

BOOKS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES LIBRARY REVIEW

ĐINH GIA KHÁNH. **Monography of Thăng Long – Đông Đô Hanoi's folklore.** H.: Hanoi, 2008, 656 p., Vv46132.

Thăng Long – Đông Đô Hanoi is one of the most ancient capitals in the South-East Asia. The long history of Vietnam is clearly reflected in the history of this land and the Vietnamese folklore treasure is also enriched by Thăng Long – Đông Đô Hanoi's. Such a vast treasure gets us to understand the country's natural characteristics as well as ancient Vietnamese people's emotions and feelings, and their viewpoints on beauty and life.

Obtaining results of previous studies; referring to various sources of old materials; conducting surveys of the current situation; supplementing and modifying inaccurate historical documents and evidence, the author has drawn up a comprehensive picture describing Thăng Long – Đông Đô Hanoi's folklore treasure, and introducing rather completely and systematically not only the land - its people but also different cultural artistic areas in Hanoi from the old days up to now under a folklorist's perspective. Some of the arts mentioned are sayings, proverbs; folk tales; folk songs and dances; folk games and performances; rituals and customs; architecture and sculpture; folk handicraft; and cultural figures of Thăng Long – Đông Đô Hanoi. From this description, traditional,

cultural and historical charms of the capital as well as the development of its folklore culture and its main characteristics are revealed (along the timeline).

Besides the preface by the publisher, the introduction to and the abstract of "monography of Thăng Long – Đông Đô Hanoi's folklore", the book is divided into 9 chapters, corresponding to different folklore areas. At the end of the book are the references (including books and documents in Vietnamese, Chinese script, and French, etc.)

HẠ VÂN

INRASARA. **Champa's Culture – Society – study and dialogue.** H.: Literature, 2008, 417 pages, Vb 46006.

The book presents Champa's culture and society with issues arising in the last few years in the globalization context; focuses on literature creativeness and creativeness-inspiring literature and arts for those interested in Champa's culture. Moreover, the author also proposes his personal viewpoints on Champa's culture-society for readers to reflect on.

Via a brief introduction of Champa's culture, language and literature, the author brings out an overview of contemporary Cham people's knowledge and cultural traditions, along with their customs, habits, folk festivals and performances, and so on. Additionally, the author also provides a summary of studies on Champa's

culture-arts with popular researchers in different areas like fine arts, literature, music, dancing, etc. Also, Champa's literature together with portraits of prominent writers, results of collecting and studying written literature, literature researching and criticizing is specially introduced. The current situation of Champa's literature writing is also mentioned including the translation work of transferring Champa's writings into Vietnamese and difficulties that writers are facing up with.

At the end, the author sketches several drawbacks of Champa people's life, tries to find its causes and proposes some solutions.

TRUNG HẬU

LÊ BẠCH DƯƠNG, KHUẤT THU HỒNG (chief author). **Migration and social insurance in Vietnam in the transitional period into market economy**. H.: The world, 2008, 260 p., Vb 46256.

The book focuses on answering such questions as: what the opportunities and challenges that the economic renovation during mid-1980s has brought about for migrants and for current policies and institutions are. Based on what has been collected, studied and analyzed for ten years, the authors present the content of the book in seven chapters.

Chapter I and II introduce various national and foreign studies into influences that economic and political changes have had on migration in Vietnam along the timeline.

Chapter III discusses fundamental changes of the transformation from the

centrally-governed economy to the market one in conflict with social insurance programs, resulting in various risks and high vulnerability for some social groups. This chapter emphasizes rural-urban migrants' experience in working in unofficial economic areas in big cities.

Chapter IV analyzes the relationship between migration and health under the perspective of economic transformation, focusing on migration effects on migrants' health and their family members as well as on the whole community. Chapter V and VI mentions different risks and harms that exported workers into Taiwan and poor Vietnamese women finding jobs and husbands in China have undergone.

Chapter VII ends with conclusions of main challenges that migration has proposed to policy-making and policy-implementing in the effort of creating sustainable development together with social equality and stability.

HÀ CHI

ĐINH VĂN ÂN, NGUYỄN THỊ TUỆ ANH (co-author). **Foreign Direct Investment after Vietnam's accession to WTO – Survey results concerning 140 foreign-invested enterprises**. H.: Labour, 2008, 109 p., Vv 8276.

FDI has long proved itself to be an important factor in the socio-economic development in Vietnam. Despite the high amount of FDI registered, the amount of FDI putting to use in practice is quite modest, accounting for only 50% of the registered amount. Therefore, besides attracting more FDI,

promptly implementing foreign direct investment projects and reasonably increasing the amount of FDI used are two issues calling for urgent actions not only for the time being but also in the next few years when Vietnam starts to perform its WTO commitments.

On surveying 140 foreign-invested enterprises in those areas attracting many big FDI projects, the authors have identified some factors affecting the implementation and operation of such companies' projects in terms of economic structural transforms, economic development and jobs after Vietnam's accession to WTO, with focus on two main categories of factors: 1) the factors arising from the fulfillment of WTO commitments, and 2) the internal factors of Vietnam's economy.

The book has four chapters.

Chapter 1 evaluates results of FDI attraction and implementation in the 20 year period (from 1988 to 2007) (according to fields, investment methods and provinces). Chapter 2 presents commitments concerning FDI within WTO framework. Chapter 3 analyzes results of the survey questionnaires in 140 FIEs of import replacement industries, banking-insurance services and export-oriented industries – which, in the authors' opinion, will be directly affected by the fulfillment of WTO commitments. Such analysis will help identify some factors hindering the conduction of those FIEs' investment projects. Finally, chapter 4 proposes some suggestions concerning policies, including general recommendations and specific solutions for those areas directly affected by WTO commitments fulfillment.

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