in synchronized attacks in Great Britain and the United States. The 19th of August 2008 was the last day of the trial held in London which sentenced to twelve years' imprisonment an Islamist net surfer who had devoted several years of his life to creating on his computer a kind of encyclopedia containing texts inciting to violence, information about the Queen and fifteen members of the Royal Family, discussions about the

creation of an Islamic secret state in Scotland, a book about explosives, a handbook on poisons. He recruited potential terrorists and encouraged them to attend terrorist training camps in Pakistan. His youngest recruit was a fifteen-year-old boy to whom he had given the mission of leading the holy war against the West, destroying western values and eliminating "Kaffirs", which is the derogatory word used to refer to infidels, that is to say non-Muslims.

On the 8th of September 2008 the trial of eight British Islamists ended in London. They had been accused of preparing suicide attacks using liquid explosives. They intended to blow up seven planes bound for the United States or Canada.

In late September 2008 three men were arrested in the north of London. They were accused of setting fire to the house of the Gibson Square publisher after he had announced the publication of the novel *The Jewel of Medina*, written by the American author Sherry Jones. The main character of the book is Aïcha, Muhammad's youngest wife.

On the 14th of October 2008 the trial of a British convert to Islam ended. He had failed his suicide attack in a restaurant in Exeter which could have killed fifty odd customers, adults and children. Documents indicating further possible targets, such as a shopping centre, were found in his home.

Fifteen plots have been foiled in Great Britain since 2000. As Melanie Phillips states in her book entitled *Londonistan* (1), the British capital has been "the epicentre of Islamic militancy in Europe" for over ten years. Many texts and books inciting to the hatred for and murder of infidels are published there. Melanie Phillips mentions among others *Filisteen al-Muslima*, the journal of Hamas, and *Al-Sunnah*, a magazine which calls for human bomb terror operations against the USA. She remembers that terrorists based in the United Kingdom have committed or organized terrorist attacks in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Kenya, Israel, Tanzania, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Morocco, Russia, Spain and the USA. One just needs to mention Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh, who assassinated the journalist Daniel Pearl in 2001, and Richard Reid, famous for

the bombs in his shoes, which were to blow up the Paris-Miami plane in December 2001 (2).