

# Nicola Sacco

## Italian Anarchist Activist and Martyr of the State

(1891 - 1927)

**Description :** Sacco and Vanzetti feared the draft during World War I and in objection fled to Mexico with Sacco's family. When the war ended both returned to their homes. After they returned the two became more active in the anarchist community. (From : Anarchy Archives)

**Tags :** anarchist, italian, labor unionist, propaganda of the deed, american, massachusetts.

### Quotes :

*"...when a man remains all day long back of these sad bars you feel your mind sometime very tired and exhausted of ideas..."*

(From : Letters of Sacco and Vanzetti.)

*"So I turn over towards the soldiers and I said, 'Brothers, you will not fire on your own brothers, because they tell you to fire; no, brothers, remember that everyone of us has has mother and child, and you know that we fight for the freedom which is your freedom.'" (From : Letters of Sacco and Vanzetti.)*

*"It is very true indeed, what you are saying -- that we can never be good and well again for the future -- as we want to be. No, I guess not: we can never get back that old young energy again, because of these dolorous long years of confinement..." (From : Letters of Sacco and Vanzetti.)*

### Biography :

Nicola Sacco was born in the Southern Italian small town of Torremaggiore on April 22, 1891. He emigrated to the United States in 1908. Upon arrival he learned the trade of shoe-edge trimming and got a job working at a shoe-company in Milford, MA. He soon married and fathered a son.

Bartolomeo Vanzetti was born on June 11, 1888. The Vanzetti family lived in

Northern Italy in the town of Villafalletto. Vanzetti also emigrated to the United States in 1908. He worked as a kitchen helper in New York, and after losing his job drifted to Boston where he worked odd jobs and met Sacco.

Sacco and Vanzetti feared the draft during World War I and in objection fled to Mexico with Sacco's family. When the war ended both returned to their homes. After they returned the two became more active in the anarchist community. Vanzetti began reading about industrial society and revolt and both began distributing anarchist and revolutionary literature.

In 1920, the two were charged with robbery of a shoe factory and murder of the paymaster and payroll guard in South Braintree, MA. They were found returning to a vehicle spotted near the scene of the crime; both were armed but claimed that they intended to use the car to distribute anarchist literature. Vanzetti who had already been convicted of a crime was arrested without question.

Their trial lasted six weeks at the end of which, both parties were found guilty. Initially, their trial received little publicity until the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee caused a stir by insinuating that the case was not a legal battle, but an ideological struggle between the jury and Sacco and Vanzetti, who had quite different political views. Ultimately however these claims fell on deaf ears when the Supreme Court of Massachusetts ruled against Sacco and Vanzetti on April 9th 1927. Sacco and Vanzetti's execution date fell on August 23, 1927. While tens of thousands of people protested outside the doors of Boston's old Charlestown prison, Sacco and Vanzetti were executed by electric chair.

Citations: <http://www.bookrags.com/biography/sacco-and-vanzetti/>  
<http://www.biography.com/articles/Sacco-and-Vanzetti-9468790>

From : Anarchy Archives.

### **Works :**

Author of Letters written in 1921-June 1927 in Dedham Jail (December 31, 1969)  
Author of Letters written in July-August 18, 1927 in Charlestown State Prison (December 31, 1969)

### **Chronology :**

**April 22, 1891** : Nicola Sacco's Birth Day.

**August 23, 1927** : Nicola Sacco's Death Day.

**November 16, 2016** : Nicola Sacco's Added to

<http://www.RevoltLib.com>.

**March 13, 2018** : Nicola Sacco's Last Updated on

<http://www.RevoltLib.com>.

**Links :**

- **Anarchy Archives: Sacco and Vanzetti Archive**

[http://dwardmac.pitzer.edu/Anarchist\\_Archives/bright/SaccoVan/SaccoVan.html](http://dwardmac.pitzer.edu/Anarchist_Archives/bright/SaccoVan/SaccoVan.html)

- **Wikipedia: Sacco and Vanzetti**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sacco\\_and\\_Vanzetti](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sacco_and_Vanzetti)

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