

## **PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY ON SELF-RELIANCE AND ITS APPLICATION TO BUILDING THE CURRENT VIETNAMESE INTELLECTUAL TEAM**

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<https://doi.org/10.54922/IJEHSS.2024.0873>

### **ABSTRACT**

Ho Chi Minh's ideology is a comprehensive and profound system of viewpoints on the fundamental issues of the Vietnamese revolution, from the people's national democratic revolution to the socialist revolution. Accordingly, the issue of national independence associated with the aspiration for freedom for the people is the starting point, the origin of Ho Chi Minh's ideology. His ideological legacy has profound historical and contemporary significance, and still retains its theoretical and practical value in the current period. Therefore, studying and applying President Ho Chi Minh's ideology, especially his thought on self-reliance, is an important political task of strategic significance for the entire Party and people. Because it contributes to creating an extremely great internal strength to promote the process of building a prosperous and happy country. With that meaning, this article mainly clarifies some basic issues of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on self-reliance and the application of those ideological values to build the Vietnamese intellectual team in the current period.

**Keywords:** Ho Chi Minh's ideology, self-reliance, intellectual team, current period.

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Statement Of The Problem**

Ho Chi Minh's ideology is a smooth combination of Marxism-Leninism with the inheritance and selective absorption of the treasure trove of knowledge and experience of mankind and its creative application to the specific historical conditions of Vietnam. Studying and following Ho Chi Minh's ideology, morality and style on the will of self-reliance and the aspiration to build a prosperous and happy country is the creative application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology in the current context, contributing to the successful implementation of the Party Congress Resolutions.

### **2. CONTENT**

#### **2.1 Ho Chi Minh's ideology on self-reliance**

According to Ho Chi Minh's concept, it can be simply understood that self-reliance is an extraordinary willpower, the iron determination to achieve the goal that the subject pursues. Self-reliance is to nurture the will and determination and create internal strength to complete the desired goal without being passive, relying on others, definitely not being inferior to others, other nations. In that sense, self-reliance is the method of consciously creating strength from within to realize the aspiration to develop a prosperous and happy country. For the people in general and the

intellectuals in particular, this is the method to create an unlimited source of energy, strength and value to be able to study and work in the most creative and effective way in cognition and practice.

The basic content of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on self-reliance includes:

*First*, self-reliance not to depend on external forces, to have an independent viewpoint in international relations. Nguyen Ai Quoc believed that revolutions in colonial countries (including Vietnam) could completely take the initiative to win, regardless of whether the revolution in the mother country won or not. Nguyen Ai Quoc clearly stated the determination, will, and revolutionary methods, deeply expressing the viewpoint of self-reliant and self-reliant in the revolutionary struggle: "For me, the answer is clear: return to the country, go among the masses, awaken them, organize them, unite them, train them, and lead them to fight for freedom and independence" [1]. This was proven by the victory of the August Revolution in 1945.

President Ho Chi Minh also pointed out the close relationship between the revolution in the colonies and the revolution in the mother country. He compared that relationship to the two wings of a bird. The close coordination of this relationship creates more strength for self-reliance.

*Second*, self-reliance is to clearly perceive the power of patriotism and national spirit with pure internationalism. Self-reliance in Ho Chi Minh's ideology helped him clearly see the power of true nationalism, including patriotism and national spirit. It created great strength for oppressed peoples in the world to stand up against imperialism and colonialism. From the reality of Vietnamese society in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, he determined that the decisive factor of the national liberation revolution was the strength of the entire nation: "Nationalism is the great driving force of the country". Next, in the work *The Revolutionary Path* (1927), he promoted the spirit of independence and self-reliance: "I only wish that after reading it, my compatriots would think again, after thinking, wake up, and after waking up, stand up and unite to make a revolution... using our own strength to liberate ourselves" but "we must strengthen the solidarity and friendship between our people and the people of friendly countries, the French people, and the peace-loving people of the world" [2]. From there, he emphasized self-reliance and self-reliance as a principle: "If you want others to help you, you must first help yourself" [3].

*Third*, self-reliance is the initiative, preparing all aspects of the conditions of the revolution. According to Ho Chi Minh, the first condition is to have a revolutionary Party, "to mobilize and organize the people internally, and to connect with oppressed peoples and the proletariat everywhere externally. Only when the Party is strong can the revolution succeed, just as the helmsman must be strong for the boat to sail. For the Party to be strong, it must have an ideology as its core, everyone in the Party must understand and follow that ideology. A Party without an ideology is like a person without intelligence, a boat without a compass" [4]. The first political platform drafted by Nguyen Ai Quoc and approved at the Conference to establish the Communist Party of Vietnam emphasized the struggle for national liberation, against imperialism, colonialism and the declining feudal regime, and the implementation of the strategic goal: "Making Vietnam completely independent", "carrying out a bourgeois democratic revolution and a land revolution to move towards a communist society" [5]. After 30 years of working abroad, on January 28, 1941, leader Ho Chi Minh returned to the Fatherland and directly led the revolutionary movement. At the 8th Central Conference, he and the Party Central Committee decided on major issues of the revolution such as completing the policy of changing the direction of the revolutionary strategy,

placing the task of national liberation first, properly handling the national struggle and class struggle, national interests and class interests, and being determined to gain national independence.

Thanks to the proactiveness and careful preparation in all aspects, within just 15 days, the August Revolution (1945) took place quickly, with little bloodshed, winning complete victory throughout the country, smashing the colonial regime that had ruled our country for more than 80 years, overthrowing the autocratic monarchy that had existed for nearly a thousand years, giving birth to a democratic republic, opening a new era for the Vietnamese nation, an era of national independence associated with socialism.

*Fourth*, self-reliance is to especially focus on promoting the role and strength of the people. In Ho Chi Minh's ideology, "People" is the most noble category. He said: "In the sky, nothing is more precious than the people. In the world, nothing is stronger than the united force of the people" [6]. When the time for revolution was ripe (August 1945), he sent a letter calling for a general uprising throughout the country: "Dear compatriots! The decisive hour for the fate of our nation has come. The whole country, let's stand up and use our strength to liberate ourselves... We cannot delay. Move forward! Move forward! Under the Viet Minh flag, let's bravely move forward!" [7]. During the period of resistance against the French (1946-1954), he also issued a call for national resistance: "Dear compatriots! We must stand up! Men, women, old and young, regardless of religion, party, or ethnicity. 'Every Vietnamese person must stand up to fight the French colonialists to save the Fatherland. Whoever has a gun will use a gun. Whoever has a sword will use a sword. Whoever does not have a sword will use a hoe, a shovel, or a stick. Everyone must strive to fight the French colonialists to save the country'" [8]. The strength of the entire nation was mobilized and had a great presence, creating a great success in the history of the Vietnamese revolution.

*Fifth*, self-reliance is the determination to protect and maintain national independence. In the call for national resistance, President Ho Chi Minh stated: "We want peace, we must make concessions. But the more we make concessions, the more the French colonialists encroach because they are determined to take over our country again. No! We would rather sacrifice everything than lose our country, never become slaves". In the historic confrontation between the Vietnamese people and the American imperialists, he pointed out: "The sacred task of all our people at this time is to raise the spirit of determination to fight and win, determination to liberate the South, protect the North, and move towards peace and national reunification".

## **2.2. Building a team of intellectuals with self-reliance in the current period according to Ho Chi Minh's ideology**

Currently, the process of innovation in our country has brought about great achievements in all aspects of social life. One of the fundamental factors that created this change is that our nation and people know how to gather, arouse, and promote self-reliance and turn it into a great source of internal strength to successfully carry out all revolutionary tasks in the new period. Relying on the strength of the people, promoting the spirit, will and aspirations of the people in building and developing the country is a fundamental issue, a valuable lesson that still holds true in the current period.

The context of today's era has also posed a number of complex and urgent political issues that need to be revised and resolved. These are manifestations and behaviors that are distorted in perception and practice such as attitudes of dependence, reliance, avoidance of responsibility; Mechanical, stereotyped thinking, not daring to innovate; Degeneration in moral lifestyle and poor,

unstable political qualities of some people, cadres, and Party members. Besides, there still exists the abuse of positions to pursue personal goals, local interests, not for the collective interests of some cadres and Party members... The above situation requires us to flexibly and creatively apply Ho Chi Minh's ideology on self-reliance to suit the development situation of the country. With the aspiration to build a prosperous and happy country, each cadre, Party member and all of our intellectuals need to promote the spirit of patriotism, self-reliance and self-improvement in perception and practice. Specifically as follows:

*First*, it is necessary to deeply understand and absorb Ho Chi Minh's ideology, morality and style. We need to consider this a regular and indispensable task for every cadre and party member of the intellectual team. Raise awareness for cadres and party members about the content, value and great significance of Ho Chi Minh's ideology, morality and style. Ho Chi Minh's ideology, together with Marxism-Leninism, is the ideological foundation and compass for the Party's actions. We must study and follow Uncle Ho so that our Party and each party member are worthy of the role and mission of leading the Vietnamese revolution and the trust of the people.

*Second*, it is necessary to enhance the scientific and combative nature in the fight against erroneous, hostile, opportunistic political views and set an example in implementing the Party's principles and the State's policies and laws. We must self-cultivate and train revolutionary ethics, uphold political mettle, effectively fight against all manifestations of individualism, bureaucracy, opportunism, localism, factionalism, "group interests", fight against ideological degradation, raise awareness of self-cultivation, "match words with actions", "lifelong training", regularly "self-examine" and "self-correct". At the same time, we proactively provide timely, accurate, objective and politically oriented information so that intellectuals and people can actively fight against "peaceful evolution" and protect the Party's ideological foundation.

*Third*, we need to promote the spirit of daring to think, daring to do, daring to speak, daring to take responsibility, daring to innovate and be ready to face difficulties and challenges, and acting resolutely for the common good. We must always move and struggle to find new ways and new directions that are suitable for practice, bringing common benefits, for the collective. In practice, those thoughts and ways of doing may initially encounter obstacles and barriers, but we still need to be highly determined to prove their correctness. Furthermore, each person in the country's intellectual team needs to be self-reliant, not shirk responsibility, not avoid difficulties, and dare to take responsibility for their actions.

*Fourth*, it is necessary to build solidarity and unity within the unit to create great collective strength. Each cadre and party member in the intellectual team needs to be sympathetic, loving, supportive and helping each other. We must thoroughly grasp and together implement the Party's correct viewpoints, guidelines, policies and strategies, creating unity in politics, ideology, will and action. To do this in practice, each individual must always find a way to balance both negative and positive emotions and thoughts, resolutely fight to eliminate opportunism and cause internal disunity. Each individual needs to start from the common interest and consider it as a principle and motto for their life, study and work. As President Ho Chi Minh once emphasized: "Please remember unity of strength, unity of mind, unity of alliance".

*Fifth*, it is important to create all mechanisms and favorable conditions for intellectuals to promote their capacity and expertise. Supplement and improve mechanisms and policies, create conditions for intellectuals to assert themselves, develop, contribute and be honored by society; increase investment from various sources, especially encourage organizations, individuals and

enterprises of all economic sectors to invest in research and application of science and technology in all fields; improve the legal system and strengthen the enforcement of intellectual property rights and copyright protection for creative products, in order to ensure the interests of intellectuals when transferring inventions, innovations and initiatives and encourage intellectuals to increase their contributions to the State and society.

### **3. CONCLUSION**

President Ho Chi Minh once advised: “Party members - no matter how big or small their work, high or low their position - must set an example for the masses wherever they are. Each Party member is a representative of the Party before the masses, to explain the Party's and the Government's policies to the masses so that they can understand and happily implement them. And if the masses want to enthusiastically implement them, Party members must volunteer and set an example for the masses to imitate and follow”. The revolutionary cause of the Party is facing unprecedented opportunities and fortunes, along with new and intertwined challenges. Therefore, each cadre, Party member and intellectual must have pure and genuine goals and aspirations, steadfast courage and will, a spirit of self-reliance, self-respect and self-improvement in all circumstances to contribute to building our country to become more and more prosperous and happy.

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