

Mother Teresa:

The Sociology of

Inspiration and Discouragement

Dr. Gezim Alpion

(Birmingham, UK)

4/26/22, 4:30 pm

ICC462

Catholic studies of Georgetown University



Mother Teresa: Sociology of Inspiration and Discouragement



Dr Gezim Alpion
Univ. of Birmingham (UK)

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Gëzim Alpion is a sociologist at the University of Birmingham, UK. He received a PhD from the University of Durham, UK, in 1997. His main publications include *Mother Teresa: Saint or Celebrity?* (2007), *If Only the Dead Could Listen* (2008) and *Encounters with Civilizations: From Alexander the Great to Mother Teresa* (2017). Alpion is considered 'the most authoritative English-language author' on St Teresa of Calcutta and 'the founder of Mother Teresa Studies'.



'This comprehensive academic study of the saint establishes Alpion as the leading authority in the field. Alpion has penned what will certainly become the standard guide to Mother Teresa's heritage and her life.'

Bernd J. Fischer, Professor of History, Indiana University

'[The book] intelligently and insightfully explores how this woman became the saint we know and the forces that shaped her in her life.'

Death Studies (Routledge)

'...enriches our understanding of one of the 20th century's most enduring figures.'

Spiked Magazine, London

'The subtitle of this book [*The Saint and Her Nation*] encapsulates the very novelty of this latest effort by Gëzim Alpion to probe into the complexity of Mother Teresa's personality.'

Southeast European and Black Sea Studies (Routledge)

'[This new study] tells a fascinating story that enriches the history of the modern Balkans.'

Church Times, London

'...a "very comprehensive" and "quality addition" to books on the nun's life.'

The Daily Patriot, Islamabad

'This scrupulously researched study shows that she was even more remarkable than we thought.'

MercatorNet, Sydney

'...it is not an attempt to "debunk" the story of a truly remarkable and indeed holy woman but an honest effort to add to its richness.'

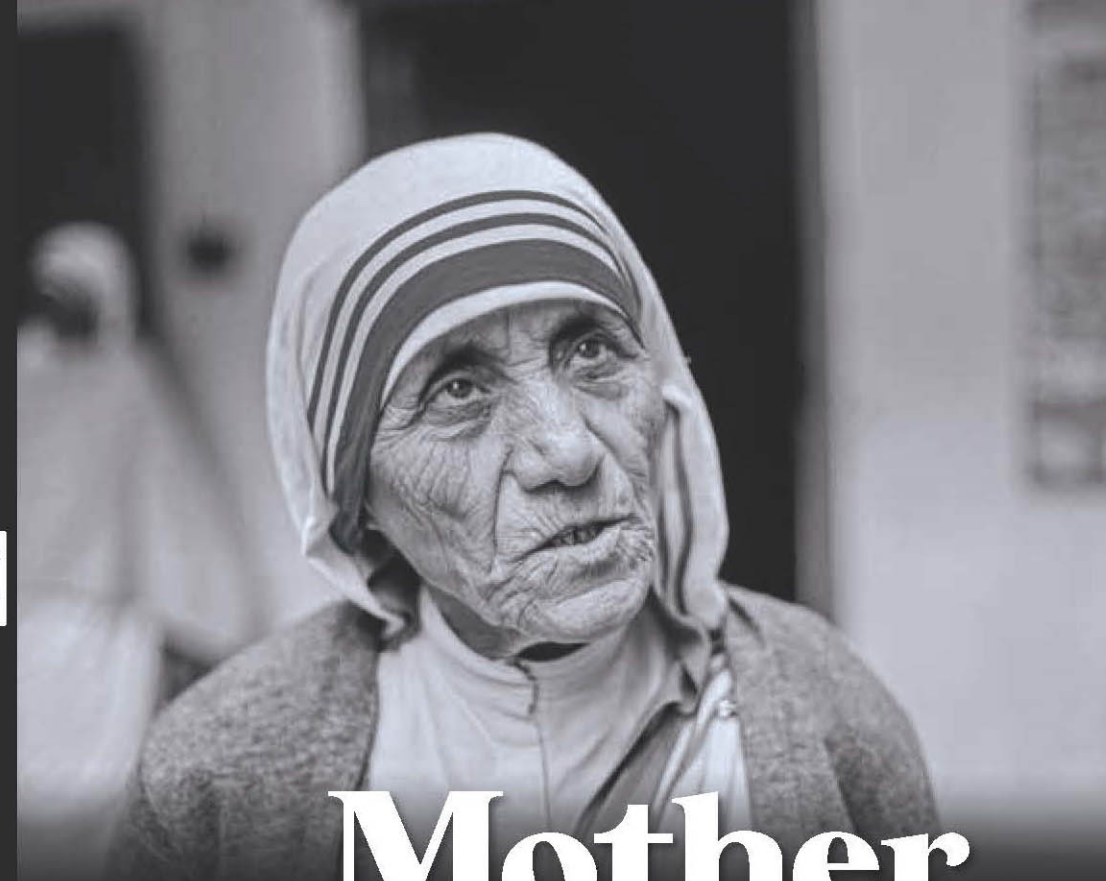
The Pastoral Review, London



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Mother Teresa

Gëzim Alpion



Mother Teresa

The Saint and Her Nation

Gëzim Alpion

BLOOMSBURY

A personality of Mother Teresa's calibre and global reach does not come about by chance. To provide a well-rounded portrait of this influential figure, this book approaches her in the context of her familial background and ethnic, cultural and spiritual milieus. Her life and work are explored in the light of newly discovered information about her family, the Albanian nation's spiritual tradition before and after the advent of Christianity, and the impact of the Vatican and other influential powers on her people since the early Middle Ages.

Focusing on her traumas, ordeals and achievements as a private individual and a public missionary, and her complex spirituality, this book contends that Mother Teresa's life and her nation's history, especially her countrymen's relationship with Roman Catholicism, are interconnected. Unravelling this interconnectedness is essential to understanding how this modern spiritual and humanitarian icon has come to epitomise her ancient nation's cultural and spiritual DNA.