



WORLD

## IN THE NAME OF THE OLIVE

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CARABINIERI AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES AT THE PROCESSION OF PARME, OR PALMS, ON PALM SUNDAY IN BOVA, REGGIO CALABRIA. THE PARME ARE A UNIQUE TRADITION IN ITALY: MADE BY PEOPLE OF THE COMMUNITY WITH WOVEN OLIVE BRANCHES AND DECORATED WITH FRUITS AND FLOWERS, THEY ARE THEN BLESSED BY THE PARISH PRIEST AND TAKEN IN A PROCESSION THROUGH THE ALLEYS OF THE MEDIEVAL TOWN.

*THERE IS NO OTHER TREE LIKE THE OLIVE TREE. NO OTHER PLANT HAS BEEN THE FOCUS OF THAT MANY MYTHS, AND HAS RECEIVED THAT MUCH ATTENTION SINCE ANCIENT TIMES. IN DOZENS OF CULTURES, THE OLIVE BRANCH HAS BEEN AND STILL IS A SYMBOL OF PEACE, FAITH, STRENGTH, INTEGRITY OR TRIUMPH. NO OTHER PLANT HAS BEEN ABLE TO TALK TO SUCH A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE. THERE IS NO OTHER PLANT AROUND WHICH ROTATES SUCH A COMPLEX AND DIVERSE WORLD. THERE IS NOT A MORE GLOBAL TREE.*

*IN ANCIENT GREECE THE OLIVE TREE WAS SACRED: THOSE CAUGHT DAMAGING ONE WERE EXILED. IN ANCIENT ROME, TRADITION HAD THE TWINS ROMULUS AND REMUS BEING BORN UNDER AN OLIVE TREE. IN THE OLD TESTAMENT, THE OLIVE TREE IS MENTIONED OVER SEVENTY TIMES. IN THE GOSPELS, JESUS CHRIST SPENDS HIS LAST HOURS IN MEDITATION AMONG THE OLIVE TREES OF GETHSEMANE, STILL A SACRED PLACE. FOR THE KORAN, THE OLIVE TREE IS THE COSMIC TREE PAR EXCELLENCE, A PILLAR OF THE WORLD, A LINK BETWEEN THE HUMAN AND THE DIVINE SPHERE: THE 99 NAMES OF ALLAH ARE WRITTEN ON ITS LEAVES.*

*OLIVE OIL, FOR CENTURIES ONE OF THE KNOWN WORLD'S ECONOMIC CORNERSTONES, IS THE BASIS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN DIET, A SUBSTANCE WITH EXTRAORDINARY NUTRITIONAL PROPERTIES THAT EVEN TODAY, IN SOME REGIONS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN, IS THE ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT IN ANCIENT MAGIC RITUALS. IT IS WITH THAT OIL, USED TO DRAW A CROSS ON THE FOREHEAD, THAT THE ORTHODOX CHURCH WELCOMES THE NEWBORN BABIES TO THE WORLD. AND IT IS WITH THAT SAME OIL THAT CHRISTIANS, AS A LAST ACT OF MERCY, ANOINT THE FOREHEAD OF THOSE WHO ARE ABOUT TO LEAVE IT FOREVER.*



ONE OF THE LAST SURVIVING TRADITIONAL OIL MILLS POWERED BY DONKEYS OR PONY HORSES IN ACTION IN TAHANAOUT,  
A HILL VILLAGE SOME 50 KMS FROM MARRAKECH, MOROCCO.



TWO WORKERS OF THE VAL PARADISO FARM PRUNE ONE OF THE OLIVE TREES NEAR THE 5TH CENTURY BC TEMPLE OF CONCORDIA, IN THE VALLEY OF TEMPLES IN AGRIGENTO, ITALY. THE VAL PARADISO COMPANY HAS SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MANAGEMENT OF THE VALLEY OF TEMPLES ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE TO MAINTAIN AND EXPLOIT THE OLIVE TREES THAT GROW IN THE 1,300-HECTARES PARK.



A FRANCISCAN FRIAR IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE IN JERUSALEM, ISRAEL. ACCORDING TO GOSPEL TRADITION, THE GETHSEMANE IS WHERE JESUS RETREATED AFTER THE LAST SUPPER, BEFORE BEING BETRAYED AND ARRESTED. ALTHOUGH RESEARCH SHOWS THAT THE EIGHT OLDEST OLIVE TREES IN THE GARDEN ARE AROUND 900 YEARS OLD, TRADITION HAS IT THAT THEY GREW FROM REPLANTED BRANCHES TAKEN FROM THE ORIGINAL TREES THAT WITNESSED JESUS' LAST NIGHT. THE FRANCISCAN ORDER TAKES CARE OF THE TREES SINCE 1681.



A GIANT BRONZE OLIVE TREE HANGING FROM THE ROOF OF THE MERCATO DEL DUOMO FOOD STORE IN MILANO, ITALY. THE SCULPTURE IS BY BRITISH ARTIST ADAM LOWE, WHO USED SECULAR OLIVE TREES AS A CAST.



MARIA LUGIA STANCO, 82, PERFORMS THE RITUAL OF 'MAGICAL DROPLETS' IN THE KITCHEN OF HER HOUSE IN FRIGENTO, ITALY. TRADITION MANDATES THAT THE RITUAL, WIDELY USED IN THE PAST IN CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN ITALY TO TAKE THE 'EVIL EYE' OFF A PERSON, MUST BE PERFORMED ONLY WITH EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL, A FEW DROPS OF WHICH ARE LET FALL FROM THE LEFT LITTLE FINGER INTO A DISH CONTAINING WATER.



A STATUE OF JESUS GUARDS THE BORDER OF AN OLIVE GROVE IN THE AREA OF PORTO CESAREO, PUGLIA.



THE PRODUCTION LINE AT THE PIERALISI OIL MILL MACHINERY FACTORY IN JESI, ITALY.  
THE COMPANY IS AMONG THE WORLD'S LEADING MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS OF AUTOMATED OIL MILL MACHINERY.



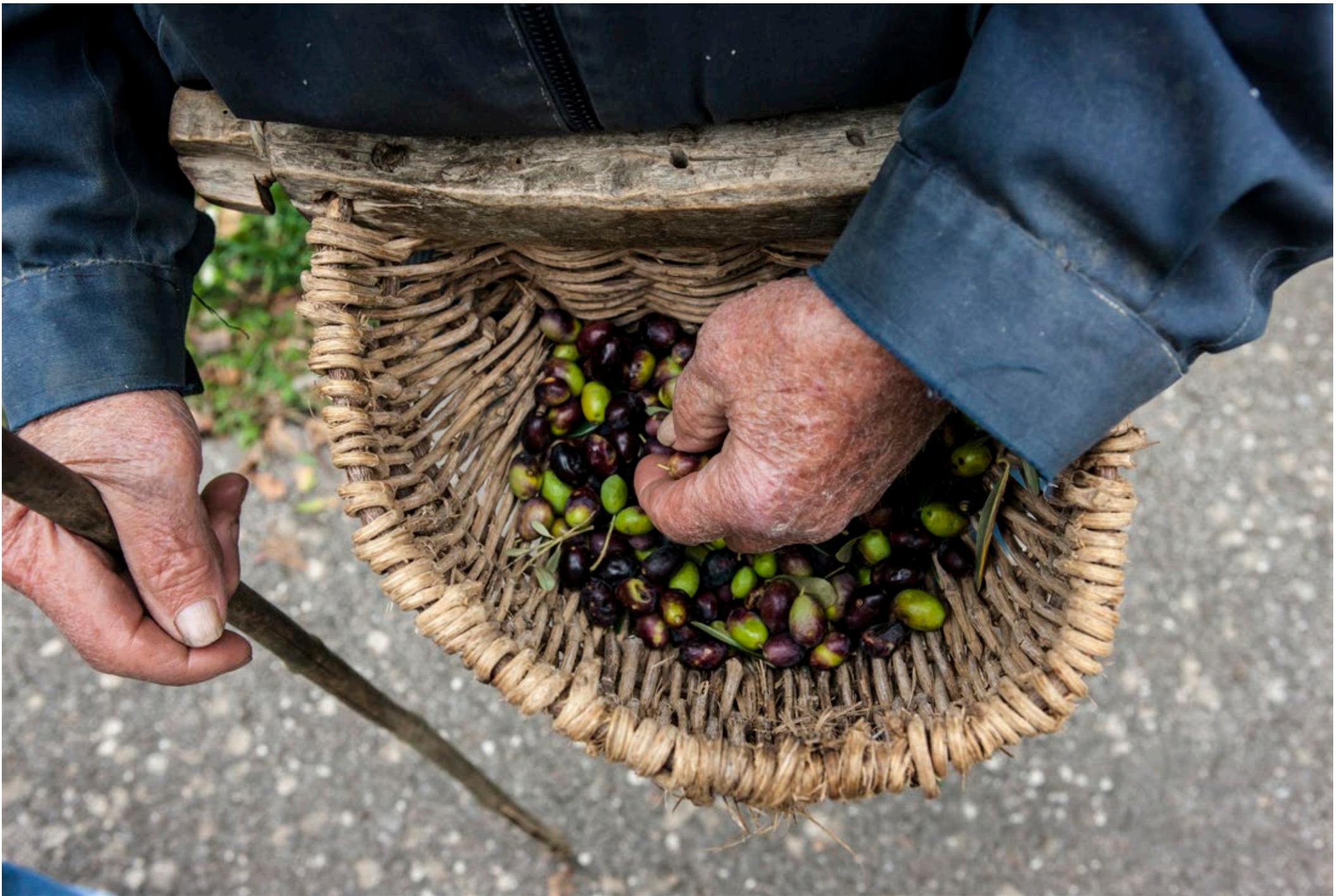
A TOBACCONIST IN HER SHOP IN BOVA, REGGIO CALABRIA. ON THE DESK, A TRADITIONAL STAFF MADE OF WOVEN OLIVE BRANCHES INTENDED TO BE USED THE FOLLOWING DAY DURING THE PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION. HANGING ON THE WALL ON THE RIGHT IS A BRANCH FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S STAFF.



THE OLIVE OIL AUTOMATED BOTTLING LINE AT THE CARLI OLIVE OIL COMPANY IN IMPERIA, ITALY. ESTABLISHED IN THE 1910S, THE COMPANY IS AMONG THE MAJOR OLIVE OIL PRODUCERS IN THE COUNTRY.



A CRUCIFIX CARVED IN OLIVE WOOD DECORATES THE ENTRANCE OF THE GETHSEMANE BASILICA IN JERUSALEM, ISRAEL.



FARMER LUIGI TONINI, 91, COLLECTS OLIVES FROM THE TREES IN HIS FIELD IN MONTEPULCIANO, ITALY.



A PARTY OF MOROCCAN HUNTERS TAKE A BREAK EATING BREAD, OLIVES AND OLIVE OIL IN THE COUNTRYSIDE OF OURIKA, IN THE VICINITY OF MARRAKECH.



OLIVES DEPOSITED FOR MILLING IN A MEDIUM-SCALE OIL MILL IN TAHANAOUT, A HILL VILLAGE SOME 50 KMS FROM MARRAKECH, MOROCCO. OLIVE TREES REPRESENT MORE THAN 50 PERCENT OF MOROCCAN AGRICULTURE, AND THE COUNTRY RANKS AMONG THE FIVE TOP OLIVE OIL PRODUCERS IN THE WORLD.



A SOCCER FIELD SURROUNDED BY AN OLIVE GROVE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE OF OURIKA, IN THE VICINITY OF MARRAKECH. OLIVE TREES REPRESENT MORE THAN 50 PERCENT OF MOROCCAN AGRICULTURE, AND THE COUNTRY RANKS AMONG THE FIVE TOP OLIVE OIL PRODUCERS IN THE WORLD.



A BAPTISM CELEBRATED BY FATHER TRAIAN VALDMAN AT THE ROMANIAN CHURCH IN MILANO, ITALY. IN THE ORTHODOX CHURCH, SEVERAL BABIES ARE BAPTIZED AT THE SAME TIME, BY IMMERSING THEM IN WATER AND, LATER, THROUGH SMALL SIGNS OF THE CROSS THAT THE PRIEST TRACES ON THEIR BODIES WITH THE OLIVE OIL HE HAS PREVIOUSLY BLESSED. THE FAMILIES USUALLY HAVE THEIR OWN BOTTLE OF OLIVE OIL BLESSED ON THE ALTAR, AND USE IT BACK HOME EVEN FOR COOKING.



OLIVE TREES KILLED BY THE XYLELLA FASTIDIOSA BACTERIUM IN THE AREA SOUTH OF GALLIPOLI, PUGLIA.



THE JEWISH CEMETERY SURROUNDED BY OLIVE TREES AT THE FOOT OF THE MOUNT OF OLIVES, RIGHT BESIDE THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE IN JERUSALEM, ISRAEL.



THE PARISH PRIEST PREPARES TO BLESS THE CROWD BEFORE THE PROCESSION OF PARME, OR PALMS, ON PALM SUNDAY IN BOVA, REGGIO CALABRIA. THE PARME ARE A UNIQUE TRADITION IN ITALY: MADE BY PEOPLE OF THE COMMUNITY WITH WOVEN OLIVE BRANCHES AND DECORATED WITH FRUITS AND FLOWERS, THEY ARE THEN BLESSED BY THE PARISH PRIEST AND TAKEN IN A PROCESSION THROUGH THE ALLEYS OF THE MEDIEVAL TOWN.



SECULAR OLIVE TREES KEPT IN THE MELENDUGNO, PUGLIA, CONSTRUCTION SITE OF THE TRANS ADRIATIC PIPELINE (TAP). THE TREES, WHOSE FATE REMAINS UNCERTAIN, HAVE BEEN UPROOTED IN ORDER TO BUILD THE PIPELINE SUPPOSED TO TRANSPORT NATURAL GAS FROM AZERBAIJAN, SPARKING A VIOLENT PROTEST BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND RESIDENTS.



A FRIAR AND A VOLUNTEER WOMAN COLLECT OLIVES FROM THE TREES IN THE ORCHARD OF THE 12TH-CENTURY ST. ANTIMUS ABBEY IN THE VICINITY OF MONTALCINO, ITALY.

## Victor Feguer

Furman v. Georgia put a moratorium on the death penalty in America. Unfortunately for Victor Feguer, the Furman v. Georgia decision came after his execution – the last in the U.S before the case. Feguer lured a doctor with a phony emergency call and shot him in the head. Before Iowa performed its last execution, Feguer received his odd last meal – a single black olive with the pit. Feguer wanted the pit to grow inside his body and into an olive tree after he died.



VICTOR FEGUER WAS CHARGED WITH MANSLAUGHTER AND WAS THE LAST PERSON IN THE U.S. EXECUTED IN 1963 UNDER THE FEDERAL DEATH PENALTY UNTIL IT WAS REINSTATED IN 2001. FOR HIS FINAL MEAL, FEGUER ASKED FOR A SINGLE OLIVE WITH A PIT, SAYING THAT HE HOPED THAT AN OLIVE TREE, A SYMBOL OF PEACE, WOULD SPROUT FROM HIS GRAVE.



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