

## **THE INSTITUTIONS OF SOCIALIST-ORIENTED MARKET ECONOMY AND SOME CURRENT ISSUES REGARDING THE CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE RURAL SOCIETY OF VIETNAM**

**Nguyen Chi Dung -  
Nguyen Thi Lan**

Having mentioned the concept of “institution”, its technical notion/logical contents, and classification. The article discusses the characteristics and summary of the formation and development history of the socialist-oriented market economic system. On that basis, it also gives analysis of the institution and present transformation found within social institution in Vietnam’s rural areas. Specifically, the destination of the transformation process is a market economy (in place of a centrally-planned economy), the rule of law and democracy, and a modern industrial society. Since the Doi-moi reform was launched in late 1980s, the overall system has seen much change in economic, political and cultural aspects. Among those, changes in terms of the rights of possession and use of land have led to changes in the structure and authority in organizing, managing production as well as using labor and circulating products. Proper attention is now paid to the realization of democratic principles. A variety of traditional social institutions such as family, clan and village have also been transformed, which should be taken into consideration by social managers.

## **IMPEDIMENTS CONFRONTED BY THE PEASANTRY IN THE SOCIAL STRATIFICATION SYSTEM OF VIETNAM NOWADAYS**

**Do Thien Kinh**

The article gives a presentation of the social stratification model in Vietnam in 2010 (using data extracted from the Vietnamese Households Living Standard Survey in 2010 and inherited from similar studies between 2002 and 2008). As indicated by the results, the social stratification model in the country has a pyramid form, in which the socio-economic position of a vast majority of peasants ranks the lowest, located in the pyramid base. Based on such a social stratification model, below are several basic challenges faced by the peasantry:

- Absence of occupation positions among the middle-class section is serving as a hindrance to peasants’ transition of socio-economic position to a higher class.

- The fact that the majority of peasants are located in the pyramid base indicates the possibility of another large future generation of peasants, unless basic changes in terms of economic structure are implemented. The peasant class turns out to be the drag force against their offspring.

- There has emerged increasingly serious inequality between social strata and a tendency to form a two-strata polarized model.

On the basis of the issues mentioned above, the article recommends an active construction of the middle-class social model in the current industrialization process.

## **POLICY ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT IN VIETNAM: SITUATION AND SOLUTIONS**

**Do Phu Hai**

Employment is one of the basic needs to ensure human life and comprehensive development. In the present time, labor and employment is considered an important policy-making issue. The employment policy, with its instrumental solutions aimed at creating jobs for workers, developing the labor market, reducing the urban unemployment rate, increasing the employment time utilization rate in rural areas, is seen as one of the most fundamental policies of the country. Employment policies serve to address the employment needs adequately, ensuring that all laborers who have working capability have an opportunity to get a job, which contributes to social stability and development. In the context of the Employment Law being passed by the National Assembly in November 2013, this article focuses on presenting the results of studies on employment issues and policy obstacles, on the basis of the objectives proposed by the 11<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Party, to give solutions and policy instruments for the restructuring and proper use of labor resources for the sake of economic development, under the banner of “rich population, strong country and democratic, fair and civilized society”.

## **TAY ETHNIC CULTURAL IDENTITY FROM THE OPERATIONAL PERSPECTIVE OF THE FAMILY PATTERNS**

**Be Van Hau**

The article discusses the cultural identities of Tay ethnic culture through the analysis of family patterns. The author provides an insight into such aspects as family structure; living place of the young couples after marriage; division of labor in families; inheritance and property division; and patterns of cohabitation between parents and sons found in Tay ethnic families in the northern mountainous area of Vietnam.

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The article is based on historical proofs and recent survey evidences, to give an analysis of cultural changes during the Renovation reform period in Vietnam. The article also stresses that Vietnam has a united but diverse culture, comprising various ethnic communities, whereby the family pattern of Tay people also reflects the unity in diversity, or diversity in the unity of Vietnam culture.

**THEORY OF “COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION”  
IN POLICY MAKING AND ITS APPLICABILITY INTO  
ENVIRONMENTAL DECISION MAKING IN VIETNAM**

**Nguyen Thi Kim Nhung**

The theory of community participation is the theoretical basis for the deployment and effective implementation of community participation in the local development plans, projects and programs. This article aims to analyze the involvement/participation of the community from a few theoretical standpoints; thereby proposing prospects and the applicability of this theory in the environmental decision-making in Vietnam. Based on this line of reasoning, the article is concentrated on analyzing and proving the following aspects: theory of community participation in policy making; some studies on the community participation in the field of environment and issuance of environmental decisions; the applicability of the theory of "community participation" in the study of decision-making processes with regards to the environment in Vietnam.

As indicated by the article, for Vietnam, the study of community participation in development projects in various fields have actually been discussed since the early 1990s. These studies also indicate the significance of "community participation" in activities aimed at democracy and sustainable development. The theoretical and practical bases, as analyzed in the article, indicate that it is perfectly possible to apply the Ladder of Community Participation by Arnstein (1969) and Choguill (1996) into the assessment of the level of people's participation in environmental decision-making in Vietnam.