

GLOBALIZATION AND THE IMPORTANCE OF TRADITIONAL NATIONAL MORAL VALUES EDUCATION FOR CURRENT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN HO CHI MINH CITY

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays, globalization is a strong and complex objective trend that is affecting almost every country and territory, including Vietnam in general and Ho Chi Minh City in particular. As a leader in the national economy and a centre of cultures and society, Ho Chi Minh City always takes the lead in the economic growth rate. Globalization has changed all aspects of social life positively. However, it has posed many difficulties, including the introduction of many moral concepts, the manifestation of a pragmatic Western lifestyle, the foreign-favoured tendency, the disregard for national moral values, individualism and egoism, and financial greed. These disadvantages are increasing. Therefore, educating Vietnamese students including university students in Ho Chi Minh City on traditional national moral values is now a must.

Key Words: Globalization, Moral Education, Traditional Moral Values, Nation, Students

1. INTRODUCTION

Globalization is an objective trend arising from the socialization of high production under the influence of the modern scientific and technological revolution. It attracts the participation of many countries. Besides its advantages (promoting the development of productive forces, strongly developing science and technology, growing knowledge economy, etc.), globalization brings disadvantages increasingly over time, such as the introduction of many moral concepts, the expressions of a pragmatic Western lifestyle, xenophilia, the neglect towards national moral values, individualism and egoism, and the regard for money. From that reality, the education of traditional Vietnamese moral values for university students in Ho Chi Minh City today has significant value in theory and practice.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Globalization and its Impact

In Vietnam, the term "globalization" was used relatively widely in the 80s of the twentieth century. Since then, it has often appeared in the mass media. However, the connotation of this concept still has many different interpretations. According to the European Commission, globalization refers to a process in which markets and production in various countries are becoming increasingly interdependent due to the dynamism of the trade in goods and services, as well as capital current and technological circulation.

In terms of economy, it is said that the globalization trend arises from the nature of the market economic system. It is an open system, not limited by any national, racial, or religious

boundaries. In terms of culture, globalization is an expansion in exchanging and accepting human cultural values. However, it is also noted that countries with international integration must actively fight against counter-cultural phenomena, the tendencies of xenophilia, miscellaneous culture, and forgetting the root. Also, they must cope with the money cult, moral neglect, and disregard for human values; selectively absorb the quintessence of human culture on the basis of preserving and promoting national cultural identity. Authors of the book "Learning some concepts in the Document of the IX Party Congress" pointed out that globalization is the process that significantly increases connected, mutual interactive, and interdependent relationships of all regions, nations, and peoples across the world, highlighting a series of interrelated events from which a new set of conditions can arise. Globalization makes international competition more fierce, deepening specialization and international division of labour, and encouraging production nationally and even globally [2, p. 94-95].

The effects of globalization

Positive effects. Globalization contributes to the world's economic structural transformation, especially sharply increasing the proportion of manufactured products and services in the global economic structure. The international division of labour tends to take place on a larger scale, cover many fields at a fast pace, and grow vertically. Under the influence of the revolution, science and technology have helped mankind gradually approach the knowledge economy. Science and technology have become the direct producers of goods with a greater accumulation of human intelligence. Countries with high technology will be greatly competitive, whereas lower-developed science and technology countries will have lower competitiveness.

Many nations have access to knowledge and experience due to the widespread dissemination of information and transformation, new achievements and breakthroughs in science and technology, management organization, products, and business operations. In many countries, this achievement has reached each family, each individual, creating the foundation for industrialization and modernization.

Create the rapid development ability and bring necessary resources for developing countries such as Vietnam from capital sources, knowledge sources (science, technology, culture, and society), and micro- and macro-management experience. Globalization puts great pressure on competition as well as the efficiency of the economy. If each economy wants to be competitive, it must pay attention to quality, and time, and increase surplus value in order to effectively compete with others in the economic sector. On the other hand, globalization opens up new locations and operating practices and attracts new partnerships for each country, especially for developing countries.

Promote closer relationships between nations and reinforce the ability to exchange culture and history between countries. This contributes to the diversity and enrichment of spiritual life

through acculturation between cultures. With this advantage, globalization has helped improve people's education, allowing them to have more conditions to develop both materially and spiritually.

Negative effects: Globalization exacerbates social injustice as well as widens the gap between the rich and poor within and between countries. It destabilizes all aspects of human activities and life, especially employment, national security, and the economic-financial system. Moreover, it increases the unemployment rate because intense competition during globalization forces the number of businesses to reduce production activities, transform businesses or go bankrupt and stop operating, which leaves many workers unemployed.

Under globalization, the power, scope, and effectiveness of impact from the nations and states have been somewhat narrowed. It has shaken the foundation of the countries' lives as well as raised sensitive problems. The environment has been a burning problem that needs attention in the process of globalization of countries worldwide.

Globalization puts many national cultures at risk of being lost, assimilated into other cultures, and even easily losing their national cultural identity. The risk of "assimilating", "westernizing", and "Americanizing" cultural values is a great challenge because the influence of traditional cultural values is being decreased. In fact, developed capitalist countries are imposing some cultural values on others, which is significantly obstructing the development of national cultural values in underdeveloped countries.

Being aware of the objective trend of globalization, our Party and State have proactively implemented policies to integrate into the world economy and expand international exchange and cooperation in various fields (politics, culture, society, etc.). At the 11th Party Congress, our Party affirmed that consistently implementing foreign policies of independence, self-governing, peace, cooperation, and development; multi-lateralizing and diversifying relations, proactively and actively integrating into the world; improving the country's standing; for the sake of the country, the people, for a rich and strong socialist Vietnam. Being a friend, reliable partner, and responsible member of the international community, contributing to the cause of peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress in the world [3, p. 83].

2.2 The importance of traditional Vietnamese moral values education for university students in Ho Chi Minh City under the impact of globalization

Educating traditional Vietnamese moral values plays a crucial role in passing on the moral values built by previous generations to students. It helps them recognize moral values, human and compassionate values, which contributes to humanizing people to form and develop good personalities as well as meeting the requirements of building new people and socialists. Therefore, the issue of educating national moral values has always been a concern of our Party and State, manifesting in many guidelines, lines, and policies on the development of compassionate humans.

During the national renovation, with the foreign policy of expanding international relations in all areas of life, this is a great opportunity for our country to exchange, learn, and promote traditional moral values with international friends. Nevertheless, in the process of expanding international relations and cultural exchange, it is inevitable that the introduction of Western culture, strange lifestyles, and toxic cultural products degrade morality.

Traditional moral values education plays an extremely important role in shaping and developing Vietnamese students' characteristics including university students in Ho Chi Minh City. It helps students recognize the great multifaceted significance of traditional moral values. Based on this, students inherit and promote these values in the new historical context; and develop their comprehensive characteristics. Its role is presented below.

Firstly, educating students on national moral values will help reinforce and promote those values in students in a new historical setting, fostering necessary traits in them.

Traditional moral values education helps students understand the national spirit and promotes patriotism and pride in the splendid history of the country. In globalization and international integration, when the cultural environment is "invaded", a number of traditional moral values are in danger of being faded away in social life while many newly-established values upset the order of relationships, especially among the youth. Not a few students have a vague sense of national identity and uncertain knowledge about their country's history (history scores in the 2021 graduation examination are the lowest among the subjects, accounting for 52,03 candidates with below-average scores [4]); Thus, educating students on aforementioned values, especially patriotism, is getting more urgent than ever. In terms of morality, if "we" do not know "our history", patriotism - as the highest value in the Vietnamese moral value scale - is definitely lost, adversely affecting the education of younger generations about their duties towards the affairs of the nation. Therefore, our Party advocated the preservation and development of Vietnamese culture and people's traditional values, as well as the nurturing and education of future generations. Summarize and establish a universal value system of Vietnamese people in the period of accelerating industrialization, modernization, and international integration" [3, p. 223].

Respecting traditional moral values can be considered one of the Vietnamese unique characteristics. This is the Vietnamese cultural and spiritual asset and the quality that Vietnam needs to preserve and promote while also adding new content during globalization. For example, patriotism should not only be a commitment to defend the country and protect the integrity of the homeland, but it is also the will to enrich themselves, their families, and society, contributing to eradicating poverty and backwardness in developed countries. Currently, industriousness is not only being hard-working and diligent, but also acquiring advanced science and technology, and summarizing the experience in managing the market economy. Love for humanity is expressed in respecting and protecting others. Moreover, that love requires us to know how to protect the living environment and respect the standard rules in community activities. We must know how to uncompromisingly fight against evils, all forms of oppression and injustice, and behaviours that

violate the legitimate rights of people. We must know how to bring joy to people as well.

Educating students on traditional moral values helps equip them with pure moral qualities, a strong will, and proper manners. This provides the foundation for developing students' competence. Competence only develops and becomes an effective tool when students have patriotism, uphold national pride, live with great ideals, dreams, and ambitions, and are industrious and creative in learning and scientific research.

Secondly, traditional moral values education will enormously contribute to developing students' moral qualities.

Traditional moral values education will help students have a profound understanding of the moral values formed by our ancestors as noble spirits, diversifying Vietnamese national identity and qualities. Build a modern intellectual class with the following fine moral qualities such as patriotism, love for working, humanity, benevolence; living for the community, love for freedom and peace, progressive and democratic attitude.

Given their youth, knowledge, ease of learning new things, proficiency in foreign languages and informatics, as well as the help of modern media and diversification of the process of international exchange, students are adapting more quickly to international integration. This has created favourable conditions for selectively inheriting common moral values, including fighting for a peaceful, democratic, and progressive world; withstanding racism; joining hands to build a green planet; and students from all over the world together repelling the pandemic. These values are being adopted by many students. Currently, Vietnamese students including university students in Ho Chi Minh City are actively integrating into the world, opening up opportunities for exchange and learning. This helps enrich students' moral life with the national moral standards and the spirit of the times.

Thirdly, traditional moral values education will make an important contribution to developing students' competency.

Through education and training, innate competence will form outstanding capabilities (cognitive capacity and active capacity). These abilities must be associated with social requirements, including ethical standards. The moral standards of society allow cognitive and active capacities to develop in accordance with the requirements of history and the era. Among the traditional moral values, patriotism is the highest value, and patriotism education for Vietnamese students and in particular, university students in Ho Chi Minh City contributes to the formation of cognitive capacity and active capacity reflected through the social activeness of students. Their social activeness creates opportunities for enhancing competence, which means the students' abilities are highly promoted, especially the positivity, creativity in life and learning to produce efficient activities and the right motivation to take action. From that, students actively and

voluntarily show their patriotism and put patriotic values into practice. Patriotism is the desire to utilize one's capacity for the country to get out of underdevelopment and soon join in the most advanced and civilized countries. Patriotism is to know how to love people, love fellow citizens; protect the living environment, join hands to build a green - clean - beautiful country; obey the law, stay away from social evils, live a healthy life, as well as be positive, self-conscious, creative, and mentally overcome difficulties and adversity in learning to capture and master scientific and technological knowledge.

Development is a self-made process where internal strength is always the decisive factor. The ability of students does not come naturally. It must be from each individual's efforts in learning and training to create certain competencies. Educating industriousness helps students have the cognitive ability to "practice makes perfect", to persevere and be patient then go through all difficulties to achieve goals. Under the current conditions, students must be diligent, study hard to accumulate knowledge and skills to enhance their personal abilities, so that they can contribute to socio-political activities and prepare for the future.

3 . CONCLUSION

In the new context of globalization, we have to constantly study and strive to assert our own existence, roles, and positions in society. Therefore, each student should keep learning and cultivating more knowledge, and practising morality. Always preserve and promote the fine traditional Vietnamese ethical values. Over thousands of years of building and defending the country, Vietnamese people have trained and created generations rich in patriotism, love for people, diligence, creativity, solidarity, loyalty, tolerance, generosity, fondness for learning, optimism, etc. These virtues have become the Vietnamese moral values that we always conserve and appreciate. Traditional moral values education aims to help students recognize and understand moral values, thereby preserving and developing them in modern life for students to appreciate the national spirit.

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