

Ho Chi Minh's Ideology on National Unity in Vietnam's Revolution

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Abstract

For any country in the stage of development, unity is always considered as palpable pillar for a stable and sustainable goal of welfare. This study focuses on the case of Vietnam by analysing Ho Chi Minh's ideology. He is the initiator and builder of Vietnamese nation known as the ideology on great unity which continues to be expressed from theory to practice. Great national unity is both the goal and the top task of the revolution which may be seen thoroughly in all paths, guidelines and policies of the Party during the Party Congresses. This article further discusses the basis for the formulation of the national unity based on Ho Chi Minh's ideology, explain why Ho Chi Minh can solve the national-class relationship, and draw out the implication for Vietnam in the stage of current development.

Keywords: Ho Chi Minh; unit; national unity

Introduction

For any country in the stage of development, unity is always considered as palpable pillar for a stable and sustainable goal for the country's welfare. Depending on the historical, natural and social conditions, the spirit of unity in each country is built based on its own philosophies. This study focuses on nation building of Vietnam, a country with many challenges geographically, historically and economically. It deals with natural disasters comprises from flooding, invaders, and many other challenges. This backdrop demands Vietnamese people to unify and cooperate one and another to the pursuit of welfare and sustain development. Therefore, the national unity ideology is a precious tradition, a red thread throughout the history of the national development and defence. That spirit is expressed deeply, clearly, consistently and throughout Ho Chi Minh's ideology, a matter of strategic significance, a fundamental factor that determines the victory of the Vietnamese revolution. The article focuses on clarifying the basis for formulating the national unity perspective in Ho Chi Minh's ideology, explains why Ho Chi Minh can solve the national-class relationship to bring about national unity, then draws out the implication for Vietnam in the current development stage.

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Why Do We Have to Build the National Unity?

Ho Chi Minh (May 15, 1890 - September 2, 1969) was one of the founders and leaders of the struggle for independence and territorial integrity of Vietnam in the twentieth century. The great national unity plays the core role in Ho Chi Minh's ideology. The explanation for the reason why do we have to build the national unity in Ho Chi Minh's ideology can be based on the following basic reasons:

Firstly, Ho Chi Minh recognized the limitations in gathering the forces of senior patriots, which was one of the causes for the failure of Vietnam's patriotic movements in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. He was always concerned with the destiny of the Fatherland, understood the patriotic tradition and unity of the nation. From the review of practical experiences of Vietnam and the national liberation movements of colonial countries in the world, Ho Chi Minh drew out necessary lessons for building the ideology of great national unity. On the basis of analyzing the causes of failures from the patriotic movements of Vietnam that took place dramatically in the early twentieth century, such as the Can Vuong, Yen The, Dong Du, Duy Tan, etc., Ho Chi Minh recognized the constraints in the force gathering of senior patriots. Based on the analysis of new conditions in Vietnam and in the world, Ho Chi Minh recognized that in the face of the development requirements of the history and the new requirements of the era, the patriotism alone was not enough to defeat the invading forces, but a revolutionary leadership force was required to bring the whole nation into the struggle against the colonial empire, only when gathering and building a great national utility, the resistance could rain the victory. This urged Ho Chi Minh to find a way to save the country when the movements of national liberation in colonized countries around the world increased, Ho Chi Minh wanted to go abroad to see what France and other countries were doing to return to help fellow people.

Secondly, Ho Chi Minh found a valuable lesson in gathering progressive forces during the October Russian Revolution and the perspectives of the Marxism - Leninism. Ho Chi Minh thoroughly studied the success path of the Russian October Revolution to draw out many profound lessons, especially the lesson of mobilizing and gathering a large mass of peasant public forces to win and maintain the revolutionary government, which is the unity spirit of peoples, parties and religions in order to realize the goals of each period in many colonial and dependent countries in the world. The most important basis for the formation of Ho Chi Minh's ideology of great national unity can be asserted as the perspectives of the Marxism - Leninism: revolution is the cause of the masses, the alliance of farmers and workers is the basis to build a great force of revolution, unity of the nation must be associated with international unity, in the spirit of "unity of proletarians of all nations". Therefore, in order to successfully carry out the revolution in Vietnam, to implement national independence and reunification, the great unity must be built first.

Thirdly, Ho Chi Minh himself was well aware of the special importance of the great national unity bloc, unity was a matter of strategic significance and a basic factor determining the victory of the Vietnam's revolution. For Ho Chi Minh, unity is not a temporary measure, but a strategy to gather all the forces to bring the revolution to success; unity must always be recognized as a vital issue of the revolution and an immutable strategy. However, depending on each period and phase of the revolution, before the different requirements and tasks, it is possible and necessary to adjust the policies and methods of gathering forces to suit various objects. Ho Chi Minh said: Thanks to the great unity, the Vietnamese people defeated colonialism, made the August Revolution successful and won the victory. Thanks to the great unity of the whole people, Vietnam will definitely unify (Ho Chi Minh, 2011f).

Moreover, Ho Chi Minh was determined that national unity was not merely a method of gathering and organizing patriotic and revolutionary forces, but unity must be both the goal and the leading task of Vietnam's Party and Revolution. The purpose of the Vietnam Labor Party is generally composed of 8 words: *Uniting the whole people, serving the Fatherland* (Ho Chi Minh, 2011c). Talking about the role of the great unity bloc, in his Will, Ho Chi Minh emphasized that the unity in the Party is the foundation

and the core to build the great unity bloc for the entire people: Unity is an extremely precious tradition of the Party and our people (Ho Chi Minh, 2011b). Ho Chi Minh said that unity in the Party is the nucleus to unite the whole nation. To do so, it is required not only to build unity within the Party, but also to build unity between the Communist Party and other parties in the country; and unity between the Party and the people. The relationship between the Party and the people is a dialectically unified relationship, interacting with each other, without the people, the Party does not have enough force; without the Party, the people will have no one to lead the way. Unity is the mother point. If this is done well, it is good to have children and grandchildren points (Ho Chi Minh, 2011e). The party and the people must unite together as one unit. To do so, the first task of the Revolutionary Party is to widely gather and unite all classes of people in the country and people who love peace and progress in the world, to form a great and strong mass of unity. For that reason, right from its inception until later party congresses, the Communist Party of Vietnam has consistently shown the ideology of building the national unity in practical activities.

Fourthly, Ho Chi Minh was well aware of the role of the revolution as the cause of the mass and the common work of the people. The revolution does not belong to anyone, not by an individual or a few people, but the revolution is the cause of the masses and the common work of the people; therefore, in order to realize the goal of achieving independence for the nation and freedom for the people, the most important thing is to build a great unity bloc, unity is a great strength to succeed. To conduct a revolution, to have revolutionary forces and to have revolutionary forces, it is necessary to build a solid, broad and long-lasting unity block in the whole people. According to Ho Chi Minh, "there will be attenuation and loss without unity". There is unity, there will be prosperity and existence. We have to take unity to change the destiny, maintain the nation and protect the country" (Ho Chi Minh, 2011b). Mentioning about the power of great unity bloc, he not only affirmed "unity is the strongest force", "unity is the invincible power", "unity is the strength and the key of success", but also drew into action philosophy: "Unity, unity, great unity, success, success, great success" (Ho Chi Minh, 2011g). It can be affirmed that national unity is the basic, prominent and consistent ideology, not only throughout Ho Chi Minh's ideology and practical activities, but also in the process of the Vietnamese revolution, from the national network of democratic people to the socialist revolution, the national unity ideology has always been unified and shown from ideology to practical activities.

Essence of Great National Unity Content

In the basic issues of the Vietnamese revolution, the ideology of great national unity is an especially important part of Ho Chi Minh's ideology system. In Ho Chi Minh's full volume, the national unity ideology is expressed in 839 articles, the word unity and great unity are used up to 1,809 times, even in his Will, Ho Chi Minh also mentioned the ideology of unit for 8 times, it shows the particularly important role of the issue of building great national unity in Ho Chi Minh's ideology. The foundation for building the national unity bloc in Ho Chi Minh's ideology is the idea of taking people as the root - one of the core values of the Vietnamese people which has been formulated over thousands of years of history.

For Ho Chi Minh, the people are both the root and the foundation of the great national unity bloc, the subject and the power of the great unity bloc "the rice we eat, the clothes we wear, the materials we use, all are from sweats and tears of the people" (Ho Chi Minh, 2011b). Therefore, to build the great unity bloc, Ho Chi Minh always started from the people. The concept of "people are the root of the country; the country takes the people as the root" was always deeply and consistently understood by Ho Chi Minh from ideology to action.

Ho Chi Minh used many different terms to talk about the ideology of unity such as "national unity", "unity of the whole people", "the great unity of the whole people", "our whole nation unity", etc.

However, Ho Chi Minh only explained the concept of great unity once: "Great unity means first of all the great unity of the people in which the vast majority of the people are workers, peasants and other working classes. That is the root of the great unity. It is like the foundation of a house and the root of a tree. But when there has been a solid foundations and good roots, there must be unity among other population classes" (Ho Chi Minh, 2011d). It can be seen that Ho Chi Minh's great unity ideology is the unity of the people based on the philosophy of taking people as the root: *With the people's unity, everything can be done while nothing can be done without the people's support* (Ho Chi Minh, 2011b). In essence, Ho Chi Minh's concept of great unity is unity of ethnic groups, religions, classes, all sexes, all ages, all regions of the country, uniting all members of the great family of Vietnam, whether living in the country or settling abroad into a solid group on the basis of common goals and common interests.

Why is Ho Chi Minh's National Unity Ideology Supported by the People?

Firstly, Ho Chi Minh's national unity ideology is in line with the traditions of the Vietnamese people. Throughout its history, Vietnamese people have always been deeply aware that in order to survive and develop, they must build unity. Unity is the source that never ceases to flow throughout Vietnam's history, it becomes the traditional moral value, the essence and the identity of Vietnamese people. Along with the specific natural geographical conditions, the unity ideology is also associated with the process of national construction and defence of the nation, which is an objective requirement in Vietnamese production and fighting.

The unity of Vietnamese people is expressed in a very wide space from within the family and clan; village; homeland, country and all mankind. Unity in a family is sharing, respecting the elderly and giving for the youth, embracing and loving one another. In a village, the unity spirit is expressed in the village's rules and conventions to unify the customs and practices, the code of conduct and the unity in dealing with common affairs. The spirit of unity in the family and the commune is extended into the spirit of national unity among 54 ethnic groups throughout the S-shaped strip.

In terms of time, in any circumstance, Vietnamese people are always aware of the unity spirit from the common ancestor of Lac Hong through the legends of Lac Long Quan and Au Co. Wherever we go and whatever we do, Vietnamese people are proud of their two words "fellow", always raising the awareness of the community and unity in the fight against foreign invaders. If during the feudal era, all dynasties were associated with the process of fighting to maintain independence and sovereignty, the Tran dynasty rekindled the spirit of Dong A spirit, millions of people were one and united to bring a great victory in 3 times of defeating Yuan Mong army. The history of Vietnam also proved that without unity, the king and vassals were in a disagreement, it would lead to the failure as the Ho Dynasty in the history of the nation.

The unity in history is an invaluable lesson that the Vietnamese people have gone through. The sense of community and national unity has been formed and strengthened for thousands of years, becoming the virtues and natural life of every Vietnamese person to form a close three-tier relationship: family - village - nation, which is a tight link between ethnic groups and classes in Vietnamese society. At the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century, when the Vietnamese people were half-feudal, the people were hungry and miserable, to liberate the nation and to bring independence and freedom to the people, every Vietnamese people across the country were well aware of the unity spirit appealed by Ho Chi Minh. A small, poor, backward country with only unity, on and under one heart, millions of people as one, had the strength to implement the struggle for national liberation associated with class liberation and social liberation, bringing true freedom and happiness to people. Therefore, it can be seen that Ho Chi Minh's unity ideology aroused and promoted the unity

tradition of the Vietnamese people, awakening and blowing that spirit to grow in every Vietnamese people.

Secondly, Ho Chi Minh chose the path of national liberation, built contents and methods of assembling the great national unity properly and appropriately. After nearly 50 years of revolutionary activities, including nearly 30 years of traveling abroad to find a way to save the country, Ho Chi Minh came to Marxism - Leninism, with the Russian October Revolution. Ho Chi Minh's thesis "Wanting to save the country and liberate the people is no other way than the proletariat revolution" (Ho Chi Minh, 2011d) is a big thesis, with the truth of the times, living forever with the human development process, especially colonial peoples. Ho Chi Minh made the Vietnamese people understand "The purpose of the revolution is to build an independent, united, free and prosperous Vietnam. To make people enjoy happiness and build a happy and glorious society" (Ho Chi Minh, 2011c) with appropriate methods and ways including fundamental and core ideology, to build a great national unity bloc.

Regarding the national unity force, Ho Chi Minh always advocated to unite the ethnic groups into a unified bloc, regardless of mountainous or lowland areas, the majority or the ethnic minorities. Vietnam's society includes many classes, classes, ethnic groups, people of different religions, parties, branches, sexes, different ages, it is necessary to ignore those specific points to form a broad national unity bloc and form a synergy. "Kinh or Tho ethnic group, Muong or Man ethnic group, Gia Rai or Ede Ethnic group, Xedang or Ba Na ethnic group and all other ethnic minorities, who are descendants of Vietnam, are siblings, etc. We must love each other, respect each other, help each other to make our common happiness and our children and grandchildren" (Ho Chi Minh, 2011a). Vietnam is a multi-religious country, all religions exist and are closely linked to the interests of the ethnic community, so anyone who honestly supports peace, independence, and democracy, we are honest and united with them, without discrimination of people or religion, if the country is glory, the religion can be bright, and if the country is independent, the religion will be free.

According to Ho Chi Minh, the appropriate form of national unity organization is the united National Front, in order to widely unite patriotic organizations, fight for national independence, democracy and socialism. It is a means to realize the purpose of unity in which the union of industry, agriculture and intelligence must be the foundation and unity with other patriotic classes to expand the organization, expand the great unity bloc and have the leadership from the Party of the working class. Ho Chi Minh stressed, the united National Front is still one of the great forces of the Vietnamese revolution: "Unity in the *Viet Minh Front*, our people have succeeded in the August Revolution, forming the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. Unity in the *Lien Viet Front*, our people have won successfully, rebuilding peace in Indochina and completely liberating the North. Unity in the Vietnam Fatherland Front, our people have won victories in economic recovery, socialist reform and in the cause of building socialism in the North (Ho Chi Minh, 2011g).

Ho Chi Minh also emphasized the international unity force, in order to consolidate and promote more national unity. International unity is a constant factor in working together with humanity to progress against the common enemy and to fulfill the common goals of the time. Depending on each relationship with other countries, Ho Chi Minh is flexible in choosing and building appropriate forms. With neighboring countries having the same enemies and the same aspiration to be independent and free for each people, Ho Chi Minh established the Vietnam-Cambodia-Laos United Front; on the contrary, with fraternal socialist countries like China, the Soviet Union, Cuba, North Korea, etc., Ho Chi Minh built a Friendship Union of cooperation and assistance with other countries. For the people who love peace and democracy in the world, Ho Chi Minh builds a Unity Front with the movement of peace, democracy and progress in the world like the Unity Front between the Vietnamese people and the Afro-Americans and Latin-Americans people, the anti-imperial united Front between the Vietnamese people

and the American people, etc. Ho Chi Minh especially valued and build unity with neighboring countries, in the spirit of "helping you means helping yourself", "being both comrades and brothers".

Regarding the unity principle, Ho Chi Minh formulated four basic principles. Firstly, the unity must be built on the basis of uniting the interests of the nation with the basic interests of the social strata and between national and international interests. In particular, the relationship between the nation and the class is through the core system, independence and freedom are considered as the common denominator to unite the entire nation. Besides national unity, the international unity must be based on the principle of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, not infringing on each other's internal affairs, always placing the interests of the nation and the people first; and first of all, strive for peace, stability and development. Ho Chi Minh indicated: "Closely united with the people of your countries, the people of the two countries of Cambodia, Laos, the Asian people, the people of France and the people of the world who love peace and implement five great principles of peaceful coexistence" (Ho Chi Minh, 2011d). Secondly, the principle of believing people, relying on people, striving for the interests of the people. Believing in the people and relying on the people are both "taking the people as the root", "the roots are strong, the tree will be durable, and building a victory monument on the people foundation" (Ho Chi Minh, 2011b) and thoroughly grasping the principle of Marxism - Leninism "The revolution is career of the mass". Ho Chi Minh confirmed: "In the sky, nothing is as precious as the people. In the world, nothing is as strong as the unity of the people" (Ho Chi Minh, 2011e). Thirdly, the principle of unity, organization, leadership; long-term unity. Ho Chi Minh stated: "Our unity is not only spacious but also long-term unity. Unity is a national policy and is not a political trick. We are united to fight for the unity and independence of the Fatherland. We still have to unite to build our country" (Ho Chi Minh, 2011d). Accordingly, the great national unity is the unity under the proletarian stance, under the flag of Marxism - Leninism and on the foundation of the industry-agriculture-intelligence, led by the Communist Party. Fourthly, unity must be built on the principle of sincerity, straightforwardness, cordiality; and unity must be associated with self-criticism and criticism. Ho Chi Minh advocated to eliminate all prejudices and seek to entice and unify the interests of all the people with the interests of the nation. However, unity must have both kindness, tolerance and struggle as a basis for consolidating the unity: "Unity means to unite, fight, learn each other's good things, critique each other's wrongs and critique on our cordial, country, and people stance" (Ho Chi Minh, 2011f). In unity, self-criticism and criticism must be carried out in a spirit of sincerity, frankness, cordiality, rationality, enthusiasm and criticism rather than just criticism, so that we can overcome shortcomings and promote advantages.

Ho Chi Minh formulated three basic methods to build great national unity to motivate the development. Firstly, the method of propaganda, advocacy, education and persuasion is the basic method to awake people to voluntarily to unify into a bloc. Based on different stages of revolutionary practice, it is required to build the contents of appropriate propaganda forms, ensuring their richness, diversity, and concise, easy to understand, containing sufficient intellectual content, be popular, profound and simple, and must be in the common language close to every Vietnamese so that everyone can understand, remember and do it. In order for the people to believe and follow, the people who carry out propaganda and advocacy must master the Party's guidelines and policies, are an example and a model from words to work, have attractiveness and conquer the people. *Secondly, in terms of organizational methods*, it is necessary to have a method of organizing science, consolidating and developing the political system, including: Party, State, Front and mass organizations. In which *the Communist Party*: is the core leading unity and sets the right direction of unity. *The State*: organizes, manages and directs all activities of social life. *Fronts and mass organizations*: is the wire connecting the Party with the people. To build the great unity bloc, Ho Chi Minh requested the Front and mass organizations: The proposed platform must be practical, concise, clear; organizational forms must be

rich and diverse, suitable to the level of public awareness; officials must think, go, see directly; must do well the civilian work. Thirdly, about methods to handle and solve relationships. Revolution - intermediate - counter revolution. For the revolutionary forces, it is necessary to exploit and promote the uniform and similar points; restrict, overcome and gradually eliminate differences in goals and interests, build unity and unity of the revolutionary forces because it is a prerequisite for attracting and gathering intermediary forces into the revolutionary frontline and isolating enemy forces. For intermediary forces, it is necessary to eliminate all prejudices, guilt, arousing and encouraging national consciousness and patriotism; sincerely cooperate, respect those who are talented and virtuous to help the people and the country. For anti-revolutionary forces, it is necessary to proactively and resolutely destroy on the basis of highly isolated division; pay attention to exploiting conflicts within the enemy, enticing people who can take advantage of and temporarily postpone with forces and parts that can be postponed.

Thirdly, it is the personality and individual of Ho Chi Minh. Ho Chi Minh has become a legendary and outstanding figure in the history of the nation of Vietnam because his mentality, intellect and stature have become the real value that is always visible in the mind of each patriot in the Vietnamese generation. Ho Chi Minh has transformed into Vietnamese people and working people all over the world with the best values that anyone wishes to achieve. Born in a Confucian family rich in patriotic traditions, his mother died when he was 10 years old and lived in a state of homelessness and mournfully miserable people, Ho Chi Minh soon brought with him a patriotic spirit. His whole life had only a "desire, ultimate desire is to make our country completely independent, our people are completely free, everyone has rice to eat and clothes to wear, everyone can study"; therefore, at the age of 21, the patriotic young man, Nguyen Tat Thanh, went out to find a way to save the country with bare hands and had to do all jobs for earning a living and dedicated his life to the long three liberations: Liberating the nation - Liberating the society - Liberating the people, not only for the nation, but also for the whole mankind.

Ho Chi Minh was twice imprisoned, had an absent death sentence and suffered from many deprivations, but the aspiration of a free, independent and powerful nation, people with warm clothing, education, no oppression, injustice, people with a good life both materially and spiritually and people in the world being liberated was bigger than all, so Ho Chi Minh could overcome difficulties with an extraordinary will, iron faith, a great brain and a special personality. Vietnamese people trusted and respected Ho Chi Minh as a very natural and extremely sacred sentiment. To this day, Ho Chi Minh's name has crossed the border of Vietnam, spread to many countries in the world and become a character of the era. Many countries around the world have named roads, schools, squares, flower gardens and parks with the name "Ho Chi Minh", and many countries in continents such as: Russia, France, Great Britain, Cuba, Thailand, Philippines, Mongolia, Mexico, etc. have set the monument of Ho Chi Minh, which is a clearer evidence that Ho Chi Minh is deeply embedded in the hearts of Vietnamese people and international friends. UNESCO's Resolution on the occasion of President Ho Chi Minh's 100th Birthday (May 19, 1890 - May 19, 1990) emphasized: "Ho Chi Minh is an outstanding symbol of the affirmation of the national right who has devoted its whole life to the cause of national liberation of the Vietnamese people, contributing to the common struggle of the peoples for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress, etc. His ideals embodied peoples' aspirations to affirm their cultural identity and promote mutual understanding among peoples." To explain why peace-loving people in Vietnam send their iron beliefs to Ho Chi Minh, the article excerpts the quote of the Soviet poet - O-man-man-black-xtam who once had a sharp judgment as a prophecy the first time he met Nguyen Ai Quoc in 1923: "Nguyen Ai Quoc radiates a culture, not culture of Europe, but perhaps a culture of the future."

Implication of Ho Chi Minh's Ideology on Unity With the Vietnam Revolution

The great national unity ideology is based on the union of industry - agriculture - intelligence, under the leadership of the Party in Ho Chi Minh's ideology has a strategic implication to the revolution of Vietnam, a source of strength and motivation and a decisive factor, ensuring the sustainable victory of the cause of national construction and defense. The reality of Vietnam's revolution shown that Ho Chi Minh and the Communist Party of Vietnam always follow the consistent, correct and proper way of unity, thus promoting the patriotic and unity tradition of the nation and of the world, constituting the invincible power for the revolution. Inheriting Ho Chi Minh's ideology of unity and great unity, since the 6th Congress so far, the Communist Party of Vietnam has paid more and more attention to building a great national unity block.

Right from the 6th National Congress that started the comprehensive renovation of the country, the Communist Party of Vietnam realized that the legitimate interests of the mass were posing many urgent issues that needed to be solved; therefore, it is required to have appropriate policies for each object, then in the VIIth, VIIIth, IXth, Xth, XIth and the recent XIIth Congress of the Party to suit the new situation in the country and internationally, the great national unity ideology has been supplemented and completed. Unity and great national unity, which was affirmed by the IXth Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam" was a great source of strength and motivation to build and defend the Fatherland". That strategic approach aims to "unite the unity of peoples, religions, caste, class, economic sectors, all circles, all ages, regions of the country, Party members and non-Party people, working people and retired people, all members of the Vietnamese national family, whether living in the country or abroad" (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2001). The principle for building a great unity bloc, the Congress determined to "promote the strength of the entire ethnic community, patriotic tradition and self-reliance will and national pride, take aim to maintain independence, unity, because the rich people, strong country, fair, democratic and civilized society as similarities; respect different opinions that are not contrary to the common interests of the nation, eradicate guilt, prejudice and discrimination on the past, class and composition, and build an open spirit and mutual trust toward the future" (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2001).

From the new request, based on a comprehensive assessment of ethnic issues, the great national unity ideology was presented in the most concise manner, included in the theme of the Xth Congress and presented in Section X, Report of the IXth Central Committee of the Party with the title: *"Promoting the strength of the great national unity, continuing to innovate the mode of operation of the Vietnam Fatherland Front and the mass organizations"*. The basic ideas about great national unity such as the basis, role and intrinsic purpose of national unity ideology are briefly presented. The Xth Congress emphasized: "The great national unity on the foundation of the working class alliance with the peasant class and the intellectual team, under the leadership of the Party, is the strategic way of the Vietnamese revolution; the main motive and a significant factor determine the sustainable victory of the cause of national construction and defense (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2006). Determining that national solidarity is the basis and motivation for social development, is an endogenous factor that determines Vietnam's strength and position to reach out to the world, at the 12th Party Congress of the Party, the great national unity ideology continued to be expanded, strengthened, developed and increasingly improved in the context that Vietnam was on the way to the 21st century. The XIIth Party Congress affirmed: "Great national unity is the strategic way of Vietnam revolution, is the great motivation and resource in building and defending the Fatherland" (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2016).

In order to clarify the viewpoint of "revolution is the cause of the masses, must be by the masses and for the masses" by President Ho Chi Minh, the XII Congress has set the direction and task of strengthening the great unity block of the whole nation on the foundation of the working-class alliance with the peasantry and intellectuals led by the Party, and at the same time, to strongly promote all

resources and all creative potentials of the people to build and protect the country; aim to build a peaceful, independent, unified, territorial country of Vietnam, "rich, strong, democratic, fair and civilized people". The great national unity can only be realized when harmoniously resolving the relationship of interests between members of society; protecting the legal and legitimate rights and interests of the people, so all guidelines and policies of the Party, policies and laws of the State are for the benefit of the people. The congress also introduced policies on great national unity for all classes and strata of society taking into account all forces, classes, ethnic groups, religions and communities of Vietnamese people in foreign countries, demonstrating the instill, creative application and concretion of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on great national unity in the cause of national construction and development in the context of that Vietnam enters the period of market economy development and international economic integration.

Conclusion

Ho Chi Minh is the initiator and builder who wholeheartedly cares for the great national unity. His ideology on the great unity of Vietnam is consistently expressed from theory to practice. National unity is both the target and the leading task of Vietnam's revolution, that task is always grasped thoroughly in all paths, guidelines and policies of the Party during the Party Congresses. The ideology of great national unity is an invaluable spiritual asset of the entire Party and people, and is one of the decisive factors for the victory of Vietnam's revolution. Studying Ho Chi Minh's ideology about national unity, national unity to supplement and develop in the context of many changes in the country is the task of the entire Party and the whole Vietnamese people in the current period. Ho Chi Minh's ideology on great national unity is still the source of the unrivalled power of the Vietnamese revolution, arousing national self-respect, revitalizing the country, promoting the spirit of self-reliance, pushing back the risk, overcoming challenges, gradually bringing Vietnam to shorten the lagging time for developed countries in the world.

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