

Hundreds of small sparrows looked on as King Solomon's Palace caught fire. The large elephants and rhinoceroses that lived there fled. "We cannot stand here and do nothing while our palace and King Solomon go up in flames", they said. So they picked up walnut shells with their tiny beaks and flew a long way until they reached the river where they were able to collect a few drops of water.

Of course, they could not put out the fire but at least they did everything in their power to try and save the palace and their beloved king".

Today, this story could not be more apt, and many of us should follow the example of King Solomon's small birds, as they endeavoured to put out the fire... the fire that is tearing through our society.

Michele Capasso

The [Fondazione Mediterraneo](#) came into being in this Maison.

The *Maison des Alliances* has become an inseparable partner in building dialogue and promoting peace in the Mediterranean and the world.

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