

**Documents Concerning Premier
Chou En-lai's Visit to
India and Burma**

Supplement to **"People's China"**
July 16, 1954



At the invitation of Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of India, Chou En-lai, Premier and Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China, visited Delhi, capital of India, arriving from Geneva by air on June 25 and leaving three days later.

The two Prime Ministers discussed many matters of common concern to their two countries—notably the prospects of peace in Southeast Asia and developments at the Geneva Conference affecting Indo-China—and issued a joint statement in Delhi on June 28.

Premier Chou received a warm welcome from the Indian Government and people wherever he went. He attended receptions and banquets in his honour given by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, President of India, Mr. S. Radhakrishnan, the Vice-President, and Mr. Nehru, besides a civic reception from the people of Delhi. He also took the opportunity of visiting historic monuments at Agra.

This visit did a great deal to strengthen the ties of friendship between India and China, and foster the cause of peace in Asia and the world.

On June 28 Premier Chou arrived in Rangoon, capital of Burma, at the invitation of U Nu, Prime Minister of the Union of Burma. In Rangoon Premier Chou attended a banquet given in his honour by Mr. Ba U, President of the Union of Burma. A joint statement by the two Prime Ministers was issued on June 29. Later on the same day Premier Chou left Rangoon by air, arriving at Canton next day.

In the following pages we publish the joint statements of the Prime Ministers of China and India, and of China and Burma; Premier Chou's speech at the banquet given by Mr. Nehru on June 26; and his broadcast to the Indian people from Delhi on June 27.

—Editor

JOINT STATEMENT OF PRIME MINISTERS OF CHINA AND INDIA

June 28, 1954, Delhi

His Excellency Chou En-lai, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China, came to Delhi at the invitation of His Excellency Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the Republic of India. He stayed here for three days. During this period the two Prime Ministers discussed many matters of common concern to China and India. In particular they discussed the prospects of peace in Southeast Asia and the developments that had taken place in the Geneva Conference in regard to Indo-China. The situation in Indo-China was of vital importance to the peace of Asia and the world, and the Prime Ministers were anxious that efforts that were being made at Geneva should succeed. They noted with satisfaction that some progress had been made in the talks at Geneva in regard to an armistice. They earnestly hoped that these efforts will meet with success in the near future and that they would result in a political settlement of the problems of that area.

2. The talks between the Prime Ministers aimed at helping, in such ways as were possible, the efforts at peaceful settlement that were being made in Geneva and elsewhere.

Their main purpose was to arrive at a clearer understanding of each other's point of view in order to help in the maintenance of peace, both in cooperation with each other and with other countries.

3. Recently China and India have come to an agreement in which they have laid down certain principles which should guide the relations between the two countries. These principles are:

- (1) Mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty;
- (2) Non-aggression;
- (3) Non-interference in each other's internal affairs;
- (4) Equality and mutual benefit;

(5) Peaceful coexistence.

The Prime Ministers reaffirmed these principles and felt that they should be applied in their relations with other countries in Asia as well as in other parts of the world. If these principles are applied not only between various countries but also in international relations generally, they would form a solid foundation for peace and security, and fears and apprehensions that exist today would give place to a feeling of confidence.

4. The Prime Ministers recognized that different social and political systems exist in various parts of Asia and the world. If, however, the above-mentioned principles are accepted and acted upon and there is no interference by any one country with another, these differences should not come in the way of peace or create conflicts. With the assurance of territorial integrity and sovereignty of each country and of non-aggression, there would be peaceful coexistence and friendly relations between the countries concerned. This would lessen the tensions that exist in the world today and help in creating a climate of peace.

5. In particular, the Prime Ministers hoped that these principles would be applied to the solution of the problems in Indo-China where the political settlement should aim at the creation of free, democratic, unified and independent states, which should not be used for aggressive purposes or be subjected to foreign intervention. This will lead to a growth of self-confidence in these countries as well as to friendly relations between them and their neighbours. The adoption of the principles referred to above will also help in creating an area of peace which, as circumstances permit, can be enlarged, thus lessening the chances of war and strengthening the cause of peace all over the world.

6. The Prime Ministers expressed their confidence in the friendship between China and India which would help the cause of world peace and the

peaceful development of their respective countries as well as other countries of Asia.

7. These conversations were held with a view to help in bringing about a greater understanding of the problems of Asia and to further a peaceful and cooperative effort, in common with other countries of the world, in solving these and like problems.

8. The Prime Ministers agreed that their respective countries should maintain close contacts so that there should continue to be full understanding between them. They appreciated greatly the present opportunity of meeting together and having a full exchange of ideas leading to a clearer understanding and cooperation in the cause of peace.

JOINT STATEMENT OF PRIME MINISTERS OF CHINA AND BURMA

June 29, 1954, Rangoon

At the invitation of His Excellency U Nu, Prime Minister of the Union of Burma, His Excellency Chou En-lai, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of China, on his way back from Geneva to Peking, paid a two-day visit to Rangoon, the capital of the Union of Burma. During this period the two Prime Ministers had free and frank discussions on matters of common concern to their two countries.

2. The two Prime Ministers reiterated their stand that they will strive their utmost for the promotion of peace in the world, particularly in South-east Asia. They expressed their hope that the question of restoration of peace in Indo-China which is being discussed in Geneva will be settled satisfactorily.

3. In regard to the principles agreed upon between China and India to guide relations between the two countries, namely,

- (1) Mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty,
- (2) Non-aggression,
- (3) Non-interference in each other's internal affairs,

- (4) Equality and mutual benefit, and
- (5) Peaceful coexistence.

The Prime Ministers agreed that these should also be the guiding principles for relationship between China and Burma. If these principles are observed by all countries, the peaceful coexistence of countries with different social systems should be ensured, and the threat and fear of aggression and interference in internal affairs would give place to a sense of security and mutual confidence.

4. The Prime Ministers reaffirmed that the people of each nation should have the right to choose their own state system and way of life without interference from other nations. Revolution cannot be exported; at the same time outside interference with the common will expressed by the people of any nation should not be permitted.

5. The Prime Ministers agreed that their respective countries should maintain close contact in order to further strengthen the friendly cooperation between their two countries. The discussions have been most friendly and cordial. The two Prime Ministers highly appreciate the present opportunity of meeting together and they deem it helpful to the cause of peace.

CHOU EN-LAI'S SPEECH AT THE BANQUET GIVEN IN HIS HONOUR BY MR. NEHRU

June 26, 1954

Honourable Prime Minister,
Ladies and Gentlemen:

In my present visit to India at the invitation of His Excellency Prime Minister Nehru, I have received a hearty welcome and warm hospitality from the Indian Government and the Indian people. I feel much honoured and pleased today to be entertained with a banquet by Prime Minister Nehru and given an opportunity to meet our distinguished friends. Allow me to express my heartfelt thanks to you, dear Prime Minister, and through you, to the Government and people of India.

Between China and India there has existed for 2,000 years a traditional friendship. And this friendship between the people of our two countries has made a new development in recent years as the result of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of India and the People's Republic of China on the basis of equality, mutual benefit, and mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty.

The Chinese Government and people attach great importance to their friendship with the Indian Government and people. The relations between our two countries are being further strengthened with each passing day, and cultural and economic ties are on the increase. In particular, the agreement concluded in April of this year between China and India on trade and intercourse between the Tibet Region of China and India not only has resulted in further improvement in Sino-Indian friendship, but also given expression to the principles of mutual

respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence between our two countries, thus furnishing a good example of solving problems between nations by means of negotiation.

China and India are both peace-loving nations. The Chinese people feel very happy to have such a neighbour as India which is devoted to the cause of peace. India has made valuable contributions to the efforts to bring about an armistice in Korea. India has constantly been interested in the strivings for the termination of the Indo-China war, and has untiringly supported the efforts made at the Geneva Conference to restore peace in Indo-China. It is very obvious that this position of India is of great significance for safeguarding peace in Asia.

All the peoples of Asia want peace. The menace to the peace of Asia comes now from outside. But, Asia today is no longer the Asia of yesterday. The age when outside forces could decide at will the fate of Asia has gone forever. We are confident that the unity of all peace-loving nations and peoples of Asia will frustrate the schemes of the war instigators. I hope that China and India will cooperate even more closely for the noble aim of safeguarding peace in Asia.

For friendly cooperation between China and India, and for the national prosperity of India and the welfare of the Indian people, allow me, honourable Prime Minister, to drink to your health.

CHOU EN-LAI'S SPEECH OVER ALL-INDIA RADIO

June 27, 1954

My Dear Indian Friends:

I am glad to have the opportunity of making this speech to the people of India. First of all, please permit me to convey my greetings to the great Indian people on behalf of the great Chinese people.

Since very ancient days, profound friendship has existed between the peoples of China and India. A border covering a great distance of nearly 3,000 kilometres links together the two nations. Century after century, history has recorded peaceful cultural and economic interchanges, but never war nor animosity between our two countries.

During the recent past, both China and India were subjected to the invasion and oppression of foreign colonialism. But the Chinese people and the Indian people have never for a moment ceased fighting for their freedom and independence. Suffering on the same score and fighting for the same cause, the Chinese and Indian peoples have deepened their sympathy for, and understanding between each other.

The traditional friendship between the peoples of China and India nurtured by history has undergone a new development since the establishment of the People's Republic of China and the Republic of India.

We have founded our own new states. Our common desire is to construct our respective great motherlands in peaceful environments. This common desire constitutes the basis for further development of the friendship between the peoples of our two countries.

We attach great importance to this friendship, because friendship produces strength. When the peace of Asia is still being menaced from outside, the friendship of the 960 million people of China and India constitutes a mighty force for maintaining peace in Asia and the world.

Recently, our two countries came to an agreement on trade and intercourse between the Tibet Region of China and India. In this agreement, the two governments declared that the principles for their mutual relations are: mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty, mutual non-aggression, mutual non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit and peaceful coexistence. The agreement which was concluded on the basis of these principles furnishes a good example of solving problems between nations by means of negotiation. Prime Minister Nehru said yesterday: "If these principles can be recognized in wider spheres, then the fear of war would disappear, and the spirit of cooperation between nations would develop." During the talks I have had this time with Prime Minister Nehru, both of us considered that the above-mentioned principles should be applied in present international relations in Asia and the world.

I firmly believe that the common efforts of China and India will definitely make a great contribution to the cause of peace in Asia and the world.

Long live the friendship between the peoples of China and India!

Long live peace in Asia!

Long live world peace!

