



# ANDREW ON WEDNESDAY

## Of course we are not racists!

Shame on you all who profess that we are racist.

Shame on you all that use Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to promote your agenda to destabilise our moral soundness with so many fabrications.

Shame on you all who believed the mum of a black young man who spoke during the *Lassana Cisse - A story of racial hatred: Responding with Peace* seminar. It is not true that her son was bullied at school and that his teacher told her to teach him how to get used to being called names because of his skin colour.

Shame on you all who listened and accepted as a true version of events the Maltese wife of a black man who said that she is scared that one day they will beat her husband.

Shame on you all who found trustworthy the words of a law student at University who said that she was guffawed at by her lecturer because she wore a *hijab*. It wasn't even true that she was spat at so many times simply because she is a Muslim.

Shame on you all who say that our day-to-day conversations are loaded with oppressive jokes and taunts about black people.

All of these are mendacities, fabrications and deceptions.

I say to you today, my readers, that notwithstanding a lot that has been said in terms of how racist we are in this country this is all retribution because you hate Joseph and Adrian. There are people amongst you who are wolves in sheep's clothing. But we see through you, rest assured. We have understood it all. You are turncoats who have grassed your national pride - shame on you all.

You are purposely getting the political rhetoric wrong and creating obstacles with the only reason being is that you are messing about with our Maltese dream.

You ignorant senseless persons of the lowest order.

I have this reverie you know.

I have this aspiration that one day this country of ours will rise up to all those who think that Lowell and his hate speech will grow bigger and vaster. I tell you, his message will fizzle out, vanish and dissolve soon.

I have this aspiration that one day these disruptive, trouble-making, inflammatory and insurgent voices of the left will come down to earth and realize that we are indeed all equal.

Just look at our legislation, whether it is about hate speech or disability, LGBTIQ or race and ethnicity. I tell you, we are true to our words, we are authentic.

I have this vision that one day the populace that reside in our towns and villages realize that the devotion we manifest during the feast, as we carry our *Santu* and *Santa*, is unadulterated and we love all with such fervor.

Look at how passionate we are as we polish the *bradella*, set up the *pillandri*, gloss the silverware in our Churches - this is the true us.

I predict that one day all those who think we are a xenophobic, prejudiced and discriminatory Country will open their eyes and understand that our communities live in serenity and that it is not true that we are ghettoizing people or that black people are looked at with derision.

It is not true either that we do not let the Bangladeshis' teach our students English. It is not true that we promote a discourse that encourages migrants to sweep our floors whilst Maltese citizens take the best jobs, because we believe in inclusion.

It is not true that we let them walk on planks in construction sites without providing for their safety or insurance. Shame on

all those who think that we discriminate black people and other foreigners and give them wages that are not acceptable.

It is not true that we place people in containers, some have hardly anywhere to live and others live in stables or are crammed in garages. This is all cheap propaganda of those who are interested only in subverting the State.

And yes, on the road to Birzebbuga all will be able to sit in peace and watch the cars pass by. Yes, the occasional crazy pseudo-commando could go on a shooting spree. But this happens because he is insane and for no other reason. It can happen to white people as well as black; I just cannot understand the fuss we're making about this guy Lassana. The next thing you will be saying is that we hate black people to the extent that we hound them like animals or shoot them like we were playing paintball.

Shame on you.

Didn't you see the Prime Minister shouting his guts out on how *qżież* the men who gunned down Lassana were? Isn't that a show of force good enough? What do you want more?

That is why I aspire for all to appreciate how great it is to be under the *tinda* and listen to '*is-Sewda*' (a nickname she gave to herself) saying proudly as she looks at the Prime Minister, that she lives a good life and that she feels safe.

That is why I aspire that one day even in the town of Marsa we will heed the wise words of the MEP candidate. He said in his Vlogs (bless him) that it is fine for people to develop a business and make money.

What's wrong with entrepreneurship? He was so all-encompassing. Shame on you if you understood him the other way round. He said that we are in all

of this together, living happily ever after.

I aspire that my co-citizens will one-day pass on the message that push backs were never really on the cards but just an anecdote to keep the EU-ers edgy because we have no problem with the black or brown ones, or those coming from war-torn countries - it's great, we all live in accord and goodwill. We offer shelter and we have a magnificent *Integration Policy* that works wonders.

I have a dream, that one day our sovereign State based and founded on all that is Catholic will make these NGO shit-stirrers understand that leaving people bobbing up and down is ok. I mean, don't we all aspire to have our own yacht and travel the Mediterranean? They were ok, protected by our soldiers and given water. What are five or six weeks compared to a lifetime? And they were also given a guitar so that they could sing *Kumbaya My Lord*. Why this aggravation to bring them in?

I also have a woolgathering that one day every valley, hill and street in our Country shall humiliate the idiots who think that we are racist, that we speak badly on foreigners and that we do not wish them well. They are all fibbers.

*Obviously, no, I don't believe a word I wrote.*

*Of course we are racist. Of course we are not in a good place but I am comforted that our social operators will one day bring their heads together. I also predict that one day the people who think that racism is not raising its head will see the light. We are a society that is growing its racism roots and we need to be watchful. We can only change this trend if we respond through a discourse founded on peace, concord and amity.*

*This can happen if we are really dedicated to this.*

"Ghandi xi Nghid"

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### 5 June 1944

## Celebrations as Rome is liberated

The people of Rome have crowded onto the streets to welcome the victorious Allied troops.

The first American soldiers, members of the 5th Army, reached the centre of Rome late last night after encountering dogged resistance from German forces on the outskirts of the city.

Early this morning it was announced the German troops had been ordered to withdraw.

Rome is the first of the three Axis powers' capitals to be taken and its recapture will be

seen as a significant victory for the Allies and the American commanding officer who led the final offensive, Lieutenant General Mark Clark.

In a broadcast in the United States this evening, President Franklin D Roosevelt welcomed the fall of Rome with the words, "One up, two to go." But he gave a warning that Germany had not yet suffered enough losses to cause her to collapse.

In Rome itself, the people have been celebrating. Shops have closed and huge crowds have taken to the streets, cheering, waving and hurling bunches of flowers at the passing army vehicles.

First reports from the city say it has been left largely undamaged by the occupying German forces.

The city's water supply is still intact and there is even electricity - recent blackouts are reported to have been caused by engineers reluctant to restore power for the occupiers.

Most Romans remained in the city during

the occupation and many refugees also fled here. Food supplies are now extremely short with bread rationed to 100g per person per day.

A report from Hitler's headquarters said he had ordered the withdrawal of the German troops to the north-west of Rome in order to prevent its destruction.

The statement said: "The struggle in Italy will be continued with unshakable determination with the aim of breaking the enemy attacks and to forge final victory for Germany and her allies."

The Pope appeared on the balcony of St Peter's this evening and addressed the thousands of Italians who had gathered in the square.

He said: "In recent days we trembled for the fate of the city. Today we rejoiced because, thanks to the joint goodwill of both sides, Rome has been saved from the horrors of war."

The American military authorities in Lon-

don have broadcast a tribute to the British General Sir Harold Alexander, who has been in overall command of Allied forces in Italy.

It described the campaign as "daring, unconventional and brilliant" and said his methods had compelled the enemy to evacuate Rome without destructive fighting within the city itself.

The American commander of the 5th Army, Lieutenant General Mark Clark, chose to strike for Rome from the Anzio beachhead, after the fall of Monte Cassino, rather than chase after the retreating German forces as he had been ordered by the British officer in overall charge, General Sir Harold Alexander.

This decision has since been described by eminent American military historian Carlo D'Este as "as militarily stupid as it was in subordinate". Although Rome was liberated, the Germans were not decisively defeated.