

NEW BOOKS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES LIBRARY

TRAN HANH MINH PHUONG (2017), **Religious beliefs and ritual practices, cultural exchanges of the Chinese in Ho Chi Minh City: An anthropological approach**, Vietnam National University - Ho Chi Minh City Publishing House, Hochiminh City, 235 pp.

The book is a collection of studies that have been published in recent years, initially exploring the rich and diverse cultural treasures of the Chinese in Ho Chi Minh city by applying a number of anthropological theories for case studies on their religion, beliefs and culture.

The book consists of four chapters. *Chapter 1* summarizes the research results on the Chinese's migration and settlement in Ho Chi Minh City, from their economic activity, education, social and cultural life, belief, religion and ritual practices, kinship and marriage relations to the policies of the State of Vietnam on the Chinese in this region in different periods. *Chapter 2* outlines these Chinese's outlook on life and worldview through their belief system, the belief in Mother Goddesses, its functions in the community and changes in their religious life nowadays. *Chapter 3* analyzes the contribution of rites of passage to the stable operation of the Chinese social system with three psychological, social and educational functions; analyzes and explains the meaning of symbols in the wedding ceremony and the funeral of these Chinese from the religious perspective. *Chapter 4* explores the Vietnamese and Chinese cultural exchange through the Chinese population distribution, their living space

and the Vietnamese cultural factors in some typical religious establishments.

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NGUYEN QUANG LE (Chief author, 2018), **Changes of Vietnamese family line culture in the period of renovation and international integration (Case study of the Bui family line in Thinh Liet - Hanoi)**, Social Sciences Publishing House, Hanoi, 233 pp.

The family line culture of Vietnamese people has a long history of formation and development, which encompasses all spiritual cultural values (or intangible culture) such as family line's traditions, ancestors worshipping, regulations on relationships between family line's members, relationships with the society (villages and the State) and material cultural values (or tangible culture) including ancestors' tomb, ancestral worship house, memorial steles and family records, etc. The family line culture is an important element of the village culture in Vietnam.

Through a case study of Bui family line in Thinh Liet (Hanoi), the book clarifies the position, role and importance of Vietnamese family line's culture in the cause of reviving the national culture (chapter 1). The author concurrently analyzes the change of Vietnamese family line's culture in the general context of the transformation of the village culture, Hanoi culture from the *Doi moi* up to now (chapter 2- 3) and identifies the causes of these changes. Based on that, he analyzes the impacting factors and clarifies the changing trends in family line's culture of Vietnamese people today in chapter 4.

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