

SUMMARY

Nguyen Quoc Loc. *Ethnicity issues in ASEAN countries.* ASEAN members are multi-national countries in which the majority ethnic group accounts for 95 percent of each country's population. This means the region is diverse in cultures. Some countries like Indonesia have 150 ethnic groups and each ethnic group has its own identity. However, ASEAN countries share similarities such as wet rice cultivation, beliefs relating to rice plants, some linguistic similarities, the tradition of living on houses-on-stilt and the village which is a self-ruled unit of the ethnic groups in their traditional society...

Pham Quang Hoan. *Wedding party of the White Hmong in Dong Van district, Ha Giang province.* So far, the wedding party of the White Hmong in Dong Van district, Ha Giang province still preserves many traditional rituals including offering marriage, offering wine and meat for the first time, re-agreeing on marriage offers, fetching the bride from her parents', official wedding party, and taking the bride passed by her parents' house. These rituals reflect the ethnic minority group's characteristics and contain factors of educational significance for individuals and the community as a whole in the protection of environment and natural resources. In-depth knowledge and full perception of the cultural values of the ethnic group will contribute to settling well many issues of the Hmong ethnic minority group.

La Cong Y. *Some issues of land relationship in Bac Kan province after "Khoan 10".* Since the implementation of the Party Politbureau Resolution 10 (1989), known as *Khoan 10*, agricultural cooperatives in Bac Kan province have dissolved and farmers requested the return of their ancestors' land. Since then, there have been fierce land disputes, and thousands of such disputes have been recorded. Land disputes have occurred mainly in the lowland among the Tay and Nung ethnic minority groups where there is a lot of wet rice cultivation land. Thanks to great attention given by the local authorities to appropriate settlement of land disputes, up to now the situation of land disputes has been slowed down and stabilized. Through realities in Bac Kan province, correct and uniform policies suitable to the conditions of each region and each ethnic group are needed to thoroughly settle land relationship.

Ninh Viet Giao. *Initial studies of family records in the Nghe land.* Although undergoing historical upheavals (wars, disorder, migration etc.) many family clans in Nghe An and Ha Tinh provinces still preserve their family annals. These family records show the philosophy of "drinking water remembering its source" is highly valued. Besides, family records are considered historical documents recording the process of migration and supplementing official historical annals. They also show the development of the land of Nghe Tinh since the 16th century. However, family records have some limitations such as highly appreciating outstanding members of the family clans while neglecting the records of criminal members in history....

Thomas Sikor - Dao Minh Truong. *Agricultural policy and land use changes in Black Thai villages of Northern Vietnam (1952 - 1997).* Vietnamese agricultural policy has changed radically over the past five decades. Decollectivization in the 1980s and 1990s followed upon two decades of collective agriculture. This paper examines the effects of

agricultural policy on land use. It reports the results of remote image interpretation and socio-economic field studies for ten Black Thai villages in Viet Nam's northern mountains. The paper suggests that the landscape in the ten villages has been highly dynamic and that part of the dynamism was due to agricultural policy. Collectivization and decollectivization affected land use, but their influence was mediated by other factors, mainly changing technology and markets. In addition, the relationship between national policy and local land use is complicated by two factors: changes in local institutions may predate national reforms, and the implementation of national policy and resulting local institutions may differ among places.

Dang Thi Hoa. *Local knowledge of medicinal herbs of the Hmong in Vietnam's North-Western region.* The Hmong ethnic minority group in the three provinces of Hoa Binh, Son La and Lai Chau in the Northwest has a population of 289,000, accounting for nearly 37 percent of the total Hmong population in Vietnam. At present, the Hmong in the Northwest have little access to modern medicine and healthcare services, therefore, the local knowledge of medicinal herbs and traditional medicine still play an important role in their lives. Experiences in using medicinal herbs for treatment have been handed down from one generation to another and are making practical contributions to primary healthcare for the local people.

Phan Xuan Bien. *Combining research and teaching of ethnology in Southern provinces after 1975.* Since 1975, many ethnological research and teaching institutions have been set up in southern provinces such as the Ethnological Department under the Ho Chi Minh City Institute of Social Sciences, the Ethnological Faculty of the Ho Chi Minh City University, the Ethnological subject of the History Faculty of Da Lat University etc. Since 1987, some of those research and teaching institutions have been assigned with the task of post university training. In the recent past, there has been cooperation in research and teaching between those institutions, thus strengthening the research and teaching capacity of their staff and providing opportunity for students to have access to new knowledge. However, such cooperation is irregular and its effectiveness remains limited.

Bernard Formoso. *Arrangement of family and village space and its changes in Northeastern Thailand.* This is a translation of the abstract of the paper in French entitled: *Habitations et habitat de l'Asie du Sud - Est continentale*. Editors: Jacqueline Matras – Guin and Christian Taillard, Harmanttan Publising House, Paris, 1992, pp. 149- 175. The author's field research sites are two villages of Amphawan and Han in the Northeast of Thailand. In this research project, the author concentrated studies on housing styles and the development of architecture and the rules of using housing construction materials.

Nguyen Van Son. *The Victory Festival of the Bnoong group (Phuoc Son district, Quang Nam province).* The Bnoong is one of the local groups of the Gie-Trieng ethnic minority group. They live mainly in Kon Tum and Quang Nam provinces. The Victory Festival is one of the major festivals of this group. The Festival is organized at the *Rong* communal house for 2 – 3 days. During the Festival, many ceremonies are held such as the ceremony for the rigging up of the *neu* tree, the offering ceremony for the Victory Genie etc. Other rituals such as *catching husband* (meaning the young woman selects a young man whom she likes as her husband) are also organized.