

ABBA LIVES IN EVER ANTIRASCIST FIGHT!

Sunday, september 14, 2008

Near the Central Station of Milan, a guy has been killed with iron bars. He was Abdoul, 19, Italian and coloured. His murderers were the owners of a bar: they told Abdoul was a theft, but that night, Fausto and Daniele Cristofoli, when they ran after Abdoul and his friends in Via Zuretti, were armed with iron bars and they were shouting "dirty nigger we'll kill you"

Monday, September 15, 2008

Hundreds of people went to the streets of Cernusco for a torchlight demonstration, shouting "Racism kills! Is this your security?". Girls and boys took the head of the procession shouting with loud choirs and applauses: there was the desire and the need to be heard, to scream out the rage for a tragedy and a political environment that was its cause. The day after has born the "Committee to not forget Abba and to stop racism."

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Thousands of students demonstrated in the streets shouting "The color doesn't matter" and "We are all Abba." Arrived in via Zuretti, it has been sanctioned the bar of the killers, then the long silence is broken by the courageous denunciation of the sister of Abba: "It's impossible that no one saw anything! We must work hard together because Italy is too anachronistic."

Saturday 20th September 2008

An oceanic crowd of people invades the centre of Milan: from the periphery to the centre of the metropolis, it traces new practices of active citizenship, declining an individual tragedy into a collective experience of solidarity and mobilisation. To arrive in Dome's Square is not enough: when the head of the parade is at the crossroad with Via Manzoni, it breaks through the police lines and, moved by rage, by affection and by an instinctive force, it runs runs runs toward Via Zuretti, unstoppable. The manif savage mocks the police that is trying to stop it: "We're in front, behind, everywhere". Via Zuretti is reached in few istants and it has already changed it's name: on the plate it's possible to read "Via Abba". There's no space for racists, nor for intolerance and fear. This present is without doubt the future, there's not a chance to go back. As a man explained during the demonstration, with his black skin and a very elegant shirt under the t-shirt for Abba: "We're in the XXI° century, for sake!".



Committee not to forget Abba and to stop racism :

It was born through the initiative of many people, from Cernusco sul Naviglio but not only, that reacted deciding to remember Abba, without forgetting that he was killed by a racist atrocity. We want to stop intolerance and xenophobia so that what happened to Abba will never happen again, and also because they are a source of suffering for girls and boys, people of all ages, discriminated for the colour of their skin or of a supposed "diversity". Our intent is to keep on organizing cultural initiatives in schools, streets, everywhere, to sensibilize citizens, to be promoter of sociality and encounter, to multiply racism free zones, to rebel to racist violence.

CASTEL VOLTURNO WITH PRIDE.



Z. lives in Italy since two years, he's part of the Movement for Migrant and Refugees of Caserta. Twelve years as syndicalist in Burkina Faso and Gabon, then the escape through the desert and the arrival in Libia, where he was arrested and detained two time: the first time in a detention center and then in a Libyan jail. In the jail there has been a riot made by Z. and many other prisoners, which went on also after the visit of Gheddafi's son, as Interior Minister, and his threats. Then the travel through the sea and the arrival in Italy where the police told him to go to Naples and then to Castel Volturno. Castel Volturno is a small town near Caserta that counts

about 20 thousands of inhabitants. A town almost governed by Camorra, its territory has been devastated by many estate speculation. After the assassination of 6 migrants by men of Camorra during september 2008, there was a spontaneous uprising in Castelvolturno by the migrant communities of the territory. Today in Castel Volturno lives about 15 thousands of migrants (especially from Nigeria, Ghana, Tanzania, Liberia, Burkina Faso and in part from Eastern Europe): they work seasonally in Puglia harvesting tomatoes, in Calabria harvesting oranges, on construction sites in the rest of Italy in cities as Brescia, Milan, Naples and Caserta. They are the new slaves, exploited in agriculture and construction under illegal hiring: just as soon as they finish their seasonal work as tomatoes and oranges pickers, they go back to Castel Volturno, where they live as a strong self-organized community. Since years, the social center Ex-Canapificio offers legal support twice a week: they provide assistance to about 10 thousand migrants, often giving 500 advices a weeks. The demands of the migrants are very specific: the legalization of documents, the requests for asylum and refugee status. Complaints are also exponentially growing for undeclared exploitation and mistreatment by employers: they decide not to pay the laborers neither with the little fee established at the end of the season. In fact the employers are sure not to risk any complaints to the police by their workers without residence permits. Once a week is held the organizational meeting attended by thousands of people and discussing the struggles and grievances in program. The migrants's one is a self-organized and determined community, which is supported by the social center for the training and legal information. The struggle of the movement of migrants and refugees is determined and strong: the migrants need certainties and to achieve goals that provide an immediate improvement, however slight, but real, of their living conditions. They do not give up until they have achieved the required standard and from conquest to conquest they are increasing their demands.