

TRUY PHONG - POSTCURRENTLY HONORED PATRIOTICISM POET OF 20TH CENTURY VIETNAMESE LITERATURE THROUGH WORKS OF A CENTURY - SOME POEMS

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<https://doi.org/10.54922/IJEHSS.2025.1013>

ABSTRACT

Poet Truy Phong was born in 1925 and died in 2005. He took the pen name of Duong Tan Huan, from Vinh Long province - Vietnam. He was a poet of the resistance wars against the French and the Americans, belonging to the generation of artists: Kien Giang (1920-2014), Son Nam (1926-2008), Nguyen Binh (1918-1966), Vien Phuong (1928-2005), ... he was in the army and participated in literary and artistic activities in Military Zone 9 - Vietnam. Truy Phong knew how to sing Cai Luong, Vong Co, Hat Boi, and wrote articles at a very young age, published in famous newspapers such as: Tien Thu, Tin Van, Bong Lua, Ma Thuong, Than Chung, Tieng Noi Dan Toc, Tin Sang, ... Besides, he fought and wrote literature, taught at public and private schools in Vinh Long, Tra Vinh and some places in Saigon. He is a typical patriotic poet of Vietnamese literature of the 20th century through his work A Century - Some Verses.

Keywords: Poet Truy Phong, 20th Century Vietnamese Literature.

1. INTRODUCTION

Poet Truy Phong won many outstanding literary awards: second prize in Literature of Zone Nine – Vietnam with the collection of reports on the resistance war. In 1948, the poet continued to win first prize in Poetry – Vietnam with the collection of poems Dan que khang chien and first prize with the collection of poems Tam long que, later revised. Truy Phong's works include the poetry collections: A century – a few verses (1970, Chim Viet Publishing House). Return of peace (1971, Chim Viet Publishing House). Rising sun (1975), Truy Phong and A century – a few verses (2001, Tre Publishing House), Truy Phong's Poetry (2004), Vinh Long Province Literature and Arts Association – Vietnam. The circumstances of the poem's birth are as follows: With the event of Vietnam's victory in the Dien Bien Phu campaign - Vietnam in 1954, the French army failed and retreated home. At that time, Vietnam signed the 1954 Geneva Agreement forcing the French army to withdraw. A century - a few verses, a poem that stirred up the literary world, published in the Tien Thu daily newspaper (Saigon) on April 27, 1956 by journalist Viet Tha (Le Van Thu) as editor-in-chief. According to writer Le Van Nghia, "On April 27, 1956, for the first time, the Tien Thu daily newspaper - Vietnam published on the front page with very large, very beautiful red headlines, running across the entire width. The cover poem seemed to poke fun at the fact that the Ngo Dinh Diem government publicly abolished the 1954 Geneva Agreement. It did not hold general elections for the two regions of the South and North (Vietnam). he poem caused a great resonance and was spiritual baggage for the resistance fighters in the inner city.

2. AIM OF THE STUDY

Studying the poet Truy Phong to see that Vietnamese literature in the 20th century is outstanding in patriotic literature before the war of invasion. The poet's works aim to encourage fighting spirit, promote revolutionary heroism, and provide strong evidence to denounce the crimes of the enemy. From there, he raises the spirit of all future generations, teaching all Vietnamese people to be united and patriotic. Besides, we can see the positive contribution of poet Truy Phong to Vietnamese literature, making it more rich and diverse in genres through rich content and art.

3. SUBJECTS AND METHODS

The researcher chose the theme of patriotism in Vietnamese literature as the topic. The writer applied specific research methods such as: statistical and classification methods to see the number of works and awards of the poet. Biographical methods to see the poet's life in the process of writing and working. Comparative and judgmental methods to see that the authors have commented that the poet Truy Phong has made positive contributions to Vietnamese literature in the 20th century.

4. RESEARCH CONTENT

4.1. Patriotic ideology

Within two years, the French expeditionary army had to withdraw from Indochina - Vietnam in particular. In early 1956, France completed its withdrawal from our country. Inspired by the sensitive historical moment of "sending the French army home", Truy Phong composed the poem "A Century - a few verses", with the intention of both indirectly condemning the foreign invaders and publicly encouraging and praising the noble patriotism and the heroic tradition of chasing away the enemy to defend the country of the Vietnamese people. The poem has the style of a grand epic with heroic melodies in the history of resistance poetry. The epic poem opens with two optimistic seven-word verses, describing the scene of a bright dawn on the horizon after the glorious Dien Bien Phu victory, signaling the end of the long, dark nights of slavery of the Vietnamese people for nearly a hundred years: The bright red light illuminates the new horizon/ The fire of war has died down.

Truy Phong cleverly contrasted the two situations of the one who saw them off, who was once a victim, and the one who left, who once bore the face of the colonial power. It was ironic that the defeated French expeditionary soldiers, now, with their flags lowered and their guns folded, bowed their heads and silently boarded the ship to return home, amid the mournful, choking sound of the trumpet, under the pale afternoon shadow of the dark cemetery: "This afternoon/The trumpet sounded so mournful that it choked up the words/The sound touched the hearts of the expeditionary soldiers/ In the cemetery, there was a group of elite soldiers/ Flags lowered and their guns folded/ Heads bowed and silent/ Choking...

The poet highlights the emaciated image of the defeated who had been brutally looting and killing the colonial people for hundreds of years in the occupied country: Sword in hand, gun in hand/Walking forward, walking sideways/He shot/He killed/He chopped/He chopped/The scene of inhumane imprisonment, merciless oppression/He exiled Ba Ra, Con Non/He condemned Son La, Lao Bao/He took all the rice, all the clothes/He snatched all the silver and gold. The author felt pained by the scene of savage, horrifying massacre caused by the foreign invaders: Beheading an old man and hanging him on a butcher's shelf/Cutting out a young man's gall bladder/In the middle of the battlefield/The mortar smashed the brains of children/The mother's body was torn apart and

burned to ashes. Truy Phong wants to forget the unforgivable crimes of the enemy and to express tolerance, as a representative of the Vietnamese people who always love peace, independence and freedom: A hundred years of old stories/Let's forget it. The poet wants the invading enemy not to forget the shining truth of human justice: Anything that is tyrannical and unjust/Is against the people's will, against the will of heaven/Pure iron and steel, fierce soldiers/Cannot win over the hearts of people.

At the end of the epic poem, Truy Phong calmly affirmed as a strong declaration for them to remember the unchanging patriotism of our people, the indomitable spirit, the tenacious fighting spirit, the determination to fight the enemy to the death to protect the country: Vietnam is my country // Old like young / Women like men / If I die, I will die / I will not bow to anyone / Whoever wants to invade / If the enemy comes here, they will die here.

4.2. Some artistic poetics of poet Truy Phong

Rhyming, rhythmic breaks in the poem: Truy Phong is quite successful in rhyming continuously, creating many emotions and attracting the recipient. The reader feels that these are rhymes with strong expressive nuances, the content conveyed is more profound, such as the rhyme "anh" in the poem, expressing the gentleness, the peacefulness of the peaceful life of the Vietnamese people: Hung-hăng anh squeezes in his fishy hand/My country is in a peaceful and happy state/Jackfruit is fragrant in season, grapefruit is sweet/Rice is full of love for the homeland, potatoes are attached to the land/If we don't love each other, we will kill each other.

Poetic tone: Each poet has a unique tone, and so does Truy Phong. The poet has a gentle, sorrowful tone, sometimes reaching a very sharp climax. The poet uses a narrative tone, exposing the evil of the French invaders, which is a scene of pain and death. The heartbreaking scenes of beheading, dismemberment, and dismemberment create a wave of indignation for the entire nation. Wives are separated from their husbands, children lose their fathers, many heartbreaking scenes of separation: The old man's head is beheaded and hung for a butcher/The young man's dismemberment is in the middle of the battlefield/The mortar smashes the brains of children/The pregnant woman is dismembered and burned to ashes. Truy Phong expresses a philosophical and contemplative tone about life and war. That tone is a confiding tone that the author not only dedicates to the Vietnamese people but also to the French expeditionary army. That tone is like encouragement even though they are invading enemies, advising them to examine their conscience and reminding each other to love peace, because only with peace can the country truly be happy because this is an unjust war: Hold my hand, I will return to my country/The sea is calm, the sky is calm, remember the day/And never forget to remind/For anyone not to torment anyone.

Language: Truy Phong composed with a language rich in philosophy, full of national character, simple and full of Southern color. Perhaps being born in the river region, he understood the customs and habits, the lifestyle of the local people who were always simple, honest and generous. Therefore, the poet's language in the poem is close to the daily speech of the Southern people, always gentle and generous, rustic of the locality: You have to come back, my brother/Come back now, so that you can remember you for life/The things I hate/The things I despise/Now you get on the soldier ship/A hundred years of old stories, let's forget them.

Structure: Truy Phong has a novel writing style, using many repetitions. The structure in the direction of using the repetition of the word "anh" at the beginning of the sentence to emphasize the content, increase the expressive value that the author wants to convey. The verbs shoot, kill, chop, and shred show the extremely brutal death scene of the prison system, the oppression of the

prison systems of Ba Ra, Con Non, Son La, and Lao Bao that have existed for hundreds of years. These prison systems have detained heroic soldiers, political prisoners, they carry with them the important missions of being patient, fighting to the death to protect the country's borders. With the artistic design of sentences and words that are appropriate to the situation, the poem "A Century – a few verses" is first considered a new poem as long as an epic poem, with enough parallelism in a funeral oration and the simplicity of folk poetry. The long and short verses, depending on the time, the tone and language of the South have created a very special Truy Phong poetic style – unmistakable with the poetics of any other poet.

4.3. Some comments of Vietnamese writers and literary critics about poet Truy Phong

Writer Son Nam commented on the art of "A Century - Some Verses" by Truy Phong "is one of the most beautiful poems of the 20th century. The poetic words are innocent but profound, simple but not trivial". Viet Tha, editor of Tien Thu newspaper wrote: "In my opinion, poetry like that is poetry, poetry of our time". The weekly literary magazine Khoi Hanh (Saigon) commented on Truy Phong: "Today's young people do not forget him, do not forget a work that should remain forever in the hearts of the Vietnamese people". Thieu Son, a famous critic in modern literature from the war period, sincerely felt: "Reading Truy Phong, I love my nation even more, a nation that fought a long resistance war and defeated the French after many hardships and sacrifices... Truy Phong has a generous and tolerant heart, representing the Vietnamese people's patience in the face of thousands of sufferings but still willing to forgive those who have made them suffer. Especially when they have given up and boarded the ship to return home". Professor and writer Nguyen Q. Thang considers the birth of Truy Phong's poem "A Century - a Few Verses" as "a unique and typical poetic dialogue in modern poetry and records a historical moment - the French withdrawal from Vietnam - the heroic tragedy of the nation. A brilliant piece of literature in Vietnamese literature".

5. CONCLUSION

The appearance of the poem "A Century – Some Verses" by Truy Phong has created a special mark in the Southern resistance poetry society. The poem is full of topical and political significance, like a strong bell ringing, warning all ambitions of foreign invaders. The poem was born to promote the spirit of fighting to protect the country of the resilient and indomitable people, denouncing the crimes of the enemy, speaking out in defense of humanity, expressing profound human values for the Vietnamese people.

The poem is a new value of truth about the reader's perspective. It creates a strong resonance to encourage the fighting spirit of the entire Vietnamese people from ancient times to the present. Besides, seeing the poet's talent in using many artistic poetics to contribute to Vinh Long literature in particular and Vietnamese literature in general, the author Truy Phong deserves to be recognized and respected

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