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◀ MONUMENT TO COMRADE ENVER HOXHA ERECTED AT THE CENTRE OF SKANDERBEG SQUARE OF TIRANĀ. COMRADE RAMIZ ALIA ADDRESSING THE RALLY ORGANIZED IN THE CAPITAL ON THE OCCASION OF THE 80th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTHDAY OF ENVER HOXHA AND THE INAUGURATION OF HIS MONUMENT.

The Enver Hoxha Museum in Tiranā dedicated to the life and brilliant work of our glorious leader.



ENVER HOXHA HAS BEEN AND REMAINS TO THIS DAY THE ONLY NAME AMONG THE COMMUNIST LEADERS OF THE LAST 4-5 DECADES WHO DEFENDED THE TEACHINGS OF MARXISM - LENINISM, THE IDEALS OF THE REVOLUTION AND SOCIALISM, BOTH IN THEORY AND IN PRACTICE

THE 80th ANNIVERSARY OF COMRADE ENVER

RAMIZ ALIA

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SPEECH DELIVERED AT THE

Dear comrades, sisters and brothers,
Citizens of Tirana and of the whole of Albania,
We have gathered in this great popular rally in order to celebrate an historic day and to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the birth of the legendary leader of our people and Party, Comrade Enver Hoxha.

It was the ardent desire of the whole Albanian people that on the 80th anniversary of his birth we should unveil the monument to Enver. And the Party worked with persistence, the artists worked untiringly in order to fulfil this noble desire. In these solemn moments we can say: We have Enver Hoxha here, in the middle of the capital, where he led the people in one of the first actions of the war for the freedom of the Homeland; in this historical square where our people saw him and heard him speak often about socialism and Albania.

The majestic monument which the Party and the people set up to Enver Hoxha is an expression of their gratitude, love and esteem for everything which he did for the Homeland and socialism. With this monument they desire to perpetuate his struggle and work, his name and contribution, the socialist road which he showed, the communist ideal to which he dedicated himself.

On this memorable day allow me, dear comrades, to convey to you the warmest greetings of the Central Committee of our Party, along with the homage to Enver Hoxha.

Our people have always known how to assess and prize all those who have fought unsparingly for the fundamental interests of the country. By honouring them they honour their own national

history, they honour the victories they achieve and the ideals which lead them towards the future. Therefore, our respect for Enver Hoxha is respect for socialism, for the free and independent Albania, for the radical changes it has made in the years of our new life. It is a respect which will continue to grow in proportion with the size of our future victories.

Enver Hoxha's name and work have been identified with the most brilliant pages of the history of modern Albania. They have been cast into one with the epic of the National Liberation War and the struggle for the construction of the new society. With them is connected the greatest change in the history of the Albanian people, the national revival after the savage fascist occupation, and the deepest social transformation of our country — the triumph of socialism.

Enver Hoxha is the founder of the new Albania. For nearly half a century under his leadership we wheathered the greatest storms which swept our country, both in the time of the war for liberation and after the war, when we began to build the new life. With him in our lead, we broke the blockades and the interventions of the imperialists and revisionists, withstood their pressure and foiled their plots.

As a man he embodied whatever is beautiful and valuable in the Albanian people, the freedom-loving tradition and the revolutionary thinking, the inherited virtues and the newest moral values formed during the socialist construction. Enver judged and acted in accord with the mind of the people. He rose high the great interest and the noble ideal for which he fought.

HOXHA'S BIRTH

ENVER HOXHA O SOCIALISM

MASS RALLY OF THE CAPITAL

Our Party and people honour and respect Enver Hoxha not only for what he did for Albania, which is a magnificent, indelible and immortal deed. We honour him also for the many-sided political, ideological and cultural legacy which he bequeathed us, for the secure prospects he projected, which will inspire us at any time to find the most correct roads and most suitable solutions in order to carry socialism in our country forward.

Comrade Enver Hoxha was creative and innovative in everything he did. Any set scheme and any stereotype was devaluated confronted with his powerful thinking. His work reflects the development of life in all its variety. It is the work of a thinker with a fresh logic and an optimistic spirit. His work is permeated by a creative dialectical method of analysis in reaching conclusions, by the courage to discard the old and to support the new. By implementing the Marxist-Leninist doctrine in a creative manner in Albania he showed what strength socialism has, showed that this is the only social order with a future, the only alternative to the liquidation of oppression and the exploitation of man by man.

Enver Hoxha has proved with all-sided arguments that socialism is a social system capable of providing answers to all the questions of progress, and of withstanding all the challenges of the time.

Of course the construction of socialism, as a new experience in the history of mankind, comes up against great difficulties, which are connected with the degree of the economic and cultural development of the country, with the intensity

of the class struggle and other conditions of this description, as well as with the denigration and the unlimited efforts of the external enemies against socialism.

The question is how to cope with these difficulties, how to surmount them with the least pain. Enver Hoxha teaches you and convinces you that they can be withstood and overcome if you have confidence in socialism and, above all, if you work and fight in order to raise it to new heights. He concludes that the proletariat, as a social class which is capable of overthrowing the old society, is also capable of building the new society by working together with the peasantry and the intelligentsia.

Socialism, as Enver Hoxha conceived it and as our Party and people are building it in our country, represents not only a theory and social practice, but also an ideal, an aim, an impulse which drives mankind ahead, a force which drives it towards progress.

In the present situations we are faced with a great task, which has a national and international importance. The question is about the strengthening and advance of socialism in Albania. This is our ideal, and our historical obligation.

Our example, our practice, the heroic struggle which our Party and people wage in order to score more and more victories, constitute an internationalist contribution which we make to the defence and advance of socialism in the world, to the defence and advance of the revolution, to the defence and advance of Marxism-Leninism.

We wage this struggle and we have set this example which confirm the vitality of socialism



and the Marxist-Leninist ideas in Albania, while preserving our freedom, defending the state of the people, our social justice and socialist culture, and raising our new creative man higher.

Our working masses, which in less than half a century have overtaken a whole epoch, which are witnesses of the heroic and persistent struggle which pulled Albania from darkness into light, have a right to look forward to the future with optimism. This conviction is nourished by the ideology of the Party, the creative strength of the people and our social order. Socialist Albania, which continues on its triumphant road and scores new successes in the political, economic, social, education and other fields, will remain a great example.

We have come to the celebration of the 80th anniversary of the birth of our teacher with this spirit, with this confidence, with this determination. What we can say today, and we will always say it, is that the Albanian people and their Party of Labour will march non-stop on the road of Enver Hoxha, that we will work and fight to make Albania rise to new heights, as he wished, always remaining the red bastion of socialism, the country of free and independent people, open and hospitable to its friends, closed and unpenetrable to the enemies.

The figure of Enver Hoxha, his thinking, soar higher in this turbulent international period, when world capitalism and the revisionist betrayal have gone over to the offensive against socialism and the revolutionary forces, when a great many plans and arguments are set up and invented, when the whole history of the world communist and revolutionary movement is being revised, when all those who fought, sacrificed themselves and gave their lives for communism have been tarnished and blackened, in order to justify the counter-revolutionary changes and to negate socialism as a theory and practice.

Enver Hoxha has been and remains to this day the only name among the communist leaders of the last 4-5 decades who defended the teachings of Marxism-Leninism, the ideals of the revolution and socialism, both in theory and in practice. He was the first who noticed and made the diagnosis of the opportunist disease which began to erode the international communist and workers' movement, who fought with such great passion against modern revisionism, who defended socialism and its triumphant practice with such ardour.

Enver Hoxha's struggle against the great front

of modern revisionism has not been a theoretical struggle of drawing-room philosophers, but the struggle of a revolutionary leader who sought to test the correctness of his thinking and principles in practice.

What he defended was not a dogma, but the revolutionary spirit of the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin, the dialectical method of analysis, the truth proved in practice and whatever enrichment this method makes every day to the policy and ideology.

In the present situation, when capitalism and revisionism have joined in one front in order to denigrate Marxism-Leninism and to destroy socialism, Enver Hoxha's thinking, his life and work, are a source of strength, confidence, courage and valour to fight and win.

The capitalists and the revisionists claim that the human society reaches its culmination with the liberalized economy, with the private initiative, with the capitalist relations in production. To accept this means to accept that the exploitation of man by man is a permanent ill that cannot be changed.

But can the working people accept no other alternative except capitalism, or that social justice and equality cannot be established, that the capitalist exploitation cannot be liquidated?

Can the working people accept that national oppression is unavoidable, that colonialism cannot be overthrown, that racism cannot be wiped out?

Enver Hoxha believed that the world can and must be changed. He was convinced about this, because history itself has shown that the people's desires and the struggles for freedom, independence, and social justice can never be wiped out.

Capitalism and revisionism can succeed in turning back one or some socialist countries, in causing the degeneration in one or some communist parties, in checking the revolutionary impulse for a given time. But they cannot wipe out socialism, because they cannot smother the illuminated aspirations of mankind, cannot change the nature of the working man, cannot stop him from striving for progress and social emancipation.

Comrades,

We must work tirelessly, we must work with knowledge and culture, with a creative and innovative spirit in order to safeguard the victories

achieved, to make Albania still more beautiful, to realize the noble aims of the Party and the people. Socialism needs everyone's work, everyone's mind. Therefore, as the 6th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Party pointed out, our people, in every sector of social activity, must be characterized by the revolutionary passion and determination which stems from our common ideal, our common aim, our one objective: the progress and flourishing of our socialist Homeland.

Life has taught us that without successes in production and culture there can be no development of the country, no increase in the well-being. Our people are aware of this. Therefore the working class, the cooperativist peasantry, and the intelligentsia are working with great revolutionary enthusiasm. They have mobilized themselves and are working selflessly in order to increase production, to develop the economy and culture, to strengthen the defence capacity of the country.

This is the road which Enver Hoxha indicated to us, the road of the non-stop development of the country, the only road of consolidating the positions of socialism. This is, also, the road on which the difficulties and shortcomings that accompany the process of our development for objective and subjective, internal and external reasons, are overcome.

Our country has great material and human possibilities and reserves in order to fully respond to the requirements of the time for raising the standard of living of the working masses uninterruptedly. A guarantee for this is the correct line of our Marxist-Leninist Party, is our socialist order which creates conditions for the effective use of the many assets of the country and the inexhaustible energies of the people for the benefit of society. The guarantee lies in our people, who are characterized by a lofty patriotic spirit, firmness of purpose to build and defend socialism, to march constantly ahead and only ahead.

In the present state of the socialist construction, the task of constantly raising the productivity of labour and perfecting the organization and management in all fields of social activity has been set. With unshakeable confidence in the vitality of our social order and the Marxist-Leninist ideology, we must make our contribution to ensure that the political, ideological, economic, cultural and scientific activity is as effective as

possible, as tangible as possible both in the spiritual and the material sphere, so that new horizons should be opened before the people and socialism, so that our working man should express his abilities ever better, and the strength of his muscles and mind is spent in the most advantageous manner.

Let the great example and the revolutionary creative thinking of our unforgettable Enver inspire us in our work, encourage us and lead us towards new victories!

Dear comrades,

Throughout the whole of his life Enver Hoxha fought for the creation and strengthening of the unity of the people, for rallying them around the Party. His name and work always call on us to strengthen and temper this unity, which represents one of the greatest values created by our revolution and the construction of socialism, one of the most brilliant characteristics of our society.

The strength of the Albanian people has been and is in their unity around the ideals of freedom and independence, its social and cultural progress. Only by uniting as one around the Party can we withstand the tests of the time, can we achieve the objectives we aspire to and fight for.

Comrade Enver called continuously on the communists, the patriotic and the progressive men of the nation to devote themselves to high aims, to rise above petty things and the narrow petty-bourgeois influences, to see far ahead of them and to be inspired by the future, by the major interests of the country which are foremost and above everything. We must remember this behest every day, we must be inspired by it when we combat bureaucracy and liberalism, the blemishes of the past and alien influences, when we extend our socialist democracy and strive for order, discipline and law.

Our unity is based on stable moral norms. Therefore, in order to make it more and more wholesome, we must preserve our good traditions, those norms which in the centuries have shaped the character, the mentality and psychology of the Albanians, just as we must preserve and develop the new norms of the socialist life, which are the source of our conviction and strength for the defence of the victories achieved and for more and more persistent struggle to increase the glory of our beloved Homeland.

Comrades, ours is a small country. But the problems which we encounter and which we must solve are not in direct proportion to the square miles of our territory and the size of our population. They are numerous. But the primary consideration for each country is the political line, is the road it selects for the internal economic and cultural development, is the foreign policy it pursues.

Our general line of development, worked out by the Party and Enver Hoxha, has been and is correct. This has been confirmed by the triumph of the revolution, the construction of socialism, our new life. It has been confirmed by everything we have built, our sound international position, the honoured name which socialist Albania enjoys in the world today.

On this tested line our people will always forge ahead, with this tested line they will develop their socialist economy, will enrich their culture, will raise the standard of living, will make the defence of the Homeland secure and strong.

Our Party and state, with Enver Hoxha at their head, have always been principled and consistent in the international relations. We have been and will be resolute in our fight against American and Soviet imperialism, against reaction and revisionism, just as we have been and will be champions of peace and international security, in solidarity with and support of the peoples who fight for freedom and independence, for democracy and social progress.

We have sought and will seek friendship and collaboration with our neighbours and with the other peoples of Europe, but always, just as yesterday, the interests of the Homeland, the security of freedom and independence will remain foremost for today and for tomorrow. Only that

friendship and collaboration which are based on the equality and reciprocal interest, on non-interference and respect of sovereignty, can be stable. No pressure, no blandishment, no threat can swerve us from this road.

Dear comrades,

Dear citizens of Tirana and the whole of Albania,

The celebration of the 80th anniversary of Comrade Enver Hoxha's birth, the commemoration by the whole people throughout the country of his life and of the contribution he has made, once again show the infinite respect which they have for their glorious leader, show their unswerving loyalty to his work, show their determination to march on his road.

Let these pure and sincere feelings, these strong and unshakeable convictions, serve as an inexhaustible source of inspiration for unity and mobilization, for marching always forward, for achieving new victories!

Let this monument, which we unveiled here, in the heart of Albania, convey to the present and the rising generations a message of continuity on the road which our revolution opened and on which our Party of Labour leads us with wisdom!

LONG LIVE THE HEROIC ALBANIAN PEOPLE!

LONG LIVE THE PARTY OF LABOUR OF ALBANIA!

GLORY TO THE WORK AND LIFE OF OUR GREAT LEADER AND TEACHER, ENVER HOXHA!

MAMMOTH MEETING ON THE OCCASION OF THE 80th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF COMRADE ENVER HOXHA AND THE INAUGURATION OF HIS MONUMENT

On the morning of October 16, a mammoth meeting was organized in the capital on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the birth of the beloved leader of the Party and people, Comrade Enver Hoxha, and the inauguration of his monument in Skanderbeg Square.

More than 150 thousand people had gathered there: workers and cooperativists, intellectuals, war and work veterans, militarymen, students, tenderfoots and pioneers of Enver.

The square resounded with the ovations «Party-Enver, we are always ready» at the appearance of the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party and President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Comrade Ramiz Alia, and other Party and state leaders: members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrades Besnik Bekteshi, Foto Çami, Hajredin Çeliku, Hekuran Isai, Lenka Çuko, Manush Myftiu, Muho Asllani, Pali Miska, Prokop Murra, Rita Marko, Simon Stefani, alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrades Llambi Gegprifti, Pirro Kondi, Qirjako Mihali and Vangjel Çërrava, member of the Central Committee of the Party and

President of the General Council of the Democratic Front of Albania, Nexhmije Hoxha, and other comrades.

Attending the meeting were also Dyneas Aguiar, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Brazil, and Rex Hollis, member of the Political Committee of the Communist Party of New Zealand.

The meeting was declared open by the alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and first secretary of the Party Committee for the Tirana district, Comrade Pirro Kondi, who among other things said, that the erection in the centre of the capital of the majestic monument to Comrade Enver is a great honour that is done to Tirana, an honour it fully deserves.

Generation after generation, he said, the working people of Tirana will preserve as their dearest thing their remembrance, love and profound respect for their great son, teacher and leader and, every time they will pass in front of this monument, will pledge to themselves that, as they have done up to now, in the future, too, they will march without wavering on the road he has mapped out, always basing themselves on his tea-

chings, the teachings of triumphant Marxism-Leninism.

Among the rejoicing of all those present, Comrade Ramiz Alia, uncovered the monument to Comrade Enver Hoxha.

While the brass band executes the National Anthem Comrade Ramiz Alia and other Party and state leaders raise their clenched fists to salute the monument to Enver Hoxha, which is the work of the People's Painter, Sali Shijaku, and People's Sculptor, Shaban Hadëri.

Then Comrade Ramiz Alia rises to speak among the great enthusiasm of those present.

Comrade Ramiz Alia's speech was listened to with great attention and met with cheers and ovations for our glorious Party.

The residents of the capital affectionately surround the monument: this is how Enver will remain forever in the hearts of the people of the capital and the whole of Albania.



On October 2, on the eve of the 80th anniversary of the birth of the

ING IN THE CAPITAL CCASION NNIVERSARY MRADE ENVER HOXHA ON OF HIS MONUMENT

glorious and unforgettable leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha, his monument was inaugurated in the city of Korça.

On this occasion a rally was organized on the Square of Demonstrations, which was filled to capacity with workers of work and production centres and cooperativists, veterans, deputies and councillors, militarymen, young men and women, pioneers of Enver, and others.

Present were also member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and Vice-president of the People's Assembly, Comrade Rita Marko, member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Hajredin Çeliku, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and Vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Besnik Bekteshi, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and first secretary of the Party Committee for the Korça district, Comrade Pali Miska, members and relatives of the family of Comrade Enver Hoxha, etc.

The meeting was declared open by Comrade Pali Miska.

The speech of the occasion was delivered by Comrade Rita Marko.

Here, in the heart of Korça, on this square of great historic events, of bloody demonstrations, surrounded by museal objects which bear testimony to the patriotism of the people, he said among other things, we have come together to inaugurate the monument to Comrade Enver Hoxha, the greatest man produced by our country and people in all times.

He who considered this city of well-known patriotic and cultural traditions his second birthplace, because he came here with a great thirst for knowledge, culture and progress, and spent many years of his youth here, returns today cast in bronze for us to have him always before our eyes like the Morava Mountain, to be always present in the city in which his convictions as a revolutionary communist were formed, amid this people who loved and respected him so much.

Speaking about the great transformations of the period of the construction of socialism in our country, Comrade Rita Marko pointed out that all their achievements the people dedicate to our beloved Party and Comrade Enver, who founded it and tempered it in steel unity as a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party and

led it for about half a century. Every important event is indissolubly linked with his contribution and role.

Amid the revolutionary enthusiasm a group of pioneers of Enver uncovers the monument to Comrade Enver Hoxha.

The monument to Comrade Enver Hoxha, a work of high artistic level by the Merited Sculptor, Hektor Dule, and cast in bronze by the collective of the centre of realization of the works of art of Tirana, stands on a marble pedestal. It represents the figure of the beloved and unforgettable leader in those years of his youth, when he carried out his revolutionary activity in the city of Korça.



On October 5th, on the eve of the 80th anniversary of the birth of the beloved and unforgettable leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha, his monument was inaugurated in the city of Gjirokastra. This inauguration had its



peculiarity: apart from the people of Gjirokastra and all the districts of the country, the participants in the National Folklore Festival 1988 also attended the ceremony.

All together they went along to the place where the monument of Comrade Enver Hoxha is erected, on one of the prominent hills of the city. Here a meeting was organized with the participation of workers of work and production centres, cooperativists, veterans, deputies and councillors, militarymen, young men and women, pioneers of Enver, and participants in the Festival who had come from all over the country.

Present at the ceremony were also members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party,

Comrades Foto Çami, Lenka Çuko, Manush Myftiu, Prokop Murra, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Pirro Kondi, member of the Central Committee of the Party and President of the General Council of the Democratic Front of Albania, Comrade Nexhmije Hoxha, members of the Central Committee of the Party, the Presidium of the People's Assembly and the Government, members and relatives of the family of Comrade Enver Hoxha, as well as guests from the neighbouring districts.

The meeting was declared open by the first secretary of the Party Committee of the district, Comrade Manxhar Binaj.

A group of participants in the Na-

tional Folklore Festival from Gjirokastra and the other districts of the country uncovered the monument of Comrade Enver Hoxha among the applause of those present.

The Party and state leaders laid bouquets of flowers at the monument to Comrade Enver Hoxha.

Comrade Lenka Çuka held the speech of the occasion.

The Party decided, she said among other things, **that this monument should be erected in Gjirokastra, the birthplace of Enver, for you to have him always close by and quench your longing for him, to remember him at any time as he loved you, remembered you and came to meet you whenever he felt the longing for you.**

It is an accidental coincidence, but



Mammoth rally organized in the capital on 16th October, the birthday of our great and unforgettable leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha.

also a thing of great significance that the birthday of Enver Hoxha happens to be close to the culminant events and most important dates in the history of our people, the birthday of the Party and the new Albania. The beautiful life we are enjoying today and socialist Albania are closely linked with the name of the Party and Comrade Enver. «When we say Enver Hoxha», Comrade Ramiz Alia points out, «we have said the Party of Labour of Albania because the Party and Enver are a single notion that cannot be separated.»

Enver remains the model of the son who loved so much his birthplace, the comrades of his youth, and the men of work he was acquainted with, said Comrade Lenka Çuko

in conclusion. His mind and heart beat with inextinguishable love for his Gjirokastra, its men and women, his former school teachers and comrades, even its stones and cobbled lanes. All of us recall with emotion the meetings full of longing and affection he had here in Gjirokastra, his warm and intimate talks with its people, the great joy he felt among them and his love for flowers and songs of Gjirokastra.

The monument, the work of Muntaz Dhrami, People's Sculptor, is carved in marble and represents the leader seated on a stone bench with his coat thrown over his shoulders, with a bouquet of flowers in his hand, in a moment of meditation over the city of his birth, the old city

rejuvenated in the years of socialism and a beautiful view opening up far into the Lunxhëria mountains.



On the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the birth of Comrade Enver Hoxha busts of him were also erected at the Plasa agricultural farm, Korça district, the Maminas agricultural farm, Durrës district, and the autotractor combine, Tirana, which bear the name of the beloved and unforgettable leader.

THE ENVER HOXHA MUSEUM IS INAUGURATED

*Comrade Ramiz Alia and other Party and state
leaders participating*

In the afternoon of October 14, on the eve of the 80th anniversary of the birth of the beloved and unforgettable leader, the Enver Hoxha Museum was inaugurated in the capital.

Thousand of residents, war and work veterans, workers of the centres of work and production, of institutions and the ministries, young men and women, students, tenderfoots and pioneers of Enver filled the square in front of the Museum and the Boulevard of the Martyrs of the Nation.

To attend the ceremony had come the 1st Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party and President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly Ramiz Alia, and other Party and state leaders, the Members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrades Besnik Bekteshi, Foto Çami, Hajredin Çeliku, Hekuran Isai, Lenka Çuko, Manush Myftiu, Muho Asllani, Pali Miska, Prokop Murra, Rita Marko, Simon Stefanë, the Alternate Members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee, Comrades Kiço Mustaqi, Llambi Gegprifti, Pirro Kondi, Qirjako Mihali and Vangjel Çërrava, the Member of the Central Committee of the Party and President of the General Council of the Democratic Front of Albania, Nexhmiye Hoxha, members of the Central Committee of the Party, the Presidium of the People's Assembly and the Government,

as well as members and relatives of Comrade Enver Hoxha's family.

Attending the ceremony were also Dyneas Agiaur, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Brazil, and Rex Hollis, Member of the Political Committee of the Communist Party of New Zealand.

A meeting was organized on the square in front of the Museum.

The speech of the occasion was held by the Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and Vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Manush Myftiu.

The Museum dedicated to the life and brilliant work of Comrade Enver Hoxha, which we are going to inaugurate on this great day on which we commemorate and honour the 80th anniversary of his birth, he said among other things, is an expression of the homage of an entire people, an expression of the profound affection, respect and gratitude of all the Party and people for our glorious leader.

This Museum dedicated to the revolutionary activity of Enver Hoxha will be a great centre for the communist education of the masses, an ever open home for the conversation of all and everybody with their great educator and friend. Our youth, whom our leader tempered with patience and foresight so as to be able to shoulder heavy burdens and accomplish great tasks for the good of the Homeland,

for the socialist present and future, will come with special gratitude and respect to this monument of eternal glory.

The Enver Hoxha Museum is a synthesis of the whole recent history of Albania. The role of Comrade Enver Hoxha as an ideologist, leader and organizer is present with all its decisive and determinant weight in all the great historic events of the recent fifty years. He occupies first place in this period of our national history, with his broad and all-sided activity and his profound and constant links with the people. With his complex and intensive activity at the head of the Party, Comrade Enver Hoxha always correctly led the struggle for the construction of the new life, successfully overcoming many difficulties, whether difficulties of growth or difficulties created by the internal enemies and external imperialist and revisionist enemies. Acquainting themselves with the life and work of Enver, with his revolutionary road, in this museum the whole Party and people, the communists and cadres, workers and cooperativists will also be acquainted with their life, their efforts and successes.

With its very rich fund of documents and museum objects, with its broad information and modern technique, this Museum will not be only a specialized centre for the communist education of the masses, but will also



Comrade Ramiz Alia cutting the ribbon at the inauguration of the Enver Hoxha Museum.

help and support study and research in all fields of scientific activity on the part of the organs of the Party, the State and the economy for the solution of problems of both the present and future.

We are inaugurating this Museum on the 80th anniversary of the birth of Comrade Enver Hoxha, but we have not commemorated him and will not commemorate him only on anniversaries. The true and permanent commemoration of Comrade Enver is to work all together to implement his behest: to love and strengthen our socialist Albania, to ceaselessly develop the economy and culture, to strengthen our defence potential, to guard as the apple of the eye the freedom, independence, and sovereignty of socialist Albania, and to deepen the revolution in all fields, relying on the inexhaustible mental and physical energies of our people.

The epoch of Enver is not a closed epoch. His work does not turn us only to the past. It inspires us and encourages us to go towards the future. In it we find the unshaken confidence and conviction to cope courageously with the great tasks that lie ahead us. This makes the work of Enver Hoxha alive and always actual. Always armed with the Marxist-Leninist doctrine, standing firmly on the basis of the interests of the country and revolution, the Party and our people will always be led by the example of Enver so as to respond instantly, coherently and creatively to the acute problems put forward by the dynamics of life in permanent movement.

Then among the great rejoicing of

all those present, Comrade Ramiz Alia cuts the ribbon of the inauguration of the Enver Hoxha Museum.

Then Comrade Ramiz Alia and other Party and state leaders enter the Museum, where they are met by the group of architects, designers, historians, museologists and painters who have worked to build the Enver Hoxha Museum. In the middle of the great hall, a room giving hospitality to thousands of visitors, there stands the monument to Comrade Enver Hoxha. The Museum begins with a bas-relief of Gjirokastra and, a little further, a reproduction of the simple room in which our beloved and glorious leader was born, as well as photos and objects of his parents and family. On the different stands there are many photos, documents, and other materials which bear testimony to the life and activity of Comrade Enver Hoxha in his youth years. The revolutionary activity of Comrade Enver Hoxha in the city of Korça occupies a special place in the Museum.

Under a glass pane with a radiating star, we see two tables, some simple chairs and an oil lamp which are well-known all over Albania. It is the room in which the Communist Party of Albania was founded. On the walls in bronze letters, there are parts of the Resolution and the first call with the signature of the leader.

Then come in due order important moments of the history of the Anti-fascist National Liberation War during which the legendary commander organized and directly led, as a great strategist, the armed uprising of the people. The manuscripts, photos, docu-

ments and objects reflect its great events from the Conference of Peza, the creation of the General Staff, the defeat of the enemy's Winter Operation, the Congress of Përmet, the creation of the 1st Democratic Government in Berat to the unforgettable day when Comrade Enver gives the people the great news of the liberation of the country and the partisans' parade in liberated Tirana.

Enver Hoxha is the ideologist and architect of the new socialist Albania. This is reflected through the industrialization of the country, the collectivization and modernization of agriculture, etc.

The Museum gives the echo of the activity of the Party and Comrade Enver in the world, his outstanding contribution as an internationalist militant and the architect of the principled and revolutionary foreign policy of socialist Albania.

Then the visitor is acquainted with the meetings of the leader with the people, his participation in festivities and his visits in different districts of the country, his family celebrations, amid his comrades and friends. We see Comrade Enver Hoxha and hear his voice recorded in videocassettes at party congresses and other major political events of the country, working in his office, etc. On a huge photo, with a background of mountains and red flowers, there is the greeting Comrade Enver Hoxha addressed our people on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the Homeland. It conveys the behest of Enver: to keep Albania always red so as to enable it to flourish and advance through the centuries.

COMRADE RAMIZ ALIA AND OTHER PARTY AND STATE LEADERS PAY HOMAGE TO AND LAY WREATHS AT THE GRAVE OF COMRADE ENVER HOXHA

On the day of the 80th anniversary of the birth of our beloved and unforgettable leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha, homage was paid to and wreaths were laid at his grave in the Cemetery of the Martyrs of the Nation.

Thousands of residents of the capital, workers of work and production centres, of the ministries and various institutions, war and work veterans, members and relatives of martyrs' families, militarymen, cooperativists, young men and women, and pioneers of Enver went to the Cemetery of the Martyrs of the Nation and laid bouquets of flowers at the grave of the beloved leader of the Party and our people.

To pay homage to the grave of Comrade Enver Hoxha came Comrade Ramiz Alia, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the PLA and President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, and other Party and state leaders, the members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrades Besnik Bekteshi, Foto Çami, Hajredin Çeliku, Hekuran Isai, Lenka Çuko, Manush Myftiu,

Muho Asllani, Pali Miska, Prokop Murra, Rita Marko, Simon Stefani, the alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrades Llambi Gegprifti, Pirro Kondi, Qirjako Mihali and Vangjel Çërrava, the member of the Central Committee of the Party and President of the General Council of the Democratic Front of Albania, Comrade Nexhmije Hoxha, members of the Central Committee of the Party, the Presidium of the People's Assembly and the Government.

Comrade Ramiz Alia has a warm meeting with the residents of the capital who have come to pay homage.

Comrades Ramiz Alia and Simon Stefani lay a wreath on behalf of the Central Committee of the Party with the inscription: «To our beloved and unforgettable teacher and leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha».

The wreath on behalf of the Presidium of the People's Assembly was laid by Comrades Rita Marko and Xhafer Spahiu, and that on behalf of the Council of Ministers, by Comrades Hekuran Isai and Manush Myftiu.

Another wreath was laid by Comrade Nexhmije Hoxha and the family.

Wreaths were also laid on behalf of the General Council of the Democratic Front of Albania, the Ministry of People's Defence and the Party Committee for the Tirana district.

Comrade Ramiz Alia and other Party and state leaders stood in silence and gave the clenched-fist salute in front of the grave of our glorious leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha.

During the ceremony the brass band executed marches and the National Anthem. Militarymen and pioneers of Enver stood guard of honour.

* * *

On the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the birth of Comrade Enver Hoxha, the diplomatic corps accredited to the People's Socialist Republic of Albania paid homage to and laid wreaths at the grave of the leader of the Albanian people, Enver Hoxha, at the Cemetery of the Martyrs of the Nation.

CONCERT WITH SELECTED ITEMS FROM THE NATIONAL FOLKLORE FESTIVAL OF GJIROKASTRA

Comrade Ramiz Alia and other Party and state leaders participating

In the evening of October 16, on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the birth of Comrade Enver Hoxha, a concert with selected items from the National Folklore Festival of Gjirokastra was organized by the Committee of Culture and Arts on the square in front of the University of Tirana which bears the name of the beloved and unforgettable leader.

The attendance met with applause the appearance of Comrade Ramiz Alia, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party and President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, and other Party and state leaders, Comrades Besnik Bekteshi, Foto Çami, Hajredin Çeliku, Hekuran Isai, Lenka Çuko, Manush Myftiu,

Muho Asllani, Pali Miska, Prokop Murra, Rita Marko, Simon Stefani, Llambi Gegprifti, Pirro Kondi, Qirjako Mihali, Vangjel Çërrava, and other comrades.

Attending were also the titulars of the diplomatic corps accredited to the PSR of Albania.

The concert was opened with the song «The behest that topples the mountains» by the Mirdita group, which was followed by the sung dance «You brave partisans» by the Gjirokastra group, the song «Down from the fields» by the Përmet group, the Shkepza dance by the men's group of Kukës, etc. On the audience made a deep impression also the melody executed on characteristic instruments

by the orchestra of the Gramsh district, the songs «Çapari, the brave», «Sitting together at the same table», «Enver is alive with us», a wedding dance, the sung dance «White Remon», etc.

The public liked all the parts of the concert which was wound up with the song «Turn out, Enver has come» executed by the polyphonic group of Gjirokastra. A group of girls in sports costumes who performed various figures, added to the decoration of the concert.

In conclusion of the concert the artists sang the song «Enver Hoxha, long life to you» and together with those present cheered for the Party and its Central Committee with Comrade Ramiz Alia at the head.

«OUR ENVER» BOOK BY COMRADE RAMIZ ALIA

The book *Our Enver*, written by Comrade Ramiz Alia, came off the press and was put into circulation.

The book is devoted to the life and immortal work of Comrade Enver Hoxha. Its publication is an important event in the ideological and political life of the Party and in the cultural development of the country, as well as a beautiful gift to our entire people.

In this book Comrade Ramiz Alia transmits his indelible impressions,

thoughts and memories about our Enver with warmth, respect, affection, profound admiration and gratitude. Through the pages of the book we see Enver Hoxha, a great leader, who has engaged in very intensive political and social activity, and left us brilliant, all-sided, theoretical work. We see him as the teacher and irreplaceable comrade and friend of the author, who since the time of the war, and especially after Liberation, had direct work and social links with

Comrade Enver and was one of his closest collaborators.

Among the numerous qualities and the outstanding and all-round values of the figure of Comrade Enver, in the nine chapters of the book the author has pointed out and reflected his most characteristic features with historical truthfulness, in a concise, clear style and attractive language. He scientifically defines the historic place and role of this outstanding man of revolutionary thought and

action as the founder of the Party and son of the revolution; the leader of the Anti-fascist National Liberation War and architect of the new Albania; the close friend and educator of the younger generation; the architect and champion of the socialist school and culture and the ceaseless revolutionization of them; the ardent patriot and internationalist; the strategist of socialist construction and temperer of the people's state power; the man who made himself immortal and will remain for-

ever in the mind and heart of every Albanian.

With powerful emotions, but also in a lofty optimistic spirit, the painful moments of the great calamity of April 1985 are described. The book described in majestic terms these rare qualities which our people, young and old, displayed in the days of parting from the unforgettable leader, the indomitable will of the people to unite more firmly around the Party, to always implement its teachings, to march with determination

and loyalty on the road of Enver, to hold aloft the banner of the struggle for freedom and socialism and to carry forward his immortal work always.

The book *Our Enver*, dedicated to the brilliant figure of Comrade Enver Hoxha, is a great homage paid to him on the 80th anniversary of his birth.

The book was translated also in the English, French and Spanish languages.

A BROAD VISION OF THE LEADER AND THE EPOCH

by ISMAIL KADARE

Comrade Ramiz Alia's *Our Enver* is one of the most important books in the political history published in the epoch of socialism in our country.

The importance of the book is conditioned by two factors: first, by the argument it treats — the figure of the founder and architect of today's Albania, Enver Hoxha; and second, because this broad vision is given by the man who is in the leadership of socialist Albania today. Being elected as the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the PLA, a function which was justly considered irreplaceable, the author, as the first to lead the country after the death of the founder and leader, considers it his duty towards the Party and the whole Albanian people to examine his own ideas about Enver Hoxha, his own assessments, reminiscences and his sense of responsibility, which, at the same time, are assessments, reminiscences and a sense

of responsibility connected with the whole history of our socialist country.

In this manner, by examining the central figure of an historic epoch, which still continues, this book includes in itself the whole period of time in which we are living. The dimension of the future is, nevertheless, just as powerful, indeed it is one of the primary qualities of the book.

From the very first phrases of the book the author admits that it was easy to tackle the task of portraying the figure of Enver Hoxha, and this is understandable, because the portraying of this comprehensive and profound figure means practically the portraying of the entire history of Albania in the second half of the 20th century.

Although the author considers his task incomplete and unfinished (in the introduction he calls his book just «notes»), in fact this book, as a whole, is complete from all aspects. Being

a homage and an act of loyalty to Enver Hoxha, it is also a wide-sweeping historical consideration of all the questions which the history of socialism has put forward before the Albanian people, a program of the roads which will be followed in the future, a clear platform and an answer to all the analysts who, for their different purposes, follow the road of Albania's advance.

This aim is brilliantly achieved in the book, which, apart from other things, has the merit of clarity, precision, directness. As any other book which has loyalty and sincerity at its foundations, this work exists without pompous phrases, without farfetched epithets and without high-falutin rhetorics and declarations. As *Zëri i popullit* rightly evaluates it, this book, apart from other things is an example of how to write about the leader in general, about the personalities and historic events.

Comrade Ramiz Alia's book is of special interest for the Albanian intelligentsia, for the artists and writers, in particular. The fifth chapter of the book, entitled «More culture for the people», is devoted to the problems of culture, Enver Hoxha's ideas, instructions and platform of this important domain of life.

«When he spoke about culture, he was, you might say, completely in his element», says the author about Enver Hoxha. «On this subject his oratory was more brilliant than in any other instance and his thinking reached the greatest profundity.»

Putting the author's idea in other words, we can say that since for a quarter of a century the author was secretary of the CC of the PLA in charge of ideology, in which culture, literature and arts were included, he himself is just as much in his element when he dwells on problems of these spheres.

The questions of culture and evocations of it are treated not only in the chapter on culture, but also in other parts of the book, in those parts in which he speaks about the youth, the school and education, science and the emancipation of the Albanian society. These questions are mentioned in the first chapter, one of the most important and comprehensive chapters of the book, entitled «Son of the revolution», and through to the last chapter, in which there is the very well-founded and moving reference to Enver Hoxha's farewell speech of Greetings addressed to the Albanian people on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Liberation, this «real» masterpiece of Albanian journalism and of Albanian culture in general», as the author characterizes it, which evokes in him the famous verse of Naim:

«When you see that I am absent
Do not think that I have died.
I am living, still in life,
I am truly in the light.»

The chapter devoted to questions of culture provides a complete historical tableau of everything which the

new Albania underlook and carried out for the development of culture, from the last days of November 1944 until today. The action for culture undertaken by the newborn Albanian state developed hand in hand with the other fundamental tasks: ensuring the independence, carrying out the great socio-economic reforms, setting up and strengthening the democratic institutions, etc. The author explains that the whole serious attitude towards culture was illuminated by the principle that «culture is freedom, is the reign of truth, is security in the solution of situations, is emancipation and civilization.»

Comrade Ramiz Alia explains clearly that Enver Hoxha's vision of culture proceeded from the fact that our people, despite their illiteracy, were not ignorant. «Indeed, without any exaggeration the vitality of their culture is unrivalled,» he writes. This explains why this people, being in historical contacts and relations with the Greek culture and under the pressure of the subsequent Roman, Slav and Turkish cultural invasions, managed to preserve the identity of their own culture. Such a thing, the author continues, could not come about as a result of conservation alone. In the first place, it was the result of their inborn creative force.

In our century the National Liberation War was waged, apart from other things, under the aegis of culture. The author mentions the concise slogan of Enver Hoxha's, «More bread, more culture for the people», which became part of the program of the first Democratic Government of the PR of Albania, and entered history.

In this section of the book, Comrade Ramiz Alia depicts a powerful tableau of the clash between the correct and far-seeing vision of the Party and its founder about culture and Koçi Xoxe's distorted and obscurantist optic, couched with ultra-revolutionary slogans. This counter-current, the spawn of the darkest ignorance, combined with savagery and careerism, tried to destroy the new culture on the dawn of freedom. «Cul-

ture frightened Koçi Xoxe,» Comrade Ramiz Alia writes, «just as it frightens all those who, instead of freedom, have tyranny in their hearts and instead of the thirst for knowledge, sinister evil designs.»

The author goes on to explain the struggle which the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha had to wage for the destruction of this dangerous clique, which, among other things, worked on the sly to bring about a division in culture, to destroy the intelligentsia and to negate the values of literature and arts in the name of the so-called new proletarian art. The author stops to dwell on the important moment when Enver Hoxha, in complete opposition with Koçi Xoxe and company, and on the basis of the Leninist principles, personally guided a careful and persistent work to create harmony in the ranks of the creative intelligentsia, especially by bringing together the generation of the 1930, the most progressive part of which, emerging from their passivity or isolation, united with the army of the writers, artists and scientists of the new epoch. The author mentions Comrade Enver Hoxha's personal interest in the rapprochement and the activation of such distinguished scientists as Eqrem Çabej and others, which became an important factor for the further development of the Albanian science.

One of the important actions of the Party devoted to the problems of literature and arts, which the author mentions, is the 15th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Party in 1965, in which, Enver Hoxha and he himself, as leader of the ideological section, raised questions of fundamental importance, such as the relationship between the tradition and innovatory in our arts, the highlighting of the values of popular art, correct understanding of the relationship between the national and world culture, by avoiding such confusing alternatives as vulgar folklorism, cosmopolitanism, etc. Another event of special weight, on which the author has stopped, is the 4th Plenum of the CC of the Party in 1973,

at which Enver Hoxha himself dealt sternly with the spirit of liberalism that had begun to be noticed in the Albanian literature and arts in the beginning of the 1970s. As Enver Hoxha in his well-known speech puts it, this spirit of liberalism which emerged as an influence of the «softening» waves from the western capitalist countries and from the eastern revisionist countries, strove to orientate our literature and arts towards a spirit of conciliation, towards the anti-heroism, and abstract humanism.

Among the other events which have already become part of the Albanian cultural legacy, the author mentions the famous meeting in the beginning of the 1960s, in which the very wise and cautious intervention of Enver Hoxha was decisive in avoiding grave misunderstandings which threatened to divide our creative forces in the complicated conditions created in our literary circles after a long debate without precedent in its history.

At this meeting the author was present together with the leader of the country, the central protagonist. Comrade Ramiz Alia delivered the main report in which the main problems emerging from this heated debate were presented. In his book he evokes a subsequent conversation which he had with Enver Hoxha about the famous argument and division between the romanticists and classicists, caused in the last century after the performance in Paris of Victor Hugo's «Hernani». In this conversation it is implied that knowledge of the world history and culture and the steps by which it has risen, has been one of the main factors which made Enver Hoxha feel in his element when he spoke about and assessed culture.

By throwing light on the figure of Enver Hoxha, on this aspect of his as an outstanding intellectual, erudite and humanist, the author explains that Enver Hoxha's passionate attitude towards the treasury of world culture and art, his intransigence towards cosmopolitanism and xenophobia, one of the infantile diseases of the socialist state, were the logical

product of his all-round personality. «A man with such a broad culture and learning as Enver,» the author writes, «could not allow the isolation of the (Albanian) people from the most outstanding achievements of world culture and science of all times.»

In this moment Comrade Ramiz Alia reminds the reader that Enver Hoxha, despite the many things he had to do as leader of the Party and the state, found time to write pure scientific works such as «The Uprising of the Peasantry of Central Albania, Led by Haxhi Qamili», «A Little History», «About the Men of the Renaissance», etc. Likewise, there is also mention of his special passion for the Albanological and archaeological sciences in support of the confirmation of the autochthonous character of the Albanian people, as one of the most ancient peoples of the Balkan Peninsula.

Throughout the whole book, and not only in the chapter devoted to culture, Enver Hoxha's global vision of history and culture is present, as it is present also in his own work, in which there is a very natural ring in the mention, for example, of an ancient city like Butrint, which in one instance is evoked in connection with the ancient Greek-Albanian proximity, and in another instance, is made the scene of a dramatic conversation with a foreign prime minister, who proposed that precisely in this city a military base should be set up especially against Greece.

In Comrade Ramiz Alia's book there is always a similar combination of reminiscences, assessments and dialogues with the reader, all of them in an effort to throw a most complete light on the various aspects of the many-sided versatile figure of Enver Hoxha, and the more complete elucidation of the problems which history placed on the road of the Albanian people in this half of our century. Most of them are answers which serve as an orientation for the solution of the problems which time has raised or may raise in the future.

To remain to the examples which have to do with culture, concretely with the political articles of the French writers and journalists, there is a very significant episode which the author puts in at the last chapter of the book, in which he describes how Enver Hoxha reacted to an article which contained the phrase: «Enver Hoxha's Albania stands like a granite rock facing the external blockade,» writing on the margin with a nervous hand: «No one has bequeathed Albania to me, it belongs to the people, to all Albanians.»

Further on Comrade Ramiz Alia writes: «To use his own words, for Enver Hoxha the people and the Party were the greatest treasures... Before them he always felt himself a soldier and a servant.»

An inner dialectics connects the whole texture of this book, the history of the problems which are raised in it, the coherence, the continuity and the perspective of them.

The author shows that the important and decisive issues for the development of culture, literature and the arts in our country, which he has raised after the death of Enver Hoxha, have been in the logic of a whole line. The systematic struggle against the efforts to level out personalities, against the equalization of values, against which Comrade Ramiz Alia has been outspoken from the 5th Plenum of the CC of the Party in 1988, and the struggle for the uplift of quality of our literature and arts, which he raised two years ago, constitute key moments, the solution of which conditions many things in the development of our literature and arts in the future.

Our Enver is a special book for the Albanian reader. It is a book by one of the closest collaborators of Enver Hoxha, while he was alive, and of the present leader of Albania in these three and a half years after his death. But his book is much more than that. It is the book of a comrade, an interlocutor. Therefore the pages of this book combine the penmanship of the statesman and the inmost feelings of the man. In its

pages the profound political analyses and the dramatic events of history are combined with lyrical fragments, direct dialogues with the reader, parts of a diary, intimate and touching, joyful or painful memories. In its pages, along with the militancy of the communist leader, there is a strong current of humanity and benevolence

This is a very valuable quality for any author, but when he is both author and leader of the country, this quality is amplified and assumes special dimensions. Such qualities, which are at the foundation of the social-philosophical conception, which has characterized the Albanian throughout history, about his own leaders and

tribunes, both of small regions and of the whole nation, are, in the last analysis, another testimony to the culture of the Albanian people. Therefore, this book, being important and unique for the Albanian reader, because it carries the message of the leader of the country, will also be the book of a close friend.

COMRADE ENVER HOXHA'S BOOK «YEARS OF MY YOUTH» CAME OFF THE PRESS AND WAS PUT INTO CIRCULATION

Years of My Youth, a new book of Comrade Enver Hoxha, came off the press and was put into circulation. It constitutes another beautiful gift to our people in the festive atmosphere of the 80th anniversary of the birth of the unforgettable glorious leader.

Through this book of memoirs, Comrade Enver Hoxha comes among us young, full of energy and vitality, with a fiery heart and clear mind, full of preoccupations for his own people, just as he was and remained throughout all his life, just as he will remain in the memory of all the generations of our country.

The book *Years of My Youth*, as a continuation of the book *Years of My Childhood*, acquaints the reader with that part of the life of Comrade Enver Hoxha, when he formed and consolidated the most important features of his character and world outlook,

when he was nourished with the ideology of the proletariat, crystallized his conviction as a communist revolutionary, and sought and defined his only noble aim: to serve his own people, the cause of the freedom, socialism and communism with devotion to the end.

The book is a dedication to the progressive Albanian youth of the 1930s, a monument of tribute to Korça and its people, to the Lycée in which he studied, and above all, to the Korça proletariat, to his «first teachers and comrades of communism». The book reveals a full tableau of the pre-war Albania full of poverty and suffering, but also full of hope for a happy future. It reflects the efforts of the Albanian people and youth to find the road of salvation, as well as the beginnings of the communist movement in Albania, and, in this context, it is thoroughly

permeated by the feeling of love of country, progress and humanity of the young Enver Hoxha.

The book *Years of My Youth* makes also an assessment of the world progressive culture, especially the culture of the French people, their revolutionary history, the great men they have produced from their bosom.

Through many reminiscences and episodes from his student life, we see the figure of Enver Hoxha in the prime of his youth: thirsty for knowledge and culture, modest and sociable, far-seeing and full of spiritual force and a clear mind for revolutionary actions.

With the invaluable teachings which it contains, the book is another source of inspiration and pride for the working masses, especially for the Marxist-Leninist education of our younger generation.

COMRADE ENVER HOXHA'S BOOK «YEARS OF MY YOUTH» IS PRESENTED IN THE CITY OF KORÇA

On the eve of the 80th anniversary of Comrade Enver Hoxha's birth, in the «A.Z. Çajupi» theatre of the city of Korça, the book of the beloved and unforgettable leader *Years of My Youth* was presented. The event was followed by the first night of the colour documentary film of the «New Albania» Film Studio, adapted for the screen from this book.

Inhabitants of the city, veterans of the war and work, members and close relatives of the martyrs' families, working people of work and production centres, educational, cultural and scientific sectors, and army men, young men and women, pioneers of Enver, were present.

Also attending were member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and first secretary of the district Party Committee, Comrade Pali Miska, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Vangjel Çërrava, member of the Central Committee of the Party and President of the General Council of the Democratic Front of Albania, Nexhmije Hoxha, chairman of the Executive Committee of the district People's Council, Gjergji Krastafillaku, and other comrades.

The ceremony was opened by the secretary of the district Party Committee, Jani Ballta.

The speech of the occasion was made by the alternate member of the Central Committee of the Party, Spiro Dede.

«We have gathered here today,» said Comrade Spiro Dede among other things, «to honour the memory of and to pay homage to the youth of Enver Hoxha. We took the clue for this from the many wonderful reminiscences which he left as a manuscript, in which he tells us, as he knows, about his youth, the age when he formed his character and determined his way in life. The all-powerful character of this outstanding man of the Albanian land and the glorious road which he chose and followed consistently from his youth, are already known and tested in battles over 50 and more years. Therefore, by commemorating and honouring the youth of Enver Hoxha, we honour and evoke the road full of efforts and privations of that simple boy of the people, who, by mere strength of his thinking and character, thanks to the world outlook which he embraced and the intensive activity he carried out, made an epoch in each field of the Albanian life.

«He wrote the memoirs *Years of My Youth* in the 1970's when he had been through decades of a colossal struggle and work at the head of the Party and the people, when as the leader, strategist, and architect of the new Albania, as an outstanding statesman and a man of learning, he had to cope with all the intensive political and ideological, economic and scientific activity. Despite this all-sided occupation, despite the uninterrupted work, the reminiscences of his youth are amazing for the co-

lourful and vivid events and descriptions, the transparence of details and language, the freshness of his memory, the humour, and the skilful and elastic narrative. Today, when he is 80 years of age, he places in our hands not just a faithful mirror of one of the periods of his life, but above all, a great teaching: real man, whether at the age of 60 or 80, remains always youthful in his spirit, in his thinking and in his actions when he lives with dignity, when he never for a moment dissociates himself from the work and efforts for the good of the people and the Homeland.

«The extension of his youth in time,» the speaker continued, «begins from the mid-1920s until the beginning of the 1940s: the «geography» of his youth includes Gjirokastra and Korça, Tirana and Montpellier, Paris and Brussels, without speaking of the fiery years of the war, when he criss-crossed the whole country, was in every town and village, plain and hill of Albania, at the head of the Party and the insurgent people. Wherever he trod and wherever he studied and worked, he learned very much, loved earnestly and never withheld his respect for the people and the places he knew. But among all of them he devoted a special place in his heart to Korça and its people.

«The ceremony which is organized in Korça today is, at the same time, the continuation of his well-known virtue and custom of trying to be equal to and to compensate a hundred

and a thousand fold for everything good the Party and the people have done and said for him. That is what he always did when he was alive. Ten days ago, you with your love and wish, brought him to Korça in the shape of a beautiful monument cast in bronze, in which he will be always young as this city and its folk knew him 50-60 years ago. Through the memoirs which we are presenting here today he erects a monument of real love for and gratitude to this city and its people, to the traditions and culture of the Korça people, who are courageous,

hard-working, progressive, to their spirit of innovation, to the contribution which Korça has made and continues to make in the whole life of the country.

«It is a great honour to be described <the city of my youth> by Enver Hoxha; it is a high appraisal when the great teacher of the Party and people, the communist of an international stature, calls the <civilized and progress-loving workers of Korça> his own teachers.

«These high assessments about Korça and the people are not just an expression of a great and generous

heart, as Enver Hoxha's heart was. They are not just the consequence of natural nostalgia of the man when he recalls his own youth. Korça is worth all the praises of Enver Hoxha, because it really did much for him and for the whole generation among whom the unforgettable Enver Hoxha grew up into prominence.»

Then Viktor Gjika, People's Artist, documented on the film «Years of My Youth», which he directed and wrote the script.

The hall followed the film with great interest and applauded frequently.

THE BOOK «REMINISCENCES ABOUT ENVER» WAS PUT INTO CIRCULATION

The book *Reminiscences about Enver* came off the press and was put into circulation in the framework of the 80th anniversary of Comrade Enver Hoxha's birth.

It contains reminiscences and impressions of Comrade Enver's comrades, cofighters and close collaborators, of leaders of the Party and the state, cadres and working people from different sectors of the economy and culture, art and literature, the army, etc., who knew him or met him in different periods of his life and activity.

This collection contains reminiscences by comrades and friends of his youth, their impressions from Comrade

Enver's activity during the years of the National Liberation War and, especially, from his many-sided activity in the years of the socialist construction of the country.

The materials of this volume have been selected from among thousands of pages written with affection and love by working people and cadres all over Albania. This book acquaints the readers with aspects of the activity of the leader of the Party and people for the strengthening and revolutionization of the work of the Party, the continuous orientations which Comrade Enver Hoxha issued about the independent and powerful

development of our socialist economy, his instructions about the development and strengthening of our industry, especially the heavy and mining industry, the prosperity of the socialist countryside, the improvement of the work of the Party with the cadres and the youth, and his constant preoccupation for the development of our new science, etc.

This book, prepared by the «8 Nëntori» Publishing House, opens the series of Selected Memoirs dedicated to the figure, life and work of the beloved and unforgettable leader of our Party and people, Comrade Enver Hoxha.

SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

On October 3, on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the birth of Comrade Enver Hoxha, the Institute of Marxist-Leninist Studies and the «V.I. Lenin» Higher Party School organized a scientific session on the theme «Present problems of scientific socialism» at this school.

Present at the session were workers and directors of scientific institutions, the ministries and party organs at the centre and in the districts, workers of the apparatus of the Central Committee of the Party, teachers and students.

Attending the session were also members of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party, Comrades Simon Stefani and Hekuran Isai, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party and First Secretary of the Party Committee for the Tirana district, Comrade Pirro Kondi, member of the CC of the Party and Director of the Institute of Marxist-Leninist Studies, Comrade Nexhmije Hoxha, and other comrades.

The session was declared open by the director of the «V.I. Lenin» Higher Party School, Comrade Tefta Cami.

Then Prof. Raqi Madhi read the report «Problems of the theory and practice of socialism in the light of the teachings of the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha». The report summed up the outstanding contribution of Comrade Enver Hoxha to the construction of socialism in Albania, as well as to the development and further enrichment of the Marxist-Leninist theory of socialism.

The construction of socialism in Albania, he said among other things, is a great victory of the Albanian people, as well as a great victory of the Marxist-Leninist thought. The fundamental teachings of the Marxist-Leninist doctrine found their full confirmation and were developed further in the experience of Albania. The Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha shouldered the difficult task of working out a comprehensive theoretical

thought to avert the threat of revisionist degeneration and the retrogression of the revolution and socialist construction, to ensure the ceaseless development of the socialist revolution against modern revisionism and the teachings that derive from this struggle are always actual, and they are a powerful weapon in the hands of our Party to expose and smash the present modern revisionist concepts and practices against socialism and the general laws of its development.

Ten papers were also read at the session, such as that by Prof. Harilla Papajorgji, «The importance of the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha for the principle of self-reliance in socialist construction», that of the Candidate of Sciences, Zana Alia, «The teachings of the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha on the class struggle and its peculiarities in the present conditions», that of Prof. Sotir Manushi, «The actual values of Comrade Enver Hoxha's thought for coping successfully with the bourgeois-revisionist ideological aggression», that of Prof. Vangjel Moisiu, «The anti-socialist essence of Gorbachov's perestroika seen in the light of the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha», etc.

On the same day, the Party Committee and the Rectorate of the «Enver Hoxha» University of Tirana organized a scientific session on the theme «Comrade Enver Hoxha on culture».

Present at the session were teachers, cadres and workers of cultural and scientific research institutions, students and other guests.

Attending the session were also member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Lenka Çuko, member of the Political Bureau of the Party and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Manush Myftiu, and other comrades.

The report «The ideas and teachings of Enver Hoxha — the unshakeable foundation for the further develop-

ment of socialist culture in our country» was read by Prof. Alfred Uçi. Among other things he pointed out the thirst for culture and the indomitable yearning for study, which were a powerful passion of the leader, his constant interest about world culture, the important and cultural achievements and movements of mankind, which were the object not only of his study, but also of his profound meditations.

Prof. Alfred Uçi emphasized that Enver Hoxha was a through-and-through Albanian patriotic thinker whose cultural world was developed on the Albanian soil, the history and culture of our people and their cultural aspirations and traditions. Knowledge and assimilation of the treasury of world and national culture were the foundation on which the cultural world of Enver Hoxha was set up.

Some papers were also read at the session.

On October 4, the Institute of Studies of International Relations organized a scientific session on the theme «The Problems of foreign policy and the current world development in the light of the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha» at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Attending the session were workers and heads of departments of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Ministries and various educational, cultural and scientific institutions of the capital. Present at the session were also member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Foto Çami, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and Vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Vangjel Çërrava, and other comrades.

The session was declared open by the Director of the Institute, Prof. Sofokli Lazri. Nine reports were read at the session.

The Vice-minister for Foreign Af-

fairs, Comrade Sokrat Plaka, read the report «Comrade Enver Hoxha — founder and builder of the new Albanian diplomacy». After pointing out the diplomatic art of Comrade Enver Hoxha, the author emphasized that Albanian diplomacy is built on solid bases of principle, far from any pragmatism and narrow national interest; it has always found the full support of world opinion, because it has fought for a just cause, and has been characterized by a rigorous logic of argumentation and action. Comrade Enver Hoxha did not see the foreign policy of a socialist country or its lever, diplomacy, as something ossified and outside contemporary contacts. Based on the decisions of the 9th Congress of the Party and the immortal teachings of Comrade Enver, the author said in conclusion, «Albanian diplomacy, led by Comrade Ramiz Alia personally, has in the recent years scored a number of major successes in the sphere of foreign policy.»

The Institute of Economic Studies at the Central State Planning Commission and the Faculty of Economics of the «Enver Hoxha» University of Tirana also organized a scientific session on the theme «On some problems of the economic development of the country» in one of the halls of the Palace of Culture of the capital.

Apart from economists and specialists in finance, workers of scientific research institutions, directors of economic enterprises, teachers of the Faculty of Economics and other guests, the session was also attended by member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Hajredin Çeliku, member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party and Vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Besnik Bektashi, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Party and Minister of Industry and Mining, Comrade Llambi Gegprifti, and other comrades.

In the great legacy of theory and practice of Comrade Enver Hoxha, the problems of the management and planned development of the economy occupy a particular place, is said among other things, in the report «Some directions of perfecting the planning of the economy through a better harmonization of democratic centralism with democracy» read by the vice-chairman of the State Planning Commission, Bujar Kolaneci. The Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha have constantly seen to it that the organization and planned management of the economy, the structure, relations and inter-dependence of state and economic organs should be realized on the basis of democratic centralism.

Some other reports and papers were also read at the session.

Scientific sessions on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the birth of Comrade Enver Hoxha were held also at other cultural, educational and scientific institutions of the country.

THE NATIONAL FOLKLORE FESTIVAL OF GJIROKASTRA 1988

On the eve of the 80th anniversary of the birth of the beloved and unforgettable leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha, from October 6 to 12 the National Folklore Festival 1988 took place with complete success in the city of his birth, Gjirokastra, with the participation of over 1700 singers, dancers, instrumentalists, and rhapsods from the 26 districts of the country. For a whole week they demonstrated on the stage of the ancient castle of Gjirokastra the finest values of the rich treasury of our people's creativeness.

In the afternoons and evenings of this week the castle of Gjirokastra

and the whole museum city lived in the joyful atmosphere of the Festival, with the folk songs and dances which turned the National Folklore Festival into the more important cultural and artistic event of the year, and a truly popular celebration.

However, the greatest day for the participants in the festival will remain October 11 when the 1st Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party and President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Comrade Ramiz Alia, came to attend the performances of the last day of the Festival. Other Party and state leaders came together with him, too.

Comrade Ramiz Alia had warm meetings with the participants in the Festival from the different districts of the country. Walking along the road of the 18 September Quarter he affectionately greeted the residents of Gjirokastra and the participants in the Festival, who had turned out dressed in multicoloured folk costumes singing and dancing.

Then, accompanied by other Party and state leaders, Comrade Ramiz Alia went up to the hill on which the monument of Comrade Enver Hoxha stands. He came up to the monument and laid a bouquet of flowers at the pedestal.

He admires the monument of his glorious and unforgettable comrade, teacher and leader.

It is truly beautiful. All the comrades that have seen it have remained astonished. I have seen it on the TV, have seen it on photos and now I am seeing it in the place. It is so beautiful that it makes us the impression as if Enver is here among us, admiring his beautiful city. And the city sees Enver. You and your comrades have done a fine work.

The next day the 1st Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party and President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Comrade Ramiz Alia, was seen off with warm affection by the people and the participants in the Festival.

On October 12 the closing ceremony of the National Folklore Festival 1988 took place. The ceremony was attended also by member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Foto Çami, member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Hajredin Çeliku, member of the Political Bu-

reau of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Pali Miska, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and Chief of the General Staff of the Army, Comrade Kiço Mustaqi, members of the Central Committee of the Party and Government, and others.

Present at the ceremony were also foreign students, ethnomusicologists, ethnographers, and ethnologists from some countries of the world, Arbëreshi from Sicily and Calabria, compatriots from the United States, and many guests.

According to an already established tradition, those present watched with great interest the parade of folk costumes of different zones of the country, one of the activities of the Festival.

Then the troupe of the Ensemble of Folk Songs and Dances gave a concert which was outstanding for its contemporary themes, the combination of the traditional folklore with the new one, and the high level of elaboration of various folklore pieces, etc.

The head of the central jury of the Festival, Comrade Nasi Lera,

held the closing speech and proclaimed the winners of the Festival.

«The immortal art of the people,» he said among other things, «has been born for us to be always closely united with one another, hence this Festival will never end. It just has started on its way to the people. The performances showed that our folklore knows only rejuvenation and freshness, in the spirit of our history and the immortal teachings of the unforgettable Enver Hoxha, and under the constant care of the Party. For the great values it brought in the field of creativeness and interpretation, this Festival was considered as the best by all our people.

«Based on the assessment of the central jury and the juries of the districts, the Folklore Group of Gjirokastra is awarded the Flag of the National Folklore Festival 1988 and the folklore group of the Tropoja district the First Prize.»

So was wound up the National Folklore Festival of Gjirokastra which showed once more the vitality of the art of our people, and its great cultural and spiritual richness.

THE PEOPLE OF BERAT CELEBRATE THE INAUGURATION OF THE

COMRADE RAMIZ ALIA PARTICIPATES IN THE POPULAR REJOICING

In the afternoon of September 29, on the eve of the 80th anniversary of the birth of our beloved and unforgettable leader Comrade Enver Hoxha, the Bogova-Berat water-supply line was inaugurated amid the great enthusiasm of the population.

The rejoicing of the Berat people became even greater when the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party and President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Comrade Ramiz Alia, came to attend this beautiful celebration. Thousands of residents, workers of the textile and oil industry, war and work veterans, intellectuals, militarymen, young men and women and pioneers of Enver filled the streets and the main square of the city.

Accompanied by the member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Besnik Bekteshi, Comrade Ramiz Alia heads for the main square of the city, where he is met with great ovations by those present. Amid the general enthusiasm he ascends the tribune erected in front of the museum hall in which the historic second meeting of the Anti-fascist National Liberation Council was held on November 24, 1944. Comrade Ramiz Alia cordially greets those present and the square resounds for whole minutes with ardent applause for the Party.

On behalf of the Berat people, the first secretary of the Party Committee of the Berat district, Comrade Abdyl Pilafi, welcomes Comrade Ramiz Alia and expresses his rejoicing at the great honour he has done the Berat people by coming to their midst again.

Amid the indescribable enthusiasm of those present Comrade Ramiz Alia rises to speak.

The Central Committee of the Party, said he among other things, sent me to take part in this great popular celebration not only as an answer to the invitation the main leaders of the district made me on your behalf some days ago but also and in the first place because the Party feels it its duty to respect those who keep their word and become an inspiring example for all.

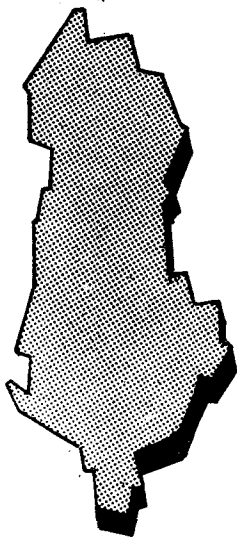
Two years ago, when I came to Berat to attend the Party Conference of the district, I had the honour and the special pleasure of announcing the decision of the Party to start the work for the construction of the Bogova-Berat water supply line. In reply to this decision, the Conference decided to complete this great project within 1988. So today, on the day of its inauguration, we feel doubly happy: both because from this day on the Berat people will be supplied with abundant water at any time and because you kept the pledge you took before the Party for the completion of the project on schedule.

The new water-supply line we are inaugurating today presents an important project on a national scale. Big investments have been made for its construction. The greatest reward for all this work is the happiness of the people, and the conviction that this success, as all the other successes, by increasing the well-being of the people, will become an encouragement for new achievements.

Securing abundant drinking water for all the villages and inhabited

The beloved leader of the Party and the people, Comrade Ramiz Alia, congratulating the citizens of Berat on the day of the inauguration of the Bogova-Berat water-supply line.

FROM THE
LIFE OF THE
COUNTRY



BRATE WITH ENTHUSIASM NEW WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM



FROM THE COUNTRY

centres of the country represents the more important socio-economic action of the 8th Five-year Plan. During the two years that have gone by since the announcement of this action at the 9th Congress of the Party satisfactory results have been achieved.

Meeting the needs of all the villages and towns of the country with drinking water will be another great achievement of our social order. It is a big success that from the beginning of the action to this day about 600 villages have been supplied with drinking water, or more than one third of the total number of the inhabited centres envisaged to be supplied with drinking water until the end of 1990.

The Party has carried out a far-sighted program for the use of water, especially in agriculture. On the eve of Liberation only 10 per cent of the arable land was irrigated in our country, whereas in the end of the past year this figure has risen to 57 per cent, although, with the draining of swamps and the opening up of new land, this area has trebled.

The Berat district, Comrade Ramiz Alia went on, has achieved all-round successes in the economy and other fields. Industrial production is growing from year to year. Investments in production and in the socio-cultural sector have been growing incessantly. The buying power of the population and the consumption of food-stuffs and industrial products has increased and improved.

This year, too, many months went by without a drop of rain throughout the period of the intensive development of plants. However, despite these extraordinary conditions, agricultural production in general and on a hectare average and per capita of population has grown at satisfactory rates in your district. Compared with 1987, in your district the production of milk is expected to be 24 per cent higher, that of meat 21 per cent, that of eggs about 42 per cent, etc. These indices are 2-3 times as high as those of the national average.

Persistent work is being carried out throughout the country to implement the directives of the 9th Congress of the Party. This year, too, despite the difficulties we know, agricultural and industrial production on

a republic scale is expected to undergo a satisfactory increase as compared with the past year. In animal husbandry production will grow about 7 per cent, a growth that has not been achieved over many years and which will consolidate the change that has taken place. Export, another important sector in the development of the economy, this year is expected to grow about three times as quickly as the social product, in general.

Unlike the other years, although the protracted drought caused us great damage, with the measures that were taken, also by reducing exports, the hydro-power industry succeeded in meeting the needs of the country better. The program of capital investments is, on a whole, developing regularly, while work is going on with great intensity on the major projects of the present five-year plan.

The vitality of our economy and the importance of the results achieved stand out even better if we take into account the fact that our development relies only on our own forces, only on our financial and material resources. At the same time, a grave economic and social situation has arisen in many countries. Many states, in Europe and on the other continents, find themselves deep in debts.

The all-round progress of our country was especially emphasized at the 6th Plenum of the CC of the Party, which, as it has been announced, successfully carried out its proceedings in these recent days. This Plenum dealt with the problems of foreign trade, the increase of the export capacity of the country and the further improvement of the effectiveness in this broad activity.

Compared with the 70's, in the last decade the export of goods has doubled. Now goods exchanges with the outside world are based more on goods groups and, in general, processed products, which are finding buyers in dozens of new foreign markets.

Then Comrade Ramiz Alia said that the Party has had and always continues to have the constant improvement of the conditions of living of the working masses in the centre of its attention. For this lofty aim it struggles with each passing day and envisages tasks for the future, too.

And successes have been achieved. At present the level of production and consumption of the population, taken per capita, is higher than five or ten years ago.

Socialism relies on the revolutionary activity of the masses and their creative thinking. It encourages the initiative of advanced people and cadres, supports everything that is to the benefit of the people and the Homeland.

These values of socialism are finding a powerful expression also in the broad discussion that is being carried out about the Draft-constitution of agricultural cooperatives. Our revolutionary peasantry has set the more essential problems of socialist life in the countryside in the centre of this discussion.

Through their work, their good results, and their creative and mature

thinking, our peasantry is all-round preparing for the 6th Congress of Agricultural Cooperatives which will take place soon. Proceeding from experience, this Congress will affirm through new conclusions the correctness of the road followed and the vitality of our cooperativist order. It will give a powerful impulse to the development of productive forces in agriculture and derive valuable lessons for the further perfection of the economic and social relations based on group property. This will be a congress of all the workers of our socialist agriculture, as well as a marked event in the life of our country.

We have a great jubilee ahead of us: soon will we celebrate with special respect the 80th anniversary of the birth of Enver Hoxha, this glorious tribune of the Albanian people, this outstanding man of our nation. Young and old in Albania think and

work to meet this historic anniversary as well as possible, because with the name of Enver are linked all our socialist victories, the freedom and independence we enjoy today, the victorious road we are following and the certain future that lies ahead of us.

With us, Comrade Ramiz Alia said in conclusion, celebrations have always been an encouragement for new victories. Doubtlessly, the celebration that lies ahead of us will encourage the masses to work with greater vigour both in industry and agriculture, so as to express through their achievements their respect and love for Enver Hoxha, the founder of the Party and the creator of the new Albania, the most beloved man for every Albanian citizen and patriot.

Comrade Ramiz Alia's address was listened to with great interest and frequently interrupted by cheers «Long live the Party!»

THE 5th NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNION OF THE PHYSICAL-CULTURISTS AND SPORTSMEN OF ALBANIA

The 5th National Conference of the Union of Physical-culturists and Sportsmen of Albania held its proceedings from 5-6 September 1988, in Tirana.

Participating in the Conference were delegates from all the districts of the country, the most distinguished representatives of the physical-cultural and sports activists from the ranks of the working class, the cooperativist peasantry, the school and student youth, armymen, sports veterans, cadres, distinguished specialists in sports, leading cadres of the central and mass organizations, central departments, educational, cultural and scientific institutions, etc.

Also present was member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Foto Çami, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and vice-chairman of

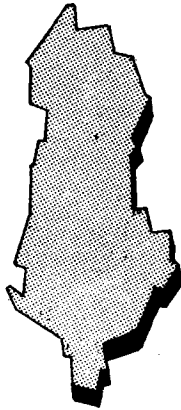
the Council of Ministers, Comrade Manush Myftiu, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and Chief of the General Staff of the Army, Comrade Kiço Mustaqi, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and first secretary of the Party Committee of the Tirana district, Comrade Pirro Kondi, the minister of Education, Skënder Gjinushi, and other comrades.

The Chairman of the Committee of the General Council of the UPCSA, Mehdi Bushati, delivered the report: «We must raise the physical-culturist and sports movement to a new higher stage.»

The report, among other things, pointed out that in the process of the profound social changes made in the years of socialism in our country,

the physical-cultural, and sports movement, its content and course of development, have changed greatly and continue to change every day. The new physical culture which we have created in these few decades, the more and more massive character of our sports and their quality, all these are dedicated to the Party, to the architect and strategist of the new Albania, to our great and unforgettable leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha. During the 8th Five-year Plan, alone, the investments envisaged for the sector of physical culture and sports are 2.1 times as great as those made in the two previous five-year plans taken together. The decision of the government for special treatment in some kinds of sports creates favourable conditions for their qualitative development. An important event both for the working people in physical cul-

FROM THE LIFE OF THE COUNTRY



ture and sports and for the entire people of our country was the 9th Congress of the Party. The decisions of this Congress and the tasks put forward recently by the Party and Comrade Ramiz Alia open up new perspectives for physical culture and sports to develop still more rapidly.

Then, the speaker went on to show the need for further strengthening the mass character of physical culture and for raising its quality to a higher level. The report also underlined the increase in the number of those who go in for physical-cultural and sports activities, 70 per cent of whom are up to 25 years of age; the extension of the mass activities in sports; the work which has been done and is going on for the attainment of still higher results in sports, and the particular care devoted to the training and qualification of cadres, considering this as an important link in the efforts to raise our sports to new heights. One of the important points of the report was also the profound socialist character and content of our popular sports, which are diametrically opposed to the purpose of the bourgeois and revisionist sports.

Then contributions to the discussion of the report were made.

In his speech to the Conference, among other things, Comrade Foto Çami said:

The 5th Conference of the UPCSA is, without doubt, a marked event in the life of our country, with a broad repercussion among the masses of the youth and the working people, who expect that it will give a new impulse to the development of the physical-cultural movement and the raising of the qualitative level of our sports.

On this occasion, allow me, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Party and of Comrade Ramiz Alia, personally, to bring to you, delegates, and to all the sportsmen and to the many sport-amateurs whom you represent, the heartfelt greetings and the best wishes for progress of the physical-cultural and sports movement.

Eight years have elapsed since your 4th Conference was held. The balance of the achievements you have made in this period is rich. Physical culture and sports have been characterized by massive participation and by the objective of attaining still

higher results. It is more and more thoroughly understood that physical education, as the Party instructs, is a constituent part of the all-round communist education, not only of the rising generation, but also of all the working masses. On this basis, a vigorous physical-cultural movement has been created and secure forecasts have been made for the attainment of contemporary high results in the Albanian sports. We already have our European girl champions in shooting, as well as many Balkan champions in this kind of sport; we have outstanding athletes who have brought home a number of medals from international events; we also have Balkan champions in weightlifting and volleyball, who have lined themselves up among the best in the European cups, as well as football players who represent Albanian football with dignity in the European arena.

Physical culture and sports have become part of the life of the broad masses of the people and have spread throughout the country.

The merit for all these achievements goes to the working people and cadres of physical culture and sports, the specialists and organizers, managers and coaches, to the sportsmen themselves, as well as to our cultured sports lovers, to the organization of the UPCSA, which has led them with intelligence on the road of progress towards higher demands of the time.

In our country, the speaker continued, in more than four decades, extensive work has been done to spread the physical-cultural and sports movement among the masses. The main centres of this work are the schools and the army, and the youth are the main social stratum which has carried this activity continuously ahead. But these activities have included, also, other social environments and strata, and the more adult population. By proceeding on this road we have thus created and consolidated a whole broad and graduated system of our sports movement.

Participation in sports, and especially, in general physical-cultural activities has become a great social and educational, cultural and health question. Without them we cannot understand either the all-round communist

development of our new man of socialist society, or, more concretely, the preparation and tempering for work and for the defence of the Homeland, and the ceaseless improvement in the physical and health situation of the new generations.

The Central Committee of the Party, he said winding up his speech, has complete confidence that, with its decisions, this Conference, which is held on the eve of the 80th anniversary of the birth of our unforgettable leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha, will constitute a major program of work in order to bring about to the full the change which the Party demands in the development of physical-culture and sports, in order to implement in practice the great tasks set by the Party at its 9th Congress for this important sector of our socialist life.

The delegates unanimously endorsed

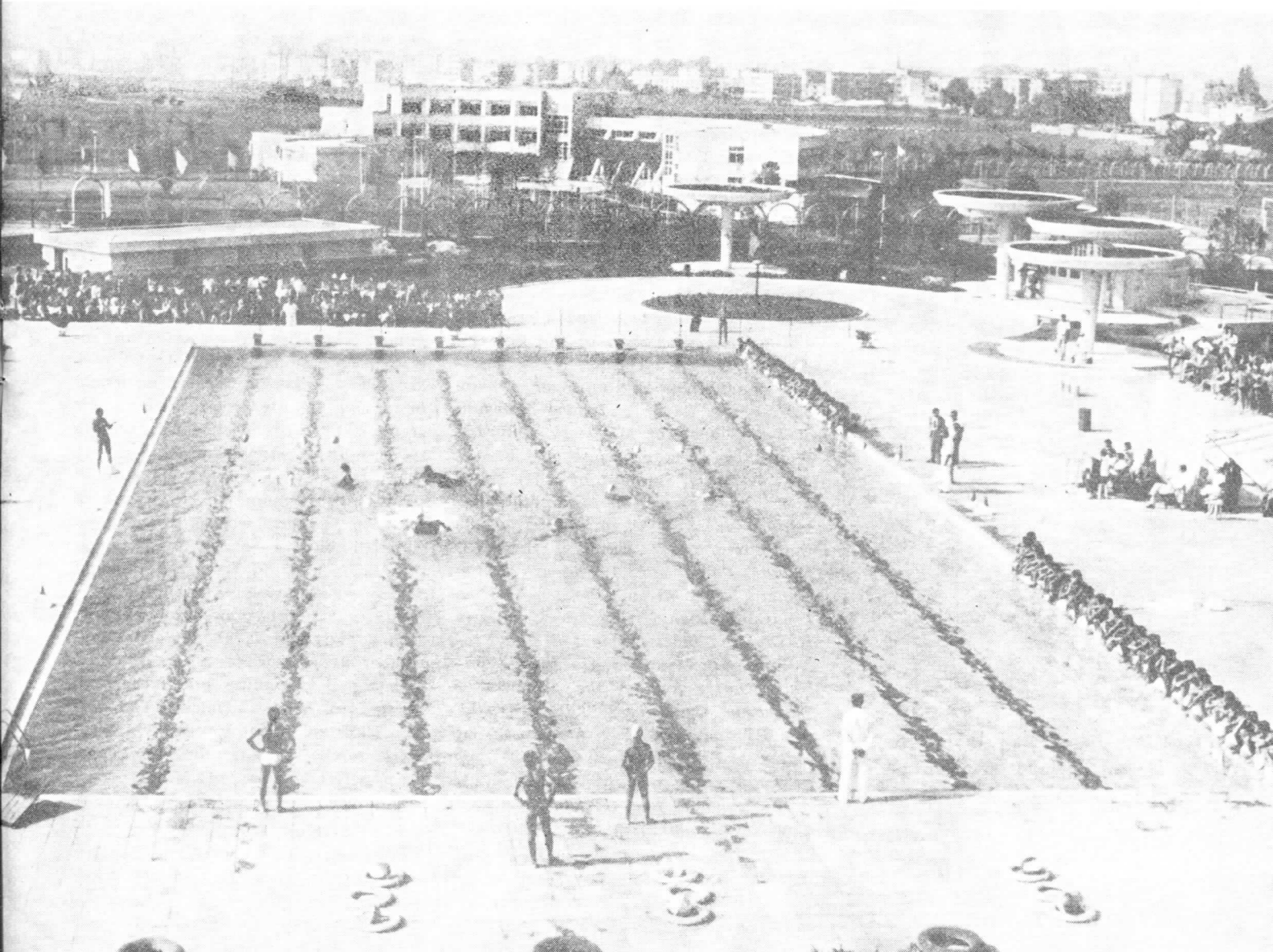
the decisions and the resolution of the 5th National Conference of the UPCSA, which, among other things, stress that in the context of all the profound social transformations which have been made in the years of socialism, qualitative changes have occurred also in the physical-cultural and sports movement, in its content and orientations. They also point out the main directions of the future work for the spread of physical culture and sports among the masses, for raising it to still higher levels, for transforming the schools into real sports centres, for higher qualitative achievements in sports, by perfecting scientific organization and direction, so as to respond to the tasks raised by the new stage of the development of the physical-cultural and sports movement, in the implementation of the tasks of the 9th Congress of the

Party and the instructions of Comrade Ramiz Alia.

Then the Conference proceeded with the election of the leading organs of the UPCSA. The delegates elected the General Council of the UPCSA consisting of 113 members. In its first meeting, the General Council elected its leading committee of 15 members. Comrade Ali Vukatana was elected Chairman of the Committee of the General Council of the UPCSA. The Conference also elected the presidencies of the sports federations.

The closing speech was made by the chairman of the Committee of the General Council of the UPCSA Ali Vukatana, who among other things, pointed out that the important tasks set at the Conference will be carried out through greater mobilization and devotion by the whole organization of the UPCSA.

Aspects of sport activities in the sports centre in Tirana.



SOLEMN MEETING DEDICATED TO THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF THE OUTSTANDING ALBANIAN WRITER MIGJENI



On August 26, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the death of the outstanding Albanian writer Millosh Gjergj Nikolla — Migjeni, the League of Writers and Artists and the Committee of Culture and Arts organized a solemn meeting in the hall of the Theatre of the Opera and Ballet in the capital.

Present at the meeting were writers and artists, workers of scientific, educational and cultural institutions, people from centres of work and production, veterans, young men and women, members and relatives of Migjeni's family.

Attending the meeting were also member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Foto Çami, member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party and vice-president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Comrade Rita Marko, member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Manush Myftiu, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Party and First Secretary of the Party Committee for the Tirana district, Comrade Pirro Kondi, member of the CC of the Party and President of the General Council of the Democratic Front of Albania, Comrade Nexhmije Hoxha, the vice-president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Comrade Xhafer Spahiu, the Minister of Education, Comrade Skënder Gjinushi, the President of the Academy of Sciences, Prof. Aleks Buda, and other comrades.

The solemn meeting was declared open by the Head of the Committee

of Culture and Arts, Comrade Alfred Uçi.

The speech of the occasion was held by the chairman of the League of Writers and Artists, Comrade Dritëro Agolli.

Today, he said among other things, Albania honours Migjeni, its great poet, who closed his eyes fifty years ago when it was poor and exhausted.

Migjeni, he went on, was not a meteor that vanished away. His light would illuminate the meetings of communists and illegals, his free verse would be copied in copybooks or secretly roneotyped and read by the partisans in the mountains. This would be the announcement of the genuine evaluation of his work. Then, a little later, in free Albania, on the horizon of our culture the Migjeni phenomenon would emerge and attract ever more forcefully the attention of society in the course of this half a century and, gradually, new values would be found in his work, because his creation, as a living organism, seethes in permanent movement.

Migjeni, Comrade Dritëro Agolli pointed out, found a new form to cast his material of life into. He concentrated his whole attention on the reality and did not get lost in old stories or myths. He felt that our literature had grown tired of romantic stories and legends about fairies, cyresses and flowers.

In a society lacking human warmth, he said further on, cynicism and moral distortion reign supreme. This moral distortion becomes the moral norm of a misshapen order. Migjeni cast his glance on this face of society, too, the face of its morality. In his

work he expresses the idea that morality is determined by interest and the existing order that defends this interest. He saw that the regime was going downhill through failures in the economy, ideology, morality and politics. There where politics and morality suffer defeat the responsibility of the writer becomes even greater. The writer must say what others do not.

Migjeni is a realist writer and as such he is an optimist. His work expresses a profound pain, but a pain full of pride. He suffers at all things distorted he comes up against in life; he suffers at Albania's being backward and miserable, the most backward country in Europe, although living in the middle of the light of great civilizations, but still he is confident and hopeful about the future. In his work there is a dialectical unity of affirmation and negation. Through the destruction of the old there looms the new of the «sons of the new age»: the communist movement with its ideas of radical social transformations has emerged into life, strikes and revolts have begun and ripples go across stagnation. He feels that through tears and pain the new man is being born, the new man who will arouse the oppressed working masses. This will be a man of the new type, without demagogy and egoism, without prejudices and doubts, with a great spiritual world, because he has accumulated both the suffering and the hopes of centuries.

Migjeni is the heir to and assimilator of our whole former literary tradition and the creative utilizer of

the positive world experience, Comrade Dritëro Agolli went further on. We was forcefully attracted towards the new in his ideas and art. With his pen Migjeni was a truly modern writer and opened up new paths in our literature. And this modern spirit he found in the material of the country in which he lived and in the Albanian mother tongue in which he wrote, he found it in the whole literary climate created in the 30's of this century. Migjeni's identity as an outstanding Albanian poet is already confirmed in the history of our literature through irrefutable facts and documents, hence it is utterly absurd that, on April 29 this year, **Borba** malignantly wrote that allegedly the founder of the modern Albanian literature was the Montenegrin Miloš Djedjević Nikolić!

Migjeni's work will always inspire our poets and writers, said Dritëro Agolli in conclusion, especially the young ones who love and value him so much; his work will educate people in a patriotic and revolutionary spirit and will always be a source of an esthetic pleasure because of its high values in content and form. He will remain the example of the writer totally involved in the actual problems of society, and the model of the artist seeking new means of expression and new artistic forms.

* * *

On the same day, on this occasion the Institute of Language and Lite-

rature of the Academy of Sciences organized a scientific session dedicated to the life and work of Migjeni in the Museum of National History in the capital.

Students, writers, workers of scientific, educational and cultural institutions and other guests attended the session.

Present at the session were also member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Foto Çami, member of the Central Committee of the Party and President of the General Council of the Democratic Front of Albania, Comrade Nexhmije Hoxha, the Minister of Education, Comrade Skënder Gjinushi, and other comrades.

The session was declared open by the Director of the Institute of Language and Literature, Prof. Androkli Kostallari.

Prof. Koço Bihiku delivered the report «Migjeni and his epoch» in which, among other things, it was pointed out that Migjeni is one of the greatest and most honoured writers of the Albanian people, although he began and ended his literary activity within only four years. In his work of great originality in both form and treatment of problems, he left a deep imprint on the artistic consciousness of the Albanian people.

Seven papers were also read at this session.

Also, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Migjeni's death, commemorative activities were carried out in the city of his birth, Shkodra, and at Puka, in North Albania.

SCIENTIFIC SESSION DEVOTED TO THE WORK OF PROF. EQREM ÇABEJ

On 3rd September, at the Museum of National History, in the capital, on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the birth of Prof. Eqrem Çabej an outstanding figure of our national science, education and culture, the Institute of Linguistics and Literature of the Academy of Sciences organized

a scientific session dedicated to his work.

The session was attended by linguists, scholars, working people of scientific, educational, cultural, and other institutions, writers and artists, students and teachers.

Attending were also member of the

Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Foto Çami, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Manush Myftiu, member of the Central Committee of the Party and Pre-

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sident of the General Council of the Democratic Front of Albania, Nexhmije Hoxha, vice-president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Xhafer Spahiu, the minister of Education, Skënder Gjinushi, and others.

The session was opened by the President of the Academy of Sciences, Prof. Aleks Buda, who, among other things, pointed out that the work of the outstanding scientist Eqrem Çabej occupies an important place in our national science and culture. Eqrem Çabej's scientific activity, which began in the 1930s, he said, assumed that broad proportion and rose to its typical high level only after the victory of the revolution and the establishment of the people's state power, with the solicitude of the Party. Eqrem Çabej's work has as its pivot the same fundamental problems as those of the history of our people, namely, who are the Albanians, where are the roots of their ethnocultural identity, and in the first place, of their language, where are the territories in which this people, this ethnos, this nation, was formed in the ancient times.

Winding up his speech, Prof. Aleks Buda said that, in paying tribute to Eqrem Çabej on the 80th anniversary of his birth, we are joined by all our compatriots wherever they live, wherever the Albanian word is heard and spoken, in its ancient idiom, which he studied with such a great passion. It will always encourage the linguists and the students of the language and culture of the Albanian people, will assist them to carry this work further ahead, enriching it with new results. Eqrem Çabej's work will be a real scientific treasury for the future, which will bring into evidence the values of our nation, will help to carry out studies further ahead in order to continue and complete the work of this scholar, always following the teachings of the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha.

Then Prof. Androkli Kostallari delivered the report «The work of Prof. Eqrem Çabej in the field of the Albanian national science and culture», prepared together with the senior scientific worker, Seit Mancaku.

The comprehensive and many-sided work of Prof. Eqrem Çabej, of this

scholar with rare creative qualities, who placed all his knowledge in the service of the people and the socialist Homeland, says the report, is already part of the valuable treasury of our national science and culture, which the epoch of the Party taught us to estimate and use as a sound support for further development and progress. It constitutes one of the most brilliant pages of the Albanian linguistics and philology. It is one of the most daring steps which put an end, once and for all, to the period when there were manifestations of amateurishness in this field, and raised our linguistics to the highest level of the contemporary historical-comparative linguistic science. His work is the result of those major efforts and achievements through which, after Liberation, the centre of Albanological sciences was brought to the Homeland of the Albanians and of the Albanian language. In assessing the outstanding work and figure of Prof. Eqrem Çabej, Comrade Enver Hoxha has pointed out how he worked tirelessly and with great passion for the development and progress of the science of Albanian linguistics and the development of our people's education. His scientific-research work, especially that on the origin of the Albanian language and the genesis of the Albanian people, is very rich and all-sided. It has a national and international importance. With unmatched competence, he has made an invaluable contribution to the problem of the original character of the Albanian language, the autochthony of the Albanian people on the territories where they live today. Prof. Eqrem Çabej's work remains a valuable treasury in the hands of the present and future students and scientists of our country.

Then the report pointed out that the scientific activity of Prof. E. Çabej includes more than 200 publications, covering many fields of knowledge and learning, such as the historical phonetics and grammar of the Albanian language, dialectology, lexicology and lexicography, phonology and textology, literary language, folklore, literature, ethnography, Balkan studies, etc. In all these fields he made his valuable contribution. He concentrated and distinguished himself especially in the field of the his-

torical study of the Albanian language and in etymology, in which he left an indelible name, and deep imprints bearing the seal of his great originality.

E. Çabej's work, as a whole, is permeated by a clear national spirit, by the aim of throwing light, in an objective manner, on every aspect of the ancient Albanian ethnos. It is also characterized by an active stand in defence of the history, language and culture of our people, against any tendentious, wishful or disparaging stand of some foreign students towards these questions.

With his work Eqrem Çabej made a scientific contribution to the building, strengthening and enrichment of the thesis on the origin of the Albanian language from the Illyrian and of the Albanian people from the Southern Illyrians. With his

sound theses and arguments he defends and clearly proves that the Albanians are an autochthonous people on the territories on which they live today, that the links of continuity between the Albanians and the Illyrians, between the Albanian language and the Illyrian language, have been uninterrupted, that the roads of the formation and development of the Albanian language from the most ancient times is an original road, which reflects the very life and history of the Albanian people.

The report goes on to stress that Eqrem Çabej's work, as a whole, makes him the most outstanding figure of the history of the Albanian language in all fields of study: its lexics, phonetics, grammar, historical grammar and dialectology. In all these ways he raised the prestige of the

Albanian linguistic science still higher in the present-day world.

The works of Prof. Eqrem Çabej have entered the golden treasury of the Albanian science. They have won him a high reputation not only in the PSR of Albania, but also in Kosovo and in other regions inhabited by Albanians in Yugoslavia, among the Arbëresh of Italy, and wherever Albanians live in the world. They are studied and used as reliable scientific works and enjoy the respect of scholars in many countries of the world. Without doubt the influence of these works in modern linguistics will further increase after the publication of the complete works, which is undertaken by the Institute of Linguistics and Literature of the Academy of Sciences.

Apart from the report, 14 papers were delivered to the session.

A NEW SUCCESS OF OUR SCIENCE OF MEDICINE

The work of an Albanian physician, Minella Papajorgji, has been recently included in the list of new discoveries by the «Pasteur» Institute of France. A remarkable event which encourages and inspires our science of medicine — the discovery of one of the causes of mycocetosis in Albania.

Of course discoveries in science are mostly the result of long and systematic work, of perseverance and uninterrupted studies and not of accident. These qualities characterize the work and life of the new Albanian scientist. Minella is the author of two monographs («Candidomycosis» and «Candidosis by Antibiotics»), of two popular scientific books («Dermatomycoses and How to Combat Them» and «Candidosis»), co-author of six textbooks for the Faculty of Medicine of the «Enver Hoxha» University of Tirana, lecturer, writer of about 50 scientific articles published in the medical reviews inside the country and abroad.

From the beginning of his work in the Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology in Tirana, he was in charge of a team for avoiding chronic infections transmitted from generation

to generation, and after about 20 years of research, through the study of various stages of the epidemic process, in 1985 it became possible in Albania to wipe out the disease called «Favurs» (a contagious mycotic disease caused by parasites), and, at the same time, cases with endemic dermatophyte were reduced to only very few, a thing which many developed countries of Europe still have not achieved. These are indisputable successes of our prophylactic medicine, achieved through painstaking work, which took long and profound studies, under the technical direction of Minella Papajorgji.

As he carried on with his routine work, he read in world literature information about some kinds of deep-seated mycosis, described as infections which occur in tropical areas. Literature had it that sporadic cases of mycocetosis had been encountered in Europe, too. These curious cases are caused by some germs (of which more than one hundred are numbered), which fall into two major groups. Until a short time ago, his disease had a negative prognosis, because there were no powerful antimycotics, which today exist, and also

because the isolation of the germs could be achieved only in a few very powerful laboratory centres in the world. Our physician began to doubt whether such cases might also exist in Albania. For over two decades he went on with his work and research. Only last December did he succeed in isolating some colonies, which laboratory tests and examinations gave very good reason to believe in the existence of actionomycets. Two months later he reached the conclusion that he had to do with *Streptomyces sadurea*. The success was within reach. For greater security and further accuracy, the isolated sample was sent to the «Pasteur» Institute, the mycological service, under Prof. Mariat, who after two months confirmed the validity of the work of our physician. The real cause of a very rare disease, which was attributed until then to hundred other causes, was at last identified.

The newly discovered microorganism was included in the list of international phylums, as Albanian phylum, code numbered 6034, the first of its kind in our country. This is a new and great success of our medicine.



PALAEOLITHIC CULTURE IN THE ANCIENT SETTLEMENTS OF OUR COUNTRY

The first steps in the discovery of objects belonging to the Stone Age were made by a foreigner in 1938. The material discovered consisted of two broken splinters, found at the foot of Mt Dajti, which mark the first subdivision of Upper Palaeolithic in the Albanian territory. At the Xara village work tools of the Stone Age are discovered more or less at the same time. In the northern zones, which were explored more thoroughly by various authors who were ambitious for studies in this zone, the sources are totally silent. It is strange, however, that Shkodra, the ancient seat of Ardia, as the centre of the development of some material cultures, was not made the object of research. Nevertheless, prehistoric development of these regions is connected with the geological nature, with the flora and fauna, with the seaboard, which, as a whole, attracted inhabitants since ancient times which go beyond the period of written records. Research of the prehistoric period is difficult. The first signs of a preoccupation about these problems are found in a letter of the poet Zef Jubani. Shtjefën Gjeçovi continues in this same way, when in 1923, without prejudice, he begins to take an interest in the ancient man of the Stone Age, trying to locate his habitat in the caves. Nevertheless, the picture of the Stone Age remains far from complete despite the optimistic suppositions.

In the years 1981-1982 the cave of Gajtan, southeast of Shkodra, was discovered. It contained a hoard of bone and stone work tools of a very archaic type. The rich finds as regards the fauna put the time of the ancient settlement back to the epoch of the cave bear. A careful study

over many years throws light on the presence of thermophile fauna, consisting of rhinoceros, apes, hyenas, the giant deer, the Deninger bear, etc., which help to reconstruct an ancient quazi subtropical climate, with the necessary presence of broad-leaved quaternary trees at the village of Gajtan. The layers of the soil, like so many pages of history, had preserved the material of two ancient cultures; one Achellienne and the other of the Middle Palaeolithic, Mustertian, with evolved features. Taken as a whole, these materials reveal an entirely different aspect for the study of the evolution of the man and of the large mammals of that epoch.

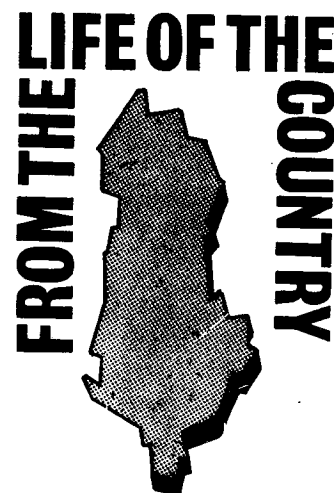
This discovery at Gajtan is followed by an open-air station at the village of Rrenc, on the Baran hill, quite close to the ancient city of Rozafa. In the period 1983-1988, this station yielded very archaic work tools, which provide information about the presence of man from the most ancient civilizations known in our country. From this discovery we confirm the presence of settlers who set up their primitive camps on the soft hillsides of Baran, on the shores of the Shkodra Lake. From this it appears that our ancestors, the Albanotrops, settled around the Quaternary basin of the Rrenc village for a number of reasons: the abundance of stone, the rich fauna, and the very configuration of the land, in the shape of an amphitheatre providing shelter from the chilly winds blowing from Cukal, which was then covered with ice. It is interesting to note that a number of authors maintained that the southeastern territories of the Balkans could not have served as places for the development of so an-

cient material cultures such as those represented by the so-called bifacial tools. In this aspect, the presence of two stations southeast of Shkodra justifies our supposition about the real possibility of the existence of more settlements in the virgin territories of our country, which is an important point. But in a number of countries it is not possible to discover palaeolithic stations and fossils of mammals, for the simple reason that the ancient materials cannot be very easily excavated from the great depths of the earth. Therefore, Gajtan and Baran in Shkodra, and Shahinova of Berat, together with a number of other points with a prospect, do not represent an accident, but are the result of systematic scientific work.

The discovery and the study over many years of these documents of indisputable value for the science of human palaeontology reveal the presence of early groups belonging to the same cultural substratum. The presence of the ancient hunters at the Gajtan village, their work, are indicative of the degree of their domination over the nature, of the organization of their life in the primitive order. The emergence of these civilizations has been considered not just as a mechanical stratum of the cultural fund of the primates, without a geographical habitat. On the contrary, all the materials have been regarded as proof confirming the existence of our very remote forefathers. The presence of the prehistoric culture in the same centre — which takes its first step with the Achelliennes, Musteriannes, going over a long period of time, constitutes an undeniable line of

growth and development inseparable from the autochthonous features and with the northern stations outside our country. During the study of the values of these documents of the palaeontological science, foreign authors have often mapped out guidelines, have even set up their own structures, which involve our country, too, but what impresses us is that they have constructed them on an apriori basis, at a time when nothing of the fossil finds or of the material culture had surfaced as yet. Nevertheless, there is no reason to reject these hypotheses outright, not even now that the material finds of our country suggest different values and a new conception of these problems.

In this way, the propositions and the treatment of the discoveries and scientific materials, which belong to this sphere of knowledge and serve to reconstruct that remote period by integration into the natural sciences, assumes a broader aspect only when it is seen with the historical eye, according to the materialist-dialectical conceptions. Only in this manner will this information, taken as a whole, together with the subsequent studies which are increasing, lead us to the idea, which now is based on scientific facts, about the existence of more ancient civilizations in our territory. This implies that great truth to which many learned men of our country have made their contribution, proving that our people today live on that territory on which they have left their imprints with their work and have known to defend with their blood through the centuries.



INTER-CONNECT RELATIONS BETWEEN AND THE COOPERATIVES THE ROAD OF ADVANCEMENT OF THE COOPERATIVE

by **MIHAL ZIU**

At the foundation of this inter-connection lies the direct participation of the state in investments with social and non-redeemable funds for the increase of production and the raising of the degree of socialization of the group property on the road of its merging with the property of the whole people.

THE INNOVATIVE IDEA OF THE PARTY AND COMRADE ENVER HOXHA ON THE GRADUAL INTER-CONNECTION OF THE RELATIONS OF STATE PROPERTY WITH COOPERATIVIST PROPERTY AND THE REVOLUTIONARY PRACTICE INSPIRED BY THIS IDEA AND EXPRESSED IN THE ORGANIZATION OF HIGHER-TYPE COOPERATIVES AND THE PRIORITY INTENSIFICATION OF PRODUCTION IN THE ZONE OF COASTAL PLAINS ARE NOT ONLY A SUCCESSFUL SCIENTIFIC BUT ALSO ORIGINAL REPLY TO THE PROBLEMS FACING THE COOPERATIVIST ORDER FOR ITS CEASELESS DEVELOPMENT AND ADVANCE.

At the foundation of this inter-connection lies the direct participation of the state in investments with social and non-redeemable funds for the increase of production and the raising of the degree of socialization of the group property on the road of its merging with the property of the whole people. This inter-action of forces and means of the cooperatives and the state has made up a sure base for the fulfilment of tasks of agricultural production on all fronts, its increase at rapid rates and the rise of its efficiency. Experience shows that in those cooperatives in

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which there is great state participation with investments the increase of production in the main branches of agriculture and animal husbandry is equal to or, in some cases, even higher than in state farms with comparable conditions. Stability and growth of agricultural production is accompanied with the strengthening of the economic and financial condition of the cooperatives and the further improvement of the well-being of their members. In the 80's the average annual growth of net production in the priority intensification zone and in the higher-type cooperatives has been twice as high

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as in the whole sector of agriculture. During the same period the accumulation and consumption funds have grown at higher rates, 3.4 and 1.4 times respectively, as compared with the cooperativist sector as a whole.

The inter-connection of relations between the state and the cooperatives is assuming an ever more direct character. In this state of things the directive of the Party for the further expansion of economic relations between the state and agricultural cooperatives is not merely an important tactic for increasing agricultural production, but also part of the general strategy of the Party for the intensification of production and the development of the cooperativist order with the cooperativist property being brought closer to and eventually transformed into the common property of the people.

With the setting up of the higher-type cooperatives and the priority intensification of agricultural production in the zone of coastal plains the state accounts for 22 per cent of their total investments.

Proceeding from the needs of the intensification of production, the experience gained and the successes achieved, state participation in investments grows along with investments by the agricultural cooperatives themselves. Further on, the instruction of the Party to extend this form

of inter-connection of relations between the state and the agricultural cooperatives through the setting up of new higher-type cooperatives and the implementation of the second phase in the priority development of the zone of the coastal plains calls for detailed studies in this field.

Increase and extension of state participation with investments calls for additional measures for better use of these investments by the cooperatives so as to avoid failure of their implementation as was the case with some economies and districts. State participation with investments in higher-type cooperatives and in the priority intensification zone is neither a privilege nor an option for these cooperatives but a planned task to increase agricultural and livestock production at higher rates.

State participation with investments in these cooperatives is intended to increase production. However, there is still need for greater care both for a more effective use of investments and the improvement of the structure of state participation. At present 40 per cent of investments with state participation is made in economic construction, about 29 per cent in the conservation and increase of land fertility, 17 per cent in livestock-raising, about 13 per cent in fruit-tree growing and 1 per cent for other needs.

Ever greater needs for livestock

products are exercising a constant impact on the increase of the head of cattle and their productivity. Priority concentration of state participation in this sector would increase at higher rates the basic stock in the joint herds and in the herds attached to the brigades. Also, more investments will be made in fruit-tree growing, especially for the better utilization of the existing plots.

In reply to the tasks set by the Party and the aim of raising group property to a higher level the structure of state participation must be improved further, channelling investments mainly into expanding the main means of production so as to extend the sphere of relations of state property and its influence on the socio-economic development of the countryside. This would make it easier for society to promote the processes of the eventual transformation of cooperativist property into state property. This confronts the agricultural cooperatives with higher tasks for other investments which have not to do with the main means of production, such as in general those made for conservation and increase of the fertility of the land.

State participation with investments as the more advanced element in the relations of the state with the cooperatives will enhance its role and influence also in regard to other objects necessary for life and production in the countryside. These would be investments for construction and improvement of the internal road network, creation of joint fruit-tree plots with the participation of two or more cooperatives with their own and state means, better regulation of irrigation, etc.

In implementation of the directives of the Party, state participation with investments grows through its involvement in financing the circulating means of the agricultural cooperatives so as to enable them to cope with the increase of material expenditure which comes about as a result of higher intensification. State participation in these objects may gradually increase in accordance with the financial possibilities, giving priority to the more needed objects, such as those for animals in the process of growth and fattening, work implements, etc.

Through state participation, the cooperatives have more possibilities to increase their tasks in this field.

According to possibilities and conditions, additional measures will be taken for the improvement of the fodder base of agriculture, the extension of second crops so as to intensify the use of the land, safety at work, etc.

Extension of state participation in the above fields calls for larger financial means part of which will in the future be secured by the branch of agriculture itself through the utilization of the greater part of the rent that is created in these cooperatives. The amortization fund that is created by the higher-type cooperatives and those of the priority intensification zone will be used for this purpose, leaving also the amortization of the investments of the main means created through state financing at their disposal as an addition to state participation. Along with these sources the society is interested in using more means from the centralized state funds for this purpose.

The inter-connection of relations between the state and the cooperatives, according to the directives of the 9th Congress of the Party, has been raised to a new level in the years of this five-year period. Not only have the dimensions of economic links expanded, but the more important thing is that they are being constantly enriched with new elements, as required by the conditions

created through the intensification of production and the higher degree of its socialization.

Extension of the sphere of relations of state property is creating the conditions also for the perfection of the other aspects of the relations of production: distribution, exchange, organization and management. As a reflection of these new developments, a new idea has been created about the improvement of the forms of procurement (with the state gathering agricultural products directly from the field), economic levers and categories have been perfected and are being used more efficiently for the increase of production, with a central role being played by measures for raising buying prices for agricultural and livestock products, improvement of the system of remuneration of work, perfection of the forms of procurement, extension of the competences of agricultural cooperatives in the sphere of planning, expansion and further strengthening of cooperativist democracy, enhancement of the role of brigades and their endowment with new functions, improvement of the organization and management of work, revision and improvement of buying prices for agricultural products, work and irrigation tariffs, etc. — these are some of the present directions of the improvement of the relations in the cooperativist sector of agriculture.

The priority intensification of agri-

culture in the zone of coastal plains and the direct inter-connection of relations between the state and cooperatives in this zone, as well as those of the higher type has not reduced state care and assistance for the development of agriculture in all the zones and regions of the country. In particular, state assistance has increased in mountain cooperatives, and a number of facilitating measures have been taken for their economic and organizational strengthening. These measures are part of the economic policy of the Party for the development of agriculture throughout the country and the improvement of the well-being of the cooperativists not only in the plains, but also in the hills and mountains. The economic power of the country, as Comrade Ramiz Alia said in the Dibra district, allows us now to increase the contribution of society for the development of the remote zones so as to enable them to have continuous and constant economic growth.

The new processes the cooperativist order is going through in the above directions of the inter-connection of relations between the state and the agricultural cooperatives and the improvement of other aspects of the relations of production are an expression of the maturity of their present phase of development, which serves the further consolidation and advance of this order on the road to socialism.

ACTIVE CONTACTS OF OUR CULTURE WITH THE PROGRESSIVE WORLD CULTURE

by **Prof. DHIMITËR SHUTERIQI**

When the question is about active contacts between different cultures, the efforts that are being made in Albania today are an example of mutual understanding, estimation and profit. At the foundation of these efforts Enver Hoxha's thought has set the principle that world culture is the property of all the peoples of the world, with all the peoples, including the smaller ones, actively contributing to the treasury of the world culture.

OTHERS HAVE TRIED, THOSE WHO WISHED ALBANIA ILL, OF COURSE, BUT ALSO MANY OF THOSE WHO DID NOT KNOW IT, ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE WRITTEN ABOUT IT, TO PRESENT OUR COUNTRY AS ISOLATED FROM THE WORLD. THIS CANNOT FAIL TO AROUSE AN IRONIC SMILE, IF NOT OUTRIGHT INDIGNATION, AMONG THE ALBANIANS.

Albania, this is clearly seen from a map of Europe and the Mediterranean, no matter how little, found itself between Greece and Rome in the centuries of the first great European civilizations. With the former it was linked by land, with the latter it was linked by sea. The Slavonic began to be written on our Lunkestian borders, at Ohër. The Ottomans were not the first to make Albania acquainted with the

Arab civilization, but the Arabs themselves, a long time before them. The Ottomans brought the Arab and, generally speaking, Oriental culture to Albania at an awkward moment, interrupting the normal development of the country towards a unified national state with Skanderbeg (1443-1468), at a time when the Renaissance and Humanism had conquered Europe exercising their influence on Albania and continuing to exercise it later. The great Albanian authors of the 16th-17th centuries, such as

Skanderbeg's historian, Marin Barleti (1508), the author of the first published Albanian dictionary (1636), Frang Bardhi, who had published a very erudite apology of Skanderbeg a year before, or Pjetër Bogdani, the author of a major theological-philosophical work (1685), which marked a date in the development of prose, as well as poetry in the old Albanian literature, these and others are among the most outstanding Albanian humanists. What Kantemir would do for the history of the Bulgarians in the middle of the same century, Barleti did for the history of the Albanians in the beginnings of European Humanism, at the outset of the 16th century.

This introduction, as you see, has

two aims: first, to show that Albania is an old and new country of European and Mediterranean civilization, and second, to indicate that the relations of Albania with the great European cultures begin with the creation of these cultures and never cease, although Albania went over whole centuries through events which threatened the very existence of the Albanian people, their assimilation. This assimilation did not take place because, among other things, the Albanian people, preserving their culture through all the storms of their existence, never broke off their relations with the main European cultures and actively followed their advance, knowing how to profit actively from them. There is a thesis which links Homer to Ionia. However, Odysseus, his main hero after Achilles, was from Ithaka, very near the Albanian shores, nor was Achilles any farther, either. This is meant to show the cultural contacts of Mediterranean countries.

As a small people who were the victims of many invasions, the Albanians had an outstanding talent for learning foreign languages. We do not know whether they wrote their language before the beginning of the 14th century, or even in the 13th century, when we find their first established state, the State of Arbër (at least since 1190), with its hereditary princes. The Albanians wrote their language somewhat later, but the foreign languages they knew put them in direct contact with old and contemporary authors. Barleti, Bardhi, and Bogdani, whom we mentioned above, who knew some classical and modern languages, were also well read in a great number of classical, Mediaeval and modern authors. Besides, there were many other people who knew how to value a Demosthenes or Livy, an Aristotle or Cicero, an Eneas Piccolomini or Erasmus, being at times even in direct contact with various famous authors of their time. There is little, if not nothing, of Albanian in their works, because Latin, or Greek, was until late the lan-

guage of culture for us, too. However, their high esteem of the ancient and modern cults, which they knew in their sources, is apparent in all their works. There is not a stand of mere reference, of basing themselves on the authorities, but also a critical one. The critical spirit of Bardhi, who refers to the authors who wrote about Skanderbeg before him, is one of the qualities of Albanian historical science, which we know from our first and more important historian of the beginnings of our nation, Barleti, who lived a century before Bardhi.

The 16th-17th centuries represented a very productive phase of the Albanian literature, although they were also centuries of the savage Ottoman occupation. Certainly, it was not easy for science to triumph over theology. Nevertheless, in the beginnings of the 17th century, an Albanian youth, Daniel Cortese, was a member of the circle of those who tried to defend Galileus, while a century before him, Gjon Gazulli, an astronomer, was a friend of Copernicus'. Of course, religious literature dominates in the literature of the time in Albania, too, and we must wait for the 18th century to see some expressions of secular and illuminist tendencies.

Albanian illuminism was the contemporary of French and, in general, European illuminism. It was under the influence of Descartes, Leibnitz and other rationalists, especially Malebranche. However a philosopher like Theodore Kavalioti (who died precisely in 1789) is more indebted to the progressive tendencies of contemporary philosophy which he assesses very critically for the idealist he was: he did not renounce religion, and for good reasons: he was a priest. We find Constantine Duka, one of the personalities of the Albanian progressive movement of the 18th-19th centuries, in Paris, at Café Procope, before the French Revolution, in the company of the great customers of this *rendez-vous* for science, philosophy and revolution, like D'Alembert, Di-

derot, and many others. In the libraries of Albania, for example, that of Voskopoja — a city destroyed by feudal anarchy in 1789 and which had flourished with an academy and a printery, where Kavalioti taught and Gregory of Durrës did the first complete Albanian translation of the New Testament (1762), a thing of great importance for that time when the Albanian language fought a difficult struggle to become a written language between the dominant Greek and official Turkish — the best-known authors were Molière, Corneille, Voltaire and many others, in original editions of the time or in contemporary translations. We preserve many copies of them in our libraries today.

The Albanian Renaissance, as the period of the Albanian national movement of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century is called, which led to the creation of the Albanian national state in 1912, although amputated of almost half of the Albanian-inhabited lands, this period was outstanding for the creation of a new progressive culture, which was illuministic and democratic in its essence, with a literature of a high artistic quality, especially in poetry. With Jeronim de Rada (1814-1901) Albanian romanticism became the contemporary of the great West-European romanticism; with Naim Frashëri (1846-1900), it became one of the more progressive romantic movements in the Balkans. Great scientists like the linguists Kostandin Kristoforidhi and Dhimitër Kamarda, the folklorist Thimi Mitko, the encyclopaedists and philosophers Sami Frashëri and Hasan Tahsini, to mention only some among many others, held in high esteem the tradition of the ancient, and especially, modern culture of Europe, valued the works of Descartes, La Fontaine, Voltaire, Rousseau, Hugo, Lamartine, without neglecting Dante, Shakespeare, Cervantes, Goethe, Ibsen, Tolstoy, some of whom they began to translate into Albanian, although the possibility of the publication of their translations was remote indeed at a

time when even their own works could hardly be published. As early as the first quarter of our century F.S. Noli made himself famous with the translation of Shakespeare, Cervantes and Ibsen, as well as Omer Khayyam. His works compete with the finest European translations. At the same time he was a literary critic and an esthetician of world stature. One of his works *Beethoven and the French Revolution* is a landmark in world musicology and was highly valued by such authorities as Bernard Shaw, Sibelius, and Thoman Mann.

The formation of the free Albanian state (1912-1939) enabled world literature to be published ever more frequently in Albanian. Still for the Albanians, polyglot as they were, it was easier to read the works of foreign authors in the original than to publish them in their new state, amputated, very backward and constantly threatened by the imperialism and chauvinism of the Balkan monarchies. The publication in Albanian of Gorky in 1933 was an event also for the Albanian revolutionary literature, represented by such authors as Noli, Migjeni, Bulka and others on the eve of the Italian fascist occupation (1939). By means of Albanian translations of Petrarca, Dante, Leopardi, Carducci, as well as d'Annunzio and others, the fascists tried for a long time to increase their nefaste influence on the kingdom of King Zog, which they had turned into a semi-colony of theirs, relying on the bankrupt feudal and bourgeois classes which had created that anachronic backward kingdom. The Albanians, however, did not allow themselves to be led astray and knew how to discover in Dante, or Carducci what was progressive in the Italian or European heritage. So in the Albanian literature, or in the Albanian democratic and revolutionary thinking, especially the Marxist thinking, which was emerging in the 20's-30's of this century in our country, too, we find an outstanding assessment of the progressive world

culture, old and new, especially contemporary.

The obscurantism of the Catholic clergy, and the reactionary romanticism of the literature of some of their representatives who were paving the way for the imminent fascist occupation, came up against the new authors of the «Generation of the Thirties», who rallied around some revolutionary press organs which they succeeded in publishing not only outside the country, but also within Albania, newspapers like «Liria Kombëtare» (Geneve) or the journal «Bota e Re» (Korça 1936-1937). Under the then anti-national and anti-popular regime their struggle was not an easy one. However, Noli, outside the country, Migjeni, Bulka, Stërmilli and others in Albania kept high and enriched further the progressive and democratic tendencies of Albanian literature and thinking. So we see the celebration of Descartes, on the occasion of the 300th anniversary of the publication of his *Discours de la méthode*, or the translation or quotation of authors like Diderot, Marx, Einstein, Romain Rolland, Anatole France, Gorky, Lewis Sinclair, Henry Barbusse and a host of others.

The National Liberation War (1941-1944), which brought about a new epoch in the history of Albania, the epoch of the people in power, the epoch of socialism which transformed Albania, an extremely backward agrarian country in the middle of Europe, into an advanced country, with modern industry and agriculture, carried out a gigantic revolution in the field of culture, too. Medium education became general, and higher education was made possible for a mass of people. It is the time when the Albanians do their utmost to have hundreds and hundreds of authors of the great world literature, from Homer and Goethe to Gorky, Hemingway and Kazazakis, or Böll, Asturias, Marques and others, translated into their language, to have a close and broad acquaintance with the progressive and revolutionary political, social

and philosophical thinking of all times. And just as in the 16th-17th centuries they had conquered many readers of their literature in Europe, with their outstanding authors like Barleti who in his time and later was translated into almost all the languages of the continent, so the works of the Albanian Marxist thinker, Enver Hoxha, the founder of the New Albania, or the works of some Albania authors, among whom Ismail Kadare, are known on all the continents today.

Among the major theses of Enver Hoxha's thinking on culture are those that the Albanians must be acquainted with world culture, from its origins to our days, with its constant development, and put their knowledge of the world cultural legacy in the service of the vigorous development of their culture, which they must build out in all its extension. They should not take the world culture as they find it, but assimilate it through its Marxist critical dialectical assessment and according to the fundamental interests of their national culture, and its present and perspective development. So Enver Hoxha himself has expressed innumerable judgments on world philosophical thinking, from the Greek antiquity to Humanism, the bourgeois materialism of the 18th century, the different philosophical trends from Heraclites and Aristotle to Descartes and Diderot, or the modern currents of positivism and other neo-Kantian tendencies down to Sartre's existentialism, especially the modern anti-Marxist existentialism. Enver Hoxha's orientations for the translation into Albanian of the great world literature, the literature of the great peoples, without neglecting the smaller ones, has led to the rapid and extensive enrichment of the Albanian repertoire of this literature, especially the contemporary one.

The active contacts of Albanian culture with world culture have become very frequent today. Our people of thought, science, literature and art go to different countries of the world, and many guests come to us from

other countries, for example, Greece and Turkey in the Balkans, France or Germany, the Scandinavian countries, the countries of Africa, Latin America, etc. Many Albanian students are following university or post-university courses in Italy, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, etc.

Let us mention here that some freedoms, especially in the cultural field, which were given the Albanians of the Kosova Autonomous Region in Yugoslavia in the 60's and 70's, but which are being curtailed in different ways today, have created among them a cultural move-

ment which begun to yield important results, through close contacts not only with the culture developed in Albania, but also with world culture. This extension of contacts aroused the fears of Great-Serb chauvinism. For their part, the Albanians of Italy, the Arbëreshi, as they are called, are developing a new broad cultural movement in their mother tongue, which fascism had tried to extinguish. This movement is making itself felt both in literature and linguistics under the influence of the culture developing in Albania, in Italy and in the world, profiting also from the

outstanding cultural tradition of the national movements of the Arbëreshi and the Albanians of Albania in the past century.

So, when the question is about active contacts between different cultures, the efforts that are being made in Albania today are an example of mutual understanding, estimation and profit. At the foundation of these efforts Enver Hoxha's thought has set the principle that world culture is the property of all the peoples of the world, with all the peoples, including the smaller ones, actively contributing to the treasury of the world culture.

SOCIOLOGICAL OUTLINE OF THE REPRODUCTIVE FUNCTION OF OUR FAMILY

by ZANA ALIA

In the socialist society, fulfilment of the material and spiritual requirements of people, the security of the working people about the future, along with their psychology, are important factors which operate positively in the maintenance of a high level of births.

THE REPRODUCTION OF THE POPULATION CONSTITUTES ONE OF THE PERMANENT STABLE FUNCTIONS OF THE FAMILY. IN SOCIOLOGICAL STUDIES IN GENERAL, THIS FUNCTION IS REGARDED AS INDISPENSABLE, IRRESPECTIVE OF THE FACT THAT THE FAMILY, IN ITSELF, MAY EXIST EVEN WITHOUT PROCREATION. AS A RULE, THE SITUATION OF CHILDLESS FAMILIES CONSTITUTES AN ANOMALY (REGARDLESS OF THE BIOLOGICAL FACTORS WHICH ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR IT). AS FOR THE FACT THAT IN OUR TIME, IN THE CAPITALIST AND THE REVISIONIST COUNTRIES THERE IS A DEFINITE NUMBER OF FAMILIES WHICH REFUSE TO HAVE CHILDREN, THIS SPEAKS OF A SITUATION OF SOCIAL CRISIS, EXPRESSED ALSO IN THE MATRIMONIAL AND FAMILY RELATIONS. IT ALSO EXPLAINS A PARTIAL AND TEMPORARY DEVIATION FROM THE GENERAL TREND OF THE FUNCTIONAL ACTIVITY OF THE FAMILY, A DEVIATION FROM THE RULE WHICH IS EXPLAINED WITH GIVEN SOCIAL CAUSES.

Being the universal function of the family, the reproductive function is realized in different ways in different countries and situations. Before being the activity of a «small group», «closed in itself», the process of the reproduction of the population, is determined, in the first place, by the social factors which operate outside the family. The question of the birth and rearing of children is the concern not just of the family, regardless of the degree of awareness of the consorts and of the mechanism

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of the realization of this process within the family. The process of reproduction, which, in the last analysis, is conditioned by the laws of society, are a reflection of the very character of the family, of its structure and of the development of matrimonial and family relations, in general.

During the construction of socialism, the overthrow of the old social relations and the negation of the old way of life, the family in our country has displayed its full vitality in ensuring the rapid rates

of the increase of population in conformity with the needs of the country's social and economic development. The high growth rates have ensured a continuous numerical increase of the population, which in 1986 was over 3 million inhabitants, against about 1 million in 1938. In the periods 1956-1960 and 1961-1965, especially, the average annual rate of the increase of population reached its highest levels (respectively 3.2 per cent and 3.0 per cent), which is connected with the vigorous demographic processes in the first years after Liberation, as a result of the disorders which war had brought about in their development. After these years, in the period 1981-1986, the rate of population increase has gradually fallen to the level of 2.1 per cent. Nevertheless, this index is still quite high, especially if we compare it with the average annual rate of the population increase for the same period in Europe, which is 5 times less. According to prognostic studies, it is envisaged that until the year 2000 the population of our country will increase at an

annual rate of 2 per cent. This increase for the future is normal and guarantees the extended reproduction of the population.

The rapid rates of population increase are the consequence, in the first place, of the high level of births in our country. From 1945 up till the 1960s the birthrate rose at very rapid rates: in 1960 it reached to 43.4 births per 1000 inhabitants. Later, the number of births per 1000 inhabitants fell gradually, and from 1980 onwards it fluctuates between 26-27 births per 1000 inhabitants. However, even in the year 1986, which has the lowest birthrate, with 25.3 births per 1000 inhabitants, Albania still occupied first place in Europe, as regards this index.

The vitality of our family today is seen also in the mortality index. From 1960, mortality has fallen considerably, not only in the cities, but more so in the countryside. Whereas in 1960 the rate of mortality for the whole country was 10.4 per 1000 inhabitants, in 1986 it fell to 5.7. In the villages this index has fallen from 11.7 to 5.9. Still more significant is the fact that there has been a very marked fall in the infantile mortality, especially for children under 4 years of age.

The above figures are significant because they reveal the qualitative aspect conditioned directly by the noticeable improvement in the way of life of the working masses. They show that the population increase in our country is not the result of a «boom», a biological and demographic «explosion», but first of all, is the result of the new social conditions of the Albanian family in the period of the construction of socialism.

From the dynamic of birthrates during the period 1960-1965 it emerges that the level of births shows a reduction both in the cities and in the countryside, although in the latter it remains at a slightly higher level than in the cities. In fact, the rates of the reduction of this index in the countryside have been a little higher than in the cities. During the last 20 years, birthrate in the village has fallen from 42 to 27 per 1000 inhabitants, whereas in the cities the

reduction is from 31 to 22 births per 1000 inhabitants.

Among the factors which have brought about the fall in the level of births, worth-mentioning is the engagement of women with work outside the family. Ours is a country in which the participation of women in work is one of the highest in the world. Being a decisive factor for the emancipation of women, occupation of women, as a rule, is accompanied with the limiting of births in comparison with the time when women remained confined at home and their main function was that of reproduction. This is confirmed also by the fact that precisely after 1960, their intensive activation in the social production was, at the same time, accompanied with a slight fall in the birthrates. It must be mentioned that, despite the many-sided improvements in the living conditions which ease the burden of the family for the rearing and education of children in socialism, in the present situation the rearing and education of many children creates, especially for mothers, an extra burden, which in many cases they try to avoid by limiting births, despite their desire to have more children than they actually have.

Another factor is also the increase in the average age of marriage, especially of the girls, which results from the uninterrupted uplift of the educational and professional level they have. Data show that the higher the girls' degree of education, the lower the percentage of their marriages at a relatively young age. The inclusion of girls in the secondary and higher schooling, which lasts 8-9 years, reduces the number of marriages for those girls, and, consequently, the number of births for these age-groups. Figures show that from the moment when the average marriage age of girls increased, the trend for the birthrate to fall has begun to be felt.

The reduction in the number of births in our country is also due to the greater security that the child born will live as a result of the great reduction of infantile mortality. The fear which existed in the past

in the families of workers, especially in the peasants, because of the death of a great number of the children, now is no longer an impediment. The desire to have one's own children is fulfilled even with a small number of births.

Another cause which causes a fall in the level of births is also the content of the reproductive function of the socialist family. The family is no longer an «incubator» which reproduces the living human forces; its reproductive function now implies not just the biological reproduction, but also the creation of social beings. For the socialist society, more than any other social order, the important thing is the quality of the reproduction of the human race. The higher our society advances on the road of progress, the more the quality, the social, political, educational, cultural and professional formation of the man emerge on the foremost place. Irrespective of the fact that this task is solved not only with the efforts of the family, but also of the society, the role of the family in the achievement of this objective is and will remain primordial. Our society provides ever greater possibilities and better conditions for each family to ensure the formation of its children in conformity with the requirements of society. On this basis there is an increased interest, responsibility and desire of each family to raise and educate its children as well as it can. And it is self-understood that the more children one family has, the more difficult it becomes to fulfil this aim, which requires a greater involvement of physical, spiritual and material forces. However, the question here is not just about the material expenditure the family makes in order to rear the children, but rather about the strengthening of the educative function of the socialist family and our society, about the complex joint efforts they make in order to raise the level and quality of the social formation of each individual. All these factors bring about a reduction in the birthrate.

The birth of children is determined by many factors, inside and outside the family, but, in the last analysis,

it manifests itself as an act which is decided by the couple, although the act in itself is not entirely and always decided consciously. From this aspect is of interest to know the predominating social opinion in our country as regards the reproductive function of the family. For this purpose in the year 1985 we distributed a questionnaire, the data of which helped us to discover the social psychology and trends which prevail in our country among different sections of the population about this problem. It included 526 women and 266 men, who had only two children. They were people of different ages, education level and social status. The questionnaire included questions about the number of children they would like to have (although they actually had only two), the reasons why they would like to have more or less than two children.

The answers show that most of the parents (men and women) wanted to have three or more children. That was the prevailing opinion, irrespective of the schooling, social-class group of those asked. Likewise, it revealed no difference between the opinion of men and women. Nevertheless, within this general trend there are differences. From the answers received it emerged that as the school level of the parents rises, the percentage of those who wanted to have more than 3 children decreases. Thus, 65.8 per cent of women with two children, with elementary and 8-year schooling, want to have 3 or more children; whereas among the women who have two children and who have higher schooling, those who want to have more than 3 children occupy only 53 per cent. In the answers from men with the same school level the tendency shows no great change.

It emerges from the questionnaire that some of the women and men with two children would not like to have more than that. Thus, 42.9 per cent of the women and 44.6 per cent of the men with two children and with secondary schooling responded that they would be satisfied with only two children. Asked why they do not want to have more than two children, they mentioned, among other motives, the preoccupation and cares required to raise many children, and the reduction of their own free time.

The reasons brought by those who want to have more than two children are also interesting. Their responses show that in our country there is still a strong opinion which accepts the need for more than two children for each family, proceeding from important family and social motives. Among these motives, the social opinion gives primary importance to the desire to have children of both sexes, and considers children as a factor which contributes to happiness in the family and responds to the needs of society. In this aspect, there were no important differences between the opinions of women and men.

The historical conditions and the circumstances in which our people have existed have created and inculcated in them the psychology and the desire to have many children. After the liberation of the country, a number of new factors began to operate with ever increasing force and helped to consolidate this tendency on a new basis. Nevertheless, the strengthening and further development of this psychology remains an important problem and a constant task of the subjective factor, in order to prevent it from being weakened under the influence of different other factors.

From the analysis of the dynamic of birthrates in our country we must highlight some problems. It is true that in the last 20 years there is a tendency for the birthrate to fall both in city and in countryside, but again the level of births in our country remains very high. On the other hand, the factors which were mentioned above have influenced the lowering of births and may continue to do so in the future, but along with them in our country there are other factors, which operate and which can not lead to the uninterrupted fall of births at catastrophic rates, as is actually happening in the capitalist and revisionist countries. Our society is free from the operation of such negative factors as unemployment, insecurity about the future, huge family expenses for the schooling of children, for their health, etc., which, in many of these countries, have reduced birth levels under the reproduction level. In the socialist society, the ever better and continuous fulfilment of the material and spiritual requirements of the people, the security of the working people about their future, along with their psychology, are important factors which operate positively in the maintenance of a high level of births. On this basis a social opinion is built which assumes the form of a tradition and operates as a powerful factor for the maintenance of these levels.

However, besides this, the maintenance of a high birthrate requires complementary measures in order to help the increase of births. It is enough to mention that the measures taken in 1981 for the extension of the leave after childbirth made their influence felt very soon, bringing about the rise in the level of births both in the city and in the country, and lowering the infantile mortality.

ON THE 70th ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMITTEE «THE NATIONAL

A REVOLUTIONARY DEMOCRACY OF THE ALBANIAN NATION

by Prof. KRISTAQ PRIFTI

THE COMMITTEE «THE NATIONAL DEFENCE OF KOSOVA» HAS ENTERED THE LIFE OF THE ALBANIAN NATION AS ONE OF THE MOST OUTSTANDING REVOLUTIONARY POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS, WHICH LEFT ITS INDELIBLE IMPRINTS NOT ONLY IN THE ANNALS OF HISTORY, BUT ALSO IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF OUR PEOPLE, WHO HAVE CHERISHED THEM GENERATION AFTER GENERATION.

The Committee was founded in Shkodra in 1918, in the very difficult conditions when during the First World War Albania was occupied by the foreign armies and was threatened by a still greater danger than that of the year 1913 — the danger of the final and definitive liquidation of the independent state which had been proclaimed on 28 November 1912, and which the imperialist powers were trying to divide according to the clauses of the London Treaty of 26 April 1915. About this event Comrade Enver Hoxha wrote the following: «Nothing could shake these representatives (of the London Treaty) from their positions and views about the division of Albania in favour of other states.» In those critical moments, the Committee «The National Defence of Kosova» and its most outstanding leaders such as Kadri Hoxha, who presided it, Hasan Prishtina, Bajram Curri, Sali Nivica, Elez Isufi, Hysni Curri and others, along with scores of patriotic branch committees and associations which operated in Shkodra, Durrës, Vlora, Gjirokastra, Berat, Korça, Erseka, Pogradec and other towns, as well as in the colonies of Albanian emigrants abroad, concentrated all their efforts on one objective: the struggle for the defence of the independent Albanian state and its territorial integrity.

The struggle for the independence and integrity of the Albanian state, the opposition to the unjust decisions which the imperialist states

adopted at the Peace Conference, which was called in Paris in 1919-1920 for the division of Albania, showed without equivocation that the leaders and activists of the Committee «The National Defence of Kosova» were the real representatives of the supreme interests of the Albanian nation. They cherished dearly every inch of the land of their country, therefore they fought with equal valour for the liberation and inviolability of Shkodra and Vlora, Gjirokastra and Korça, Kosova and Dibra. In the notes of protest and the appeals published in the summer of 1919, when it appeared quite clearly that the pretensions of Italy and of the neighbouring Balkan monarchies were finding the approval of the Paris Conference, its activists, rallying round the call «the Homeland in danger», invited the highlanders, «the boys of Central Albania and Toskëria, the valiant fighters of Kosova and of the entire country to rise for the rescue of the country against the danger of invasion».

Although it did not entirely give up the use of diplomatic means of struggle, the Committee «The National Defence of Kosova» knew that it could not wait to see the Albanian question solved on the table of such a high international imperialist forum as was the Paris Peace Conference. It saw the road for the salvation of Albanian in the support of the forces of the Albanian people, in the unity of the people in front of the internal

and external enemies. In the decisions of January 1920, which were drafted by Kadri Hoxha and Hasan Prishtina, the Committee fully supported the initiative for the convocation of the Congress of Lushnja, which met on 28-31 January 1920, for the solution of the task of the national unity of the Albanians, considering this Congress as an historic event which would ensure the safety of the Homeland, and helped to organize it.

Ensuring the «self-government» of Albania, and the struggle against any form of protectorate on the part of Italian imperialism, these were the main contents of the program with which the representatives of the Committee went to the Congress of Lushnja. The Committee of Kosova supported the activity for the national unification of the country and, together with the other patriotic forces, worked for the mobilization of the masses of the people throughout the glorious epic of the war for the liberation of Vlora from the Italian invaders, in June-July 1920. Expressing the determination of the people not to permit a new partitioning of the country, in its protests the Committee of Kosova wrote that the Albanians «will not allow an inch of the land of Vlora, Shkodra, or Gjirokastra and Korça, to be taken away from the motherland — Albania.»

The victory of the people in the Vlora War against Italian imperialism, and the repulsion of the Yugoslav military intervention on the northern and eastern borders of the country in the years 1919-1921, in which, along with the highlanders and the masses of the people of Shkodra, Dibra and Mirdita, a great

DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION OF THE ALBANIAN PEOPLE

contribution was also made by the activists of the Committee of Kosova and hundreds of Kosova fighters; neutralized the anti-Albanian decisions of the Paris Peace Conference, and preserved the independent Albanian state.

In the political views and the practical activity of such leaders of the Committee as Hasan Prishtina, Bajram Curri, Kadri Hoxha and scores of other popular fighters linked with the Committee, the consolidation of the independent Albanian state should be accompanied, at all costs, with the establishment of a democratic regime in Albania, with a patriotic and progressive government which would ensure the all-round development of the country's culture and economy, would open the road for the attainment of the aspirations of the masses of the people for freedom, democracy and social justice. In the internal political struggle which broke out in the country in the years 1921-1924 the Committee of Kosova joined the progressive forces which fought against the landowner and monarchic reaction, for a democratic republican regime. Precisely because they constituted the support of the democratic forces in the Albanian Parliament, Ahmet Zog, after organizing the coup d'état with the assistance of the gendarmerie units, in December 1921 withdrew the mandate from the deputies of Kosova from the Prefecture of Drin (Kosova), most of whom were members of the Committee «The National Defence of Kosova». Kadri Hoxha, Hasan Prishtina, and other deputies, although under the great military pressure of reaction, declared with courage and determination that they would con-

tinue to consider themselves as deputies of Kosova and Dibra and representatives of Albania.

In the most decisive battles which were fought during the Bourgeois-Democratic Revolution of June 1924, the Committee «The National Defence of Kosova» and the liberation movement of the masses of people in Kosova and Dibra gave their unre-served support to the democratic forces of the country and Fan Noli's government. Acting according to orientations from the Committee, especially from Hasan Prishtina and Azem Galica, hundreds of fighters from Kosova left their homes, and under the command of Bajram Curri entered the ranks of the army of the revolution. The most distinguished activists of the Committee made an invaluable contribution to the organization of the revolutionary demonstrations which were organized with the initiative of the «Bashkimi» association and its branches throughout the country, in which they demanded that Fan Noli's government should carry the revolution through to the end, and work to realize the democratic transformations which would fulfil the aspirations of the popular masses.

Like the entire Albanian people, the Committee «The National Defence of Kosova» opposed with all its forces the military intervention which the government of Belgrade, supported by the imperialist powers, undertook in collaboration with the mercenaries in the pay of Ahmet Zog, in December 1924, against the June Revolution in Albania. The population of the mountainous zones and hundreds of fighters from Kosova, under the command of the Old Man of the Mountains, as they called

Bajram Curri, put their breasts to the Yugoslav interventionist forces and the mercenary forces of Ahmet Zog. The words of Azem and Shote Galica and the other Kosova fighters, who declared publicly that the enemy forces would have to tread over their bodies before they could attack mother Albania, remain a message of legendary valour for the coming generations.

The Committee and its most outstanding leaders, Kadri Hoxha, Hasan Prishtina, Sali Nivica, Bajram Curri, together with Luigj Gurakuqi, Avni Rustemi and others were outspoken in their activity in the European and world public opinion to expose the policy of Great-Serb genocide which was pursued against the Albanians in the Yugoslav Kingdom, and resolutely defended their liberation movement for freedom and national rights. The accounts of the monstrous atrocities which the Serbian army and bands committed against the Albanian people have filled the notes of protest which the Committee «The National Defence of Kosova» presented to the International Commission of the League of Nations on 21 December 1921, when the Commission was in Tirana, and to the League of Nations directly. The voice of the representatives of the Albanian population of Kosova and the other Albanian territories was heard once again in the seat of the League of Nations in September 1924. At this forum, as well as in the European press, they condemned the chauvinist policy of the leading circles of Belgrade, which negated the Albanians their right to existence, burned down and laid waste whole villages with the help of the army and the armed

bands, and even used the Agrarian Reform as a means to confiscate the property and houses of the Albanians, to colonize their territories and to compel them to leave their native soil.

This policy of genocide continued throughout the whole existence of the Yugoslav Kingdom, assumed more sophisticated forms in the new platforms for the massive expulsion of the Albanians, which were proposed in 1937 by Vaso Čubrilović and others, who were members of the Serbian Cultural Club, and which were in part executed at that time, and in still greater proportions in the Yugoslavia of the post-Second World War period.

The activity of the Committee «The National Defence of Kosova» is connected with the popular movement which developed in Kosova during the period 1918-1928 under the leadership of legendary leaders like Azem Galica, Idriz Seferi, Shote Galica, Sadik Rama, Ramadan Shabani, and others, and such activists as Qazim Bakalli, Murat Gjakova, Tafil Boletini, Niman Ferizi and other fighters. It was a real revolutionary and national liberation movement which was directed against the Serb-Montenegrin yoke, against the policy of expulsion and mass extermination of the Albanians, and for the liberation of Kosova and the other Albanian territories from foreign servitude.

The Committee «The National Defence of Kosova» lined itself up on the same front as the revolutionary organizations of the other peoples of

the Balkan Peninsula, through its struggle against Zog's reaction and for the establishment of a democratic regime in Albania, for the solution of the Albanian national question on the basis of the right of the nations to self-determination, for the defence of the principles of real equality and friendship in the relations among the Balkan countries, as well as through its revolutionary activity in the lead of the liberation war of the masses of the people against the most oppressive and reactionary regime as was that of the Yugoslav Kingdom.

Since 1920-1921 the Committee and all its activists, especially Hasan Prishtina, Bajram Curri, Zija Dibra and others, entered into collaboration and made contacts with the leaders of the liberation and communist movement of Macedonia, whereas after the outbreak of the Revolution of June 1924 in Albania they also had contacts with the Montenegrin, Bosnian and other revolutionaries, on the basis of their common war against the reactionary ruling classes of the countries of the Balkans. Placing the emphasis on this aspect of the activity of the Committee «The National Defence of Kosova», which is proof of its internationalist character, the Balkan Committee of revolutionary organizations in one of its documents wrote that the Revolutionary Organization of Kosova is now part of the common front of the war of the Balkan peoples, that the revolutionary movement of the Albanian people will enjoy, in future, too, the full support of all the national revo-

lutionary organizations of the Balkans. The activity of the Committee «The National Defence of Kosova», and the national liberation movement which it led, have also had the full support of the Komintern and George Dimitrov. Even the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, at its 4th Congress held in Dresden in November of the year 1928, appreciated the patriotic and revolutionary-democratic movement of the Committee «The National Defence of Kosova» and publicly condemned the injustice which history had done to the Albanian people by partitioning them and placing them under a heavy national yoke. This congress expressed the solidarity of the workers and peasants of the different nationalities of Yugoslavia with the Albanian national revolutionary movement, which was represented by the Committee of Kosova.

The suppression of the liberation and democratic movement under the leadership of the Committee «The National Defence of Kosova», as well as the suppression of the Revolution of June 1924 deprived not only the liberation movement of Kosova, but also that of Macedonia, Montenegro and Bosnia-Herzegovina, of a revolutionary hot-bed in the Balkans, as Albania was in 1924.

In socialist Albania the work of the Committee «The National Defence of Kosova» and of thousands of fighters, who, under its leadership, dedicated their lives to the supreme interests of the Homeland, has been made an inspiring example for the future generations, and is raised on the pedestal of our national history.

THE PSR OF ALBANIA FOLLOWS A COMPLETELY INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY

From the speech of Comrade Reiz Malile, head of delegation of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, to the 43rd session of UN General Assembly

On 30th September, at the UN General Assembly, the floor was also taken by the head of delegation of the PSR of Albania, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Comrade Reiz Malile, who among other things, said:

«For more than four decades now, each year, one session after another, the General Assembly has engaged in debates over major problems which preoccupy the international community.

«At present signs of the relaxation of tension are emerging. We could not but hail this process, nevertheless the truth is that we live in a world in which exist many contradictions and confrontations. Hence, we are still far from a genuine and lasting peace. The Soviet-American relations have entered a phase of understanding and accord, which have in their very foundations their political, economic and military interests. It is a fact that, over the last decades, confrontations and accords between them have been cyclical. In essence, their policy has not altered its main orientation towards hegemony. One of the constant and most significant parametres is the arms race, which is proceeding at high rates. This shows that the

superpowers consider the issue of disarmament the exclusive domain of their competence and interests, minimizing or altogether neglecting the role of the other states. This tendency of monopolizing world affairs and of exerting dictate on international relations poses a real threat to the sovereign peoples and states. However big and important their role, due to their economic and military might, it can in no way replace the role of the international community, where all states must have their place and their say, and jointly decide on matters concerning the destinies of peoples and mankind, peace and international security.

«Without underrating the value of some step taken toward the relaxation of tension, the Albanian delegation is of the opinion that the Soviet-American agreement on Euromissiles does not mean, as yet, that peace in Europe and in the world has become more secure.

«Peace, security and international co-operation are one and indivisible, there can be no peace on one continent while there is tension and conflict in other parts of the world. There can be no genuine security in Europe, in the Middle East or other zones which are in flames and insecure.

«The PSR of Albania,» Comrade Reiz Malile continued, «has always been against regional conflicts and for disputes to be solved through negotiations. These conflicts, which have inflicted pain and suffering on the countries involved, have always been used by the imperialist powers to the detriment of peoples and peace.

«The Albanian Government hails the steps taken recently by the parties directly involved in conflicts, leading to the extinction of these hotbeds of tension. In our opinion, when it is a matter of putting an end to regional conflicts, the important thing is that the solutions reached should

be acceptable to the parties involved and not conjunctural solutions imposed from above. We also maintain that it is equally significant that the main contribution should come, in the first place, from the states of the region in which the conflict occurs and who are more interested in extinguishing the fire and in securing peace.

«The Albanian people and their Government have hailed the ceasefire between Iraq and Iran, which has also been greeted by the entire peace-loving public opinion. We appreciate the steps taken by these two countries to put an end to a war which had heavy consequences for two neighbouring peoples and was fraught with threats to the general peace and security. We wish that this wisdom and goodwill characterize also the negotiations which are actually being held between these two countries. But, we cannot fail to point out that peace in this region remains threatened by the presence of the foreign warships in the Persian Gulf. It cannot be safeguarded by the gunboats of the big powers, but by the peoples of the countries that have access to the waters of the Gulf. The removal of the fleets by those who have sent their warships there will be a test to measure if they are really interested in international peace and security.

«The Albanian Government and people, consistent in their firm stand towards the just cause of the Arab peoples, as here-to-fore, in the future, too, will continue to lend their unreserved support to the struggle of the martyred Palestinian people, as well as to the struggle of all the fraternal Arab peoples to drive the Israeli aggressors out of the occupied territories.

«As a Mediterranean country, we cannot be unconcerned, nor can we fail to point out the threat posed by the continued concentration of the naval fleets of the superpowers in the Mediterranean basin. Their pre-

sence not only has turned it into one of the most militarized maritime zones of the globe, but in many a case has brought about dangerous situations.

«The development of friendly relations of our country with the Balkan states remains a fundamental and permanent orientation of the foreign policy of the PSR of Albania. Not only does Albania proclaim the values of and the need for a policy of good neighbourliness, but by translating it into reality, she does everything she can for the creation of a political climate which would favour understanding, confidence and genuine co-operation among the countries of our region.

«The Albanian Government has never been for turbulences in the Balkans. It has deemed it an obligation and has worked so that our region may enjoy stability, and that the situation in it be constantly improved. Destabilization of any of the Balkan countries is to the detriment of each of them and to the balance and peace, in general. We therefore believe that it is the peoples and states of the region themselves who are primarily concerned about the stability and security in the Balkans, and who cannot but evaluate the significance of keeping off foreign factors.

«We have evaluated the meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Balkan states as a positive development which serves the creation of a spirit of understanding, confidence and co-operation in our region. It is our conviction that through joint efforts this positive process can be constantly carried forward.

«One of the most acute problems which continues to preoccupy our region is that of the nationalities and minorities living in one another's territory. In dealing with this very sensitive issue, which has frequently determined the level of the relations among the Balkan states, it is necessary to act without passion, but with political wisdom and justice, responding to the concrete historical re-

ality, far from national narrow-mindedness. Such an attitude serves the strengthening of understanding and confidence among the neighbouring countries, the relaxation and elimination of tension, thus paving the way for bilateral and multilateral co-operation. When minorities and nationalities enjoy all their rights without discrimination, they become a factor of cohesion within the country and elements of rapprochement and friendship among the peoples and countries of the region.»

Speaking about the grave economic situation in Africa, which has become a preoccupation for the United Nations, which in May 1986 devoted a special session of General Assembly to this problem, he said that «the causes of this situation should be sought in the savage colonial domination, as well as in the present-day neo-colonial exploitation, which in most varied methods and ways gobbles up the great natural riches of this continent in the form of cheap raw materials, ensuring thus ever greater profits.

«The imperialist and the racist policy of the South Africa regime, which exerts brutal pressure and violence on the Azanian and Namibian peoples, permanently threatening the countries of South Africa, is likewise fraught with grave consequences for the African peoples and countries.

«The Albanian Government and people, who have unreservedly supported the struggle of the Azanian people for freedom, the struggle of the Namibian people for national liberation and social emancipation and that of all the African peoples against racism, apartheid and neo-colonialism, will continue to do so in the future, too.

«The PSR of Albania will support the efforts of the Korean people for the independent unification of their homeland.»

After pointing out that human mind and genius have made unprecedented strides in their knowledge of the se-

crets of nature, which are reflected in epoch-making discoveries in the field of science and technology, Comradë Reiz Malile said that «we cannot fail to notice that the achievements in science and technology, instead of being put entirely at the service of progress and well-being of mankind, are frequently employed in the arms race and for war preparations, being a direct consequence of the imperialist policies. It is also unacceptable that the achievements of science, instead of constituting an invaluable asset of the entire mankind, have been made the monopoly and privilege of some, who use them not only as a means of superprofit, but also as a tool of pressure and dictate on the other.

«Today we are facing another negative phenomenon. Although in its nature it may appear to be a purely ecological problem, and there is no doubt that it is such, too, it carries just as strong a political colouring. The question is about the overt and covert efforts by some states to dispose of their industrial waste, including toxic and radioactive matter, from their countries, by dumping them in other countries, mainly in the developing countries.

«The PSR of Albania pursues a completely independent foreign policy,» said Comrade Reiz Malile in conclusion. «History over many centuries and in the last 40 years has taught the Albanian people to put above everything their freedom and

independence, full sovereignty, which lie at the foundation of the policy of our state. It is significant that they have not regarded them as detached from what happens around, from the others' freedom and independence. We respect the others and expect the same from them. In this sense, not only do we not hesitate to co-operate with other states, but we desire this co-operation, which we consider as a means that assists our development and, at the same time, contributes to the development of international relations and co-operation. It is important that this co-operation should be equal, mutually beneficial, and should not infringe upon the sovereignty of each country and its social system.»

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THE 17th PLENUM OF THE LCY AND THE YUGOSLAV CRISIS

«ZĚRI I POPULLIT», organ of the CC of the PLA

The 17th Plenum of the LCY was held some days ago. This meeting attracted the attention of public opinion and political circles outside Yugoslavia both because of the grave crisis which has Yugoslavia in its grip and which has nothing to be compared with in Europe, and because of the dangerous political tendencies which have emerged in this country, especially in the more recent times, and which may have many repercussions.

In the first place, they arouse concern among the peoples of Yugoslavia themselves, among the many nations and nationalities which have been united in the Federation and live under one roof and fear the props that keep it up may give in. They arouse the concern of their Balkan neighbours who have suffered so much from nationalist quarrels and expansionist policies in their region. They arouse the concern also of the other European countries which do well know that nobody stands to gain if the Balkans threaten to turn again, if not into a powder keg, at least into a zone of turbulence and disorder.

The economic policy of the Mikulić government, the successive reforms and the measures dictated by the WMF

and other foreign creditors not only have improved nothing but, on the contrary, have further worsened the economic situation. Inflation was planned to run at 95 per cent in the end of the year, but it has already risen to 217 per cent; the real income of the working people has declined by 13.5 per cent as compared with the last year; the foreign debt is in excess of 21 billion dollars, unemployment is going towards two million and the standard of living has fallen back to that of 20 years ago.

The economic crisis and the difficult situation created for the working masses have also exacerbated the political situation in the country. Distrust towards the leading organs of the party and state has increased, they are accused of incapability, sluggishness, even corruption, while at the same time national quarrels among the different nations and nationalities of Yugoslavia have increased. The development of these conflicts which was not limited only to fierce criticism in the press and at different meetings and forums, but also, under the incitement of certain circles of Serb nationalism and chauvinism, expressed themselves in large-scale street manifestations, has created a very

tense situation in the country. The policy and the economy, individual cadres and whole leaderships of republics and regions, the Constitutional rights of nations and nationalities, on the basis of which federative Yugoslavia is built, etc., are being questioned. Things have gone to such lengths that there is talk of a third Yugoslavia, of the threat of a civil war and the proclamation of the state of emergency.

These dramatic developments, which promise nothing good, have given the 17th Plenum special importance. There were even voices which called it historic. Everybody expected and wished the 17th Plenum of the LCY, the highest political forum of the country and its leading staff, to set a correct diagnosis of the evils and maintain such a stand as would set Yugoslavia on a road which would enable it to emerge out of the crisis, while strengthening the badly shaken coexistence and unity of its peoples.

But what was the result? There was a great deal of talk about the economic crisis. All admitted to the situation being extremely bad, both economically and politically, both on the national and international plane, although there were different assessments of this situation.

Some emphasized the economic factor, the grave crisis, as the fundamental cause which has torn apart all the components of Yugoslav society; some others, especially the representatives of Serbia, saw the evil in Albanian nationalism and separatism or, better say, in the fact that Serbia does not exercise complete domination on the autonomous regions of Kosova and Vojvodina.

However, there were no convincing solutions to this all-round crisis, and nothing emerged about the much-advertised changes that would bring about the improvement of the situation. The Plenum adopted a document on the tasks «for overcoming the grave economic, political and social situation of the country,» but there were more words than real solutions in it. There was talk about reforms in the field of the economy in which private, and shareholders companies and foreign capital were to be given a free hand, but even their authors were not so sure about their success. Likewise, the Plenum decided on carrying out a reform in the organization of the party, indeed changing one third of the membership of the CC of the LCY. But what will be their impact on the solution of the problems of the country? What was not dealt with, or better say, was not mentioned at all, is that there can

be no improvement of the economy in Yugoslavia without a democratic political life, without conciliation and understanding between its nations, without national equality and social justice, without mutual tolerance and trust, without preservation and strengthening of federalism which is the basis on which the Yugoslav structure stands up to now.

One thing clearly emerged at the 17th Plenum of the LCY: the concern of the nations and nationalities that make up Yugoslavia about the preservation of the rights they have won as a result of their anti-fascist war. They fear losing these rights through the rise of Serb nationalism, and its aims to impose its hegemony on all.

It must be said for the sake of truth that at the 17th Plenum of the LCY attempts were made, although in a coded language, by a good part, if not the majority, of its participants, at stigmatizing Serb nationalism, at pointing out the threat it poses to the stability and the future of the country. In this direction, some kind of warnings were made. Such was the fact that the representative of Serbia Dušan Skrebić failed to receive a vote of confidence. Those in Serbia understood correctly the political implication of this measure, and TANJUG called it «distrust of the policy of Serbia, which is directed aga-

inst the LC of Serbia and its head, Milošević, one of whose close collaborators Skrebić was.»

Will this stem the onslaught of the circles of Serb nationalism and chauvinism? Will it back down, or will it continue on its course and take revenge of its opponents? This we shall see from the further development of events. However, the manifestations that began immediately after the Plenum at Kosova Plain and Serbia, and the speeches delivered by some Serb leaders there do not announce good weather.

The criticism voiced at the Plenum towards Serb nationalism, no matter how timid, would have had some positive value were it not devalued by the concessions that were made to its policy in Kosova and the permission it was given to go about it there according to its desire and will. The Plenum gave greater support to the Serb theses, and expounded the already exploded views that those to blame for the crisis are the Kosovar people, that the Serb and Montenegrin population are subject to Albanian terror, and so on and so forth. Practically this stand was a compromise which encouraged the activities of Serb nationalism, not against Albanian irredentism and separatism, as was said, but against the Albanians, in general, against their rights as part of the Federation, against their re-

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gional autonomy, and against their fundamental gains won with so many struggles and sacrifices, just as all the other peoples of Yugoslavia.

The so-called «drama of Kosova», which is being played on all the stages of Yugoslavia, is not «the drama of the expulsion» of the Serbs and Montenegrins, but that of their deception and manipulation, and their transformation into shock detachments of a blind chauvinism. The drama of Kosova is, in the first place, the drama of the Albanian population, of its constant mistreatment and persecution. The genocide carried out on the Albanians since 1945 by the Serb military administration, the Ranković-men and others must not be forgotten. The fact must not be ignored that hundreds of thousands of Albanians are to this very day forced to emigrate to Turkey and even America in order to escape all kind of persecutions. It is a fact that under the pretext of the struggle against irredentism, over 3000 young men languish from 1981 to this day in the Yugoslav jails, that over 12000 others have been expelled from schools. These are all Albanians. The situation in Kosova has worsened in direct ratio to the brutal, oppressive and discriminating interventions of the Belgrade authorities, with the manifestations of worked up crowds of Serbs and Montenegrins roaming about Yu-

goslavia clamouring for blood and murder.

And after all this, Šuvar has the cheek to say that «statements about the inequality of the Albanians in Yugoslavia must be exposed». One may ask: If the Albanians are supposed to be equal to others, then are they allowed to come out on demonstrations and call «Let's exterminate the Serbs!», Millošević should go!, and other analogous slogans, just as «others» do?

As a rule the measure of assessment and interpretation of what is right or wrong must be the same, be it for the Albanians or the Serbs, But this does not happen.

How does it happen that when, at their demonstrations, the Serbs call for arms, for blood, for the extermination of the Albanians, even for marching on Tirana, nobody is made to blame? Whenever and wherever they like the Serbs may sing songs about King Peter and Draža Mihailović, the *četnici* and *demobrani*, while in Macedonia one folk wedding song sung by an Albanian is enough for him to be called «nationalist, an irredentist or a separatist» and, consequently, for him to land in jail.

Why is all that great fuss raised about the boycotting of lessons by Serb students and children in Kosova, while there is no protest, no voice is raised about the 130 Albanians who were thrown

into jail in Macedonia, only because, in accordance with the Yugoslav Constitution, they demanded that lessons should be given in the Albanian language.

Should perhaps the struggle against irredentism be waged and the drama of Kosova resolved by encouraging the most bestial hatred against the Albanians, as the journal NIN of October 9, 1988 did, when it wilely offended all the Albanian women who, in its words, «have been turned into sexual objects and reproductive machines by means of which the ideologists of 'Greater Albania' want to invade Yugoslav territories?!» There is neither justice nor humanity in these savage passions, in this chauvinist fever. There is only racism and apartheid.

Compromises always conceal the seed of evil in themselves. This has been proved by history. The crises and problems of Yugoslavia cannot be solved by denying the Albanians their rights, the whole cannot be saved by sacrificing part of it. Only a coherent stand which responds to the interests of all the nations and nationalities of Federative Yugoslavia can serve as a basis for finding a way out of the crisis.

The Albanians and the Serbs have lived together for many centuries and have known how to build a realistic and mutually acceptable coexistence, have arrived at

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understanding that quarrels and animosities of which there was no lack, have led only to grave consequences for both sides. The Serb leaders of Belgrade try to stem this course of events also contrary to the spirit of modern times and the supreme interests of the peoples of Yugoslavia, by fostering hatred and animosity, impatience and intolerance. They are unable to understand that one cannot go very far on the basis of hatred.

The reality is that over 2 million Albanians live in Yugoslavia. They live on their ancient territories, with a strong and resistant national formation and identity, with a great spiritual power and a broad historical experience. One may call them a nation or a nationality, one may invent all sorts of linguistic or political-philosophical terms to denominate them. But they remain what they are and as many as they are, coming third in numbers among the population of Yugoslavia and far ahead of some other Yugoslav nations which have been given the right of having their state and republic. One cannot escape the facts, the reality. Yugoslavia cannot escape itself, either. It is a state of many nationalities among which are the Albanians, too. And as long as Yugoslavia does not represent a unified nation, all the nations and nationalities must either be all equal

or there must be equality for none of them.

At present, dissatisfied with the conclusions of the 17th Plenum of the LCY, the Serbs fell back on Kosova. Demonstrations began again. They did not accept to listen even to the official representative of the CC of the LCY. On the contrary, they recommenced their threats; both on the part of the demonstrators infected with nationalism and chauvinism and the Serb leaders. On October 20 one of them, a certain Jetvić, declared on Kosova Plain that «the Constitutional changes will enable Kosova to become an integral part of Yugoslavia in all aspects.» Another, Berisav Jović, President of the Assembly of Serbia, declared on October 21st: «Serbia is ready to muster as many militians as they are needed for Kosova.» One cannot be more outspoken about what is being demanded and what is being prepared.

This situation cannot fail to arouse concern, especially to us, the neighbouring countries, and socialist Albania in particular. First, because we are directly interested in everything that has to do with the life and work of our brothers living in Yugoslavia. Second, because at street demonstrations and in the Belgrade press there are more and more frequently provocative references to socialist Albania, too.

The internal developments

of Yugoslavia have their international aspect, too. It is known that Yugoslavia has received and continues to receive great material aid both from the West and the East, without mentioning moral support, which has always been abundant. However, in all these relations of generosity Yugoslavia's friends have seen only the external stands of the Yugoslav state, especially towards the blocs, while they have paid no attention to its internal events and it has not crossed their minds that they may also evolve in directions which run counter to the purposes for which they have not spared their money. For example, they saw the destabilization of Yugoslavia as a possibility that might come only from outside, but never as a result of economic decline and international quarrels. They have neglected or have not wanted to see the growth of Great-Serb nationalism and the course the country would take also in international relations were it to establish its hegemony and rule.

In one way or another the Balkan countries have expressed their concern about the unpredictable turn Yugoslavia might take as a result of the Great-Serb wave that has swept that country. The preoccupation stems not only from the fact that events in Yugoslavia may slow down the slow and

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very painful process of rapprochement of the Balkan countries, of developing cooperation and strengthening friendship, which found its concrete expression at the meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs in Belgrade this year, in all the positive initiatives that were drafted there. But it stems also from a well-known historical truth that, because of its position and weight in the Peninsula, destabilization of Yugoslavia may lead to the upsetting of the equi-

librium established here, which are very delicate and may be easily upset, with consequences which nobody in Europe or in the world desires.

Unfortunately, these observations and criticisms have often been taken as expressions of the old and well-known routine of inter-Balkan relations, without thinking that times evolve and nothing stands still, that these relations are now an indivisible part of European and world relations.

We like to hope that the healthy and realistic forces, those who understand the threats that hang over Yugoslavia, who are not absent among the Serbs, either, will wake up and stop the offensive undertaken by Great-Serb chauvinism. But this belongs to the future. All those who wish Yugoslavia well, who love peace and want security in the Balkans and Europe wish that this future may not be too far away.

WHAT LIES BEHIND THE NEW SOVIET PROPOSALS FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION

«ZËRI I POPULLIT».

In mid-September the Soviet leader, Gorbachov, made a speech in Krasnoyarsk, situated in the middle of the Asiatic part of the Soviet Union, about «peace and security for the region of Asia and the Pacific».

This speech is opened with a package of proposals for «peace and security in the Asiatic-Pacific region», which have been dictated by an allegedly new situation in Asia, after the «settlement» of the problem of Afghanistan, the beginning of the process of negotiations on Cambodia, etc.

In order to examine these proposals, he says that a new mechanism of Soviet-American negotiations should be set up. This new mechanism will be transformed

into a tribune from which «every other proposal connected with the security of the region of Asia and the Pacific can be discussed».

These measures, which Moscow proposes, cannot solve the question of «peace and security in Asia and the Pacific».

Both superpowers have a great number of military bases and troops in this region. Their naval fleets, which patrol the waters of the Pacific Ocean, are among the largest of the world. Besides this, the American multi-national companies have invested scores of billions of dollars in the region, and can never agree to part with them. Whereas the Soviet capital has just begun to

penetrate into it. These billions must be somehow made safe, and that duty is entrusted to the naval units of the two superpowers.

Moscow needs these new proposals in order to present itself as the champion of peace and security even in this region of the world, in order to open the way for the expansion of Soviet capital. The fact is that in the last five or six months Moscow has extremely intensified its «economic diplomacy» in the region.

Besides all these considerations, Gorbachov sees the possibility for «peace and security in the region of Asia and the Pacific» in the creation of a détente in the relations between the Soviet Uni-

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on and the USA, in the respect of one another's interests in the region. Therefore, as Gorbachov revealed, «the Soviet Union is seeking new points of contact with the United States of America regarding the problems of Asia and the Pacific». As is known, Washington has proclaimed some specific strategic zones of Asia and the Pacific as «zones of its vital interests». This speech is a fresh confirmation of the fact that, for the sake of the division of spheres of influence, the Soviet Union accepts the existence of these «zones of vital interests», declaring that «the Soviet Union will not harm the various economic relations of

the USA in this region.» Gorbachov was careful to point out also that «the Soviet Union has shown with deeds that it knows to take the realities into consideration.»

By presenting the solution of the Afghan problem as a model of solution through Soviet-American negotiations, the Soviet leadership proposes that all the other problems of this region should be, likewise, solved through negotiations, which will ensure the preservation of «peace and security» in the region. For the sake of this, they propose that peoples of this region should give up their efforts for the protection of their interests and their na-

tional sovereignty. There is also talk about «a growing interdependence and integration of the general human and national interests (by which the Soviet and American interests are implied).»

The proposals put forward by Gorbachov are an effort at legalizing the superpowers' right to discuss and decide the question of the Pacific and Asia. Real security and peace in the region can be achieved only by throwing out the foreign bases, the fleets and the nuclear weapons, when the peoples of different countries can decide for themselves the problems and disagreements which exist among them without foreign interference.

DISBANDING OF MILITARY BLOCS SERVES THE FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE PEOPLES

«ZËRI I POPULLIT»,

Twenty years from now the Albanian Government took the historic decision to denounce the Warsaw Treaty and withdraw from this organization. This correct and principled decision has served the preservation of national freedom and independence, the defence of the victories and the cause of socialism, because the Warsaw Treaty had been trans-

formed from a treaty of peace and collaboration into an organization which imposed the Soviet policy, into an aggressive treaty to the detriment of the interests of socialism and the peoples.

At the 6th Congress of the Party of Labour of Albania, Comrade Enver Hoxha said in connection with the denunciation of the Warsaw Treaty: «Our country got out

of the Warsaw Treaty and publicly denounced its aggressive policy and activity. With this just act we not only defended the freedom and independence of our Homeland, but also showed that the way to defend freedom and independence, the road of peace and international security goes through firm opposition to the hegemonic and enslaving policy

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of imperialism and revisionism.»

With the revision of the political course of the Soviet Union, the Warsaw Treaty degenerated from a political-military alliance for the defence of the independence and interests of the socialist states into an instrument for the implementation of the policy of the Soviet Union for domination. After the advent to power of the Khrushchev group in the Soviet Union, the policy of dictate of the «mother party» and the «big state» began to be applied within the organization of the Warsaw Treaty. The free will, on which this organization was founded in 1955, was disregarded and all those principles which relied on the theory of Marxism-Leninism, on the basis of which it functioned, were distorted; it violated the norms of friendship among the peoples and member states of the organization, internationalist assistance, collaboration, respect of the national sovereignty and independence, non-interference in the internal affairs, etc. A flagrant violation of these principles was the open military aggression of August 21, 1968 by the Soviet Union against Czechoslovakia, which clearly showed the aggressive and enslaving character which this organization, conducted by the Soviet Union, had assumed.

The time confirmed the

correctness of socialist Albania's decision to withdraw from the Warsaw Treaty. The military pact of the Warsaw Treaty is just as aggressive as that of NATO, which is led by the USA. They have entered a feverish competition of arms race, spending billions upon billions of dollars every year in order to maintain their war juggernauts in efficiency. At present, these two aggressive military blocs, NATO and the Warsaw Treaty, have at their disposal nuclear weapons equalling 1 million and a half of the «Hiroshima» type in capacity, which means 3.5 kg of explosive for each inhabitant of our planet. Such an arms race, which has completely militarized the European continent, and such a high degree of perfection of military equipment of the Warsaw Treaty and the NATO bloc for war on land, at sea, in the air and even in the outer space, help these organizations and their leaders, the Soviet Union, and the USA, to retain their control over many countries of Europe, to exert pressure and blackmail on the peoples of these countries. They enable them to extend the activity of these organizations for world hegemony on the other continents.

The aggressive character of the Warsaw Treaty cannot be covered up by Gorbachov's «new political thinking» in the foreign poli-

cy, or by his perestroika. Every manoeuvre which the present group in the Kremlin is making, both in its foreign policy and in its military policy within the framework of the Warsaw Treaty, is just a tactical matter which has nothing to do with strategic changes. Gorbachov's group tried to present the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan as a sign of the Kremlin's «goodwill for peace». But, in fact, the military withdrawal of the Soviet occupiers from Afghanistan was dictated, in the first place, by other factors, by the determined war of the Afghan people. It came about, also, as a result of the bargaining between Moscow and Washington in order to use the regional conflicts to the best advantage in order to further their own imperialist interests for the division and redivision of spheres of influence.

The aggressive nature of the two major military groupings, which the time is confirming more and more each day, refutes those claims of the USA and the Soviet Union that these organizations serve the territorial defence and security of the European countries which they cover. The very existence of these two military groupings, NATO and the Warsaw Treaty, has caused the European continent to be divided into two great political-military parts; it is responsible

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for the lack of the spirit of confidence and understanding between the European peoples.

The European peoples are in a position to decide their own fates for themselves, outside the superpowers' tutelage. Therefore the disbanding of the military blocs which are manipulated by the superpowers is a basic condition for the liquidation of divisions and discords in Europe, for lowering tension on our continent, and for achieving genuine peace and security in it. In connection with this Comrade Ramiz Alia said at the 9th Congress of the PLA, «Practice proves that the blocs lead to ever greater subordination of the partners to their leaders. The illusion that by entering into blocs their de-

fence can be strengthened and their independence ensured has cost them dear. For the sake of the co-ordination of policies and strategies, many countries have accepted major restrictions which have greatly limited their sovereignty on many capital questions, have hindered their independent activity in the international arena, and have put them in a position that they cannot freely decide their future themselves. Therefore, the break-up of blocs is linked directly with the present and the future of the freedom and independence of the member countries, with the preservation of their national sovereignty, and their individuality in the international life.»

Socialist Albania provides a concrete example in this

direction. It has always been and is for the break-up of the aggressive military blocs which pose a threat to the interests of the peoples, has opposed the presence of the USA and the Soviet Union in this or that European country, their military bases, etc. The Constitution of the PSR of Albania explicitly prohibits the establishment and deployment of foreign military bases and troops, and our land will never be transformed into a military base against the other peoples. With its correct and principled foreign policy, socialist Albania not only defends its own independence, but also makes a real contribution to the establishment and preservation of stability and peace on our continent.

THE GENERAL INTERESTS OF MANKIND AND THE MANOEUVRES OF THE SOVIET SOCIAL-IMPERIALISTS

«ZËRI I POPULLIT»,

Recently Soviet propaganda is making a great noise about the «original» concept Gorbachov's perestroika is bringing to the dictionary of international politics — that of the priority of the general interests of mankind over class interests. This is passed off as one of the more significant examples of a

new vision on international life and new ways for the solution of its problems. Indeed, this concept is considered one of the basic elements of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union and a radical reform of it. As to what length this reforms will go and how long it will continue, and to what ex-

tent and depths it will be carried out, this will be shown only by time. One thing, however, is certain: this concept, too, is part of the program of imperial ambitions worked out and implemented by Khrushchevite revisionism in the time when it was in power.

Perestroika and the con-

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cepts and trends resting on it change nothing in the general strategy of the Soviet social-imperialists which remains, as Comrade Enver Hoxha has defined it, «the strategy of a predatory imperialist state seeking to extend its hegemony and domination on all continents and countries.» The concept of the priority of the general interests of mankind over class interests comes in the wake of the refined demagoguery intended to dress up this strategy with attractive colours for everybody.

With various sophisms the revisionist ideologists and politicians try to argue that, confronted with the challenges of the present time, a nuclear holocaust and the ecological catastrophe which have put in jeopardy the very existence of mankind, no class or people can proceed only from its own interests or aims. Hence the much sought-for conclusion that, in the field of international relations, every class, country or people must work out a strategy and tactic proceeding also from the interests of the conservation of the human race. The common threat of annihilation calls for joint efforts of all classes to avert it — this is, as the more outspoken adepts of this view put it, the essence of the new stand

towards the peculiarities of the present time.

Certainly the problems emerging from the current world developments are many, and the questions they pose are difficult and complex. Poverty, hungry, and backwardness of development in many countries, pollution of the environment and the threat of a nuclear holocaust on our planet are only too real. But where do the roots, the real causes of these problems, lie? Here, no clear answer can be given without a correct class stand. As Lenin has it, «people have always been and will always be the naive victims of deception and self-deception in politics as long as they will not learn to see the interests of these or those classes through various moral, religious, political and social phrases, declarations and promises.» The capitalist system and the imperialist policy, especially the aggressive course of the two superpowers, are the source and cause of all the evils and injustices the peoples suffer from and of all the dangers that threaten the whole of mankind today. It is a bitter irony that precisely those who have pushed the world to the brink of a nuclear conflagration, the American imperialists and the Soviet social-imperialists,

pose now as the champions of its salvation.

But what is the road Gorbachov offers for the solution of these problems and the elimination of the threat posed to mankind? He preaches the absolute priority of the general interests of mankind, the subjection of the class and national interests to the general interests of mankind, and the abandonment of the former for the sake of the latter. He makes no distinction between the class interests of the bourgeoisie and imperialism and the class and national interests of the proletariat and the peoples in relation to the general interests of mankind, thereby distorting the truth and sowing confusion.

Just as the American imperialists, the Soviet revisionists try to pose as the champions of the general interests of mankind, while proclaiming the class interests of the proletariat and the national interests of the peoples as second-rate and unimportant, indeed dangerous in the present conditions of the threat of a nuclear holocaust. This is reminiscent of Khrushchev's notorious thesis on renouncing any just revolutionary and liberation struggle under the pretext that it may spark of a world conflagration.

The Gorbachovites turn things upside down. The ge-

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neral interests of mankind, the preservation of mankind from the threat of nuclear annihilation or an ecological disaster and its progressive development are in irreconcilable contradiction with the class interests of the monopoly bourgeoisie and all the reactionary forces of imperialism, the two superpowers in the first place, as the main cause of world tension, the armaments race and the preparations for war in our days. Whereas the class and national interests of the proletariat and the peoples coincide fully with the truly progressive general interests of mankind, as they are aimed at the overthrow of the capitalist system and imperialist rule, hence lead to the elimination of the evils mankind suffers from and the threats that hang over it.

Based on the idea of the community of the general interests of mankind, classes and states, the view of the priority of the general interests of mankind over class interests presents the present-day reality of class relations on a national and international scale in a distorted light. It is another attempt of the Soviet revisionism at negating such acute problems of current social life as the major contradictions of our time, the class struggle and the revolution. Here clearly stands out the traditio-

nal opportunist line of class harmony and conciliation between the exploited and the exploiters, between the oppressed peoples and their oppressors.

Certainly the impact of the problem of war and peace on current international life, and especially the dimension of the nuclear threat, cannot be ignored. But to consider the contradiction between war and peace as determinative of the whole process of international life means to distort the essence of present time, and ignore or deny the true motive forces of the progressive development of mankind. The scientific analysis of current world developments proves that class relations both on a national and international scale are characterized by clashes of profoundly oppositional forces and fierce antagonistic contradictions. The collision of their interests not only goes on, but it is deepening and becoming ever fiercer. This gives rise to a stern class struggle which leads inevitably to the revolution and the triumph of the cause of the proletariat world-wide.

The revisionist view of the priority of the general interests of mankind, by preaching the community of interests of the proletariat with the bourgeoisie, of socialism

and capitalism, and of the peoples with their oppressors in regard to the problem of war and peace, creates dangerous illusions amongst people, arouses confusion and ideological disorientation amongst them, covering up the true nature of imperialism as the source of wars and aggressions and estranging the proletariat and peoples from their ideals and struggle for social emancipation and national independence, for genuine progress and the defence of peace.

The deafening noise of the Gorbachovite revisionist propaganda about the joint efforts that should be made for achieving the general interests of mankind and safeguarding its existence are not accidental. They are intended to give the Gorbachov course a «democratic» and «humane» colour and cover up its true counter-revolutionary essence. The aim of all this noise is to sabotage the revolutionary and liberation struggle so as to pave the way for the expansionist policy of Soviet social-imperialism, as well as to pay a tribute to the policy of agreements and compromise with the USA and imperialism, in general, as an attestation of «good behaviour» and «loyalty» of Soviet imperialism towards its counter-partner. Lastly, this noise is intended to spread

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among the peoples a psychosis of passiveness, fatalism and submission to imperialism, to make them entrust their fate and that of the whole world to the two superpowers and the agreements concluded between them.

The only road to avert the dangers that threaten mankind today is that indicated by the objective laws of the development of social life and explained by the Marxist-Leninist theory, the road of the all-round

actions of all the peoples and progressive forces to expose and resolutely oppose the oppressive, expansionist, aggressive and belligerent strategy of imperialism, that of the two superpowers, in particular.

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