



The Raoul Follereau Foundation (Malta) - The Order of Charity
is a registered NGO [No. VO/0980]
administered by the
Grand Priory of the Maltese Islands
of the
Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem

Settembru 2015

Inside this issue:

Editorjal	1
L-istorja tal-lebbra f' Malta	2
Famous Lepers	3
Leprosy in the Bible	3

RAOUL FOLLEREAU FOUNDATION (MALTA): NGO NO. VO/0980

Order of Charity Newsletter

Editorjal – IL-LEBBRA SPIRITWALI

Il-lebbra hija marda kerha hafna li taffettwa lil eluf ta' nies b'mod specjali fil-pajjizi f'qar tat-tielet dinja. Hija marda li tattakka l-gilda, l-ghajnejn, il-griezem u l-pulmuni. Meta l-marda tidhol 'il gewwa sew, il-morda spiss ma jibqghux ihossu jdejh u saqajhom. Ma jindunawx li jkunu harqu subghajhom jew iwegghu qiegh saqajhom. Hija marda li thallik paralizzat jekk ma tinqabadx mill-ewwel. Gesù mess b'idejh u fejjaq nies b'din il-marda ghax dawn tradizzjonalment kienu jigu mwarrba mill-familji u l-girien taghhom. Gesù kisser din ittradizzjoni ghax mhux talli kien imiss lill-imgiddma talli kien ifejjaqhom. Ahna wkoll, flimkien mal-benefatturi taghna, qed nippruvaw nghinu biex intejba l-hajja tal-lebbri u biex din il-marda tinqered ghal kollox.

Il-lebbra spiritwali wkoll taghmilna nies paralizzati. Dawk minna li ghandhom din il-marda spiritwali jtilfu l-kapacità li jhossu l-ispirtu ta' Alla. Ma nibqghux nindunaw meta Alla jkun qed jahdem f'hajjina u f'hajjet dawk ta' madwarna. Nitilfu kull kuntatt mar-realtà spiritwali u nsiru nsara indifferenti. Hafna drabi, il-lebbri spiritwali ma jkunux jafu li ghandhom din il-marda kerha ghax ma jkunux kapaci jaraw ir-realtà spiritwali u jahsbu li kollox sejjer tajjeb. Mela, ha nahsbu sewwa fuq id-dmirijiet taghna bhala nsara genwini.

Chev. Tony C. Cutajar



Il-bank tiegħek fil-qalb tal-komunità

L-**HSBC** huwa l-bank li jinsab fil-qalba tal-komunità tiegħek. B'għarfien internazzjonali u esperjenza lokali, ahna nistghu nghinuk tiehu hsieb ahjar il-finanzi tiegħek. Il-fergħat taghna huma miftuhin kuljum f'diversi lokalitajiet madwar Malta u Għawdex, b'xi whud mill-fergħat joffru wkoll servizz ta' filghaxija.

Għalhekk eja żurna u flimkien niddiskutu l-bżonnijiet bankarji tiegħek. L-impjegati taghna, kollha mharrġa fil-*customer service* u mmexxija minn *branch manager* b'esperjenza kbira fil-qasam bankarju jinsabu herqana biex ikunu ta' servizz għalik.

Ċempel **2380 2380**
Zur **hsbc.com.mt**
Mur **fl-eqreb fergħa**



Approvat u mahruġ mill-**HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c.** 116, Triq l-Arcisqof, Valletta VLT1444.

L-istorja tal-Lebbra f'Malta – Żmien l-Ingliżi—1

Prof. C. Savona-Ventura

Din l-attitudini baġġet ukoll matul il-biċċa kbira tas-seklu 19. Diversi tobba Maltin id-diskrewwu każijiet ta' din il-marda. Fl-1803, it-tabib Saydon iddiskriva tlett każijiet ta' baħħara – wieħed minnhom Malti. Fl-1835, il-Professor Schinas ukoll iddeskriva kas, waqt li fl-1837 it-tabib Gravina iddeskriva żewġ każijiet oħra. Każijiet oħra gew irraportati mit-tobba Gulia u Sammut. Hadt mil-professjoni medika ma kien partikolarment allarmat u b'risposta għar-rapport mitlub mil-Kumitat Speċjali tal-Kulleġġ Rejali tat-Tobba fil-1862, ġie irraportat li l-lebbra ma kienetx teżisti fil-Gżejjer Maltin. F'rapport iehor f'it wara, fl-1874, ġie rraportat li waqt li l-lebbra kienet preżenti fil-Gżejjer Maltin, din ma kienetx kommuuni.

Fl-1883, il-awtoritajiet f'Malta ħatru kummissjoni ta' sebġha tobba biex jistudjaw il-problema f'Malta u jis-suggerixxu kif din il-marda infettiva setgħat tiġi ikkontrollata. Dawn it-tobba identifikaw u studjaw 30 lebbużi Maltin. Irraportaw li l-marda kienet żdiedet minħabba grupp ta' suldati Indjani li kienu ġew stazzjonati l-Imrieħel fl-1878.



Il-kummissjoni issuggeriet li l-marda kellhom jiġu issegregati. Fl-1890, sar servej nazzjonali biex id-daqs tal-problema jiġi verament identifikat. Instabu 69 każ lebbużi fil-Gżejjer Maltin bi prevalenza ta' madwar 1 kull 2400 fil-popolazzjoni. Hdax il-kas kienu fi stat ħażin ħafna u kienu miżmuma fl-Imġieret. Tmien każijiet kienu

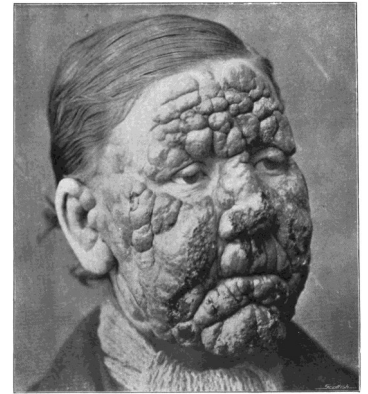
jgħixu f'Għawdex. Hafna mill-każijiet Maltin kienu minn Hal Qormi jew il-Mosta. Fuq bażi ta' dan is-servej, l-Kunsill tal-Gvern ippublika Ordinanza Numru VII b'attentat li jwaqqaf it-tixrid tal-lebbra. Din il-liġi pprovdiet għal notifikazzjoni kompulsiva ta' kull kas li jiġi identifikat u ħatret Board ta' ħames tobba biex jeżaminaw il-każijiet suspettużi u jikkonfermaw id-djanjożi. Il-pazjent lebbużi kellu jiġi immedjatement issegregat malli id-djanjożi tiġi ikkonfermata.

Waqt li l-liġi issa stabilixxiet li l-lebbużi kollha kellhom jiġu issegregati, dan ma setgħax jsir għax ma kienux hemm lok ad-ekwat fejn wieħed jżommhom.



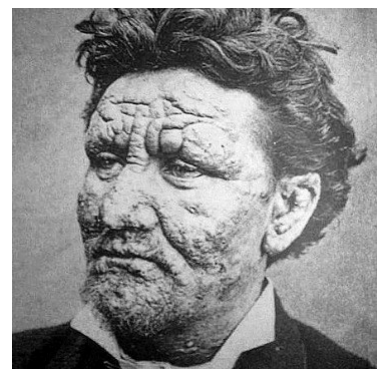
Fl-1900, sptar ddedikat għal lebbużi irġiel, ġie mibni l-Imġieret. Is-sezzjoni tan-nisa giet mibnija fl-1911 u għalhekk

n-nisa lebbużi setgħu jiġu ammesi wkoll. F'dik is-sena, dan l-isptar għal-lebbużi kien jżomm 73 pazjent irġiel. Fl-1914, in-numru ta' lebbużi identifikati kien ta' 107 nisa u irġiel, jew prevalenza ta' 1 kull 2000 tal-popolazzjoni. Il-pazjenti kienu jiġu ammessi go l-isptar b'mod sfurzat u miżumin hemm fi stat ta' arrest mill-pulizija.



Dawn ir-restrizzjonijiet ġabu magħhom rewixti u xi lebbużi anke ħarbu mill-isptar. Bil-mod il-mod, il-kundizzjonijiet tal-lebbużi ġewwa l-isptar tjebeu tant li eventwalment kienu jithallew jmorru għal mixjiet fil-kampanja b'kun-trast ta' l-ewwel snin fejn kienu miżmuma fi stat ta' arrest preventiv.

Fl-1916, ġie maħtur kumitat iehor biex jistudja il-kundizzjonijiet tal-lebbużi f'dan is-sptar. Dan l-istudju ġab bidla fil-liġi li kienet tirrigwardja il-kontroll ta' din il-marda. L-Ordinanza ta' 1919 għarfet li l-lebbużi seta' ma jibqax infettiv. Ghaldanstant dawn il-pazjenti setgħu jiġu mehlusa mill-isptar jew aħjar mill-ħabs lebbużi. Fl-1937, l-isptar tal-lebbra ġie msemmi l-Isptar San Bartolomew f'attentat biex titneħa l-istigma as-soċjata miegħu. Fl-istess sena infetaħ sptar għal-lebbużi f'Għawdex.



L-istorja tal-Lebbra
f'Malta—Zmien l-
Ingliżi

Lebbruzi famuzi fl-Istorja

Hàn Mặc TỬ

Famous Lepers



Le Thanh u mbagħad finalment bħalha Han Mac Tu kif inhu magħruf illum. Trabba gewwa familja fqira u missieru miet meta hu kien zghir. Minn tfal wera l-ħila tiegħu bħalha poeta. Meta ltaqa ma Phan Boi Chau, irĊieva kurraġġ u tifħir li għamlitu magħruf. Il-poeziji tiegħu kienu ndirizzati lin-nisa veri jew fittizji, fil-mod ta Giacomo Leopardi fil-Punent per eżempju.

Il-poeta Vietnamiz, Nguyen Trong Tr, imlaqqam bħalha Han Mac Tu twieled f'Settembru 22 tal-1912 u miet fil-11 ta' Novembru tal-1940. Huwa kien l-aktar figura Vjetnamiża Kattolika magħrufa matul il-Kolonja ta' dak iż-żmien. Twieled fid-distrett Dong Hoi, fil-Provinċja ta' Quang Binh. Kien magħruf bħalha Minh Due, Phong Tran,

Huwa popolaru u jibqa magħruf bħalha l-poeta tal-imħabba fil-Vjetnam. Poeziji tiegħu b'tema folkloristika huma wkoll magħrufa. Il-poeziji tal-bidu ta' Han Mac Tu kienu famuzi għal purita ta' ġurisidizzjoni u forma u juru wkoll li kellu interess qawwi fuq suġġetti realistiċi. Warajhom, il-poezija tiegħu wriet ukoll l-inflwenza ta' simbolizmu Franċiż u wara li marad, din saret aktar vjolenti u bdiet turi wkoll nuqqas ta' tama. Iktar minn poeta tal-imħabba, Han Mac Tu kien modernista u jfittex li l-poezija tiegħu jkunu bl-lingwaġġ ġdid u bi tradizzjonijiet u esperjenzi differenti. Il-bidu tal-poeziji tiegħu kienu aġġornati bi tradizzjonijiet klassiċi u spiċċaw assorbew l-inflwenza Franċiża li wassluh f'taqliba tal-istorja ta' ħajtu. Il-lingwa tiegħu ħraxet u baqgħet klassika u innovattiva l-ħin kollu, u għalkemm kien Kattoliku, għamel użu ta spiss bi xbihat u idejat Buddistiċi. Fl-1937 ħa l-marda tal-lebbra u finalment spiċċa fl-ispert ta Quy Hoa fejn miet xaharejn wara fl-1940 fl-eta ta' 28 sena.

Why is leprosy talked about so much in the Bible?"

<http://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-leprosy.html>

Leprosy in the Bible

In the Bible, the word leprosy is mentioned upwards of 40 times, depending on the Bible version being used. Leprosy was common in Bible times, and the many references to it were well understood by those who lived in unsanitary conditions. The main reason why leprosy is talked about so much in the Bible is that it is a graphic illustration of sin's destructive power. In ancient Israel leprosy was a powerful object lesson of the debilitating influence of sin in a person's life.

God had given the Israelites very specific instructions on how to deal with leprosy and other skin infections (Leviticus 13). Anyone suspected of having this disease had to go to a priest for examination (Leviticus 13:2-3). If found to be infected, "the leprous person who has the disease shall wear torn clothes and let the hair of his head hang loose, and he shall cover his upper lip and cry out, 'Unclean, unclean.' He shall remain unclean as long as he has the disease. He is unclean. He shall live alone. His dwelling shall be outside the camp" (Leviticus 13:45-46). The leper then was considered utterly unclean—physically and spiritually.

Incurable by man, many believed God inflicted the curse of leprosy upon people for the sins they committed. In fact, those with leprosy were so despised and loathed that they were not allowed to live in any community with their own people (Numbers 5:2). Among the sixty-one defilements of ancient Jewish laws, leprosy was second only to a dead body in seriousness. A leper wasn't allowed to come within six feet of any other human, including his own family. The disease was considered so revolting that the leper wasn't permitted to come within 150 feet of anyone when the wind was blowing. Lepers lived in a community with other lepers until they either got better or died. This was the only way the people knew to contain the spread of the contagious forms of leprosy.

The Bible records the story of a leper who was the first to be healed by Jesus (Matthew 8:2-4). The key lesson to be learned from this incident is that sin defiles us in the sight of God, but through Christ, we can be healed of the plague of sin that separates us from God. God loathes sin; it is repulsive to Him. Sin bans us from the presence of God because God will not allow sinful man in His sight and presence (Psalm 5:5; Habakkuk 1:13; Revelation 21:27). This is not only true of sins with a sexual connotation that are normally regarded as filthy and repulsive, but it includes all forms of disobedience and rebellion (1 Samuel 15:23; Proverbs 15:9). All sin is abhorrent to God. But those who have been redeemed from sin by grace through faith in Christ (Ephesians 2:8-9) can stand in God's presence in full confidence that we are accepted "in the Beloved," and we praise Him for the grace He extends to us for that purpose (Ephesians 1:5-7).

When we've captured a glimpse of the holiness and purity of God, we have to exclaim as did the prophet Isaiah, "Woe to me ... I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty" (Isaiah 6:5). Our attitude toward sin in the light of our Saviour should echo the words of Peter: "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" (Luke 5:1-8). Another key lesson we learn from the leper in Matthew's Gospel is that just as the leper did, we can confidently approach Jesus in all our need, with all our sin and defilement. When we plead for cleansing and forgiveness, He will not turn us away (Hebrews 4:16; Psalm 103:12).

Raoul Follereau Foundation
[Malta]

Order of Charity,
Catholic Institute,
Floriana - Malta

E-mail: tcutajar36@gmail.com
http://stlazarusmalta.org/aff_OoC.html

*Help us help fight the
scourge of leprosy*

The Raoul Follereau Foundation [Malta] - Order of Charity is a non-profit organisation set up in Malta in 1967 with the goal of collecting monetary support for the assistance of lepers throughout the World. It forms part of the international Raoul Follereau Foundation established in 1946 by the world famous anthropologist who died in 1977. The main aims of the Foundation are:

- to encourage social help to those suffering from leprosy;
- to ascertain that these people are treated as they should;
- to help lepers find their place in society;
- to give financial help to leprosaria and missions working with them.



Raoul Follereau

The treatment of leprosy

- Leprosy is a curable disease using the highly effective multidrug therapy.
- In 1981, a World Health Organization Study Group recommended multidrug treatment with three medications: dapsone, rifampicin (Rifadin), and clofazimine (Lamprene).
- This long-term treatment regimen cures the disease and prevents the complications associated with leprosy if started in its early stages.
- These medications have been distributed free to all patients with leprosy since 1995, and the WHO distributes the medications in convenient monthly calendar blister packs.
- After the first doses of these medications, patients are no longer infectious and they do not transmit the disease to others.
- In spite of the medications being available freely, it has not been as yet possible for the medication to reach all sufferers and the disease persists in a number of underdeveloped countries.
- The Order of Charity strives to help organizations in their quest to distribute the necessary medication.



Offerta mill-qalb

Jiena _____ Nru tal-ID _____ li noqghod

_____ Kodiċi Postali _____,

Email: _____

⇒ qed nibgħat ċekk nru _____ bhala donazzjoni bis-somma ta':

€5 €10 €15 €20 €25 donazzjoni libera € _____

⇒ Nixtieq insir membru ta' l'Ordni tal-Karità u nibdha nircevi in-newsletter regolament...€10

⇒ Lest nircevi in-newsletter b'moghod elektroniku.....

⇒ Nippreferi in-newsletter pubblikata.....

⇒ Nixtieq nixtri il-ktieb Il-Patri Lebbroz.....€6.50