

**NGUYEN HUU MINH**

***Patrilocal marriage pattern in rural Vietnam and its determinants***

Residence arrangement after marriage for most Vietnamese is a result of a compromise between their ideal desire and the specific demographic, social, and economic conditions. Based on data from the Rural Vietnam Families in Transition Survey carried out in 4 provinces during 2004 – 2008, the author had show that patrilocal residence is the most popular arrangement during the past half of century. Factors such as late marriage, working for the government, and non-agricultural occupation are the most important factors that reduce the probability to live with husband's family after marriage.

Although living with the husband's family right after marriage is the most common pattern, the duration of this arrangement has been reduced over time. The factors that have helped to reduce the duration of living with the husband's family include marriage cohort with earlier cohorts tend to live with the husband's family for a longer time than the more current marriage cohort and the number of sibling. It seems that modernization and urbanization have not managed to change structural arrangement of residence after marriage in Vietnam today. Living with the husband's family right after marriage remains the most common pattern.

**VU MANH LOI**

***Who are the household head in Vietnam?***

The debate about the concept of household head is centered around the issues such as whether the household head is the person with the highest authority and decision making power, or he/she is the person who contribute the most economically to the household. Using data from the Rural Vietnam Families in Transition Survey carried out in 4 provinces, namely Yen Bai (2004), Ha Nam (2008), Hue (2006) and Tien Giang (2005) the author shows that "household head" is a multi – faceted concept, including economic power as well as authority, decision making, and power to represent the family in public affairs that reflect cultural patterns which stress traditional age and patriarchal values. There are significant differences between perception of people and actual characteristics of household head. While in reality the household head often the person who is an oldest male, people often stress decision making and whether the person has his/her name on the registration book as household head. The difference between perception and reality signals the change of household head status in the context that Vietnamese society is undergoing significant changes. This study once again indicates that household head is not necessarily the person

who earn most income, and that female – head households are among the poorest is not supported by the empirical evidence.

**NGUYEN DUC VINH**

***Impact of individual and family factors on educational attainment of children and adolescents in rural Vietnam.***

The paper presents impacts of some individual and familial factors on education status of children in rural areas using data from the Rural Vietnam Families in Transition Survey conducted in Yen Bai, Ha Nam, Thua Thien Hue, and Tien Giang from 2004 – 2008. The main finding is that parents' education attainment is the most important factor that influence children education in rural families. The higher the parents' education, the less likely the children will drop out, and the more likely the children going to school at proper ages. Next important factor is the family living standard. The lower the household living standard, the more likely the children will drop out or going to school at later ages. In addition, although living standards do not increase gender inequality at primary and lower secondary levels, girls appear to be less advantageous than boys at higher secondary or higher levels. Other important factors include family size, age of mother at first delivery and occupation of parents.

**LE NGOC VAN**

***Aspects of marriage choice***

Based on data from the Rural Vietnam Families in Transition Survey, the paper presents changes in aspects of marriage choice in Vietnam rural areas during the Reform time. The paper examines (1) Geographical dimension of marriage, (2) forms of dating, (3) criteria for future partner and (4) marriage decision. The main conclusion of the paper is that marriage in rural Vietnam now is characterized by the shift from arranged marriages to voluntary marriages that based on love and personal affection. Marriage geographical space (marriage between partners from different geographical area) has been broadened as the result of migration, modernization and urbanization. This process has broken the traditional marriage pattern of spouses coming from the same commune or village. Industrialization and urbanization also create new job opportunities, social mobility, and social environment in which young people can date each other and make marriage choice. The government population, social and economic policies at the same time have facilitate the process of change of marriage pattern.

**BUI QUANG DUNG**

***Famers' economy: Concept and issues***

The paper is a result of the research program on "Tam Nong" (Agriculture, Rural Areas, and Farmers), and "Farmers Survey" implemented by the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (2009 – 2010). The paper presents discussion on key issues concerning nature and evolution of "farmers' economy" in general. Important concepts discussed in the paper include "agriculture labor", "forms of agriculture", "non-agriculture sector", "economic security", and theory of "farmers' economy". The author stressed that changes in the environment in which the farmers' economy operating do not change the nature of that economy. The concept of "production formation" does not reflect technical – economic reality, but socio-economic reality. Economic factors, therefore, not only reflect technical and organizational aspects of production but also imply relationship between producers and those who are not producers but relate to the production. There is no such general concepts as "farmers' production in general" as implied by Chayanov. Although all farmers' economies include individual farmers' households, one cannot reduce farmers' economy to unchanged factors of family nucleus because social relationships in which the economy exists have a very different nature. Therefore, farmers' economies in many farmers' societies can be grouped in specific mode of production that can be distinguished.