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# Applying Ho Chi Minh's ideology on national independence associated with socialism in Vietnam today

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#### **Abstract**

National independence associated with socialism is the core content throughout Ho Chi Minh's entire ideology; demonstrating consistency in his theoretical thinking and practical activities. From becoming a communist until becoming a leader and head of state, Ho Chi Minh's top concern was to combine national independence with socialism in accordance with each period of the Vietnamese revolution. National independence is a common aspiration for all humanity. For the Vietnamese people, it is also a sacred value, protected and preserved by the blood, bones, and strength of countless generations of Vietnamese people. For Ho Chi Minh, national independence includes both nationalism and democracy. That is real independence, complete independence, not fake independence, half-hearted independence, formal independence. In Ho Chi Minh's ideology, national independence must be associated with the country's unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity. National independence is always associated with freedom, democracy, prosperity and happiness of the people working people.

Keywords: National, Ho Chi Minh, independence

#### 1. Introduction

According to Ho Chi Minh, national independence is a direct goal, first of all, a premise to advance to socialism. According to him, Vietnam's revolutionary path has two stages: the people's national democratic revolution and the socialist revolution. The democratic national revolution has two basic strategic tasks, of which national liberation is the top task, the democratic task is carried out step by step and is subordinate to the task of national liberation. Therefore, in the stage of the national democratic revolution, national independence is a direct, immediate and urgent goal. When emphasizing the goal of national independence, Ho Chi Minh never considered it the ultimate goal of the Vietnamese revolution. In Ho Chi Minh's ideology, gaining independence leads to a communist society; National independence must be associated with socialism. National independence is the essential and direct goal of the democratic national revolution, the first goal of the Vietnamese revolutionary process led by the Communist Party, and at the same time the leading and decisive condition for the people's national democratic revolution moved to the next stage - the socialist revolution. Therefore, the more radical the democratic national revolution, the more fully the conditions for advancing to socialism will be created. National independence creates the premise and conditions for the working people to decide for themselves the path to socialism, under the leadership of the Communist Party.

#### 2. Research content

#### 2.1. National independence and the value of national independence

The nation's history is forever engraved on September 2, 1945, when President Ho Chi Minh read the Declaration of Independence giving birth to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (today's Socialist Republic of Vietnam). It is no coincidence that at the beginning of that immortal essay, he immediately quoted the 1776 Declaration of Independence of the United States: "All people are created equal.

The Creator gives them rights that no one else has can be violated; among these rights, there are the right to life, the right to liberty and the right to pursue happiness" and the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen of the French Revolution in 1791: "Men are born free and equal equal rights; and must always be free and equal in rights."

The August 1945 Revolution led by the Communist Party of Vietnam had no other purpose than to bring independence and freedom to the country and rights to the people. It must be clearly stated that in Vietnam, the first people to raise the flag against the French invaders were patriotic kings and patriotic Confucian scholars. From the Can Vuong movement led by King Ham Nghi to the Yen The uprising led by Hoang Hoa Tham, it was a tragic, long, but ultimately unsuccessful journey against the enemy. The Communist Party of Vietnam undertakes the historic mission of raising high the flag of national, democratic, and people's revolution to liberate the country from foreign domination, abolish the old regime, and establish and build so new regime, new more progressive life. Revolutionary and humanistic qualities are shown there. Having gone through many turbulent times, that has not changed a bit, there have been shifts in strategies and tactics, but the noble goal of the path chosen by the Party and Uncle Ho remains the same in the spirit " of course immutable, responding to all changes". The revolutionary goal, in short, is still "national independence and socialism".

Let me reiterate, national independence must be associated with the freedom and happiness of the people. That is the goal as mentioned above but is also the immutable principle of the Vietnamese Revolution. After the August Revolution, President Ho Chi Minh repeatedly mentioned this crucial issue. Since 1946, Uncle Ho pointed out: "Today, we have built the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. But if the country is independent but the people do not enjoy the happiness of freedom, then independence has no meaning." What's the point?" Uncle Ho wishes: "Our country is a democratic country. All benefits are for the people, all rights belong to the people." He also advised our officials: "Government agencies from across the country to the villages are servants of the people..." or "Whatever is beneficial to the people, we must do our best. Anything that is harmful to People, we must try our best to avoid..."

The August Revolution shined on the nation's desire for Vietnam to be on par with progressive countries in the world. The human values of the right to life, the right to freedom and the right to pursue happiness are not strange to the Vietnamese people. It's just a pity that if only the countries from which Ho Chi Minh selected the two famous progressive and humane Declarations had understood the thousands of years of cultural history of the Vietnamese people, then surely after the fall of 1945, people would the Vietnamese people do not have to record two patriotic and heroic resistance wars in their history.

We are proud of our miraculous victories in combat, liberating and defending the Fatherland and the great and important achievements of national construction.

It must still be said that, under the Party's ingenious leadership, the Vietnamese people defeated two great enemies, the French colonialists and the invading American imperialists, to regain peace and unity for the country. It must still be said that the Vietnamese people have tenaciously and skillfully resisted aggressive expansion to protect their sacred territorial sovereignty. It must still be said that the Vietnamese people sent a "Buddhist army" to help the

Cambodian people escape the extremely terrible Khmer Rouge genocide in the twentieth century.

And, it also reaffirms that from a country with outdated physical and technical facilities and socio-economic infrastructure, with very low qualifications, to now, through a journey of resolute innovation, with the with constant innovation, Vietnam has risen to become a developing country with a middle income, and its people generally have a better life. After 35 years of innovation, Vietnam's economic scale has increased about 12 times; Export turnover increased 29.5 times, making our country one of the 20 countries with the world's leading economies in terms of trade; Foreign direct investment (FDI) increased 22 times. The August Revolution teaches us a lesson about the power of the people. When the people are united and determined, no force or enemy can act majestically. We must bring the spirit of the August Revolution into today's work against internal invaders. That is, we must trust the people, respect the people, and rely on the people to fight corruption. When the people agree, the cause of building and protecting the Fatherland will definitely succeed. A developed country, a clean society, and a democratic regime are the wishes of our people. Vietnamese people truly have happiness right in their homeland when those things become reality. National independence and people's happiness are forever linked together like wings lifting the beloved country of Vietnam to fly high and far, moving forward with humanity.

### 2.2. National independence associated with socialism is a red thread throughout Vietnam's revolutionary process

Ethnic issues are always class based. Each class has its own view on the national issue. Since the French colonialists invaded our country, the patriotic movement has risen strongly, continuously breaking out uprisings in all parts of the country, attracting a large number of people from all walks of life, including scholars. There is a part of feudal mandarins. In that context, national independence has never before become a basic and objective requirement of Vietnamese society. The national liberation revolution at that time was in a "dark situation with no way out". By what path and which class is capable of shouldering that great mission. History has the answer, which is Marxism-Leninism, the most revolutionary, truest and most scientific. President Ho Chi Minh soon realized that. He affirmed: only by liberating the proletariat can the nation be liberated. Both liberations can only be the cause of communism and world revolution. "More than anyone else, it was Nguyen Ai Quoc who sowed and raised the seeds of the Vietnamese revolution. He went from patriotism to socialism. In him, Vietnamese patriotism, bravery and special qualities of Vietnam encountered Marxism-Leninism, as Prime Minister Pham Van Dong said, a beautiful meeting like a pre-arranged meeting, forming a common thought. Ho Chi Minh's ideology" (Vu Hien: National independence linked to socialism).

In 1930, just after its birth, our Party declared: "the policy of bourgeois civil rights revolution and local revolution to move towards a communist society", that declaration also meant an outright rejection of the regime capitalism and, more broadly, also reject any other ism, any other path. It is very natural that after our Party's declaration, socialism is not only a chosen goal but has pushed Vietnam's history to transform, and is the path that the Vietnamese nation and people have followed throughout the twentieth century and continues go until the final destination.

In 1954, peace was restored. One of the biggest features of the Fatherland at that time was that the country was temporarily divided into two regions, with two opposing political regimes. Loyal to the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism, national interests and international obligations, the Communist Party of Vietnam has harmoniously resolved the relationship between the revolutions of the two regions: socialist network in the North; Liberate the South from the yoke of American imperialism and its henchmen, unify the country, and complete the national democratic revolution throughout the country in 1975.

From properly resolving the relationship between two revolutionary strategies, our Party has creatively resolved a series of major problems of the country and the world such as promoting the revolution and protecting regional and world peace. At the same time, protecting relative peace in the North, rejecting rightist and adventurous views, within the meaning of those views, appear ideas that prevent the development and victory of the Vietnamese revolution.

The Communist Party of Vietnam has the ability and conditions to solve the above problems because our Party has operated in special circumstances, as "a unified Party leading a country temporarily divided in two.", carrying out two different strategic tasks simultaneously, which is the biggest and unique feature of our country's revolution".

Continuing to firmly grasp the banner of democracy and socialism is the most important lesson of the Party in the new conditions. Our Party thoroughly grasps that lesson in the new historical period: "It is clear that the choice of the goal of national independence is closely linked to socialism of our Party and people, in terms of logic it is an objective necessity; From a historical perspective, it is completely consistent with the movement of the Vietnamese revolution and the development trend of the times; In terms of needs, it comes entirely from the specific conditions of a semi-feudal colonial country and the burning aspirations of the Vietnamese people; In terms of society, it is a basic value system that determines the development of Vietnam not only today but forever in the future" (Vu Hien: National independence is associated with socialism).

In recent years, the international situation has become very complicated. Consistently, our Party and people persevere on the socialist path and firmly grasp the socialist orientation in the cause of innovation. The 7th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam stated the determination: "The entire Party and the entire people continue to firmly grasp the flag of national independence and socialism."

The way of combining and exemplifying the banners of democracy and socialism is a great lesson of the Communist Party of Vietnam throughout from the Party's founding until now and forever in the future. With that policy, our Party contributes to protecting the purity of Marxism-Leninism, opposing opportunism and nationalism. Thanks to the powerful momentum brought by this policy, the Vietnamese people under the Party's leadership have achieved complete victory in the national and democratic revolution.

Today, the world and regional situation, especially the situation in the East Sea, is becoming more complicated. Holding the flag of national independence and socialism with new contents, we will continue to create a strong force ensures the Party fulfills its historic mission in the new revolutionary period. Democracy and socialism are the combination of two strengths into a new resilience, the source of victory of the Vietnamese revolution, and the red thread

running through the entire revolutionary process of the nation from the day the Party was born until now and for the future. Documents of the 11th National Congress (January 2011) of the Party in "Platform for building the country in the transition period to socialism (Supplement and development in 2011)" continue to affirm: "Grasp the flag of national independence and socialism - the glorious flag that President Ho Chi Minh handed over to today's generation and future generations. National independence is a prerequisite for implementing socialism and socialism is a solid foundation for national independence. Building socialism and protecting the socialist Fatherland are two strategic tasks that are closely related to each other."

## 2.3. Applying Ho Chi Minh's ideology on national independence in association with current socialism

Ho Chi Minh's ideology on national independence associated with socialism was born and developed in the transition era from capitalism to socialism on a world scale. That ideology was formed in Ho Chi Minh in the early 20s and by the spring of 1930 with the event of the Founder of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the revolutionary path of national independence associated with socialism had reached its peak. The flag has led the working class and the entire Vietnamese nation to continuously win historic victories over the past 90 years. Ho Chi Minh's ideology on national independence associated with socialism is expressed in the practice of Vietnam's revolution through three periods:

Period 1930-1945: Ho Chi Minh determined the nature of the Vietnamese revolution as the path of proletarian revolution, linking national liberation with the liberation of the working class, the working people, and the entire nation enslaved under French imperialism and their lackeys; determine the tasks and goals of the Vietnamese revolution "to make the bourgeois civil rights revolution and the local revolution to reach a communist society"; Identifying the objects of struggle of the revolution as imperialist invaders, feudal lackeys, bourgeoisie and landowners opposing national independence; Clearly define the Vietnamese revolutionary force as the entire people, including workers, farmers, petty bourgeoisie, national bourgeoisie, middle class, small landowners, patriotic individuals, of which the core is an alliance of workers and farmers, gathered under the banner of national liberation led by the party of the working class; Correctly identify the national liberation revolution in Vietnam as a part of the world proletarian revolution, with a close relationship with the "mainland" proletarian revolution, a democratic national liberation revolution. dynamic, can win against the "mainland" proletarian revolution, and have a positive impact on the "mainland" revolution.

Under the direct leadership of Ho Chi Minh, the August Revolution of 1945 won. That was the first historic victory of Ho Chi Minh's thought on the revolutionary path of national liberation under the category of proletarian revolution. This victory opened an era of national independence associated with socialism.

Period 1945-1954: The period of protecting national independence and building the first foundations of socialism, carrying out "resistance and national construction". During this period, Ho Chi Minh continued to supplement and develop theoretical perspectives on Vietnam's revolutionary path. To realize revolutionary goals, Ho Chi Minh persisted in promoting a high sense of independence, self-reliance, and self-reliance, along with trying to enlist international support

and assistance. The unique and special feature of Ho Chi Minh's thought on Vietnam's revolutionary path in this period is that he proposed and consistently implemented the policy: "both resistance and national construction". That path is consistent with the law of national historical development, building the country along with defending the country, protecting the independence of the Fatherland and gradually building a new regime; was the decisive reason for the victory of the resistance war against the French colonialists.

Period 1954-1975: Ho Chi Minh continued to perfect, supplement and develop the ideology of national independence associated with socialism in new conditions. During this period, Ho Chi Minh's theoretical creativity focused on building and directing the simultaneous implementation of two strategic tasks: Building socialism in the North; Complete the national democratic revolution in the South, unify the Fatherland, and bring the whole country to socialism. In the relationship between the two regions' revolutions, he clearly defined the position, role and tasks of each region's revolution and the impact and mutual support of the two regions' revolutions; This is the concretization of the content of the proletarian revolutionary path, the close connection between national and democratic tasks and socialism - the path that Ho Chi Minh proposed and persistently defended.

Ho Chi Minh continued to complete and develop the theory of national liberation revolution, clearly identifying the number one enemy that our nation needs to concentrate all its forces on to overthrow is the American imperialists. Regarding gathering forces, Ho Chi Minh had creative concepts and methods, based on a correct assessment of the position and role of the great unity strategy in the revolutionary war; Since then, the Vietnamese revolution has been built with the strength of the "three levels of Fronts": the National United Front of Vietnam to fight against America and save the country; The front of the three Indochina countries together against America; The World People's Front supports the Vietnamese people against America. The strength of the "three levels of the Front" created great synergy that led to the victory of the great resistance war against the US to save the country.

Ho Chi Minh continued to perfect the theory of the people's national democratic revolution toward socialism. Ho Chi Minh built a relatively complete and unified concept of socialism and the path to socialism in our country. Ho Chi Minh's concept of socialism is systematic, has many creative development contents, but remains steadfast in Marxism-Leninism. Ho Chi Minh clarified the biggest characteristic of Vietnam when entering the transition period to socialism, the relationship between the universality and the specificity of the construction of socialism within a water. He had scientific instructions on the ways, methods, measures, and steps to carry out the work of building socialism in Vietnam.

After 1975, our Party continued to creatively apply Ho Chi Minh's ideology on national independence associated with socialism suitable to the conditions and circumstances of Vietnam. The 4th National Party Congress - Congress of Fatherland Unification, the whole country moves towards socialism, affirmed: "During the process of revolutionary leadership, when the whole country performs one strategic task or performs two tasks, strategic service, our Party since its inception has always held high the flag of national independence and socialism, which is the path, the strength, and the source of all victories of the Vietnamese revolution."

The platform for building the country during the transition period to socialism approved by the 7th Congress affirmed in the reform period: "The entire Party and people continue to firmly grasp the flag of independence, nationalism and democracy socialism, the glorious flag that President Ho Chi Minh handed over to today's and future generations".

During 91 years of leading the Vietnamese revolution, thanks to clearly defining the content and concretizing the goals of national independence and socialism according to Ho Chi Minh's thought, the Party has led the country to overcome difficulties, challenges and achieves great achievements of historical significance. That reality shows that national independence associated with socialism is the flag, the consistent and correct choice of the Communist Party of Vietnam, President Ho Chi Minh and our people for 91 years via. Currently, despite many difficulties, our Party remains steadfast in its goal of national independence and socialism, because it is the right path, the law and the inevitable development trend of the times; is a condition to ensure that the nation is truly independent and that the people have a prosperous, free and happy life; The goal of rich people, strong country, democracy, fairness and civilization becomes

In the context of complex and unpredictable developments in the world and the region, especially hostile forces continue to increase sabotage activities, aiming to eliminate the leadership role of the Party and the socialist regime in Our country requires that even within the Party, cadres and party members must always be steadfast in their stance, bravery, and steadfast in the path of national independence associated with socialism. Each level, sector and locality; All forces and the entire people need to absolutely believe in the goal of national independence and socialism; heighten vigilance, proactively respond effectively to all situations, firmly protect independence, sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity; protect the Party State, people and socialist regime.

#### 3. Conclusion

It can be affirmed that national independence associated with socialism became a red thread during the life of President Ho Chi Minh's revolutionary activities. According to him, the combination of democracy and socialism is decisive for the success of the Vietnamese revolution. Only associated with socialism can national independence have meaning. Socialism is the goal to aim for and the basis to ensure the stability of the EDT. For that reason, our Party and President Ho Chi Minh determined that after the country gained independence, the national liberation revolution must develop into a socialist revolution to achieve complete victory. Because only by advancing to socialism will the people become increasingly prosperous and the Fatherland will become increasingly rich and strong; Vietnam's position and prestige in the international arena are increasingly enhanced.

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