



**CHINA AND ALBANIA  
—FRIENDS IN A  
COMMON STRUGGLE**

# CHINA AND ALBANIA —FRIENDS IN A COMMON STRUGGLE

*A Collection of Speeches and Documents from the  
Visit of Chinese Leaders to Albania*

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**Speech Made at Tirana Airport  
by Chou En-lai, Premier of the State  
Council of the People's Republic of China  
and Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee  
of the Communist Party of China**

(December 31, 1963)

Dear Comrade Enver Hoxha,  
Dear Comrade Haxhi Lleshi,  
Dear Comrade Mehmet Shehu,  
Dear Comrades and Friends:

For years it has been the wish of Comrade Chen Yi and myself to visit the fraternal People's Republic of Albania and meet the heroic Albanian people. Now, on the threshold of the New Year, our wish has finally come true. On behalf of the Communist Party, the government and the people of China, I would like to extend my most cordial greetings and my best wishes for a happy New Year to the glorious Albanian Party of Labour, the Government of the People's Republic of Albania and the heroic Albanian people.

Under the wise leadership of the Albanian Party of Labour headed by Comrade Hoxha, the Albanian people, holding aloft the banner of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, are successfully building socialism and staunchly guarding the southwestern out-

post of the socialist camp. The Chinese people are closely and continuously following your great struggle and deeply admire the undaunted, revolutionary spirit you have displayed in the face of violence and difficulties.

In the struggle against imperialism and for world peace, in the struggle against modern revisionism and in defence of the purity of Marxism-Leninism, and in their socialist revolution and socialist construction, the Chinese and Albanian Parties, our two countries and our two peoples have always encouraged and learned from each other, supported and helped each other and have built up their great friendship and fighting solidarity. In the interest of the revolutionary cause of the international proletariat and in the interest of world peace, it is undoubtedly of great significance to consolidate and develop constantly the solidarity and friendship between our two Parties, two countries and two peoples. I am convinced that our present visit will contribute to the further strengthening of this revolutionary friendship.

In the name of all the Chinese comrades of the visiting party, I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude for your kind invitation and warm welcome.

Long live the unbreakable Sino-Albanian friendship!

Long live the heroic Albanian people!

Long live the People's Republic of Albania!

Long live the glorious Albanian Party of Labour!

Long live Comrade Hoxha, the beloved leader of the Albanian people and close friend of the Chinese people!



**Premier Chou En-lai's Speech  
at the Mass Rally of Welcome  
in Shkoder**

(January 4, 1964)

Dear Comrade Mehmet Shehu,

Dear Comrade Beqir Balluku,

Dear Comrade Sulejman Baholli, First Secretary of the  
Shkoder Regional Committee of the Albanian Party  
of Labour,

Dear Comrade Bilal Paruca, Chairman of the Executive  
Committee of the Shkoder Regional People's Council,  
Dear Comrades:

After happily spending the New Year together with the leading Albanian comrades and the people in Tirana, the glorious capital of Albania, we have come to Shkoder, the important and historically famous city of northern Albania. In the name of the Chinese people, I extend the most cordial regards and sincerest greetings to the entire people of the Shkoder Region and Shkoder City.

Shkoder occupies an important place in the history of the Albanian revolution. In their long struggle against the Turkish aggressors, in their national-liberation war against the Italian and German fascists, the courageous people of Shkoder have added unfading splendour to the history of the "Land of Eagles". The people of Shkoder

have worked hard and made remarkable contributions to the building of a socialist, new Albania. To defend the northern frontiers of their fatherland the people of Shkoder have always maintained a high degree of revolutionary vigilance and unflagging militancy and have repeatedly smashed the provocations and intrigues of the renegade Tito group, a special detachment of U.S. imperialism. Your revolutionary spirit and exploits in the struggle are the pride of the entire Albanian people. The Chinese people admire you from the bottom of their hearts.

In the nineteen years since liberation the Albanian people have built their country into a prosperous socialist state by overcoming various difficulties and by relying on the labour of their own hands. We warmly congratulate you on your illustrious achievements.

All victories scored by the Albanian people in their fight against imperialism and modern revisionism and all the successes attained in the cause of building socialism are attributable to the correct leadership of the Albanian Party of Labour headed by Comrade Enver Hoxha. The Albanian Party of Labour, by turning to full account the wisdom and strength of the broad masses of the Albanian people, has created miracles in the cause of the revolution and construction.

No force can dam the mighty current of the revolution. No pressure can bend the revolutionary Albanian people. However often the imperialists and modern revisionists may engage in intrigues, however many difficulties they may create for you, they will only meet with ignominious defeat. Solidly united around their Party of Labour the heroic Albanian people, full of

confidence, are courageously advancing along the road of socialism.

Albania has a revolutionary people, a revolutionary Party and revolutionary leaders. Your just cause has the sympathy and support of all revolutionary people of the world. There is a handful of imperialists and their followers who think that Albania is isolated and can be bullied at will. They have completely miscalculated. If they should dare to attack Albania they would end up by breaking their own necks.

Comrades! Though the Chinese and Albanian peoples are geographically far apart, their hearts are always closely bound together by their common cause of building socialism and communism, their common struggle against imperialism and for world peace and their common tasks of combating modern revisionism and defending the purity of Marxism-Leninism. In the days to come the Chinese people will always unite, fight side by side and share the joys and victories with the fraternal Albanian people.

Long live the indestructible friendship between the Chinese and Albanian peoples!

Long live the heroic Albanian people!

Long live the People's Republic of Albania!

Long live the glorious Albanian Party of Labour!

Long live Comrade Enver Hoxha, beloved leader of the Albanian people and close friend of the Chinese people!

Long live the unity of the peoples of the socialist camp!

Long live the ever-victorious Marxism-Leninism!

**Speech by Chen Yi,  
Vice-Premier of the State Council  
of the People's Republic of China  
and Member of the Political Bureau  
of the Central Committee of  
the Communist Party of China,  
at the Mass Meeting of Welcome  
at Korca**

(January 4, 1964)

Dear Comrades Rita Marko, Petrit Dume, Abdyl Kellezi,  
Behar Shtylla, Chafer Spahiu,

Dear Comrade Pirro Kondi, First Secretary of the Party  
Committee for the Korca Region,

Dear Comrade Muftar Grabocka, Chairman of the  
Executive Committee of the Korca Regional People's  
Council,

Dear Comrades:

Just as the people of Korca are starting new struggles for the new year, we have come to this heroic city, bringing the sincere friendship of the Chinese people to you. We wish to thank you for your cordial welcome and convey our comradely greetings.

Korca is a city with a glorious, revolutionary history, a cradle of the national liberation struggle of the

Albanian people against Italian and German fascism. Korca is the very city where the First Shock Brigade was organized, a brigade steeled in numerous battles and renowned throughout the nation. It is also the birthplace of the Albanian communist movement where Comrade Enver Hoxha, the beloved and respected leader of the Albanian people, began his great revolutionary activities. Today we are most happy to come here and meet the tried and tested Korca people.

The Albanian Party of Labour was born in the flames of revolutionary struggle. The Albanian Party has its wise leader and a solid nucleus of leadership. It has adopted a correct revolutionary line and creatively integrated the universal truths of Marxism-Leninism with the practical struggle of Albania. The glorious Albanian Party of Labour has all along maintained flesh-and-blood ties with the masses of the people, brought their great strength into full play, and ushered in a glorious new era in the history of Albania.

The Chinese people hold in high esteem the revolutionary spirit and heroism of the Albanian people who "would rather die on their feet than live on their knees". During the last few decades you have fought on the anti-fascist front, on the anti-imperialist front and on the anti-revisionist front, and you have attained great victories one after another. The heroic people of Albania have never been cowed by any ferocious enemy or any severe difficulties. You are men with revolutionary backbone. You are heroes of Herculean stature.

The Chinese people also highly admire the militant will of the Albanian people in defending and building their motherland "with a pick in one hand and a rifle in the other". Surrounded by capitalism and modern revi-

sionism, you are triumphantly building socialism in the face of extreme difficulties. Today, People's Albania has become a prosperous socialist paradise, standing loftily on the Adriatic coast. Facts show that the Albanian people are competent builders, as well as defenders, of their motherland. One of the telling proofs is the stupendous work undertaken by the Korca people to change nature as in the transformation of marsh into fertile land.

Comrades, the Chinese people, too, are people who "would rather die on their feet than live on their knees", and are also defending and building their motherland "with a pick in one hand and a rifle in the other". Your two revolutionary slogans express the common militant convictions of our two peoples. People with such convictions are invincible.

Although China and Albania are far apart, the two peoples are bound closely together by their common ideals and struggles. We are proud to say that Sino-Albanian friendship based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism has stood the test of storms and is shining more brightly than ever before. The Chinese and Albanian peoples will for ever march forward together in the common struggle against imperialism, reaction and modern revisionism, together in the great cause of the peoples' struggle for world peace, national liberation, people's democracy and socialism.

Long live the great friendship and militant unity of the Chinese and Albanian peoples!

Long live the heroic Albanian people!

Long live the People's Republic of Albania!

Long live the glorious Albanian Party of Labour!

Long live Comrade Enver Hoxha, beloved and respected leader of the Albanian people and close friend of the Chinese people!

Long live the unity of the peoples in the socialist camp!

Long live the ever-victorious Marxism-Leninism!

Long live world peace!

**Premier Chou En-lai's Speech  
at the Mass Rally of Welcome  
in Vlora**

(January 6, 1964)

Dear Comrade Enver Hoxha,

Dear Comrade Mehmet Shehu,

Dear Comrade Hysni Kapo,

Dear Comrade Mihallaq Gjini, First Secretary of the  
Vlora Regional Committee of the Albanian Party of  
Labour,

Dear Comrade Myzafer Trebeshina, Chairman of the  
Executive Committee of the Vlora Regional People's  
Council,

Dear Comrades:

We have come to the shores of the Adriatic Sea on a visit to the city of Vlora which is as strong as a steel fortress. We are deeply inspired and very happy. We have brought with us the sincerest revolutionary friendship of the Chinese people to the entire people of the Vlora Region and Vlora City.

Heroic Vlora is dear to the Chinese people. Fifty-one years ago the Albanian people raised the first flag of independence and freedom over this city of yours. Forty-three years ago the people of Vlora took up arms in defence of their motherland and bravely fought the Italian aggressors. In the years of the national-libera-



tion war against the Italian and German fascists, they fought unflinchingly under the leadership of the Albanian Party of Labour headed by Comrade Enver Hoxha and won great victories. All this has written a glorious chapter in Albanian history.

Since liberation the people of Vlora have been making outstanding contributions to the struggle against imperialism and modern revisionism. You have time and again smashed the imperialists' provocations and disruptive activities and resolutely defeated the revisionists' perfidious acts, and with constant vigilance you have guarded this seaport city. Your struggle is not only aimed at defending the security of the People's Republic of Albania but is also in the common interests of the peoples of the countries in the socialist camp. In the name of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese government and people, I pay high tribute to you.

The Albanian people have a glorious revolutionary tradition. The People's Republic of Albania was born in the flames of struggle against imperialist aggression. Under the correct leadership of the glorious Albanian Party of Labour, the Albanian people, ever since they drove out the fascist aggressors and won the freedom and liberation of their motherland, have been engaged in socialist construction — with a rifle in one hand and a pick in the other — and have scored brilliant successes.

We can see today that fundamental changes have taken place in the appearance of Albania. It has changed from a poor, backward agricultural country to a socialist agricultural-industrial country and is now in transition to an industrial-agricultural country. Modern industry and collective agriculture have been built up on the land of