

DOCTORAL THESIS IN BRIEF

PHAN ĐĂNG LONG. *Changes of Hanoi urban culture since 1986 up to now – reality and tendency*

Majority: Culturology

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Go along with process of industrialization and modernization, urban area plays a very special role and is regarded as the motivation for the development of each country. Red River delta has relatively high urbanization level in which 29.2% of population is urban resident (this number was 21.1% in 1999) with three big centers Quảng Ninh, Hải Phòng and Hanoi. In cultural aspect, the quick development of Hanoi has affected to general spiritual and cultural life of this place, especially in ancient area. Urban culture in Hanoi has changed a lot in both macro scale (in case of general culture of whole city) and micro scale (in case of social groups) under different ways.

Recognizing the changes of Hanoi culture: by generalizing the changes of Hanoi culture mainly from aspect of living style during the renovation process will actively help to recognize changes in the city and then provide feasible management solutions.

As a reason why Phan Đăng Long has chosen the topic “*Changes of Hanoi urban culture since 1986 up to now - reality and tendency*” in his thesis.

By using such studying methods: interbranching, statistic, interview, analysis – generalize, the author has clarified characteristics and factors influence on culture; analyzed and estimated actual changes in lifestyle of

people here since 1986 up to now; predicted some tendencies and proposed solutions to regulate the lifestyle in Hanoi in the next times.

Besides introduction part, conclusion part, the thesis is divided into three chapters (156 pages).

Chapter I mentions on characteristics and factors influence on changes of urban culture in Hanoi since 1986 up to now (pg. 17-65).

Urban culture is founded and develops thanks to social activities and conversation of urban residents. Meanwhile, changes in urban culture can be reviewed as *process of changing action manner and cultural relationship of urban residents leading to foundation of a new cultural development and structure of urban area in different scales*. Basing on scale and influence of changes in modern urban culture of the country and in the world currently, this changing process is divided into two scales: macro changes and micro changes.

Before the renovation in 1986, changes in lifestyle of Hanoians in particular and in Vietnam in general occurred mainly due to the activation of industrialization process, but the core influence factor actually was the role of administrative center, same as with foundation history of urban development in Vietnam. Since the year 1986, especially in the middle of 1990s, these changes in culture in Hanoi in particular and in Vietnam in general basically depends on the advancement of industrialization, modernization and international integration under socialist oriented market mechanism.

Changes of urban lifestyle especially in Hanoi has been occurring comprehensively under such manners: reserving and promoting historic values combining with renovation and updating new information. After the expansion of administrative area (since August 1, 2008), cultural space of whole Hanoi becomes the integration between culture space of Thăng Long – Hanoi and Đòai region. However, typical living way of Hanoi is always the elegant lifestyle of Thăng Long – Hanoi with relatively diversification between lifestyle of center urban (interior of Hanoi) and of suburban areas, including other cities outside center area (Hanoi, Vĩnh Phúc, Bắc Ninh, Hưng Yên and Hải Dương). In such above context, basic factors impact on changes in lifestyle culture of Hanoi are still economic and technological factors. Moreover, other factors are labor force immigration, urban planning and management, culture exchange and cultural socialism...

Chapter II clarifies the reality and tendency of urban culture changes in Hanoi since 1986 up to now (pg. 66-113).

Changes in lifestyle culture of Hanoi since 1986 up to now have been occurring comprehensively and deeply. It is considered as an active process of mainly changing from centralized – administrative and collectivistic urban lifestyle to civil lifestyle. This process appears in most of aspects of social life, from daily activities as eating, clothing, housing, traveling; using leisure times, consumption, enjoying cultural items to transformation in personality (mental, perception), communication, behaviors in family, responds to friends,

colleagues, teachers, elderly, behaviors outside society, towards environment...

However, there are some “standard deviation” and negative matters such as: 1/ A part of Hanoi residents openly express their practical individualism; 2/ The development of illegal career orientation; 3/ Superstitiousness is popular and affect to quite a few Hanoi residents; 4/ Cultural services are enjoyed under complicated manners leading to appearance of “bad culture”, “illegal culture”, “underground economy”; 5/ Behaviors of a part of residents in Hanoi are influenced much by spontaneous and competitive market economic mechanism; 6/ Social evils here are complicated and multiformed; 7/ Many obstacles still existed in terms of responding to natural and ecological environment; 8/ Social conditions, especially infrastructural conditions during changing process of lifestyle in Hanoi are not suitable with modern and civilized urban lifestyle.

According to author’s opinion, tendency of lifestyle changes in the next times will be the development of a new lifestyle culture while the traditional ones are remained and protected, such as: historic linkage of cultural values; the relationship between the systematize and development of cultural values; orientation, policies, planning projects and urbanization trend in areas of Hanoi; and actual experiences on urban cultural changes of Hanoi. Due to objective reasons, predications about changes in lifestyle culture of Hanoi during process of strong industrialization and modernization as well as international integration only have relative meaning and just focus on some macro scaled

tendencies about way of changing urban culture, tendency of cultural change in Hanoi up to the year 2020, the duality of this tendency in living days and personality of urban residents.

Chapter III (pg. 116-145) points out some main orientations including:

Firstly, urban cultural changes in Hanoi basically associate with the development of economy, consolidation of political system and development planning of new urban area.

Secondly, protect and promote traditional culture of Thăng Long – Hanoi and Đòài region during process of strong cultural integration between Hanoi area and other domestic regions as well as international nations in order to have inside unification of culture in Hanoi.

Thirdly, keep continuously constructing and consolidating cultural regimes, firstly at local area to make comfortable conditions for urban residents to receive advanced cultural changes.

Fourth, improve urban culture locally to support for family culture, culture in community, companies, enterprises, schools, and hospitals.

Fifth, improve behaviors of urban residents.

Solution groups regulate the changes of urban culture of Hanoi in the next times:

Solution group enhancing effectiveness of urban management focuses on setting up legal documents on urban culture; arranging space for cultural activities; completing and issuing regulations on immigration, fixed residents in the city; improving regulations on urban traffic; planning and developing the urban;

providing policies support for cultural activities of Hanoi residents; classifying state levels in cultural management in urban areas.

Solution group strengthening active role of residents during process of cultural change focuses on improving practical quality of local cultural institutions; increasing promotion on civilized lifestyle; creating good environment for working, production, running business that suitable with advanced cultural changes; improving consciousness and knowledge on urban culture and urban lifestyle; preventing social evils, accelerating the campaign “Whole people together create cultural life.”

Solution group investing for cultural activities basing on enjoyment needs of Hanoi residents focuses on investment for building modern cultural constructions; reserving, exploiting and promoting value of cultural heritages.

Solution group improving ability of staffs working on cultural fields include: set up qualification frame for positions and talent of staffs working on cultural fields in local area; recruit qualified staffs and implement reasonable internal assignment, ensure profession skills, reduce retraining, improve working ability for staffs by related tasks; plan a training program combining with action strategies in cultural sector.

The thesis had been successfully defended at State level Council of marking thesis operated in Institute of Art Culture on February 2011.

Introduced by
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