

Intense reaction, references to 'Hoxha era' after Albanian mayor uses historic cathedral for election gathering



An unprecedented sacrilege took place over the weekend in the southern Albanian town of Tepelene, as the city's mayor held a campaign gathering inside the historic Cathedral of the Prophet Elijah, in the village of Lekli.

The politician, who belongs to the ruling party, later boasted of the event on social media. Local media referred to the provocation, while the reaction by the opposition was intense, with some commentators referring to an action reminiscent of the communist dictatorship under Enver Hoxha.

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