

ABSTRACT

This work finds its place within the strand of studies on *Peripheral Fascisms* and attempts reconstructing the twenty-year Fascist affair in the Iblea area.

Attention turns to the *red* province, the cradle of Socialism par excellence, which crumbles under the strikes of Blackshirts and Fascists.

Within the peripheral Fascism of Ibleo one can find a few local details: the Fascism of Ragusa which could be defined as *Pennavarian*, taking its leader's name, Filippo Pennavaria; that of Modica with its notable specificity; while that of Vittoria instead lies in the hands of the rural bourgeoisie, personified in the powerful Iacono family.

All these details are smitten with atavistic village squabbles and internal feuds, which do not contribute in improving the relationship between the population and the institutions making up the regime. The disagreements rooted within the ruling class become more intense when Ragusa has its status raised to that of the chief city within the province in 1927.

Although the party found its ground quite easily, the development of Fascist trade unionism tells a different story, as it had to counter the thick associative web which already existed and which really meant keeping its autonomy unchanged.

A detailed analysis is made of the trade unions of industry, looking at the mining-asphalting sector and the trade unions of agriculture, from the double perspective of employers and employees.

Besides, a wide area is dedicated to trade union activities: membership, assistance, agreements, etc.