

BOOKS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES LIBRARY REVIEW

ĐÀO TRÍ ÚC, PHẠM HỮU NGHỊ (Co-Editors in Chief). **Building a Socialist legitimate state of Vietnam in current period: Some theoretical and practical issues.** H.: Encyclopedia Publishing House, 2009, 363 pages, Vb 47492.

At the X National Congress. Vietnam communist Party propose the direction: "Building operation mechanism of Socialist legitimate State, ensure the principle that all power of State belongs to citizen and it is united, there is distribution and cooperation between offices in doing legislative, executive and judicial operation. Improve legal system, increase specificity and availability of regulation in legal documents. Build and perfect investigation and inspection mechanism of constitutionality and legality in Public Office's activities and decisions."

Contribute to the execution of Vietnam Communist Party's Decision, authors of the book analyzed, explained and proposed series of issues related to policies and mission to build a Socialist Legitimate State in Vietnam. Specifically: Large policies to build a Socialist Legitimate State in Vietnam; Changing in leadership of Communist Party to the Socialist Legitimate State of Vietnam; Changing in role and function of Socialist Legitimate State of Vietnam in the context of market economy and international integration; Democracy, practice democracy, civil society and

practice civil society in Vietnam; Building mechanism to protect Vietnam's constitution; Judicial reform; Basis requirements and direction of building and improving legal system in Vietnam; International integration in law.

HOÀI PHÚC

NGUYỄN THỊ YÊN. **Tày- Nùng Folk Beliefs.** H.: Social Sciences Publishing House, 2009, 719 pages, Vb 47561.

Summarize collected, researched and field trips information of Tày-Nùng, Choang Folk Beliefs, in recent 10 years in a 719-page Book, the author presented a general and comprehensive view of beliefs as well as other cultural beliefs activities of Tày-Nùng ethnic group (in 4 provinces Cao Bằng, Bắc Kạn, Lạng Sơn and Thái Nguyên of Việt Bắc area); knowing the its actual cultural beliefs activities together with exchanges, changes role as well as its limitations in the process of building a new cultural life for Tày, Nùng ethnic people. The author introduce briefly the folk beliefs of Tày, Nùng people; generalize and clarify typical forms of their cultural beliefs activities (tào, mo, then, pụt...) among the acculturation and exchange of native and imported cultural habits and among the mutual-affect exchanges among different regions, sectors, etc. evaluate status and role of belief activities in spirit life of Tày, Nùng; propose improvement solution in recent period (Section 1).

In addition, in Section 2 of the book, the authors introduced popular rites of Tày, Nùng ethnic group such as funeral ceremonies, Birthday celebration, identity-level celebration (lễ cấp sắc), one month old celebration, treated celebration...which carried our by wizard, powwow, tào, then, put...

HÀ VÂN

HÀ MẠNH KHOA. **Handicraft and competition-examination villages in feudal period in Mã River Delta.** H.: Encyclopedia Publishing House, 2009, 351 pages, Vb 47552.

During the historical process of national building and defending of Vietnamese, village communities are source of talent, material for the country. Through a long development and establishment, Vietnam's village communities were not only a resilient scaffold in the wars against invaders but also an economic, cultural-social nuclear of the country. Content of the book are a scientific works that researches systematically process of establishment and development of village communities in Mã River Delta- one of the significant nuclear of North-Central Delta and focus on handicraft villages, competition-examinations. The book includes 4 chapters:

Chapter 1: Briefly about *natural environment of Mã River Delta*.

Chapter 2: Represents *process of forming traditional villages in Mã River Delta* with old and current marks.

Chapter 3: Briefly introduces handicraft villages with some typical handicraft villages in Mã river area.

Chapter 4: Briefly introduces competition-examinations villages in Mã River Delta such as Hoàng Lộc, Đông Thanh.

PHƯƠNG HÀ

CÙ CHÍ LỢI (Editor in Chief): **Economic growth and economic growth quality in Vietnam** H.: Encyclopedia Publishing House, 2009, 202 pages, Vb 47490.

Through economic reform, open and change economic structure in recent years, Vietnam created favor conditions for a dynamic economic growth with growth rate 7-8.5%/year. Economic growing rate is quite high, but it was not the expected level.

Actually, during the past years, Vietnam has not taken era advantages for increasing productivity and economic growing model of Vietnam mainly based on scale growing-based on increasing input elements. If Vietnam does not adjust these model and purchase the growing rate drastically, Vietnam's economy will face the danger of reduce in growing and growing rate of 7-8%/year like recent years may be a difficult target.

The main contents above presented in 3 chapters of the book: Chapter 1: Theoretical basic of economic growing and quality of economic growing; Chapter 2: Growing and quality of growing in recent years in Vietnam; Chapter 3: Forecast Vietnam's economic growing rate in the next few years.

HOÀI PHÚC

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR ARTS-LITERATURE CRITICISM AND ARGUMENT. **Arts-literature in**

integration and market mechanism: National Politics Publishing House, 2009, 495 pages, Vb 47476.

The book is a collection of state and speech of managers, scientist, artist, representative attended the Scientific Conference “Arts-literature in integration and market mechanism” held by Central Council for Arts-literature criticism and argument in Hồ Chí Minh city, 11/2008.

Together with general arguing ideas that evaluate, analyze advantages as well as disadvantages of arts and literature in positive and negative effects of market mechanism and international integration, many article mentioned specific problems that have been appeared in most aspects: human resource training, argument and criticism, mechanism and policy, state management, material infrastructure ... of all major in literature and arts. Besides, many article focuses on presenting actual and feasible proposals, solutions to adjust, develop literature and arts market toward socialist-orientation.

Content of the books give the reader answers: In socialist-oriented market economy and high international integration, international cultural exchanges, what should the artists do? What is the responsibility of State and Vietnam communist party in preserving traditional characters?

The book includes 03 sections: Section 1: Common argument; Section 2: State management on Culture; Section 3: Literature, art and culture products in Vietnam’s market.

TRUNG HẬU

ĐỖ HOÀI NAM, ĐẶNG PHONG (Editors in Chief). **Breakthrough in economy before renovation.** H.: Social Sciences Publishing House, 2009, 294 pages, Vb 9378.

For Vietnam and other foreign countries, researchers consider the year 1986 with The 6th National Party Congress is starting time of the renovation. Actually, many years before there were many miserable but ingenuous and creative breaking points to solve the old economic structure. Without such successful breaking points, there would not spectacular achievement of renovation. From objective view of history, in content of the book, the author presented development of some breakthrough to point out researching spirit, creative spirit of base, people who found the right direction and also the common direction for the economy. The book includes 6 sections.

Staring section defines Vietnam’s situation after liberation: *crisis* and 6th Central Conference and *breakthroughs in economic thought*.

Section I specifies “from basic breakthrough to policy changes” *breakthrough in industry* with a series of activities such as: self-saving of Thành Công textile factory; distribution mechanism of Côn Đảo – Vũng Tàu fishing factory; Vietfracht Shipping under a women captain.

Section II clearly defines from “contraband payment at a fixed rate” to “100 payment at a fixed rate” and “10 payment at a fixed rate” *breakthrough in agriculture with some cases such as:*

Payment at a fixed rate in Hải Phòng;
Dissolution of Tractor corporations in
An Giang;...

Section III define from “Forbidden” to
“Market mechanism”, *breakthrough in
circulation and distribution* of the case:
HỒ Chí Minh Food Company pass the
“red light”

Section IV analyzes from “Monopoly”
to “Open market”; and shows the result:
“open market and development” with
the cases: “Imex”; Vietcombank –
“abettor”...

The last section of this book is
“Historical lesion from breakthrough.”

PHƯƠNG CHI

JEAN-PIERRE CLING, STÉPHANE
LAGRÉE, MIREILLE
RAZAFINDRAKOTO, FRANÇOIS
ROUBAUD. **Vietnam after one year of
joining WTO: growth and employment.**
H.: National Politics Publishing House,
2009, 160 pages, Vb 47488.

The book includes 04 key sections
which are result of foreign and
Vietnamese researchers to answer
questions like: What are the effect of
joining WTO to economic development
and integration of Vietnam? What are
the effect to labor force restructure and
employment in Vietnam? What are the
effects to inequality and hunger and
poverty after one year since Vietnam
joining WTO?

The first evaluates *Economic
development of Vietnam after one year
joining WTO: result and lesson.*

The next two sections are *Social effect
of international economic integration
and Joining WTO in Vietnam and
Income distribution while Joining WTO
of Vietnam*

The fourth is about researching prospect
while researching prospect while
mentioning a common framework
related to multilateral negotiation within
WTO and *WTO Free trade agreement:
taking is better than waiting.*

KHÁNH HÀ

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORICAL
FOREIGN AFFAIRS RESEARCH.
**Applying Hồ Chí Minh thoughts on
foreign affairs in international
integration.** H.: National Politics
Publishing House, 2009, 219 pages, Vb
47486.

Hồ Chí Minh thoughts on foreign affairs
includes system of oppinions, policies,
strategies, tartics on international affairs,
foreign polices among revolutionary
strategieis of Vietnam susch as:
assessment, forecasting, seizing
opotunities, including system of
viewpoint, strategies, policies and tactics
toward international matters, foreign
policies, diplomacy among
revolutionary strategies of Việt Nam
such as: assessment, forecasting , seizing
opportunities, organizing force,
realizing enemies and friends, taking
advantages of allies, isolating main
enemies, consisting on regulations,
flexible policies, accepting victory step
by step to gain the perfect Independence,
self-control associates with international

solidarity... In new conditions and circumstances, the research of Hồ Chí Minh thought on foreign affairs and its suitable and flexible application has been an important requirement and task.

This book is the collection of analysing article, explanation of some viewpoints of Hồ Chí Minh thought on foreign affairs such the National independence associated with socialism, in combination with National strength and the strength of era, independence, self-control associated with international cooperation and solidarity, ensure National interests in solving relations with big countries...

The book consists of three parts: Part 1: Problems of Vietnam's diplomacy in the period of international; Part 2: Applying Hồ Chí Minh thoughts on foreign affairs; Part 3: Application of Hồ Chí Minh's methods, styles and skills on foreign affairs.

TRUNG HẬU

TRẦN THỊ MINH NGỌC (Editor in Chief) **Some factors obstruct the process of equitization of State owned enterprises.** H.: National Politics Publishing House, 2008, 210 pages, Vb 47500.

Equitization of State owned enterprises is one of the strategical policies & solutions as well as the new breakthrough of Vietnam Communist Party and State of Vietnam aims at basical renovation and reform of present state-owned enterprises. However, state owned enterprise equitization takes place slowly in comparison with renew requirement, it

does not meet the given target and requirements. This process has been meeting a lot of difficulties on the whole country in general, and particularly in Hà Nội and there are many obstacles delay the process of state owned enterprise equitization even show signs of false direction and turn equalization into privatization. The content of the book is presented in 3 chapters.

Chapter 1: Presenting the theoretical and realistic bases about factors which preventing the process of enterprise equitization.

Chapter II: Analyzing some factors prevents the process of state owned enterprises equitization; Hanoi is the example.

Chapter III: Submitting some solutions to overcome obstacles, boost the process of state owned enterprises Hanoi in the next years.

HOÀI PHÚC

VÕ TRÍ THÀNH (Editor in Chief). **Growing and Industrialization and modernization in Vietnam: mobilization and using capital.** H.: Social Sciences Publishing House, 2007, 388 pages, Vb 47364.

After 20 years of *Renovation*. Vietnam's economy has deep change toward industrialization and modernization. Along with opening market and integrating trend in the world, the approach to capital resource become easier, however, solving industrialization problem is not easier. Both theory and reality have proved that increase of effectiveness in investment

becomes more and more significant to ensure the stable growth and successful.

The book consists of five chapters, concentrated on:

- Determine the scientific and realistic bases for planning capital mobilization policy and capital use for industrialization (Chapter 1 and 2);
- Generally evaluate the process of renovation, reform, industrialization and capital mobilization and using for industrialization In Vietnam, especially from the 1990s up to now (chapter3);
- Facts on capital mobilization and effectiveness of short term investment to growth and structure change in “ Socio-economic development plan in 2006-2010” and further (chapter 4);
- Propose viewpoint and policy direction to mobilize and use investment capital effectively, ensure industrialization and modernization goals of Vietnam (chapter 5).

KHÁNH HÀ

NGUYỄN ĐỨC LỮ, NGUYỄN THỊ KIM THANH (Select and edit). **Some viewpoint about religion of Vietnam and Vietnam Communist Party**. H.: National politics publishing House, 2009, 350 pages, Vb 47587.

To meet the demand of religious practice, practice of national management on religion as well as demand of researching religious dignitaries and followers and readers; simultaneously support the practice of investigating and teaching about credence, religion systematically from

Marxist-Leninist doctrine to Hồ Chí Minh and systematical information about opinion, guideline, policy of Vietnam Communist Party on credence, religion in accordance with practice of every revolutionary stages. The author has selected and composed the book “Some viewpoint about religion of Vietnam and Vietnam Communist Party”.

The book includes two parts:

Part 1: Opinion, guideline, direction and policy of our Party on religion from 1930 to pre - reform period. Introduce common concept about religion, credence, principles of Vietnam communist Party toward religion. (The principles of national solidarity, religious solidarity; respect and ensure freedom of religion; Principle to resist taking advantage of religion and superstition); Policies of Vietnam Communist Party towards some large religion (Buddhist, Catholicism, Cao Đài, Hòa Hảo);

Part 2: Opinion, direction, guideline, policy of Vietnam Communist Party against religion from renovation up to now.

THIỆN KHANG

HÀ HUY THÀNH, NGUYỄN NGỌC KHÁNH (Co-editors in Chief). **Stable development - From conception to action** H.: Social Sciences Publishing House, 2009, 367 pages, Vb 47563.

The content of the book is the results of scientific topic done by Institute for Environment and Sustainable, Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences. In addition to preface,

conclusion, index, preference document, the book consists 3 chapters, mainly concentrate on opinion, content, and substance of stable development methods as well as the way to perform those methods in countries in the world and in the region, simultaneously learn a useful lesson for Viet Nam in the process of performing stable development strategies of Vietnam. Many problems are analyzed clearly by authors such as history about the formation of stable development conception, nature of the development, the time process of conception, stable development institutions and stable development in globalization trend (Chapter one); The frame of stable development includes the stable development frame of United Nations and global stable development programme; The frame of regional stable development and stable development at the region level; Frame of national stable development and stable development at national level; Frame of local stable development (chapter II); And actions for stable development, mostly at regional level, experience of stable development direction of developed countries, developing countries... and problem of stable development in Vietnam (chapter III).

Especially in index, readers can find 27 principles of stable growth of the world; the basic contents of 21st Agenda of United Nations; Criteria of Stable development issued by United Nations, and Criteria of Stable development issued by Vietnam.

HIÊN LY

ĐINH CÔNG TUẤN. **Social security system of EU and the lessons for Vietnam.** H.: Social Sciences Publishing House, 2008, 231 p., Vb 47144.

EU is an economic region with knowledge economy development on tops of the world, growth rate is solid and the social connection is high. National welfare economic system in EU with the aim of focusing on distributing economic benefit to all citizens... has been highly evaluated but the world. However, due to the weakness of social welfare system, in early 1990s, EU started to reform the social welfare system and direct to “a country with dynamic competitive economy, grow stably, create more jobs and larger social connection”.

The book writes *General on EU social welfare system* (chapter 1), the specific characteristics of 3 *main social welfare model of EU* is social market model of German and France, democratic society model in Sweden, and free market model of in England with competition to American (chapter II), then summarize the advantages and disadvantages of social welfare system of those country, reform model for social welfare model of EU's Government and *lessons for Vietnam* (chapter III).

HÒA AN

VŨ KHÁNH (Editor in chief). **The Mùng in Vietnam.** VNA publishing House. H.: 2008, 140 pages, Vb 46253.

(Continuing from Vol.3, No.4)

Food

The Mường preserve many well-known proverbs and saying on eating and food. For example: *cu mai, rau sang, mang dang, mat ong* (Top four specialties: yam, sang vegetable, bitter bamboo sprout, and bee honey) or *com do, nha gac, nuoc vac, lon thui* (four high – quality things: steamed rice, storeyed house, water contained in bamboo, and barbecued pork). They can prepare many foods from rice, like steamed sticky rice (*com dep* or *com rep*); steamed or cooked ordinary rice (*com tuoi*). The Mường also make different kinds of cakes, of which the most popular are big square sticky rice cakes (*peng chung*) offered ceremonially at festivals. Smaller ones (*banh bo, banh trau*) are presented to worship the spirits of buffalo and the utility of farm tools. *Uoi* cakes are for funeral. *Bang* cakes are for marriage, *chay* cakes for praying for the sick, and tube cakes (*peng tang khiu*) for betrothals ceremony and gifts.

Much food is meat-based. Pork dishes include: lean pork paste, pig's head paste, pig's feet paster, lean meat pie, grapefruit leaf pie, rib pie, roasted pie, boiled pie, steamed pie, etc. Chicken includes: boiled chicken, chicken cooked with ginger, chicken grilled in banana leaf. Buffalo meat dishes include: fried with pepper and ginger or stewed with sour leaves. Sea + river food includes: Grilled crabs, boiled crabs, fried crabs, fried fish, grilled fish, steamed fish, fish entrails cooked with bitter vegetables, fried frogs, frogs cooked with fermented bamboo sprouts, fried frog pie, steamed frog pie; snails

cooked with lot leaves; snails with taro leaves and fermented bamboo sprouts.

The Mường also eat many vegetables, such as boiled bamboo sprouts; steamed bitter bamboo sprouts (*mang mu, mang lenh enh, mang chau*), steamed vegetable hatchpotch; *eo* vegetable boiled with bamboo sprouts; and *sang* vegetable soup.

Drinks used by the Mường at festivals, wedding ceremonies and funerals are rice liquor (*rao chai*) and alcohol taken through a bamboo straw (*rao khoe*). Traditionally, both Mường men and women use tobacco. Their tobacco pie is a 60-70cm bamboo section with a 15-20cm bowl. Mường women like to share a large tobacco pipe (*tieu khuong*) when sitting at the fireplace.

The Mường obey some specific taboos relating to eating. For example, a woman should not eat fish, frogs, duck meat, buffalo meat and eggs after delivery to prevent postnatal complications; a family should not eat yams when they have enough rice, otherwise the rice spirit will go away; children should never eat chicken or duck gizzards, otherwise they will become dullards or orphans; when receiving a guest, the tray of food is placed in the *vong tong* where the eldest sits near the door. In a public banquet, male and female attendants never share the same tray. In a wedding ceremony, a special tray of food is reserved far for the host's alliance families (*tiep khoa*).

Belief and festivals

Like some other ethnic groups in Vietnam, the Mường follow animism. So, they worship many kinds of gods, deities and spirits. In their conception, a person after his/her death will become a ghost, and ancestral ghost, can support their descendants. Thus, the ancestral worship (tho huy, chieng tho, thom than) is the top activity in their spiritual life. The Mường not only worship their paternal ancestors but also those of spouse's. Compared to the Việt people, the ancestral altar of the Mường is much simpler, with an incense bowl and several cups of water. For the Mường, the anniversary of an ancestor's death is the burial day rather than the date of passing away. However, they make ceremonial offerings their ancestors during traditional festivals or holidays, in moving-house ceremonies, or in other family ceremonies. Offerings are often steamed sticky rice, grilled fish, soup and boiled meat. Apart from the ancestral cult, the Mường also worship rocks, pumpkins (in the moving ceremony), water sources, family

totems, kitchen gods, and legendary heroes (Saint Tan Vien, Mr. Tung, Mr. Keo Heng, Madame Ly, Madame Lo, Mr. Chang Vang).

The most noteworthy among traditional festivals of the Mường community are agricultural rites, such as the ceremony to begin production of a new crop (khuong mua), still organized in Tân Lạc, Lạc Sơn and Kim Bôi between the 7th and 10th days of the first lunar month; the rain praying festival in the early part of the fourth lunar month; the rice leaf washing festival for the winter crop; sac bua (sec bua) festival to pray for happiness in spring; the new rice festival worshipping ancestors in the 10th lunar month. Together with those agricultural rites, in the past, the Ke Pagoda Festival was held in Mường Bi on the 16th of the 2nd lunar month. In many localities, people also worship the Goddesses of Birth when a baby is seven days old or pray for a cold spell when a fire occurs.

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