

**Welcome the success of the 11th National Congress of the Communist
Party of Vietnam
Editorial Letter**

Entering the second decade of the third millennium, Vietnam is in fine days of the spring of 2011. Our country meets merrily the bright success of the 11th National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam. The theme of the 11th Congress is *“to continue enhancing the Party’s leadership capacity and combativeness, promoting the comprehensive strength of the entire people, comprehensively boosting the doi moi (renewal) process, creating the fundamentals for Vietnam to basically become a modern industrial country by 2020.* Congress deliberates and adopts the following documents: *Platform for national construction in the transitional period to socialism (supplemented and developed in 2011); Socio-economic development strategy for 2011-2020; Political report; Report on the review of Party Statute implementation with some proposals for supplements and amendments and report on review of the leadership and guidance of the 10th Central Executive Committee of Party.*

The 11th National Congress of the Communist Party values profoundly the condition of our country after 25 years of Renewal (doi moi), 20 year implementation of programme 1991, 10 year implementation of Socio –economic development strategy and 5 year implementation of Resolution of the 10th Congress of Party; qualities and shortcomings in leadership, guidance; the experiential lessons. Congress also deals with the background of country at present and problems need to resolve; Congress readjusts some objects, duties, policies and main solutions in building new men and in realizing social equality; Congress touches upon environment protection and prevention of natural calamity... in order to take our country

for development. Congress elects the new leadership body of Party. The new leaders have enough talent and enthusiasm to lead our country in 5 next years and carry out the aim for Vietnam to basically become a modern industrial country by 2020.

In the report of the 10th Central Executive Committee of Party, when dealing with promotion of the strength of the great national unity Secretary General Nông Đức Mạnh said “Great national unity is the strategic way of Vietnamese revolutionary, a source of strength and a key factor that decides the victories of the cause of national construction and defense....Ethnic people within the Vietnamese community are equal, united, respect and help each other striving for development. The policies and the laws on beliefs and religions are continuously perfected in accordance with the standpoints of Party in new stage; The good cultural and moral values of religions are respected. The religious dignitaries and believers are encouraged to live “for better secular and religious life” and take part in the cause of building and defending homeland”¹ So that lines and policies of Party on religions go down in life. They are important factors in stabilizing and developing our country. Religious dignitaries and believers feel happy and believe in the leadership of Party so they actively take part in patriotic movement, building and defending Vietnamese country with their motto “ For better secular and religious life”.

In the report on review of the leadership and guidance of the 10th Central Executive Committee of Party at the 11th National Congress of the Communist Party, Mr. Trương Tấn Sang, a member of the Vietnam Communist Party Politburo emphasized that: Politburo “attaches much importance to leadership and guidance of mobilization, ethnic and religious

¹ Nhan Dan Newspaper on January 13th, 2001 p.3

affairs and develops democratic rights and the power of the great national unity”. Politburo promulgated: “some new policies on ethnic and religious affairs; treated promptly the complicated matters regarding ethnic groups and religions; Politburo leads to summarize the implementation of Resolution of the 7th Central Communist Party on developing the strength of the great national unity, on ethnic and religious affairs”.² As Politburo, Secretariat “treated effectually some religious and ethnic problems in main regions”³. At the same time Report brought up uprightly the shortcomings of Politburo and Secretariat in the guidance of public relation, religious and ethnic affairs. The Report wrote that “Politburo treated inopportunately some problems regarding public relation, religious and ethnic problems”⁴, “Secretariat guides embarrassedly public relation, religious and ethnic affairs. The coordination of central bodies and local ones is not close”⁵.

In this spring the Institute for Religious Studies is preparing to celebrate the 20th anniversary of its birth day. In this time the religious researchers of the Institute for Religious Studies in special and the religious researchers in Vietnam in general look back their works in 20 years building and developing then point out new development strategy in religious studies in the following years. On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of its birth day, the Institute for Religious Studies was conferred the third Labor Decoration by State

In this anniversary, the Institute for Religion Studies will have the honor to receive the Second Labor Decoration to be conferred by State.

² Nhan Dan Newspaper on January 14th, 2001 p.4

³ Nhan Dan Newspaper on January 14th, 2001 p.5

⁴ Nhan Dan Newspaper on January 14th, 2001 p.4

⁵ Nhan Dan Newspaper on January 14th, 2001 p.5

The Religious Studies Review is the organ of public opinion of Institute of Religious Studies and forum of religious researchers inside and outside country. The Religious Studies Review has just experienced the first decade and entered the second decade in its way of development. Review has many enthusiastic collaborators so Review has maintained its traditional chapters as: *Religion – Theoretical and Practical issues*; *Religion and the Nation*; *Religion Abroad*. Recently the chapter “*Religious Current Events*” has been maintained regularly and it has supplied readers new information. The Religious Studies Review has carried out its duties that have been entrusted by superiors. When being born Review had 4 numbers a year in Vietnamese but now it is monthly review in Vietnamese. It has 3 numbers a year in English and website. So it has attracted many readers. Because of its contributions in the 5th and 10th anniversaries of birthday, Religion Studies Review had the honor to receive Good Service Record of the president of Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences . In 2010 Review receives the emulation flag, which is the highest reward in the emulation movement of Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences.

Review is not satisfied with accomplished achievements. Review recognizes its shortcomings in carrying out duties. The articles in the chapter *Religion – Theoretical and Practical Issues* are unattractive. In the chapter *Religion and the Nation* there are many articles but some articles have not yet achieved good results. Although chapter *Religion Abroad* is maintained regularly it has still lacked the articles which have high informational content and update. Chapter *Religious Current Events* lacks collaborators so editorial staff tries his best to maintain this chapter. Although Review has received many articles, many of them do not satisfy

readers' need so Review often lacks articles. The distributive net is still weak. The amount of collaborators is not unsettled.

These are subjective opinions of Editorial Staff. Because of objective condition Editorial Staff infrequently organizes the meeting of collaborators so Review hopes to have chapter *Opinions of readers and Collaborators* to receive opinions of readers and collaborators in the whole country so that Review is more and more perfect. All opinions of readers will be received enthusiastically. If we have condition we shall publish your opinions for us to discuss. You can make comments on each chapter, each article. We hope your initiatives will make Review better and better. Review will combines with you in advertisement, publishing some special subjects serving organization, individual and training work...

Please, all constructive opinions should be sent to : Religious Studies Review , 27 Trần Xuân Soạn stress, Hai Bà Trưng district, Hanoi or Email : nctongiao@yahoo.com.vn

On the occasion of New Year (2011) Editorial Staff of Religion Studies Review wishes readers and collaborators well. We are thankful to you for your co-operation in the past and at present. We hope to receive your contributions in future.

Editorial Staff
Religious Studies Review