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## APPLYING THE PRINCIPLE OF UNITY BETWEEN THEORY AND PRACTICE THROUGH THE STUDY OF NGUYEN AI QUOC'S EVENT ON GUANGZHOU, CHINA IN 1924

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### Abstract

*The principle of unity between theory and practice is one of the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism. This principle has also been flexibly and creatively applied by President Ho Chi Minh to the cause of the national liberation revolution in Vietnam. Studying the above principle through the event of November 11, 1924, Nguyen Ai Quoc visiting Guangzhou, China, is of special significance in the development of the Vietnamese revolution and this place is also suitable for the purpose of his activities in the historical conditions at that time. With Nguyen Ai Quoc's efforts and activities in both theory and practice, creating basic premises to build precursor organizations for the birth of the Communist Party of Vietnam, making a great contribution to the victories of the Vietnamese Revolution.*

**Keywords:** Nguyen Ai Quoc, principles, theory and practice, Guangzhou.

### 1. Ask the problem

Ho Chi Minh affirmed: "Practice without guiding theory becomes blind practice. Reasoning without connection with practice is empty reasoning" [4]. Born in a situation where the country lost its home, the people lamented that Ho Chi Minh went out to find a way to save the country, liberate his compatriots, and bring happiness and prosperity to the people. During the journey to save the country, he came to Marxism-Leninism and creatively applied

it to the practice of the Vietnamese revolution, one of the principles he applied was theory associated with practice.

Coming to Marxism-Leninism and becoming a communist, Nguyen Ai Quoc clearly realized that the Vietnamese revolution could only follow the path of the proletarian revolution. On November 11, 1924, the Communist International sent Comrade

Nguyen Ai Quoc to Guangzhou (China) to work, in order to promote all conditions for building a communist organization in Indochina and helping revolutionary deputies in Southeast Asian countries. Through his theoretical and practical activities, he created a qualitative development in the Vietnamese revolutionary movement and the revolutionary movement in Eastern countries. With the help of the Communist Party of China, he prepared theoretical work, propaganda work, organization and fostering of cadres, creating a basis for the establishment of the Communist Party of Vietnam, creating conditions for returning to the country to lead the Vietnamese revolutionary movement.

## 2. Research content

### 2.1 The principle of unity between theory and practice

#### Practices

Reality is one of the central categories of Marxist-Leninist philosophy, which is a material-emotional, historical, purposeful activity of human beings in order to improve nature and society. The practice of expression is very diverse in many forms. In which, there are three basic forms: material production activities, socio-political activities and scientific experimentation activities.

#### Theory

Reasoning is a system of views that reflect reality, expressed in the form of a system of generalized knowledge, creating relatively complete conceptions of the basic relationships and laws of objective reality. In other words, theory is a system of knowledge generalized from practical experience that has the effect of directing practical activities. Specific reasoning of a group of disciplines such as social science theory. The reasoning is divided according to the scope of reflection and the role of methodology, including branch theory and basic theory...

From the point of view of Marxism-Leninism, all true theory is derived from reality, reflects reality and serves reality. Thus, theory plays a very important role in the process of mobilization, forming the products of theory in practice, so theory includes the following basic characteristics:

**First**, the reasoning is systematic, highly generalized, and logically rigorous;

**Secondly**, the basis of theory is practical knowledge and experience, without practical knowledge and experience, there is no basis for generalizing into theory;

**Third**, the theory in essence can reflect the essence and phenomenon.

### The principle of unity between theory and practice

From the point of view of Marxism-Leninism, there is a dialectical relationship between theory and practice, interacting with each other. President Ho Chi Minh affirmed: "The unity between theory and practice is a basic principle of Marxism-Leninism. Practice without guiding theory becomes blind practice. Reasoning without connection with practice is empty reasoning." Reasoning that is far from reality, not applied to practice, is the theory of books and dogmas. Practice is the basis and motivation of theory, the purpose of theory and the standard for evaluating the correctness and wrongness of theory.

Practice must not be illuminated, guided and directed by scientific reasoning is blind practice. Scientific theory plays the role of illuminating, guiding and directing practice, contributing to educating, persuading, motivating and rallying the masses to form

a broad practical movement of the masses; reasoning, if it properly reflects the laws of movement and development of things and reality, will contribute to forecasting and correctly orienting reality; helping practice to be less fumbling and circling; more proactive and self-conscious. Scientific reasoning provides people with scientific knowledge about nature, society and human beings themselves. On the basis of such scientific knowledge, human beings can transform nature, society and themselves through practical activities to serve their own ends. Reasoning is relatively independent from practice.

### 2.2 From the theory of Marxism-Leninism to the practice of returning to Guangzhou, China on November 11, 1924

#### 2.2.1 Choosing Guangzhou in the journey of national salvation and liberation

Leaving Moscow, with a keen political vision, Nguyen Ai Quoc decided to choose Guangzhou as a stopover on his journey back to the Fatherland in order to promote all conditions for building a communist organization in Indochina and helping revolutionary delegates in Southeast Asian countries.

Guangzhou is the revolutionary center of the vast country of China. The people here are living in the atmosphere of the revolutionary festival: "It's hard to describe Guangzhou in those days. There is something here that is like 1917 that will never be forgotten in Russia. I have always had the feeling that human language is too poor to express the full power of emotion: the indignation and joy, the love and anger of the masses of the people that spill out in the streets and squares."

Guangzhou is also a gathering place for many generations of Vietnamese patriots such as Phan Boi Chau, Nguyen Thuong Hien and the new generation of patriotic intellectuals who emerged after the First World War, gathered in a patriotic organization – the Commune Heart Organization, a revolutionary organization of Vietnamese patriotic youth is ready to receive something new for its action program.

Thus, Nguyen Ai Quoc came to Guangzhou in a favorable political atmosphere, a historic reunion between Nguyen Ai Quoc, who was eager to find forces to "sow the seeds of communism", and an organization of Vietnamese patriotic youth who were ready to receive the newest things. The most active and revolutionary in their action program. The profound impact on Nguyen Ai Quoc's activities was aimed at preparing all the necessary conditions for building a Marxist Party in Indochina and helping the revolutionaries of other countries in the region.

#### 2.2.2 Directly organize the implementation of the

As soon as he returned to Guangzhou, Nguyen Ai Quoc promptly contacted the movement of Vietnamese patriots working here. In contact with the most enthusiastic young people in the Tam Tam commune organization, continuing to expand the area of operation, he found a foothold, formed a loyal and secret group, consisting of 9 members, including "2 people who have been sent home, 3 people on the front line (in Sun Dat Tien's army), 1 person is on a military mission (for the National Party). Among those members, 5 were reserve members of the Communist Party"[3]. From a secret group, he founded the Vietnam Revolutionary Youth Association (6/1925) - a mass organization with "Marxist tendencies", in order to gather patriotic young people inside and outside, with the nucleus being the Communist Youth Union (including the first 5 people: Le Hong Son, Le Hong Phong, Ho Tung Mau, Le Quang

Dat and Lam Duc Thu). The birth of the Vietnam Youth Revolutionary Association was the result of the convergence of two major ideological currents: the idea of liberating the country from colonial imperialism and the idea of "having a new Marxist Party to lead that movement".

It can be affirmed that with a strategic vision and a burning desire for independence and freedom for the nation, Nguyen Ai Quoc founded the Vietnam Youth Revolutionary Association, with the principle and purpose of "making a national revolution (smashing the French and regaining independence for the country), then made a world revolution (overthrowing imperialism and implementing communism correctly, clearly playing an important part in spreading Marxism-Leninism into Vietnam, and at the same time building the precursor organizations for the birth of the Communist Party of Vietnam by Nguyen Ai Quoc.

### **2.2.3 Directly organize**

#### **First, building a force to carry out propaganda.**

With the desire to gather elite and patriotic Vietnamese youth, who are eager to find the right way to save the country, to build a revolutionary organization, in Guangzhou, immediately after being contacted by Phan Boi Chau and receiving the list sent by his close comrades, Nguyen Ai Quoc decided to set up a secret group as the nucleus for a large number of people later, through a training class on organizational methods for a period of 3 months. In February 1925, the Communist Youth Union was established with typical individuals such as Le Hong Phong, Le Hong Son, Ho Tung Mau ...

In June 1925, on the basis of the Communist Youth Union, the founder of the Vietnam Youth Revolutionary Association, through the Association's Constitution, Charter and Action Program, was organized into 5 levels. At the same time, he set out a specific plan for this organization. That plan entails:

#### **Abroad:**

- a) Training young overseas graduates.
- b) Prepare propaganda materials and significantly ensure the regular publication of the Association's newspaper.
- c) To establish and maintain a system of communication, on the one hand, with Indochina on the one hand, and with communist organizations and foreign revolutionary organizations with sympathy on the other.
- d) To keep all members loyal to the principle and ensure the discipline set out by the General Department.
- e) Repatriate young men who have been trained in Guangzhou.
- f) In the country:
- g) Organizing many branches: It must be understood that each new member admitted to the Association must follow the principle that he must become a new member of a new cell.
- h) To set up the organizations mentioned in the Charter and build a unified party with strict discipline.
- i) The essence of the above plan is to use the means that can widely spread Marxism-Leninism among the masses and to build a revolutionary organization throughout the country.

#### **Second, building propaganda media.**

Along with training cadres, he also advocated publishing books and newspapers as a means of propaganda. On the basis of mastering Lenin's theses on the role of the revolutionary press,

Nguyen Ai Quoc said that "the first practical step to establish the desired organization" is to "establish a political newspaper" in charge of collective propaganda and collective organization.

Publishing Thanh Nien newspaper as a means of propagating the purpose, principles and guidelines of the Association, guiding revolutionary activities for each member. Each issue of Thanh Nien newspaper was printed in about 100 copies, most of which were secretly sent to Vietnam, some to facilities in Siam. Thanks to Thanh Nien newspaper, the Association has unified the methods and contents of propaganda and education inside and outside the Association. Thanh Nien Newspaper was secretly brought back to be disseminated throughout all three periods and reprinted in the country. This is a stark difference from political organizations of the same time such as Tan Viet and the Vietnam Nationalist Party. During the course of its existence, the revolutionary organization founded by Nguyen Ai Quoc has successfully and effectively used this sharp ideological weapon. This success has affirmed Nguyen Ai Quoc's creative thinking.

Thanh Nien Newspaper made an important contribution to the spread of Marxism-Leninism in Vietnam, preparing ideologically, politically and organizationally to establish a political party of the working class in the early 1930s.

In addition to the Thanh Nien newspaper, the Association's mouthpiece, the General Department also publishes three other periodical newspapers, namely the Cong Nong Weekly, the semi-monthly Soldiers of Destiny and the Vietnam Pioneer Monthly for a narrower audience.

Along with the publication of newspapers, Nguyen Ai Quoc spent time gathering and perfecting his lectures at political training classes in the years 1925-1927 and published them as the book Tang Dynasty, published in early 1927. In the context that Vietnam is in a serious crisis in terms of revolutionary lines, revolutionary methods, and revolutionary organizations, and in Vietnam with the harsh policy of repression of French colonialism, especially the policy of cultural enslavement, the important contents of the Tang Dynasty have contributed to equipping the people with a new ideology of the bringing the world into integration with Vietnam and bringing the Vietnamese revolution into the general flow of the world revolution.

#### **Third, train propagandists and organizers:**

Nguyen Ai Quoc selected from the first training classes young people who were qualified to establish the Communist Youth Union (2-1925) and organize the Vietnam Revolutionary Youth Association, then sent back to the country to propagate and organize overseas delegations to study in Guangzhou. Nguyen Ai Quoc is directly in charge of the class and is the main lecturer. Through the training class, the trainees were equipped with simple problems about Marxism-Leninism, about the principles of secret operation, about the skills of practicing mass mobilization work, etc. After class, the students went on a field trip to the revolutionary institutions in Guangzhou, to learn from practice valuable experiences, which helped their revolutionary activities. And through the routes to transport young people to attend training classes (Bangkok-Guangzhou; Mong Cai - Guangzhou; Lang Son - Nanning - Guangzhou; traffic on merchant ships), with 3 training courses (from the beginning of 1926 to April 1927), about 75 people returned to the country after completing their studies and went to Siam to operate. They have become



propagandists and organizers of the revolutionary movement in the country and overseas Vietnamese in Siam.

Under the extremely difficult conditions under French colonial rule, the people trained in Guangzhou were a very basic means of propaganda for the dissemination and propagation of Marxism-Leninism among the working masses in Vietnam.

Along with actively and proactively opening training classes for organizers and propagandists, Nguyen Ai Quoc also used another training method: Selecting and sending students to study at the Communist University of Oriental Workers and the Hoang Pho Military School. This is a training method that Nguyen Ai Quoc thoroughly exploits to in the shortest period of time, to train the future Marxist Party a diverse contingent of cadres that meet many aspects for the movement.

Thus, with great efforts, he returned close to the Fatherland, "went into the masses, awakened them, organized them, united them, trained them", in preparation to bring them to struggle, to gain independence and freedom.

#### **2.2.4 Representation of the role of the international communist**

##### **For the Chinese Revolution**

In Guangzhou, in addition to conducting propaganda and organizing work for the Vietnamese revolutionary movement and preparing well for the establishment of the political party of the Vietnamese proletariat, President Ho Chi Minh and his comrades directly participated in the activities of the Communist Party of China and the revolutionary struggle of the Chinese people.

##### **For the Communist International**

Through his practical activities, Nguyen Ai Quoc has enriched the theoretical and practical aspects of the Communist International in leading the proletarian revolution of the whole world. As a member of the Communist International in the East and a representative of the International Peasants' Union, Nguyen Ai Quoc has actively communicated and organized the connection of revolutionary activists from oppressed countries and ethnic groups in Guangzhou. Along with a number of Chinese communists, Nguyen Ai Quoc participated in the first delegate conference of 20 thousand peasants in Guangdong Province, China. In early May 1925, he attended the Second Conference of Chinese workers' delegates. Entrusted by the Presidium of the Peasant International to be in charge of peasant mobilization in China and some other countries, in July 1925, he participated in the founding of the Association of Oppressed Peoples of East Asia in order to unite the oppressed peoples of Asia in an anti-imperialist front. Nguyen Ai Quoc laid the foundation for building solidarity between the Vietnamese revolution and the revolutions of other countries.

On the other hand, through monitoring and directing the peasant movement in China and Southeast Asia, I learned about the situation of the Chinese revolution and the situation of revolutionary activists from oppressed countries and ethnic groups,... Nguyen Ai Quoc helped the Communist International grasp the situation of the national liberation movement in Eastern countries; analyze reviews to report to the Communist International, or write an article in the journal International Information of the Communist International. That will increase the influence, strengthen the connection between the Communist International and the revolutionary movement in the Eastern countries, and promote the development of the proletarian revolutionary movement on a worldwide scale.

### **2.3 Significance of the event to the Vietnamese Revolution**

#### **2.3.1 Establishment of the Communist Party of Vietnam**

Through the *Vietnam Youth Revolutionary Association*, the Vietnamese revolutionary movement has made a leap forward compared to the previous period. The strong development of the Vietnamese revolutionary movement requires a Communist Party to take on the role of revolutionary leader in place of the *Vietnam Revolutionary Youth Association*.

The radical cadres of the *Bac Ky Youth Revolutionary Vietnam Association* actively promoted the establishment of the *Indochina Communist Party* on June 17, 1929. The General Youth Department and the Southern Communist Party also reformed themselves into the *Communist Party of Annam* in August 1929. In September 1929, the delegates of the *Tan Viet revolutionary party* issued the *Tuyen Dat* to officially establish the *Indochina Communist League*. The existence of the three communist party organizations dispersed the strength of the movement, causing suspicion among the masses. This situation caused great damage to the general revolutionary movement. That practice poses an urgent requirement to consolidate communist organizations into a single Communist Party to be able to assume the historical role of leading the national liberation revolutionary movement in Vietnam.

From February 3 to 7, 1930, in Kowloon (Huong Cang, China), under the chairmanship of Nguyen Ai Quoc, the Conference united three Communist organizations in Vietnam, namely the Indochina Communist Party, the An Nam Communist Party, and the Indochina Communist League, into a single party, the Communist Party of Vietnam. With the goal of leading the Vietnamese revolutionary movement to carry out national liberation, class liberation, social liberation, and human liberation to advance to socialism.

The conference on the consolidation of Vietnamese communist organizations is of historical stature as the Party's founding congress. The Communist Party of Vietnam was established as a result of the class struggle and national struggle in our country in the early years of the twentieth century; it is a product of the combination of Marxism-Leninism with the workers' movement and the patriotic movement; it is the result of the strict selection and screening process of history and the result of the full preparation of politics, ideology and organization of a collective of revolutionary soldiers, headed by Nguyen Ai Quoc.

#### **2.3.2 Maintaining independence, freedom and steadily moving towards socialism**

Under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, our country's revolution has gone from victory to victory. It was the victory of the August Revolution of 1945 that gave birth to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, opening a new era of the Vietnamese nation - national independence associated with socialism. It was the victory of the resistance war against French colonialism (1954), the resistance war against the US to save the country in 1975 with great hardships, sacrifices and extremely glorious victories in the flow of the nation's history. Today, it is the victory of the cause of renovation – industrialization, modernization and development of the country.

Up to now, after nearly 40 years of renovation, Vietnam has become one of the top 40 economies with the world's GDP, one of the 20 largest foreign trade markets in the world, the leading country in terms of Human Development Index (HDI), innovation, etc. in the group of countries with the same level of economic

development; have been friends, reliable partners and active and active members of the international community; has become an indispensable reference in many fields of development of the world today. Never before has the country had the opportunity, position, strength and international prestige as it does today. [2]

It can be seen that the history of the Vietnamese Revolution under the leadership of the Party since 1930 has created great turning points, including the contribution of the whole Party, the whole people and the whole army. With the achievements of the stature of the times, it has created a solid premise for Vietnam to enter a new era, an era of national growth, and the era of independence and freedom associated with socialism.

### 3. Conclusion

With political acumen, especially the skillful application of theoretical principles associated with the practice of the Vietnamese revolution, Nguyen Ai Quoc directly carried out political, ideological and organizational preparations for the birth of the Communist Party of Vietnam. An event of great significance in the development of the nation's history, the practical activities to his basic ideas in this period laid the foundation for the formation of our Party's strategic line and strategy in the following revolutionary periods. Since the birth of the Party, under the leadership of the People's Party, we have struggled to successfully implement the national revolution and people's democracy, bringing independence and freedom to the country, and raising Vietnam's position and position to a new level. The historical event of November 11, 1924, Nguyen Ai Quoc returned to Guangzhou, China, once again affirming his great contributions to the revolutionary cause of the Vietnamese nation as well as the cause of the world proletarian revolution.

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