

## **VIET NAM ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES – 55 YEARS OF DEVELOPMENT**

### **Do Hoai Nam**

This is the speech of Professor and Dr. Do Hoai Nam, chairman of the Viet Nam Academy of Social Sciences on its 55 years Anniversary and receiving Golden Star (Sao vang) medal, one of the highest awards from Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

Precursor of the Academy was the Committee for History-Geography-Literature Research, under the management of Central Committee of the Viet Nam Labor Party which was established 55 years ago, on December 2, 1953. Over more than half century of establishment and development with different names such as Viet Nam Social Science Committee, National Center for Social Sciences and Humanities and now as Viet Nam Academy of Social Sciences, there have been 31 research institutes; 8 functional agencies; 17 post graduate education training centers; 30 professional journals in which 6 are in English. There are 1,425 staff in which 134 are professors and associate professors, 273 are Ph.D. holders, 301 are master holders.

Viet Nam Academy of Social Sciences is a Government agency with its function to do research on basic social science issues; to provide scientific foundation for the development of Government policies, strategy, projection and rapid and sustainable development policies according to our Government and Party's socialist direction; to provide consultancy and post graduate training on social sciences; to participate in the development of social science resource nationwide. During the past 55 years, the Viet Nam Academy of Social Sciences has been achieving great successes and positively contributing to the establishment and protection of our nation.

## **FACTORS AFFECTING SOCIAL STRATIFICATION IN VIET NAM**

### **Nguyen Dinh Tan**

The article investigates factors that affect social stratification of our nation at the current time. It includes: 1- impact of market economy and international economic integration; 2- policy system, institutional and legal issues; 3- natural environment, infrastructure issues; and 4- individual issues. The article shows that if the impact of market economy and international economic integration is an objective law, political regime, legal institution and policy system are especially important issues to have impact on social stratification in our country. The author emphasizes that with constant innovation and improvement of policies and legal institution

during the last decades, our Government and Party have always been ensuring a “framework” for process of social stratification and social division in our country. This explains for the situation that even we are in the Reform and market economic development which causes social division, we have not diverted the socialist direction of development, the society remains stable and is developing sustainably.

## **SOME RURAL DEVELOPMENT ISSUES IN VIET NAM DURING INDUSTRIALIZATION AND MODERNIZATION PERIOD**

**Bui Quang Dung**

The article provides discussion on economic change process in rural society in Viet Nam during the last 2 decades of Doi Moi/reform period. Rural area is considered as the weakest part of our nation economy during Doi Moi period. However, it is a starting point for a conversing process into market relations. Doi Moi has created a real growth and development in rural society through reforming agricultural co-operative, liberalizing price, decreasing the roles of Government sectors. Development according to market direction has created an important breakthrough in our current rural social economy. Based on that foundation, the article analyzes basic aspects in rural society development during industrialization and modernization period as: agricultural migrants; poverty reduction; social equality; and social security. The article points out some significant challenges for rural social development in our country in the next decades and recommends some solutions to overcome hindrances as well as to promote social advance and sustainable development.

## **FAMILY, KINSHIP AND VILLAGES AS BASIC VALUES OF VIET VILLAGE CULTURE IN INDUSTRIALIZATION AND MODERNIZATION CONTEXT**

**Mai Van Hai**

The article analyzes and verifies 2 scientific hypotheses as following : firstly, in current social economic conditions, basic values of culture such as family, kinship and villages have gradually lost their traditional meaning for village people as they used to be; secondly, in villages where people mostly live on farm work, families, kinship and village values are preserved quite stably. On the other hand, in villages with developed non-agricultural income-generating activities (handicrafts villages), rich villages, villages with better integration into market economy which are strongly under the impacts of industrialization and modernization, these values are seriously challenged and they gradually lose the roles in social life. Findings from the research show that there have not been enough foundation to be sure on those 2 hypotheses.

Values of families, kinship and villages not only lie in their capacity to change and adapt to new things but also in their everlasting existence. In new social economic conditions as well as industrialization and modernization context together with market economy, families, kinship and villages have proved their vitality and gained more meanings that they never have had before.

## **SOCIAL CAPITAL, SOCIAL NETWORK AND COST FOR MAINTAINING THEM**

**Hoang Ba Thinh**

The article is an overview on aspects such as the concept about social capital and social network ; structure and function of social network ; and cost to maintain social capital and social network. Social capital is determined by capacity to decrease shocks, to explore opportunities and to make plan for future of a community. Without social capital, there will be lack of connection in a community and that community will not be able to maintain social or economic environment so that they cannot attract outsiders. Social capital is often damaged due to negative/anti-functional manifestation. Once characteristics and functions of social capital are understood, its positive aspects (functions) will be developed and its negative ones (anti-function) will be limited for the development of community/society. The last part of this article is linked to situation of using, exploring and spending for social capital in Viet Nam currently.