

SUMMARY

Do Hoai Nam. *The achieved results and success in improving the quality of ethnological research to effectively serve the industrialization and modernization of the country.* This is the speech by Prof. Dr. Do Hoai Nam, Director of the National Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities at 35th anniversary ceremony of the foundation of the Institute of Ethnology (1968-2003) at which the Institute received the class 3 Independence Medal. The speech confirms the great contribution from the Institute to the cause of building and defending the country, at the same time, pointing out the development opportunities for the Institute in the coming years.

Khong Dien. *35 years of The Institute of Ethnology (1968-2003).* The article summarizes the achievements of the Institute of Ethnology in the past 35 years. From a specialized section of the Institute of History in 1968, to now, the Institute of Ethnology has staffed almost 60 cadres. Over 50 % of the employees have obtained post graduate degrees. Over the past 35 years, the Institute of Ethnology has made a lot of contributions to the cause of building and defending the country indicated through the list of ethnic minorities in Viet Nam. It has also completed basic as well as applied research relating to many development issues pertaining to the 54 ethnic minorities in Viet Nam.

Hoang Nam. *From festivals to market fairs: a solution to preserve and enhance the cultural identity of the Tay and the Nung in Lang Son province.* The article describes festivals and market fairs (for sale and entertainment activities) of the Tay and Nung in Lang Son province. The similarity between the festivals and market fairs is that attendants can enjoy both religious activities included at the festivals. According to the author, it is possible to combine the market fairs with local fairs at provincial or district levels to promote economic development together with the enhancement of the cultural identity of the ethnic groups.

Le Van Be. *Traditional costume of the Thu Lao.* The Thu Lao is a local group of the Tay minority residing in the Muong Khuong and Bac Ha districts of Lao Cai province. The article describes the process of raw materials production (cotton growing, fibre thread, cloth weaving, indigo dying) and the ways to make costumes (clothes, design) for men, women and children. The author supposes that due to living near the Nung Din (a local group of the Nung), the Thu Lao's costumes have been influenced.

Bui Xuan Dinh. *Different types of village division in the Northern delta regions during Feudalism.* Villages of the Viet people in the Northern delta regions have passed through a long development process which caused continuous expansion in population dimension, organizational structure and social relations. During the Feudal regime, a part from the formation of villages as a result of reclaiming virgin land, new

villages appeared from original communities. In some circumstances, the division of villages occurred as the result of population growth. However, in many cases this occurred due to disputes and conflicts between opposite parties initiated by petty farmers who grew wet rice and lived in the heart of a bureaucratic monarchy society.

Ly Hanh Son. *Some features of the folk beliefs of the Ha Nhi.* The folk beliefs of the Ha Nhi minority include perceptions of the surrounding world, souls and ghosts as well as behavior towards ancestors who have passed away and some deities and ghosts. As compared with other ethnic minorities such as the Kinh, Dao, Tay and Thai, etc. The folk beliefs of the Ha Nhi minority address complex and influenced by other kinds of religions. The beliefs have a vital role in uniting the ethnic community, especially in the scope of family, ancestry and village.

Dau Tuan Nam. *The phi of the Thai in Quy Chau of Nghe An province.* According to the Thai in Quy Chau, Nghe An province, “phi” is the soul of mankind, animals or other objects. It has a mysterious power and the ability to control the spiritual life of either individuals or the community. The article describes and analyzes the “phi” system which includes the “phi” in heaven, “phi” of the mountainous hamlets, the “phi” of human souls, ancestors, fathers of occupation and of natural objects. The system of “phi” gives us an outlook on the space and cultural features of the Thai in Quy Chau.

Dang Viet Bich. *Explaining vestiges of the Thai at Muong area in Hoa Binh province.* The author gives feedback about the article “Vestiges of the Thai at Muong area in Hoa Binh” by Hoang Luong published in the Anthropology Review No. 3 (111) in 2001. According to the author, the Muong in Hoa Binh are not inhabitants who arrived at a location where earlier the Thai lived and left as assumed by Hoang Luong. The author proposes that in Hoa Binh province, long ago, the ancient Austro-Asiatic inhabitants (ancient Mon-Kho me) were native residents. The ancient Tay-Thai inhabitants from Phong Chau and the Red River delta fled to this location and it was at this place where the ethnic combination between the two groups occurred. Later on, when the Muong appeared, they inherited many of the Tay-Thai features.

Thomas Weaver and Douglas White. *Anthropological approaches to urban and complex society.* Anthropologists get used to working in a rural environment, however, in changing social context, especially the process of rapid urbanization, their research involvement in this sector is very critical. The article gives anthropological approaches to urban and compound societies.

Sakaya. *Traditional handicrafts of the Raglai in Ninh Thuan province.* Traditional handicrafts of the Raglai in Ninh Thuan are usually weaving, pottery making, forging, costume production and paper making. Raw material resources have been found around their settlement. Main products include tools and furniture for daily life. However, the handicrafts remain at household scale, without the appearance of traditional handicraft villages at a larger scale. Handicrafts have been produced during non-crop seasons with simple technical skills.