

NGUYEN VAN HUYEN***Culture- The objective and dynamic of social development***

Through definition of the concepts of culture and culture structure, the article analyzes culture as an objective of social development. It acknowledges culture as a dynamic of social development and points out the agreement between objective and dynamic of culture in social development and social progress. The article asserts that: The agreement between objective and dynamic of culture in social development model is a judicious and scientific principle, ensuring a balance and sustainable development. This model is chosen by our communist party in pursuing socialism.

MAI VAN HAI***About a tendency of cultural analysis in sociological research***

In this article author compares two main tendencies in sociological research, the "objectivism" tendency and the "cultural analysis" one, to identify the characteristics of social science research in comparison to natural science. Through analyzing a sociological work using cultural analysis (*The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism* by Max Weber), he draws out a lesson that: Vietnamese sociologists should have deeper analysis of aspects of our national culture, clarify our set of values as well as our national identities, so as to enhance the strength of culture. This is an important condition contributing to speed up industrialization and modernization, leading our country to a new spiritual and physical pinnacle.

MAI QUYNH NAM***Social opinion research on activities of the National Assembly of Vietnam***

Applying social opinion in the analysis of modern political issues is an interest of political sociology and political science. The author states that social opinion research on activities of the national assembly is originated from the need for a scientific understanding of the relationship between resolutions, policies and factual effects of the activities of the national assembly and social opinions. In order to enhance the effects of the activities of national assembly of Vietnam author suggests the following directions for social opinion research:

1. Social opinion research on development and improvement of legal system;
2. Social opinion research of electorate of meeting sessions of the national assembly;
3. Social opinion research of members of the national assembly of meeting sessions;
4. Analysis of the electorate's complaints- as a channel of social opinion- to the

People's Aspiration Department;

5. Social opinion research of activities of the national assembly presented on mass media.

NGUYEN DINH TAN

Social structure and social stratification- Contributions on theoretics and practical application

Social structure and social stratification are basic research orientations, and are also an interest of sociologists. In this article the author Nguyen Dinh Tan reviews and summarizes his books and articles on social structure and social stratification. He also generally draws new points and their contributions to theoretical development as well as their practical applications in the process of *Doi moi* in Vietnam over the last few years.

NGUYEN CHI DUNG

Discussion on the object of sociology

Discussion on the object of sociology is always a concern of social researchers. This relates not only to the object of sociology but also to the development of this discipline and methodology.

From a practical need of sociological research and teaching in Vietnam, the author presents basic issues: a summary history of sociology, fundamental theories, and then he points the reader the object and structure of modern sociology. The author stresses the possibility of applying this discipline in social organization and management.

LE TIEU LA

Culture- From sociological perspective

Through the relationship between society and culture, the author focuses on the roles of culture in sociological analysis. The meaning of this is not only to emphasize fundamental structural factors in cultural and social system but also to put stress on the roles of culture in human behaviours. This is the theoretical basis for our communist party to state that: in the process of *Doi moi*, economic growth is accompanied by cultural development. This is the base for cultural sociology research in contemporary Vietnam.

LE NGOC HUNG

Critical theory and sociology of modernity

Critical theory is always found in sociological studies, concerning disciplines and social movements. In the context of globalization, sociological studies of modernity and sociology of development are attractive to social researchers.

Through some basic themes of critical theory, the critique of modernity in the end of 20th

century, the author examines the relationship between critical theory and sociology of modernity. He asserts that sociology of modernity is not limited in the critiques but it uncovers the factors of modernization, the development of modernity in human and society relations.

TRINH DUY LUAN

Some social issues in general education in urban areas nowadays

Based on results of a pilot study on existing situation of general education in 3 cities: Da Nang, Nam Dinh and Hai Phong, the article examines and difficulties and challenges related to the quality and effectiveness of the delivery of education services in the city drawn out from citizens' feed-back. The article focuses on four main issues including 1. Accessibility to services of the general education system; 2. Transparency around citizens' rights to use the service; 3. Redress mechanisms, for the citizens to raise their voice about quality and effectiveness of education service; and 4. Citizens' satisfaction with the city's current education service.

Findings from this study are tranfered into series of recommendations that address to responsible agencies in order to improve the situation as well as related policies in the field of education in cities at present and coming time.