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**La mafia e il Fascismo:
l'azione del Prefetto Mori
Abstract**

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This elaborate means to examine a page in the history of our country not too much taken into consideration by various critics and historians, despite its scope.

There is not enough conscience of the battle undertaken by the fascist regime, during the 1920s, against the Sicilian mafia and is not so much known the main protagonist of this battle, Cesare Mori, known to history as the "iron Prefect" or "Prefettissimo". On the contrary, those times when he was appointed, Mori is simply known as a "tool" used by the regime, while it might be considered as one of the few men to have put down the mafia.

The action carried out by Mori became interested in vast areas of Sicily, thanks to the broad powers that had been guaranteed by the regime and the subsequent creation of Interprovincial Service.

In particular should be reminded campaigns in the Madonie mountains, with the siege of Gangi and Mistretta, considered the center where operated the dome of the Sicilian mafia. There was a succession of roundups that led to the arrest of about eleven thousand people connected to the *honoured society*, although many of these were simple criminals or, as revealed by subsequent processes, even innocent.

In fact, many errors were committed by Mori, probably caused by excessive scent of victory as supporting his rivals. Among these rivals are included Alfredo Cucco, main representative of Fascism in Sicily, and Antonino Di Giorgio, a former Minister of War and Commander of military forces on the island during the years of service of Mori in Palermo. Mori didn't worry to denigrate and accuse them of being associated to mafia.

Surely the actions conducted by Mori had dealt a serious blow to organized crime, but they actually served only to make it less intense, considering that it would have been risen again. Thanks to a perfect mimicry, in fact, mafia was able to adapt and to infiltrate even within new power games that included Sicily and survived to the severe blows inflicted by the Prefect. The *honoured society's* resurrection would have been more fierce than before, after the Allies' conquest of the island.