

## BOOKS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES LIBRARY REVIEW

**TÙ, NGUYỄN** (chief author). **Effects of economic integration on agricultural development in Vietnam.** H.: National Political Publishing House, 2008, 230 p., Vb 46446.

Our country is on the way to integrate into the world economy and we have achieved remarkable results in all socio-economic areas. In agriculture, the integration has brought about dramatic changes and great outcomes in various aspects. However, still there are obstacles for us to overcome. The accession to WTO together with the wide and deep integration into the world economy poses serious challenges for our agriculture. It is now under great competition pressure due to small production scope, dispersion, low yield and quality, unfulfilled hygienic requirements, outdated production technology, lack of legal uniformity, and inconsistency with international practice, and so on.

Divided into three main parts, the book not only mentions general issues relating to international economic integration, different global and regional commercial treaties concerning agriculture in general and in Vietnam in particular (part 1), effects of international economic integration on Vietnam's agricultural development so far (part 2), but it also provides viewpoints on and solutions to agricultural development in Vietnam in the process of international economic integration in the long run (part 3).

*HÀ CHI*

**DUY BẮC, NGUYỄN** (chief author). **Distortion of cultural values in the context of market economy development in Vietnam.** H.: Encyclopedia Publishing House and Culture Institute, 2008, 556 p., Vb 46799.

The shift from the centrally-planned economy towards the market one has proved itself to be a correct decision. The market economy has brought about positive changes in culture and society, but it also provides favorable conditions for social evils, social gaps, "commercialization" of cultural-social activities, degradation of codes of conduct, fading of traditional cultural values, etc.

This book sketches basic theories about culture, cultural values, changes in cultural values; analyzes some factors resulting in those changes in the 20<sup>th</sup> century; describes the reality of cultural values distortion and of cultural development in the process of developing socialist-oriented market economy in Vietnam; and presents some suggestions concerning the supplementation and perfection of laws and policies on cultural and human development, in order to build up an innovative culture with rich national identity and to form new cultural values in the context of industrialization, modernization in a socialist-oriented market economy. The book has two main sections.

Section I – Overview of the distortion of cultural values in the process of

socialist-oriented market economy development in Vietnam.

Section II – Some theoretical and practical issues about the distortion of cultural values when developing a socialist-oriented market economy in our country.

HÀ VÂN

**DUY THIỆU, NGUYỄN** (chief author). **Migration and lifestyle changes – A Case of Vietnamese community in Laos.** H.: “Thế giới” Publishing House, 2008, 460 p., Vv 8850

Globalization has brought about expanding migration trends and such migrant currents have greatly affected the environment as well as every aspect of social life. The inevitable consequence is changes in culture, which challenges cultural diversity. "Migration and lifestyle changes – A case of Vietnamese community in Laos", a bilingual book (Vietnamese – Laotian), is the product of a research project conducting on “the Vietnamese community in Laos” by a research group in South-Asian Research Institute, Social Sciences Institute in cooperation with Laotian Cultural Research Institute under the sponsorship of Rockefeller Foundation. The book clarifies the establishment process of Vietnamese community in Laos, effects of their migration on Laos’ economic, political and social life, and on the relationship between two countries in the past, the present and the future.

The book has 6 chapters, focusing on 6 major issues:

1- Reasons for and main waves of the Vietnamese migration to Laos. The Vietnamese came to Laos mostly because of wars and other political factors (in the past), of economic factors (recently). The process of Vietnamese migration to Laos can be divided into 4 stages (during Nguyen Dynasty; during the French colonization in South-east Asia; during the war against France and America; and during the post-war period after 1975).

2- Changes in earning methods and in material life of Viet community in Laos.

3- Changes in social and mental life of Viet community in Laos;

4- Changes in cultural identity in the marriage group Laotian husband-Vietnamese wife;

5- The Vietnamese’s Life cycle festivals in Laos and Vietnam-Laos cross-cultural issues; and

6- A brief introduction of Laotian laws and policies for foreigners, people of Laotian origin and Vietnamese people in Laos.

At the end of the book is the List of documents of French administration in South-east Asia concerning the Vietnamese in Laos.

HỒNG DIÊN