

INFORMATION OF SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**National Scientific Workshop on “The Role of Dai Co Viet State in the Course of Vietnam’s History”**

On April 12th, 2018, in Ninh Binh, the Provincial Party Committee, the People’s Council and the Fatherland Front Committee of Ninh Binh Province in collaboration with the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences and the Vietnam Association of Historical Sciences organized a national scientific workshop “The Role of Dai Co Viet State in the Course of Vietnam’s History”. The workshop was held on the occasion of the 1050th anniversary (968-2018) of the Dai Co Viet State. Attending the workshop were officers from the Party and the State, delegates from the host institute and a large number of leading scientists in history and culture throughout the country, news agencies and press.

The 57 presentations focused on two major topics: 1 / *The historical issues of the Dai Co Viet State*; 2 / *Heritage and promotion of the legacy of the Dai Co Viet State in the course of Vietnam’s history*. Discussions and exchanges aimed at highlighting and clarifying the fact that Dinh Bo Linh defeated 12 warlords to end the feud era; giving prominence to the historical significance of the establishment of the Dai Co Viet State; making clear the army force organization and military art usage in the defense of the country and the monarchy;

evaluating its diplomatic and economic achievements; analyzing the role of Buddhism, traditional customs and festivals in the era of Dai Co Viet State and the current conservation issues.

Born in 968, the Dai Co Viet State outlined a model of the first feudal state in Vietnam, building a solid foundation for the later feudal dynasties to embark on the national construction and development and against the invasion of the foreigner. Delegates recognize that the birth, survival and development of the Dai Co Viet State confirmed Vietnamese people’s will strength to fight for the national independence, peace and unity after a thousand year domination by northern invaders.

According to delegates, although existed for 86 years only, Dai Co Viet has played an especially important role in the flow of history. Dai Co Viet is a unified, independent country and a centralized monarchy state, taking control of its own land. It was also the first state to cast bronze coins in our country’s history. The Dai Co Viet State was the first monarchy to establish relations with China. Emperor Dinh Tien Hoang was also the first in the history of implementing diplomatic measures and rituals that were both soft and firm with the Northern empire. Dai Co Viet was the first state to implement the right policies with ethnic minorities, creating conditions for them to live peacefully together. It was the first

monarchy to carry the “Southward” campaign, expanding the territory to the South of the country, with the first emigration and discovery.

Through the workshop, delegates wished the research results and ideas exchange would further provide basis for objective and comprehensive evaluation of the position, role, achievements and limitations of the Dai Co Viet State as well as its influence throughout the history of the nation, thereby drawing valuable experience for the construction and development of the country today.

PV.

International Conference “The History of the Book in Vietnam”

A two-day international conference “The History of the Book in Vietnam” organized on 24-25 May, 2018, in Hanoi, by the Institute of Social Sciences Information in collaboration with the Institute of Sino-Nom Studies (both under the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences), sponsored by the Harvard-Yenching Institute and the Asia Center of Harvard University.

The conference aimed at academic findings and ideas exchange as well as new research methods on the history of the book in Vietnam. It attracted the participation of a large number of Vietnamese and international scholars and researchers with 18 presentations, divided into 7 sessions. The conference discussed the history of the book in Vietnam, focusing on books written in Chinese characters or Nom in the late 19th and the early 20th centuries before

the development of Vietnamese script in Vietnam.

Many papers covered various aspects of the history of the book from the types of materials used in printing to publication, collection and trade between Vietnam and other countries in the world, especially China. A number of presentations focused on the production and distribution of woodblock printed texts between Guangdong and Gia Dinh in the late 19th century.

The history of cultural exchange through the distribution of the book was clarified by studying such books as *Hương Sơn bảo quyển* (*The Precious Scroll of Fragrant Mountain*) (Annam Edition and Qianlong Edition preserved in Japan), Le Quy Don’s *Encyclopedia Thánh mô hiền phạm lục* (*Recorded Sayings of Sages and Worthies*) and *Vân đài loại ngữ* (*Categorized Sayings from the Van Terrace*), Phan Huy Chu’s *Hoàng Việt dư địa chí* (*Geography of the Viet Empire*), Nguyen Cong Hang’s *Bắc sứ thi tập* (*Collection of Poems while on Mission North*) or *Jin shen quan shu* (*Tân thân toàn thư*) and *Trúc lâm Đại Sĩ xuất sơn đồ* (*The Mahasattva Truc Lam coming out of the mountains*) from China.

It’s believed that Vietnam ambassadors were an important agent in the distribution of the book between Vietnam and China. Along the diplomatic mission way, intellectual friendships inevitably formed, and the imprint of those friendships may sometimes be found in books created to document

the journey of those who travelled the embassy route. In some cases, the construction of the book records a series of exchanges, both intimate and professional, which reflects a broader exchange of cultural and literary styles that connected Dai Viet State and Qing by avenues of intellectual companionship. Le Quy Don, Nguyen Du, Nhu Ba Si, Nguyen Tu Gian, Tran Van Chuan, Nguyen Thuat, etc. used to purchase books in China and reprinted them in Vietnam. Vietnam scholars, namely Dang Huy Tru, Le Quy Don, Phan Huy Chu, contributed greatly to the distribution of books between Vietnam and China. It's Dang Huy Tru who purchased books in Canton (China) as well as helped Chi Trung Duong bookstore in Hanoi to purchase books from China. Especially, he had asked for help from Shi Jie Yuan in Foshan, Canton to make woodblocks of many books, had a considerable contribution to the research of the history of the book in Vietnam. On writing *Thánh mô hiên phạm lục (Recorded Sayings of Sages and Worthies)*, Le Quy Don cited a large number of Chinese texts ranging from official texts to popular classics, and even children's primers and the writings of private individuals.

This was also an opportunity for Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences to introduce a number of ancient and rare documents preserved in the Library of Social Sciences and the library of the Institute of Sino-Vietnamese Studies.

PHAM NGUYEN

Scientific Workshop on “Basis Foundation and Reinforcement for Vietnam’s Rapid and Sustainable Growth in the New Context”

On June 10th, 2018, in Hanoi, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences organized a workshop on “Basis Foundation and Reinforcement for Vietnam’s Rapid and Sustainable Growth in the New Context”. Attending the workshop were officers from the Party and the State, delegates from relevant departments, scientists from the host institute and a large number of researchers, news agencies and press.

The year 2018 is a pivotal year of the five-year socio-economic development plan (2016-2020) and is also an important year to determine the feasibility of completing the 10-year Socio-Economic Development Strategy (2011-2020) of Vietnam. In addition, the year 2018 is a very significant year to start building the foundation for a new stage in the country, namely the implementation of the Five Year Socio-Economic Development Plan (2021-2025) and the 10-year Socio-Economic Development Strategy (2021-2030), in the context of increasingly severe global competition, the growing impact of the FTA, the 4th industrial revolution and global climate change. The workshop focused on discussing and assessing the important factors that form the foundation of Vietnam’s economic growth in the recent past; the problems arisen, especially the factors that create and strengthen the foundation

for rapid and sustainable economic growth; thereby proposing policies and solutions to consolidate and create the foundation for rapid and sustainable economic growth in Vietnam in the new coming context.

Four presentations at the workshop includes “*Long-term growth motivation and growth model innovation*” by Tran Dinh Thien; “*The Fourth Industrial Revolution and Vietnam: Opportunities and Challenges*” by Nguyen Thang;

“*Comprehensive Agriculture - Strong rural areas - Self-reliant farmers*” by Dang Kim Son; “*Solutions to promote rapid and sustainable growth - View from the private sector*” by Pham Thi Ngoc Thuy. Delegates’ discussions and ideas exchange has analyzed and identified Vietnam’s economic shortcomings as well as its dynamics and solutions to promote growth.

PHAM NGUYEN

