

**NGUYEN DINH TAN**

***Trend of social stratification in Viet Nam in the process of market economic development and international economic integration***

The article introduces the trend of social stratification in our country during the reform and international integration process. Sociological analyses are mainly focused on such aspects as: social stratification trend in economics in which the author highlights income stratification in recent years with differences in income of poor and rich groups, gap in income between regions and between urban and rural areas; Stratification trend in expenditure is mainly analyzed in the differences in expenditure between rich and poor groups, and regions; Stratification trend in properties is analyzed into 2 directions – housing and household items. The author provided some evaluation of achievements of poverty reduction in Vietnam with an important conclusion: achievement in poverty reduction is great but it is not uniform and there is a trend of increasing gap between the rich and poor. The second main part of this article focuses on analyzing social stratification in terms of cultural and spiritual life with indicators of expenses on health care, cultural activities, sports, entertainment and education which show clear differences, especially between the rich and the poor, urban and rural areas, and mountainous and plain areas. The article also analyzes and evaluates the trend of official social stratification and unavoidable back side of unofficial stratification. Analyzing the on-going intensive social stratification process, the author emphasizes the emergence of the so-called “dominant” stratum and other social groups and their impacts on social development and social structure.

**NGUYEN HUU MINH**

***Socio – economic contributions of migrants***

In addition to preliminary analysis of migration and poverty in Viet Nam, the article focuses on assessment of socio-economic contributions of migrants to the social progress. First of all is contribution of migrants to economic development of the sending places. It helps redistribute human resources and thereby positively contributes to the more even economic development of different regions of the country. Migration can help to concentrate resources for development of certain regions which in turn contributes to general socio-economic development. Migrants also have important contributions to urban development. On the one hand, they have important economic contributions (via spending activities, goods exchanges, economic activities, employment services). On the other hand, migrants have considerable social contributions that the most remarkable ones includes exchanges between migrants

and urban people which contribute to preserve and heighten traditional values in modernizing urban areas. Author of the article concludes that: In most of the cases, migration is an opportunity for survival and to reduce poverty. Therefore, there should be attention to protect migrants. Secondly, migration is a common characteristic of every society in any time. Policies regarding migration should be considered to loosen for migration flows as well as to protect migrants from abuses and exploitation.

**VU HAO QUANG**

***Impact of urbanization on occupational changes and production activities of farmers in Hau Duong province.***

The article presents results from research: "Social transformation in rural areas under the impacts of urbanization and farm land accumulation policies – a case study in Hai Duong". The author is the team leader of this research. Using a rich source of documents and data, the article provides analysis of real situation of urbanization in Hai Duong; point out impacts of agricultural land acquisition on transformation of social occupational structure, impacts of urbanization on living standard of people in the rural areas. From empirical research evidence, the article concludes: dynamics of urbanization in rural areas of Hai Duong create changes in employment structure and agricultural production activities in the rural areas. Urbanization process has changed both living space and social relations of farmers as well as social stratification. On the other hand, despite the strong urbanization process, lack of good urban planning does not ensure sustainable development and creates short-comings related to employment and jobs for farmers in urbanizing areas, and environment pollution.

**BE QUYNH NGA**

***Voluntary social organizations in rural areas and their roles of social support in the context of economic transformation (a case study in Tan Lap commune, Dan Phuong district, Ha Tay province).***

Through sociological empirical research in Tan Lap commune, Dan Phuong district, Ha Tay province within the framework of IOS research agenda in 2006 of the social welfare Department, the article focuses on analyzing and identifying voluntary social organization system in rural areas and its social supporting role in current context of economic transformation. The article investigates the formation of voluntary social organization; social supporting roles of voluntary social organizations; forms of connecting voluntary social organizations through social network; relationship between voluntary social organizations

and social political organizations in the locality. The author of this article thinks that currently social and political mass organizations are contributing positive parts for social and economic development of the locality; besides that is fast development of voluntary social organization. Social organizations are affirming their positions in the relation with social political organizations in the community. On the other hand, it contributes to broaden forms and methods of social welfare activities in order to meet the demands for stable life and sustainable development for people living in rural areas, especially in the context of the economic transformation in our country today.

#### **HOANG BA THINH**

##### ***Marriage market: Some approaches***

Topic of this article is on marriage from market view but it examines economic theory from social aspects (culture, religion, customs, social norms, etc). Regarding theoretical approach, the article quotes and analyzes critical views such as theory on social exchange, rational action theory, or cost – benefit analysis. Regarding real situation of marriage market in Viet Nam at present time, the article bases on sociological empirical evidence to point out factors that affect investment opportunities in marriage market such as: different forms of marriage; impact of sex ratios in the population; cultural, social and economic development; individual views on benefits of marriage; differences in concepts of values of marriage – family; social policies affecting marriage and families; levels of risks in marriage market. Author of this article thinks that in a modern society, marriage more or less involves market character, whether there is a love or not. Opportunities to step into marriage market will be wide or narrow for different social groups and individuals depending on their quality, capacity and living environment. In the near future, *having marriage contract* will not be a rare situation in our country, as it starts to appear in social strata with high living standards as a means to minimize economic loss in case of divorce.