

افغانستان آزاد – آزاد افغانستان

AA-AA

چو کشور نپاشد تن من مباد بدین بوم و بر زنده یک تن مباد
همه سر به سر تن به کشتن دهیم از آن به که کشور به دشمن دهیم

www.afgazad.com

afgazad@gmail.com

European Languages

زبانهای اروپایی

Leonardo Boff

11.03.2024

The New Barbarians: The European Community and the United States

What is happening shamefully, openly in Gaza is the prevalence of male violence, cruelty towards the weakest, and the outright elimination of people who, according to radical Zionists, should no longer exist. But I reiterate that with a lot of effort we believe that human beings can be better: they can make the distant a neighbor and the neighbor a brother. But when?



The real war of extermination that the State of Israel, under the command of an extreme right-wing scoundrel, Benjamin Netanyahu, is waging against more than two million Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, supported by the world's greatest military power, the United States, and even more so by the entire European Community (NATO) legitimizes us to call them new barbarians. They surrounded the millions of Palestinians like a pigsty on the

small strip of land by the sea to better eliminate them. To compound their perversity, they cut off water, food supplies, power, and medicine for hospitals. And to top it all off, they used white phosphorus bombs against the population that burn people to the bone.



It was a totally disproportionate reaction to a terrorist attack by Hamas (the militarized part of the civilian population) carried out against Israel on October 7, 2023. The reaction knows no ethical, humanitarian and minimum compassion limits: more than 11,000 children were killed, thousands of mothers, around 70,000 civilians and hundreds and hundreds wounded, and the rubble of 400,000 houses destroyed with high-powered bombs.

How can we not call this carnage barbaric on the part of the United States and those who proudly stated the following in the Preamble to the Constitution of the European Union:

"The European continent is the bearer of civilization, its inhabitants have inhabited it since the beginning of humanity in successive stages and over the centuries they have developed values, the basis of humanism: the equality of human beings, freedom and the value of reason..."

This view is not dialectical. It does not include or acknowledge the frequent violations of these values, the catastrophes produced by European culture with totalitarian ideologies, devastating wars, the slaughter of around 200 million on the continent and in the colonies, colonialism, slavery, imperialism, genocide of the native peoples (in one century 61 million indigenous people died in South America under the action of Europeans). decimating entire nations in stark contrast to the values he proclaimed. What the European Community, as an accomplice, is doing in the Gaza Strip demonstrates its traditional arrogance and moralistic attitude. I leave out the United States, which is always at war with some country, committing the greatest barbarities, and focus only on the Europeans.



This whole tragic dimension was only possible because the other was never truly recognized as their equal and the different was never consistently respected. This conception has not yet been overcome in the consciousness of most European countries.

Take, for example, the inferiority of others, in the case of the treatment of women.

Central to Western culture in general (without considering other cultures) was the patriarchal and sexist vision that combined and organized the main values in the form of masculinity. Because of this domination, women were subjugated, marginalized and socially invisible.

An ideological justification was created for this internalization. It was sought in Aristotle, who coined a prejudiced understanding, the resonance of which reached St. Thomas Aquinas, with echoes in Freud and Lacan. The philosopher stated that a woman is "*a man who stood in his way,*" "*an unfinished and inferior being.*"

The traditionalist sectors of the Catholic Church appear as cultural bastions that keep alive and still reproduce this internalization of women, who still do not enjoy full ecclesiastical citizenship. This ended up prevailing in the Pan-Amazonian Synod, which sought to give an indigenous face to the Christian faith. The sexist, Roman and Western paradigm predominated: a married Indian cannot be a priest because he is not celibate. Women were denied the priesthood. A very small portion was granted a share in the institutional

administration of the Church. But they were not allowed to exercise their freedom when it came to reproductive rights, among others, as they represent more than 50% of the Christian community.

This internalization of women divides humanity from top to bottom. It gives too much power to man. By not recognizing the otherness and equality of women, they lost the interlocutor that nature and God had given them to live together cooperatively. When Genesis says that they are the image of God and made male and female, it understands this fact not as a possibility of reproduction of the species. But as companions among themselves and permanent interlocutors.



This face-to-face relationship between man and woman would prevent a relationship of domination. And this, for reasons we can't mention here, was implemented. Without the woman, the man projects his physical strength and intellectual capacity into the logic of competition in which only one wins and all the others lose. It prevents a win-win cooperation. It leaves the field open to the emergence of power structures that imply hierarchy and exclusion. The kind of centralized state we have, the fabrication of wars, and the establishment of sexist social mores and discretionary laws are effectively blamed on patriarchy and machismo. But thanks to the historical struggle of women, a systematic demolition of the false reasons of patriarchal society is taking place. They developed a more holistic vision of men and women and their mission in history: to create collaborative relationships with respect for differences in view of a more inclusive and less conflictive relationship between genders and for the benefit of political and religious peace among peoples.

What is happening shamefully, openly in Gaza is the prevalence of male violence, cruelty towards the weakest, and the outright elimination of people who, according to radical Zionists, should no longer exist. But I reiterate that with a lot of effort we believe that

human beings can be better: they can make the distant a neighbor and the neighbor a brother. But when?

Leonardo Boff

Original: [Os novos bárbaros: a Comunidade Europeia e os USA](#)

Source: [Leonardo Boff](#) March 5, 2024

Edited by [Maria Piedad Ossaba](#)

Available translations: [Deutsch Italiano](#)

La Pluma. net 09.03.2024