

This "war makes no sense", the Italian govt should "resign", Tripoli bishop says

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Bombs strike Tripoli throughout the night. Residents are desperate, running into the streets, appealing to the Pope to stop the war. "If the war continues, the gap between the Libyan and Italian peoples could get bigger, with unforeseeable consequences," the apostolic vicar says.

Tripoli (AsiaNews) – "NATO's war makes no sense. People want peace. What have people done to deserve all this?" asks Mgr Giovanni Innocenzo Martinelli, apostolic vicar of Tripoli. "Targeting military objectives" is crazy because "bombs are striking everywhere," the prelate said. "We cannot sleep and people are panicking," he added. "Just last night, there were some explosions just a few kilometres from our area."

The situation is desperate and the West should stop the war, Mgr Martinelli urged. "We can see women and children crying in the streets. Many Muslim women have come to church crying, asking the Pope to stop the conflict," the prelate said.

"Bombs solve nothing. NATO and the rebels must stop the military intervention and accept diplomatic talks with the regime," he explained.

The prelate is also very critical of the positions taken by the Italian government. After backing Gaddafi and his regime for years, now Rome has decided to take part in the air strikes.

"If this is the government's choice, it would be better for everyone that it resign," the bishop said.

"How can anyone say that everything is normal and right? If the war continues, the gap between the Libyan and Italian peoples could get bigger, with unforeseeable consequences." (S.C.)

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