

***“Though the Jews may seem to be dead,  
they never really are.”***

There is a region in South-Eastern Italy known as “Apulia,” extending into the peninsula commonly called the “heel” of the “boot” of Italy; some areas there were “established by [Jewish] captives deported from Judea by [the Roman emperor] Titus”; later, there was established in Apulia several Jewish [“racial-,” as well as religious-based] communities... Southern Italian Jewry was the original fount of Ashkenazic culture... Jews of France and Germany recognized their debt to the Apulian center as late as the 12th century.” (*Encyclopedia Judaica* (1971), Vol. 3, Apulia, Col. 226, 227, 228). And most likely, the Jewish descendants of these same earlier Jews do so again, today.

During the era of A.D. 1290, 1294, etc., the Jews were expelled *en mass*, from Italy and many places, including England, for all the same reasons the Jews had been and have been and will be expelled from the people, culture, society which “tolerated” them: the Jews abused the privilege of being a guest of the king. Of those Jews who remained in southern Italy (alleged to be only about 200 families, and always, usually those with the “monied interests”), many Jews were baptized, or perhaps asked to be baptized, into the “Christianity” of the Roman Catholic Church. But these converts led the existence of *anusim* (a Hebrew language word for “Conversos, Marranos”; or, if converting to Islam, “Chuetas”), all the while, secretly adhering to their Jewish beliefs and practices. These became known as *neofiti*, or neophytes; yet were regarded by the local Christians as faithless heretics. And those who did not leave Italy or convert to Christianity often were killed.

In A.D. 1311, King Robert of Italy directed that those Jews who had relapsed to Judaism were to be severely punished, an act which had to be repeatedly accomplished. Again expelled in the early A.D. 1400s, most of Jewry went to Spain (later to be expelled in 1492), where they were tolerated amongst the Islamic Moors; or they went to Portugal (to be expelled in 1496); or settling further to the north and/or south in Italy or to Sicily, living their lives “in the usual manner.” By 1540, it was alleged all Jewry was expelled from southern Italy. (See also: *Encyc. Jud.* (1971), Vol. 5, Col. 1145-1146; Vol. 5, Crypto-Jews, Col. 1145-1146; Vol. 3, Col. 227-228). That expulsion never happened as completely as it was desired. It was often from Sicily that the American version of the Mafia derived, the most violent and uncontrollable of all Jews.

Consider Mussolini’s comment in reply, about the situation of Jewry in general, when ordering the continued use of the 1930s anti-Jewish laws of Italy against Jews, and here, in Italian-controlled Libya, even though his governor of Lybia sent him a request, which asked for a change in the laws regarding Jewry, alleging that there was locally an apparent ‘dying out’ of an inactive and passive Jewry:

“The laws for the defense of the race are being applied in Libya. We have made arrangements to dismiss from government service officials who are of the Jewish race, and Jewish pupils have been expelled from secondary schools. Changes have been made in the banks [removing Jews from those offices]... I have diligently examined the local Jewish problem as a

whole. ... Most of them live in a most backward social conditions, and do not take the slightest part in political activities. They are mostly peaceful and timid, craftsmen and peddlers keeping to their modest little workshops and stalls, intent only on making a living from their occupations... [And then, the Libyan governor, in a brief and almost ignorant comment on how the few wealthy Jews in Libya have control of all commerce, trade, and industry, and then commits a further error,...] The Jews are already a dead people; there is no need to oppress them cruelly, especially since the [Libyan] Arabs, the traditional enemies of the Jews, now show signs of feeling sorry for them.”

Mussolini then replied — and take careful note of his absolute wisdom of racial comprehension:

"... no changes should be made... I therefore authorize you to use the racial laws as above [in Italian law], remembering that *though the Jews may seem to be dead, they never really are.*"

See: Norman A. Stillman, *The Jews and Arab Lands in Modern Times* (The Jewish Publication Society, New York, 5751 – 1991), Part Two, Sources, Chp. 6, World War II and its Impact, § “The Governor of Lybia Advises Mussolini to Modify the Application of Italy’s Anti-Jewish Laws in Lybia,” at Mussolini Replies, p. 420.

If this were true then, would it (not) be true, now?