

Shuhada' Sadaqat (Sinead O'Connor) Finds "White People" (Non-Muslims) "Disgusting" (Part Two)

by Hugh Fitzgerald



In August 2018, the tireless Magda Davitt sent an open letter – the whole world needed to know – asking Pope Francis to excommunicate her, as she had previously asked Pope Benedict and John Paul II. So far she hasn't gotten her wish, but converting to Islam might just do the trick. On the other hand, the Church might want to torment her by not excommunicating her. Or, most diabolical of all, decided not to give her any attention. Is that what drove her...no, she's already crazy...to do something really insane, like convert to Islam? Because – whaddaya know? – just two months later, she did.

Some Muslims may be delighted at this example of adult-onset Islam. They love it when celebrities convert to Islam. But others may think that Islam deserves a better class of convert, that an Irish girl who started out crazy and has gotten crazier with each passing decade is not what the faith needs just now. Maybe one of the Obama girls?

She received enormous sums for the songs she wrote, and also performed, but somehow she managed, despite all that money that came her way, to end up in August 2017 living in a \$70-a-night motel in New Jersey. She never explained what happened to all her money. Then out of the blue came her Announcement To The World: I have converted to Islam. That story put her in the spotlight for a few weeks. And then she announced to the

world, in that subliterate way that she thinks adds to her rough charm – that “I never wanna spend time with white people” again. And who are these “white people”? They are those who are also called “non-Muslims.” So she never gonna wanna spend time ever again, see, with those “white people” (a/k/a “non-Muslims”) whom she calls “disgusting.”

Where does this “disgust” with all non-Muslims (a/k/a “white people”) come from? Most likely from the Qur’an. She learned that Muslims are “the best of peoples” (3:110). Her new Muslim friends, the ones who spotted her as a likely prospect, given her mental state, and helped convert her, no doubt would want her to know that verse. That’s got to have made her feel good. What’s more, they likely also taught her that all non-Muslims are “the most vile of creatures” (98:6). It’s in the Qur’an. That sentiment really appealed to her. It explained her own lifelong problems, such as her mother (“disgusting”), and so many other people, ex-husbands, ex-lovers, ex-collaborators – every manjack of whom were, or are, non-Muslims and “white” (including Prince?) and therefore “disgusting.”

Then there is her music career, such as it now is. This month Shuhada released an album she had recorded earlier this year, when she was still Magda Davitt (no longer Sinead and not yet Shuhada’ Sadaqat) with Ronnie Wood, Mick Mason, and Imelda May. All three of her collaborators are non-Muslims. Shouldn’t Shuhada now distance herself from that album, and tell the world she wants nothing to do with it, given that her three fellow musicians were all non-Muslims and, therefore, it turns out, “disgusting” white people (and because Islam forbids the use of musical instruments)? And from now on, won’t she want to avoid all non-Muslim, “white,” and therefore disgusting, people, including the musicians she used to work with? Perhaps she’ll give up music altogether, as a good Muslim who follows Muhammad’s strictures on musical instruments, and devote her life instead to being brand ambassador for Islam. There are deep-pocketed Muslims who might provide her with a generous

stipend for doing such work.

I don't know where the tragicomic tale of Shuhada/Magda/Sinead Davitt/O'Connor/Sadaqat goes from here. But surely there are many more surprises to come. Her adult-onset Islam is not the last stop on her spiritual journey. She's a publicity hound, and needs to keep startling her audience. She sang the adhan, apparently unaware that women are forbidden to sing it, and her new Muslim friends did not remonstrate with her, apparently not wishing to offend their plumb new convert. She yearns for more followers on Twitter, and more friends on Facebook. Maybe she'll change her mind yet again, and decide that "non-Muslims" – "white people" – aren't so disgusting after all. Maybe she'll declare her admiration for Donald Trump. Or declare her desire to marry Vladimir Putin. Or demand – and given this giddy globe she might well get – her own reality TV show. Or become a nun. Hold onto your seats. With Shuhada, anything is possible.

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