

THE MAIN FEATURES OF VIETNAMESE PEOPLE IN CURRENT INTERNATIONAL INTEGRATION

LƯƠNG VIỆT HẢI ()*

One of outstanding ideologies in renewing thought of Communist Party of Vietnam and Vietnamese people in the two decades by, creating strong changes in social life, is to give human in central position of development process, considers human as motivation of development; main, decisive factors; internal force in developing country.

When country enters the new period of opening, integrating, with the joining into WTO, international and regional organizations like ASEAN, APEC, UNDP positively and strongly,... building criteria of cultural Vietnamese people becomes urgent and extremely important. Determining the right criteria of cultural Vietnamese can give the way to build, educate, train and develop human to see demand of industrialization and modernization progress, opening to international integration, guaranteeing stable development, shorten the backward gap – the hard trouble shooting disease of out country currently. It can be said that, if we can build cultural Vietnamese people that are suitable to period of developing country from now on, it

means we have the right medicine in medicament for backward disease of our country. Vietnam is one of countries with unique culture but multilateral and is country with long history of thousands of year. The vicissitudinous history for thousands of year creates Vietnam's culture, Vietnamese people, tradition, personality and national character of Vietnam, to hand over to the next generation. Those people and culture are not tangible and finite things like goods for daily life, it means that when you hand over to someone else they will be cut off relationship with the past. But with the people and culture, the long thousand year history always exists and fully exists to build the inside core of stable tradition, through out and connection long past with present and future. It brings the present Vietnam's people and culture both well, beautiful, heroic, lofty and bad, ugly, mean, negligible things. Process of building people can not be out of past person and the culture that the previous generation left behind.

(*) Ass. Prof. Science Doctor, Institute of Philosophy

So, nowadays if nation, peoples want to develop, they should try to rise, refresh themselves, be brave and quick to give up the even well or beautiful in the past, but now it's out of date, not suitable to development. In other side, they have to be brave, vigilant to take back, recover, maintain and develop the bad or ugly things in the past, but they are necessary for the prosperity and development. Furthermore, in the globalization, international integration, to develop, Vietnam's people and culture nowadays must know how to receive selectively the civilized achievements of mankind. This will help Vietnam's people and culture to develop stably on the base of socio-economic development and become motivation for developing society, economy. Those are the principal rules with world outlook and methodology; they should be further grasped thoroughly in building, completing and developing Vietnam's cultural people process in present integration period.

Building the criteria of Vietnam's cultural people now firstly should base on the newly historical conditions, because people can not freely choose objective conditions by themselves. Then, human's activities also may improve objective situation step by step and in definite limitation, not change immediately the whole objective conditions in advance. People in each historical period should base on physical, mental conditions and factors created by previous generation to improve their situation in definite limitation that is relatively suitable with

their demand. Whatever society, generation can not fire period and be in regardless of objective conditions. So, building Vietnam's cultural people now must base on historical, economic, social, cultural, political conditions, etc,... of Vietnam's country and people in current period – period of international integration of socio-economic market. Based on the overall view of different aspects, multilateral relationship of human in current situation, we can determine the right way to build criteria of Vietnam's cultural people in integration period.

First criterion. Firstly, people want to exist as a human, they have to do activity. Activity makes people as human, be different with other creatures, have community, society and the world of human in difference with other creatures in natural world; and have common culture. But if you want to do activity, firstly you should have good health.

Health being the large, wholly, deep problem from generation by generation, attaches with economy, society, nature, human life, custom and habits, national tradition (Phạm Văn Đồng). Health is the fully comfortable state of physical, mind and society; not narrow in disease or disability (General Assembly of World Health Organization, Alma-Ata, 1978). Health is prior condition of human and all kind of human in common history, even it's gentlemen or mean person, even it's knight in Western or great noble-minded man in Eastern.

In the present condition, people want to be both aim, motivation of socio-

economic development, people should have high quality in many sides, and health is one of necessary and prior side.

Together with the development of industry and trade, human and the whole social life have to do activity under the rate and emphasis of industry. This requests the people in industrial period should have physical health, muscle strength, and strength in mental and thought. In agricultural society the symptom of stress has not appeared, so that notion has not existed in world's health document. That notion only appears on industrial period when stress raises in the part of labor being lack of mental health to overcome the stress of intensity and state in daily work that increases day by day. "Stress" is the big social problem if mental health of labor in the modernization and industrialization period, opening for integration is not well-prepared.

Health, in narrow meaning, is factor that belongs to human's body, so it's base, foundation and premise of other factors and criteria. In large meaning, health is prior condition and base of human's qualification like morality, personality, intelligence... We can not develop other human characteristics if the foundation, first and prior characteristic being health is not enough or too weak. Health is foundation for ability, labour, sense of human and many other human's ability. In fact, the integration in the recent years shows that: if we do not have good health, our country, peoples can not manage the integrating process, even we can not join the integrating process^(*).

Each person's health is also the base, foundation for health of community, peoples. Taking the role of health into consideration in the development of human and society, from the early day of new and young Government, though Chairman Hồ Chí Minh was busy with variety of work, he always paid attention of strengthening citizen's health "Each person weak, whole nation weak; each person strong, whole nation strong" (2, pg. 212). That ideology of Hồ Chí Minh is more valuable in the international integration situation now. 1990s of 20th century, the globalization process begins the new tornado period with new requests for human, UNDP gave the human developing index HDI – based on 3 main factors, linking together closely those are income, education and age, - to value the human developing level in nations. Those factors are the product of total health, show the health of national community, peoples. Countries having high HDI index also means having good health, they are the developed nations, join the international integration well. This proves that in over the world, the nations and UNDP take serious consideration into health in valuing the human development.

Behind the health feature and the health foundation, there are variety of features. In more than a decade a lot of authors in their research have shown the table of modern Vietnam's human feature in the meaning of cultural person, representative of development tendency of society, country in current conditions. However, beside the health feature as

(*) Sport and football can be good example. Our football player has not enough power strength like

European ones, so we can not join the international playing ground.

the common and widely recognized one, even as the obvious feature without more discussion; in each author, the quantity of features and content of each feature is not completely unique^(*).

Second criterion of Vietnam cultural people in presently international integration period, in our opinion, is *deep patriotism*. It can be said, the patriotism is the popular characteristic of every nations although it's foundation, development progress and appearance is different. "Sympathy and patriotic thought is largest emotion and thought of Vietnamese people". "Patriotism is the fabric of the whole Vietnam's history from ancient to modern time. Here the Vietnam's characteristic shows most clearly, fully and in focus. Patriotism becomes social philosophy and human life of Vietnamese people,..." (3, pg.100-101). Patriotism raises in Vietnamese people very early, with intensive feature and is the indispensable product of Vietnam's history, is the sharply spiritual weapon, as the domains, the character, the vitality, resources extremely large groups of people, is always improved through the period of being against the foreign invasion, disaster, construction and protection country. "Our nation has intensive patriotism. That is our highly precious tradition. From the past to present, when the Fatherland was invaded, that spirit was ebullient. It

made the extremely big, strong wave, it passed over the difficulties, flooded the betrayed ones and the invaded ones" (4, pg. 171). So, looking into traditional way, the deep patriotism is chronic feature of Vietnamese people, it can not ne lack in every era of Vietnamese.

Patriotism is foundation for other features and one of precedential and necessary condition in globalization and integration now. The most urgent demands of this nation is to enlist the opportunity, overcome challenges, keep strong, comprehensive and unique innovation, develop more quickly and stably (5, pg. 69, 75). To complete that duty the patriotism should be raised than ever and highly promoted, the intension of patriotism should be shown and become the strong motivation to promote the nation's development. Not arouse and promote the spirit of deep patriotism we will be hard to overcome the challenges, do not enlist the opportunity to develop quickly and sustainably. By the incentive patriotism in this current condition has become a fundamental criterion of the people of Vietnam to fostering education, training, speaking short to build human and human resources for both present and future.

With motivation deep patriotism, Vietnam can actively integrate into the world in the process of globalization. Moreover, in the globalization progress, the interests of the majority of bonding with ethnic national interests, only put personal interests in the national interest, then the personal interests can be implemented. The limitation and

(*) There was one author discussed about this problems in published works: Vũ Khiêu, Phạm Minh Hạc, Đỗ Long, Đặng Nghiêm Vạn, Đặng Quốc Bảo, Hồ Sĩ Quý, Lê Hương, Phan Hà Lan, Lê Đức Phúc, Nguyễn Tài Như, Lê Nam Trà, Trần Văn Bính...

achievements of our country in the renewal year, joining recent globalization and integration rose and fired the national spirit, patriotism, religious spirit more strongly. In Vietnamese's mind, every people want to do whatever they can in the integration period to make their nation, country benefits. Not only leader, intelligentsia, business, and player, student, pupil, labor working directly, both the youth and the old ones. The responsibility, consciousness with national community become the new feature, the good manifestation of Vietnamese in the integration context. Only the patriotic people have that responsible consciousness. The patriotism is origin, foundation for social-responsible consciousness, national self-strong will. In general, patriotism is the key, basic foundation and important content in the Vietnamese people's feature in international integration.

Nowadays, patriotism shows through spirit and actions that brings the prosperity to country, happiness to people, benefits to peoples, put the nation's benefit higher than personal interests. Of course, like other periods the will and action determining to protect freedom, independence, unity and territorial integrity is still core content of patriotism; however the building and developing country becomes the main content. That content has shown on variety of different specific form.

Patriotic spirit exists and appears not in abstract theory but in specific, fact

works close to each person, collection in community, contributes to help nation develop quickly, stably, effective integration, that means, going quickly over the poverty and backward. The patriotic spirit has become "magic chopstick" in country constructing and protecting history, and it will also be the "magic chopstick" in building and integrating presently if we can arise and develop that spirit. It not only helps Vietnamese to remove loss so humiliating, slavery, but also helps wash so humiliating poor backward. By studying, working, fighting against evil in life, work hard for the goals of the powerful rich, social justice, democracy, civilization, asserting the position of Vietnam in the international community is the express of deep patriotism in this current period.

It is clear that when it comes to deep patriotism as a criterion of Vietnam that is not a criteria of abstract, common, difficult to define, difficult to verify and evaluate. In history this ever existed with the history of building and defending the nation. By the mirror it on specific actions and specific human the previous generation used it very successfully, take it as an important and special meaning measurement to evaluate work, action and human characteristic, from ordinary workers to the leaders, senior management. In the context of integration, the use of this criterion becomes more meaningful and practical importance for the exchange, participant in globalization to make patriotism integration have the opportunity to present and promote.

The deep patriotism creates collective and community spirit in each person. This is the beginning of responsible spirit and citizen's spirit, spirit to contribute to common benefit, the strength and development of whole community. Based on that, the modern Vietnamese people have civilized living standard, respect to nation's rules, the conventional community, strengthen self-conscious nation, have a key emotional love their people, saved coated papers that bring together, leaves protect tattered ones in trouble difficulties, love homeland, villages, much more and deeply. Of course the qualities that exist in the actions and practical activities, as well as the infiltration deep in the mind of the human brain to make patriotism more incentive and show a rich, diverse, colorful aspect than ever.

However can see that deep patriotism not only is a pure quality of the modern Vietnamese people, it also expressed their positive characteristic and it is always participated in rising, accretion, developing positive human character is the subject of the socialization process. That also means patriotism is the content that penetrates deeply, and throughout the key elements, the core of human resources. That also recently confirmed that it is an indispensable to the basic content of the quality of Vietnam's human resource in integration period.

The third criterion civilized Vietnamese people in the integration period is *high professional qualifications, professional labour*. It can be said that this is "talent" side in the human quality of all time

needed and everyone should have. It can express the criteria under different forms, with different words but the works have been published, scholars as well as our country's leaders, management, social activities considered professional qualifications as the key elements of human quality in the current era (6, 7, 8).

In the current context, the modern Vietnamese people can not have no high expertise because without the high expertise, country can not capture the achievements of the modern world and not apply them to the conditions and circumstances of our country, therefore, can not promote industrialization and modernization.

Of course, higher professional qualifications are required to be represented by professional labor. Professionalism in working is a compulsory requirement for all types of labor in modern society. In fact, people of Vietnam today are often commented by the expert and foreign companies on the lack of professional workers. That is a fact need to be overcome as soon as possible. To get the professionalism of the workers, it requires workers to attempt to study, train, and society must indispensable criterion and patriotism is create a new working environment with positive industrialization and market activities.

High professional qualification should be shown on the ability to capture, access quickly, timely and right direction of development trend of the problems in the their own fields of working to work in a creative,

independent, productive and effective method. Furthermore, in a present era of revolution in science and technology, high level of expertise in labor also shows on the possibility to use well and timely achievements of modern science and technology, capability of improving, completing and modernizing the tools and working methods in the scope and areas of their fields on the basis of modern science and technology. The high professionalism is shown particularly and diversity with specific differences in the different working areas, with different workers. But even high-level expertise is not enough to say the professionalism of the workers in whatever field. Professional manner is important content beside expertise to create professional feature. Profession is produced, developed and promoted in society with strong production, it is represented by self-sense, discipline, industrial manners, labor awareness with high quality productivity, broad thought, overall and system, always show a positive and initiative in working, dynamic, creative, responsible feature...

Professional manner is one of feature, it is the product of the largest production. But that does not mean that being the largest production will have professional working style immediately. To get professional working style, beside the social environment, individual employees are required to create positively and actively, training, constantly striving, persistence, determination to achieve professional working style. Requirement of

professional style is demand of the actual Vietnam society that is changing its production from smaller to larger production by promoting industrialization, modernization and development of market economy. If Vietnam wants to build up developing society quickly with the huge production, it has to create labor force with the professional style in all fields of social labor. High-level expertise and professionalism of employees is one of the major contents in process of building new people that we need in this period.

Context of international integration requires we must have a working team with high professional qualifications and professional workers. Foreign investment comes into Vietnam with high speed and large size while we have plenty of young labor force, but lack of the expertise and professionalism, this limits the foreign investment resource. On the other hand, when we export overseas workers without professional qualifications and professional employees, so Vietnamese labor does not play in important field, or personal qualities but deeply social in production facilities with high-tech science, mostly are only working in manufactures with low or average techniques and technologies, so the export of labor in Vietnam is not highly effective.

Lack of professional qualifications and professionalism also limits the productivity and efficiency of the manufacturing; makes sciences decrease its activeness and is forced to pay the unnecessary charge (7, 8, 9).

Terms of society, low professional qualifications and professionalism in the social management is one of reasons why many difficulties, pressing arise in society, this lowers motivation and development speed of society, and people discontent. The apparatus of the inefficient government, insufficient national administration requires an urgent reform; the layout, organization and use of governmental officer being unreasonable that cause bad social effectiveness, etc,... and one of important part is that the management officer and staff member is lack of specialized skill and profession.

Practice for many years since our country is open, regional and international integration, status of weakness and lack expertise and professionalism in working reveal clearly than ever before; and requirement of recovering that situation becomes urgent, pressing than in the previous period. After our integration the more necessary social needs of scientific economic development; overcoming the risk of backward in comparison with other industrialized countries is, the more urgent and fierce the demand of expertise and professionalism is.

In our opinion, the criterion of professional qualifications and expertise is key criterion and the natural characteristics of cultural Vietnamese people of Vietnam in the period of integration at present. Only in the present context it becomes a strongly highlight, necessary and indispensable point. Now, when society is changing its entering period of accelerated

industrialization and modernization and integration into the international network of developed industrial society, that demand becomes more outstanding and urgent. On the other hand, the integration process in Vietnam with the conditions of low economic and technological development compared to other countries, the world market was divided fairly solid, the competitiveness of Vietnam's products is very weak. Therefore, Vietnam has to improve the quality of goods, implement international standards on products to the market. To achieve that, along with the modernization of technical production and management, even before starting to modernize production technology, Vietnam must improve quality of human force, train them in the way of building high qualified and professional human resource in working.

The forth criterion of Vietnam's shortening distance on the level of cultural people in integration process is *new morality*. New morality is system of discipline, moral relationship standard, corresponding with the present social development period, the period of enhancing modernization, industrialization, building market economy and international integration to discriminate with the system of rule, moral relationship standard ever existed in last periods.

In author's research public in nearly 2 decades ago, the content of morality in human model was mentioned directly. Although each author has own private outlook and mentions to different points of moral content, but no one can negative or lighten the role of morality in modern Vietnamese people. All of

them considered moral content as the indispensable demand in human model, although each author can emphasize different points.

Moral criterion becomes the basic important criterion in modern Vietnamese people model, as Hồ Chí Minh said “morality is origin of people”.

The new morality of Vietnamese people does not escape, separate with the good traditionally moral content of nation; but it also gets, inherits those good content, improve, enhance some old content to be suitable with modern society, pass the backward content that is not suitable with current society. New morality contains the large content from theory for national independence, nation, justice society, democracy, civilization to saving activity, civilized life, faithfulness, human kind, and healthy way of living.

On the other hand, the moral contents, in other words, the moral aspect in each person never independent, separates from other aspects, they usually mix and interlace each other, support together to make up the characteristics of modern human model, in each historical period, inherit, receive the features of the past human that will be existed in the modern model. Even with the old feature from the past, the content, spirit and the manner has the signal of new period or has been changed to be suitable with new conditions.

Simple, heartfelt, modest way of living in behaving, saving, reasonable behavior is content of new moral. Behaving reasonably is one request of modern way in living of cultural human in market

economy, globalization and integration. In the market economy condition, along with the development of technical science, exchanging, trade cooperation in size and intensity, justice and spirit will come together.

The important and necessary point in newly moral content of Vietnam's cultural human in enhancing industrialization and modernization period, building market economy, integrating international community is anti the individualism. This is of moral revolution content that Hồ Chí Minh showed previously “New morality like the human with 2 legs on the ground prosperity, wealthy people, strong. Individual fame, but it is for the common benefit of Party, peoples and human life” (10, Vol.5, pg. 252).

New morality is progressive one, inherits the good tradition in national and human kind's morality, and meet the practical demand of motivation and development in progress of building country now, “determine to sweep out the individualism”. If Vietnamese people now do not have those moral content, they will not be the cultural one, can not meet the demand of modernization and industrialization, building market economy, international integrating.

In Hồ Chí Minh's ideology, the construction, improvement, enhancement the new morality needs to change the public things, necessity in people's life, style of dressing, living, moving, working, in general it is way of living. Building the modest, simple, moderate, tidy, clean way of living, respecting time, decreasing the desire of

physical, position, fame, profit; tolerant, kind and generous, building the public, democratic scientific style is necessary. Building the good tradition and custom to get the good way of living for whole community, remove the bad, unreasonable custom, create the cultural life for each person. All those points are the content of living way, new morality of Vietnam's cultural people in present integration period. Only do like that Vietnamese people, the whole community, whole society can become the cultural society and gradually higher culture. In general, the new moral criterion of Vietnam's cultural people in integration period has various, broad content, containing building and defending content, building to defending and defending to building, it is criterion both to build and to measure the cultural people in this period. Of course, when using it as measurement, we have to take notice of linking it with other criterion in the overall cultural people's criterion; this will guarantee the right, reasonable, scientific features.

The fifth criterion is criterion of *national spirit*. In present and coming periods, the globalization will develop strongly, the integration process is widespread, the cooperation and competition between nations will be strong, the national spirit and consciousness will be the strong motivation for developing country. In the practice of European countries, Americans with high developing level show that the national spirit has been used for a long time to push the economic, social development as one criterion to evaluate people in election periods...

It's right to say the national spirit has the deep origin from patriotic spirit, it's one side, one manifestation method of patriotism; but it's not patriotism, it's one private, original feature of human's personality, one request of integration period, economic, cultural, scientific-technology exchanging,... with other countries. The national spirit is opposite with autism, envy, conservative, irresponsible, lack of consciousness for the whole nation's common career. The national spirit founds the foundation of human resource, if we can use it, it will be the stimulation to help people believe in the national prosperity, wealthy; create fighting theory, dedicate to nation; make people more stamina and sense of purpose, enduring, patient, determined, not back in front of difficulty and challenge.

In globalization and international integration, the national spirit will consolidate the whole community in the unique block to cooperate and compete. If there is no unique block, people stand separately, individually, disconnectedly; there will be no strength, not enough ability to compete and cooperate, no ability to help nation over the difficulties, challenges in globalization.

To acknowledge, evaluate one person in the globalization and international integration, the national spirit criterion should be taken notice than ever before. In one hand, we have to raise, foster, support, encourage the national spirit; in the other hand, we can use it as the socio-economic development motivation. Raising the national spirit is raising the national pride, using the best and suitable things for the renewal,

integration process, giving up, changing the unsuitable things that prevents the development. The national spirit in the peaceful development condition guarantees the social, political stability, the national union, the fighting conscious; these will help our nation to “be in balance with other power nations in five global continents”.

The problem is how to build, raise and develop the national spirit in each person; it will become the spiritual power and cultural criterion inside their own. To do so, the cultural, conscious and political job should come into people’s soul; and each period we have to orient the national spirit into specific duty of country. Besides, to create, raise and develop, the education should focus on national spirit of pupil from studying time. Furthermore we have to open widely the door to exchange with the whole outside world, so that people can see the world, acknowledge, compare, understand the national good things and negative things to give up and come over. If everybody can see, acknowledge and together on the base of national spirit, our country will be stable in globalization storm, integrate without losing ourselves.

The system of five basic criteria above should be used totally to consider and evaluate Vietnam’s cultural people in the current historical period. We should notice that, this system of criteria exists inside Vietnamese people with different levels. On the other hand, this system is necessary orientation that we need to build, train Vietnamese people, this aims to meet more requests of pushing industrialization and modernization the

country, build and develop market economy, internationally integrate.

References:

1. Crisis characteristics, nutritional status of Vietnamese people and the measurement of improving the health quality. State sciences & technology program KX - 07-07
2. Hồ Chí Minh Complete Works (4th volume). H: National Political Publishing House, 1995.
3. Trần Văn Giàu. Traditional spirit value of Vietnam. H.: Social Sciences Publishing House, 1980.
4. Hồ Chí Minh Complete Works (6th volume). H: National Political Publishing House, 2000.
5. Communist Party of Vietnam. Documents of the 10th National Congress of CPV. National Political Publishing House, 2006.
6. Research culture, people, human resource in the beginning of 21st century – State sciences & technology program KX05.
7. Human research: objective and the main research orientation// in “Human research Year book”, number 1-3. H.: Social Sciences Publishing House, 2002.
8. Hồ Sĩ Quý. Human and human development. H.: Education Publishing House, 2007
9. Vũ Dũng. Effect of minor agricultural spirit in the current social life. *Human research* magazine, number 2 (5), 2003
10. Hồ Chí Minh. Complete Works. H: National Political Publishing House, 2002.