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NATIONAL CONVENTION OF MUKJE AND ITS HISTORIC IMPORTANCE

The Meeting of Mukja, that has the dimensions and values of a National Convention, was held on 1-3 August of the year 1943. In an intermingled time: on the eve of the capitulation of the fascist Italy and of the German occupation of Albania; in a cross-way of our history; on the eve of national unification in the struggle against the invaders, but also against separation, disagreement and confrontation within themselves; in a duality of alternatives: nationalistic or communist, democratic or totalitarian, Western or Eastern.

To come to the Mukje Meeting, it was needed a long and tiresome way of national forces, who, were concerned for the destinies of Albania and nation in the conditions of occupation, requiring a solution, an interior lever to be faced. This lever was the Albanian code of unification in risk, the organized entire-Albanian action.

After a constructive debate that lasted for two days, the Agreement was achieved. Its first point was the creation of the committee "For the Rescue of Albania". Its important attributions speak **for a new political solution**, for a great national responsibility, maturity and commitment of the main political forces in Albania. This was the first pluralist forum in Albania, as the most democratic form of governing of the civilized world. This organizational way would extend even among the entire structures of the basis and would unify the guidance, would avoid the political partiality, would eliminate the splitting and antagonism, would avoid the risk of the civil war, would unify in one common front all Albanians, nevertheless their political beliefs, their partition, religious or regional belonging, in the common struggle against invaders and would pave the way of the real western pluralist democracy.

In the proclamation of 3 August 1943, the Committee for the Rescue of Albania, presented the following program:

1. Common and immediate struggle nearby the Great Allies: England, USA and Soviet Union and the oppressed peoples against the barbarian occupiers, with the renaissance devise "death or freedom"
2. Struggle for an independent Albania, struggle for the application of the worldly known principle and guaranteed by the Atlantic Chart of self-governing of the peoples, for an ethnic Albania.
3. Struggle for a free, independent and popular Albania.

The Committee for the Rescue of Albania will continue the struggle guiding the Albanian people in the way of sacrifices and honor until the forming temporary government.

The form of the regime would be assigned by the people themselves with the means of a Constitutional Assembly elected through direct universal suffrage." ^[1]

The special thing of the Convention of Mukja was the treatment with priority and competence of our national question in crisis, especially in Kosovo. In Mukje, there was made the first institutional national endeavor for the solution of the question of Kosovo according to the will of Albanian people and on the basis universal principle of the self-settlement of the nations.

In the Convention of Mukja, except the delegates with deliberative vote, were also those with consultative vote, among whom even the clerics: Hodge Selim Brahja, Padre Lekë Luli and bektashinj fathers.

^[1] AQSH, p.270, d.11, V.1943