

*BOOKS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES LIBRARY REVIEW*

PHAN HUY LÊ. **Vietnamese History and Culture: An Issue Approach.** H.: Thế Giới Publishers, 2012, 1018 pages., Vv 11656.

The book is a collection of new articles written by Phan Huy Lê after 1998, including all proceedings in national and international conferences, announced and unannounced, recently deducted from published books for which he is a chief author or co-author... and is arranged into 9 chapters according to these following subjects:

Chapter 1 and chapter 2 clarify the diversity, overall and comprehensive history of Vietnam, civilization centers, and ancient governments in Vietnam territory.

Chapter 3, 4, and 5 clarify the historical turning-point in the first half of the 10th century; transformation from the end of Trần dynasty to the beginning of Lê dynasty; and success and failure of Tây Sơn.

Chapter 6 discusses some issues of rural and urban area on the basis of considering the study of villages in Vietnam in the 20th century; land distribution compared and contrasted Vietnam with China; Thăng Long-Hà Nội in the 11th - 19th century; land register in Hà Nội in the 19th century...

Chapter 7 considers Thăng Long – Hà Nội citadel and Hoàng Thành relic that were recently discovered.

Chapter 8 and 9 mention some historical events and characters about History, Vietnamese study, Oriental study.

*KHÁNH VÂN*

BÙI MINH ĐẠO. **The development of Central ethnics and some issues.** H.: Encyclopedia Publishing House, 2012, 294 pages., Vb 50396.

In recent years, especially since renewal (Đổi Mới), the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Vietnamese government have implemented a number of guidelines, general and particular policies to develop ethnic groups in Central region. Achievements so far are very considerable; however, during the process of innovation, industrialization, modernization, and integration, people in Central area face many challenges. The book consists of 7 chapters.

First of all, the author discusses overall the picture of the natural endowment, population, and socio-economic characteristics of ethnic groups in Central region (Chapter 1). Afterwards, the author analyzes the economic development (Chapter 2); the social development with specific information such as poverty situation, labor and employment, marriage and family, medicine and environment, education and politic (Chapter 3); the culture and religion (Chapter 4); the environmental development, changes and degradation of the environment, with information on floods and scourges (Chapter 5).

At the end, the author clarifies the difference in the development between the Kinh and some ethnic minority in mountainous area, starting from the discrimination in the development of economy, society, religion to the differences in environment (Chapter 6). Based on that, the author highlights some issues and proposes recommendations and solutions in order to develop sustainably ethnics in Central region (Chapter 7).

*HUỆ NGUYỄN*

VŨ VĂN PHÚC (Editor in chief). **Building new rural area – Theories and Practices.** H.: National Political Publishing House, 2012, 480 pages., Vb 50627

Building rural area has a thousand-year history in Vietnam, through which contributes to the construction and creation of today Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The 26th Resolution – NQ/TW on 05/08/2008 of Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam (term X) “On Agriculture, Farmers, Rural Area” set an aim “building a new rural area with modern economic-social infrastructure; economic structure and practical forms of manufacturing, incorporating agriculture with fast development of industrialization, services, urbanization; a stable and rich cultural-identity rural society; intellectual standard of people is enhanced, ecological environment is protected; political system in rural areas under the control of the Party is expanded”. Building a new rural area is established to be a strategy mission. The

rural area requires realistic decisions for development on scientific basis for each local, regional, and national, which the most urgent is the planning to finalize the orientation and investment in a practical path leading to a sustainable and efficient development. The book contains articles by scientists, leaders of central agencies, locals, industries, authorities about building a new rural area. It is divided into 2 parts.

The first part is about general theories and international experience of building a new rural area.

The second part discusses the fact of building a new rural area in Vietnam.

*CH.*

PHAN TRỌNG THƯỜNG. **Evaluate literary values.** H.: Literature Publishing House, 2013, 350 pages., Vb 50735.

The book consisting of 21 writings that share a thing in common, which is “an effort of evaluating and explaining literary phenomena that have been taking place on the surface and depth of literary history,” is the questioning of the past, evaluating values of literary history. In particular, one of basic contents is questioning the past and managing to realize values of last centuries, “returning for each event and each character inherent truths, recognizable values.” The book is divided into two parts.

The first section, from scientific conference...is proceedings, prefaces in national and international scientific conferences which the author chaired or

attended, are analyses, open thought about contemporary issues in composing literature, Vietnamese literary theory and criticism, etc.

The second part ...to realistic literary history is the result of a systematic and persistent research on drama in Vietnam literary history. With eight sophisticated essays (over half of the book size), authors overview the development of Vietnam drama literature in the second half of the twentieth century, pointing out new signs and outstanding achievements of drama in 1945-1954, drama literature in 1975-1985 and after-war social issues, clearly defining the contributions of Vũ Đình Long, position of Vi Huyền Đắc in the history of drama in Vietnam in the first half of the twentieth century, portraits and researches of authors: Đoàn Phú Tứ, Đào Hồng Cẩm ...

*KHÁNH VÂN*

VŨ DŨNG (Editor in chief). **Social adaption of disadvantaged social groups in Vietnam**. H.: Encyclopedia Publishing House, 2012, 372 pages., Vb 50600.

Social adaptation of disadvantaged groups (the elderly, disabled, people suffering from dangerous diseases and homeless children) is the change in the psychology of these social groups to overcome difficulties, their weakness to socialize, survive, and thrive in the society. The book concentrates on studying two aspects of social adaptation in disadvantaged groups which are cognitive adaptation and behavior

adaptation. The book consists of 4 chapters.

Chapter 1: some theoretical issues of social adaptation of disadvantaged groups. The book specializes in studying viewpoints, principles, and basic contents of some international conventions ( about children's rights, rights of people with disabilities and principles of the United Nations (UN) on the elderly); some guidelines and policies of the Party and government for the disadvantaged groups.

Chapter 2 and 3 analyze the reality of social adaptation of the elderly, people suffered from dangerous diseases, the disabled and homeless children. After that, the author makes some judgments about level of cognitive and behavior adaptation of the disadvantaged groups.

Chapter 4 recommends some solutions to help disadvantaged social groups in Vietnam, which are from: 1) government, with guidelines and policies; 2) disadvantaged groups themselves; 3) disadvantaged groups' families; 4) social community.

*TV.*

ĐINH BÁ HÒA, TRƯỜNG HIẾN MAI. **Antique pottery and patterns in Chăm's clothes**. H.: National Culture Publishing House, 2012, 423 pages., Vb 50671.

From the first century BC til the seventeenth, in the Vietnam center region, an ancient government called Chăm Pa established. Its traces of pottery culture still exist today, from

citadel and tower to art sculpture and inscriptions.

At the beginning of the book, the authors review literature of previous research on Chặm Pa Bình Định potteries, mostly based on reports of 5 excavations in 2 pottery production centers Gò Sành and Gò Hời. Through that, the authors outline characteristics of different kilns in the relics of Gò Sành, Gò Hời as well as types of products, thereby, draw out general and particular features of each kiln area, state their opinions of date and owners of ancient pottery sites in Bình Định.

The second part of the book provides readers an overview of patterns on the costumes of Chặm people. Starting from clarifying yarn-processing and dyeing to different types of looms, the authors then describe in detail some of the patterns on the costumes of Chặm such as traditional costumes of dignitaries, costumes of women and men. Through that, authors also describe patterns on Mạ̣ people's costumes to help readers have a comparative look with characteristics of Chặm people's costumes.

*TRUNG HẬU*

TRẦN THỊ PHƯƠNG HOA (Editor in chief). **Asian women and education: Asian, European viewpoints and other perspectives**. H.: Encyclopedia Publishing House, 2012, 119 pages., Vv 11691.

Education is an important factor to help women rise and declare their role in society. It has been over a century since the process of education modernization

taken place in Asia; however, "Can education improve women's life?" In Vietnam, women's image has always been respected. Traditionally, most important concepts are associated with definitions of "mother", "female", "mother earth", "mother-river". Vietnamese have a tradition to worship Mẫu, ie the Mother. However, in the history of education in Vietnam, there is a large gap for women. They are not allowed to go to school, to take part in exams and therefore cannot enroll in the academic system despite being praised from generations to generations because of their intelligence and talent.

The content of the book is a collection of writings for the international conference "Asian women and education: Asia-Europe viewpoints and other perspectives". Articles of the book provide approach from different branches of research, expand the problem in different points of view; there exist different and controversial opinions of gender equality, especially between Asia and Europe, eastern and western.

The book content is organized into different issues: From educating at home to school-changes in methods and learning processes of women; educating for women and feminism; educating for women and gender equality; educating for women and national and religious issue; educating for women and the participation in social and political activities.

*KHÁNH VÂN*

*(xem tiếp trang 48)*