
INFORMATION-DISCUSSION

Hồ Chí Minh Thought on International Relations of the Vietnamese Revolution in the 1920s

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Abstracts: From the points of view of Hồ Chí Minh, the revolutionary goal was to liberate the weak nation, then, move on to revolutionize the world, all humanity will be released from the imperialist and capitalist. He pointed out, there are two kinds of the revolution such as the national revolution and the world revolution; the revolutionary career is great and difficult to implement, it cannot be done by one person or a family but by all peasants, the workers in the world of any country, any race joined together as a close family, to knock down all the capitalist in the world, making the country and people be always happy to do for lower natural universality. And the imperialists in all the countries allied to oppress us so we have to join forces to fight them, which means that all oppressed people and all workers in the world need to unite for a revolution. In a book under the title *The Revolutionary Path*, Hồ Chí Minh pointed out that the Annam Revolution was also a part of the world Revolution; whoever made revolution in the world are all our comrades; Annamese empire struggled against the French imperialist; more revolutionary people are likely to sacrifice, to face with misery; need the help from brothers in the world. At the same time, he said "Our revolution must contact with all revolutionary parties in the world against capitalism and imperialism".

Keywords: Flood, inundation, flood risk hazard, Hanoi City.

From very early, Hồ Chí Minh has found that skin color is different though, in this world there are only two kinds of people such as the exploiters and the exploited; colonial imperialists is the common enemy of

oppressed and working people worldwide. Therefore, for the world peace, for freedom and prosperity, the exploited of all races, nationalities and people in the same plight must unite together to get out of colonies. He pointed out that the colonial and semi-colonies are under the yoke of capitalism and imperialism, even though their number was

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supposed to make them stronger, they have not actual consciousness to free themselves from the yoke, and "because they do not understand the value of international solidarity so they did not know how to unite together to fight back" [1]. According to him, the first cause has caused the decline of the Eastern people that is isolation; unlike Western nations, the people of the East do not have the exposure between the continents; they absolutely do not know what happened in the neighboring countries of their closest, so their lack of mutual trust, cooperation and encouragement of each other. Therefore, an important task of the communists is to make the colonial peoples, still far from each other, understanding each other and unite to be the basis for an Eastern Union in the future. This alliance will be one of the wings of the proletarian revolution.

In *the Letter of the same acting people in France*, Hồ Chí Minh wrote, even though we are different varieties, different countries, different religions, we were close as brothers. We from the same pain, the tyranny of colonialism. We fight for a common ideal: freeing our people and gaining national independence for us. In our struggle, we are not alone because we have all of our nation and those who support democratic France and the authentic French standing next to us. With *the Indictment of French colonisation*, Hồ Chí Minh City has described the situation of colonial farmers as "modern slavery"; they were forced to work hard to death, squashed under taxation, confined within the dark ignorance, are treated as "hewer of wood and drawers of water"... and they were pushed into bankruptcy, the capitalism also force them to leave home and field, throw them into the fratricidal war to fight other people or against indigenous peasants and workers in the country. Obviously, "currently, capitalism

makes a colony used as a tool to exploit a different colony" [2]. Since then, he calls: "All of you are miserable in the colonies! Get it together! Get Organized! Please coordinate your actions with ours, we come together to fight for the liberation of the general public" [3]. In the *Declaration of the Association of oppressed peoples* on May 7th 1925, Hồ Chí Minh pointed out the need to unite together. According to him, if the imperialists oppress us and treat us like animals, it is because we do not unite; if we unite we become formidable; our career is of thousands people and our enemies are just a handful of people; we are not afraid of them, even though they have ample ammunition, they can not kill all of us; we also have common interests so when you are fighting for us or for you, it helps to save yourselves as well. He called for all the oppressed peoples, the entire crew or workers on earth robbed salaries, let's do our solidarity with the revolution and asserted that with the ultimate unity of effort we will make strong enough to dispel imperialists.

Speaking at the Second National Congress of the Chinese Nationalist Party in 1926, Hồ Chí Minh said, we know that the oppressed peoples of the world are now Egypt, Morocco, Syria, An Nam, China and many other countries so we need to unite together against imperialism; not distinguish any country or any people, all stand up against our common enemies.

In the 1920s, based on studies of Marxism - Leninism along with vivid reality in the life of the colonists, the working class and working people in the world, Hồ Chí Minh indicated that the fate of the world proletariat, especially the fate of the proletariat in the aggressor nations tied to the fate of oppressed class in the colonies. Therefore, the revolution for national liberation in the colonial and proletarian

liberation revolution in oppressing countries have an intimate relationship with each other in the common defeat of imperialism. According to him, the cause of indigenous peoples is closely associated with the career of the world proletariat; so when communism won a little victory in a country, especially in an imperialist country, it also means a victory for Annam.

Hồ Chí Minh said that "divided into two kinds of revolution" such as "national revolution" and "world revolution"; two kinds of revolution are different though, for example, national revolution is not class division, the world revolution is leading by the proletarian class; but the revolutions were still related to each other, "An Nam revolution and French revolution have to communicate with each other" [4]. And we have to make the tight alliance between the metropolitan proletarian revolution and the colonial country's national liberation revolution, because of "the new collaboration is to ensure that the international working class won final victory" [5].

Studying the speeches, articles of Ho Chi Minh in the '20s of the twentieth century, we still see clearly why he affirmed the need to have an intimate relationship between the national revolution and the revolution in the colonies.

First of all, according to Ho Chi Minh, Lenin was the first person to condemn resolutely all the prejudices of European and American revolutionaries on this issue; be the first to understand and evaluate all major importance of attracting colonial peoples into the revolutionary movement, and is also the first to indicate that without the participation of the colonial peoples, the social revolution can not be obtained. Imbued with the view of Lenin, he calls: "According to Lenin, the revolution in the West wants victory, it must maintain close links with the liberation

movement against imperialism in the colonial countries and countries enslaved" [6] and "because we consider ourselves as a student of Lenin, so we need to concentrate all the strength and determination to implement the valuable words of Lenin for our colonial issues as well as other issues" [7]. In the *Letter to the Executive Committee of the International Communist* (November 4, 1924), He pointed out that the French colonies in general, Indochina colonies in particular were little known in the proletariat and communism; even International Communist and the French Communist Party also had very little information about what happened in the colony; thus, "If we want to operate a profitable way of the colonial problem which must be necessarily contact with the colony" [8]. At subsequent meetings of the International Communist, he have criticized the view that no direct alliance with the liberation movements in colonial countries, the European proletariat can be successful and affirmed that "as long as the French Communist Party and the UK Party do not implement a policy that was active in colonial matters, even not to mention the colonial people, the entire vast program of two parties did not work" [9].

On the other hand, from the deep perception of colonial imperialism, Ho Chi Minh has indicated that they are not only the enemy of the oppressed peoples, but also the common enemy of the working class and indigous people. With the image of a leech with two suckers, he portrayed the common enemy vividly: "Capitalism is a leech with one sucker on the metropolitan proletariat and the other on the colonial country's proletariat. If people want to kill that leech, they must simultaneously cut both suckers. If they cut a sucker only, the other continued to suck the

blood of the proletariat; the leech continued to live on and the sucker cut off will grow back" [10]. That image shows that the national revolution and colonial revolution have close relationship, to destroy capitalism and imperialism, there must be unanimous response of the people in colonies and dependent on imperialism and the working people and the international working class and they must stand together to fight to overthrow the oppression in homelands and in the colonies, and the combination, unity of two revolutions are the wings of the revolutionary era.

Deep analysis of the wicked plot of colonial imperialism, Ho Chi Minh also specified sophisticated tricks, cunning of them not only to the people of colonial peoples but also to the proletariat in their country; at the same time exposing their wicked intrigues in the conflict and hatred between peoples and the proletariat of the countries. According to him, "Today, imperialism has reached a perfect level almost science. It uses the white proletarians to conquer proletarians in the colonies. Then it hit the proletariat in a colony to fight in a different colony. After all, it relies on the proletariat in the colonies to dominate the white proletariat" [11]. And because of the proletariat in both sides are not understanding each other, "should have happened prejudices", for example, for French workers, the indigenous people is an inferior class, not worth matter, not able to understand and much less be able to operate; and for indigeous people ,the French - even if they are whatever kind of person who would always be the evil exploiters; so , imperialism and capitalism do not miss the opportunity to take advantage of the distrust and class distinctions of race-class fake to prevent the propagation and to divide the Union forces deserving unity. After that, he

also pointed out wicked tricks of the colonial imperialists in many works. In *the army against the Revolution*, published by *Life of workers* (La Vie Ouvriere) on September 7th 1923, Ho Chi Minh pointed out that the French working class can't help knowing to capitalism based the colony against all liberation movements that the French working class of schemes, from which, he calls French workers to act, they have the brotherhood with native soldiers, they have to make native troops to understand that both the national workers and colonial soldiers suffer from a common oppression and exploitation, so they are all brothers in the same class and when it's time to fight, then both sides need to fight the same type of their common threads, but not fight each other.

From the practical revolutionary movements and world counter-revolution, people noticed and pointed out that the bourgeoisie of the colonial power did everything to keep the oppression of people enslaved; in addition to the means used by the state government apparatus to give it, it concurrently also conducted very aggressive propaganda with talks, photos, newspapers, exhibitions and any other method, it is stuffed to the people of its country with the colonial mind, raised in front of them living situations with ease, glory and riches awaiting them in the colonies, particularly the French bourgeoisie understand that ethnic and colonial issues are inseparable; and if the available space compared to the colonial problems in bourgeois newspapers such as *Le Temps*, *Le Figaro*, *L'Oeuvre* or the report of different trends such as: *Le Peuple* or *Le Libertaire* with room for issues that *L'Humanite* newspaper - organ of the French Communist Party, they must realize that this comparison will be completely not good for us. Meanwhile, Ho

Chi Minh realized that the International Communist made the colonial issue deserve the importance by treating it as the most urgent issues most, but in practice, "the board of colonies in the colonial powers have not interested in this matter, even the board also do not consider the issue seriously ... It is possible that our comrades do not know the exact situation of the lands oppressed" [12]. The fact that the Communist Party of Great Britain, Holland, Belgium and the Communist Parties of other countries where the bourgeoisie occupied colony, then after accepting the thesis of Lenin "hardly" be done to educate the working class with the spirit of his genuine internationalism, the close spirit of working masses of colonies. As for the French Communist Party, Hồ Chí Minh regrets to say that the French Communist Party does very little for the colonies.

Not only confirmed the need to mount the colonial revolution and the national revolution, Hồ Chí Minh also actively raised concrete measures for action. He emphasized that since the French Communist Party has admitted 21 conditions of Moscow and joined the Third International, the Party has set themselves a special difficult task among other tasks: colonial policy. The Party can not be satisfied with a mere declaration with love and not work as the First International and the Second International, they should have a precise plan of action, an effective and practical policy; and just using the practical action will give a correct policy of the colonial problem to the Party. According to him, setting out the long thesis and passing gussied-up resolutions are then ignored as before, but still not enough to be practical. In a speech at *the 22nd Session of the Fifth Congress of the International Communist* (July 1st, 1924), Hồ Chí Minh City has proposed to open a column in the

newspaper L'Humanite to publish at least two weekly columns of the colonial issues to intensify propaganda and recruit members of the Party of the natives in the colonies having the party of communist, send the indigenous people into the Eastern workers Communist University in Moscow; agree with the General Federation of Labour to organize the workers of the colonies to work in France and set tasks for the Party members to pay more attention to the colonial issues.

Hồ Chí Minh desired and believed that united front of the people of the country (France) and colony soon come true. Since 1922, Hồ Chí Minh ordered the workers in the country to pay attention to the colonial issue. Then, he found that the relationship existing between groups of workers in the French colonies and French unions were only by chance, no systematic activity at all; organic relationship between colonial union and the national union can only be the result of a process of long-term work in the colonies; now the need is to launch a propaganda for the establishment of trade unions in the colonies and the development of trade unions under the embryonic form; at the same time, we must show love friendship between the real class of laborers in every nation, every race to overcome distrust of those who are labor colonies to the representation of racial domination. He appealed: "The trade unions in the colonies have a special importance... Do not forget the workers colonies, to help their organizations, enduring struggle against the government of the country oppressing colonies, which is one of the most urgent tasks of all revolutionary unions, especially in countries where the bourgeoisie to enslave and exploit the colonies and semi-colonial countries" [13].

So, right from the very early, Hồ Chí Minh has recognized a close relationship between the national revolution and the colonial

revolution. According to him, imperialism is not only the enemy of the oppressed people but also the enemy of working people in the country. Thus, we not only unite the peoples of colonial peoples against them, but national liberation revolution of our country has to unite with the proletariat of the world. During his revolutionary activities, he has tried his best for the adherence between the metropolitan revolutionary movements with the revolutionary movements in the colonies. Since the early 20th century, with the aim to bring together the power of the revolutionary forces in the world to fight effectively against international imperialism, Ho Chi Minh with the patriotic people of the other local unions founded the colony of associations with main purpose of unity of the colonial peoples in a common front against imperialism. In the Declaration of Colonial Union drafted by Ho Chi Minh also called for solidarity between the colonial people and working people of Nations: "You who are oppressed in your own country! Bourgeoisie in your country are lying to you, using you as a tool to invade our country. Today, they still use that insidious policies, the bourgeoisie in your countries plan to use us to suppress all attempts to free yourselves. Facing with capitalism and imperialism, our interests are one, you remember the call of Karl Marx: Proletariat of all countries unite" [14].

He also pointed out that the imperialist actions are dangerous not only for the fate of the proletariat in Indochina and the Pacific, but also for both the fate of the international proletariat. For that reason, he has called the civilized world and the honest French to "join with us in condemning the shark in the colonies who did not hesitate to poison an entire race to fill its pockets" [15], at the same

time he pointed out that it is necessary to promote the rapid liberation of the Indochina proletariat and comrades in the French Revolution Organization actively help colonial people in liberation struggle. When interviewed by reporters from L'Unita in 1924, Hồ Chí Minh had said: "In the East ... just say the colonial and semi colonial, there is a vast area of more than 1,200 million people under the yoke of imperialist capitalism. The people there can never be looked up without sticking to the world proletariat" [16]. According to him, the struggle of the proletariat in the country help the oppressed peoples to free themselves for the sale of the struggle with attacking at the "heart of the oppressors", while the struggle of the oppressed people help the proletariat in the countries against the ruling to free themselves from the slavery of capitalism; and the unity in the struggle to ensure victory beneficial to the peoples of colonial and semi colonial proletariat in the capitalist countries. Therefore, even though every revolution has a separate battle position, but to overthrow the common enemy is imperialism, the revolution of the proletariat and national liberation in the colonies have intimate contact with each other.

Referring to the relationship between the national revolution and the colonial revolution, Hồ Chí Minh City had hoped "not far away ... the international proletariat will do their duty: they will kick all parasites out of the door; after their release, they would liberate the brothers in Indochina; be freed from the yoke imperialism, certainly Indochinese people will be proud and happy" [17]. Through practical activities, with sharp thinking, he asserted the inevitability of colonial revolution and important role of the colonies for the proletarian revolutionary movement in the country and for the viability of imperialism ...

Therefore, he soon realized that the colonial revolution has an organic relationship with the international revolution, but the revolution does not depend on the country revolution which can win over and while the elimination of one of the existing conditions of capitalism is imperialism, they can help their brothers in the West in the task of entire liberation . Writing about the revolutionary movement in Indochina and Vietnam, in the work *Revolution Path*, Hồ Chí Minh re-confirmed of the leading of colonial revolution and its repercussions for the proletarian revolution in the country, that: "Once An Nam Revolution is successful, the French capitalism is weak, and then the French class makes revolution with ease" [18]. From his point of view, the revolution for national liberation in the colonies not only depend on the proletarian revolution in the country, which is capable of winning before the national revolution, and moreover it also facilitates favorable for the national revolution to succeed quickly.

Thus, from the 1920s, based on analysis of the situation in Vietnam and the world, Hồ Chí Minh has recognized the importance of international solidarity front in the struggle against the common enemy the colonial imperialism to win national independence. During his revolutionary activities, he always looked to set international revolutionary forces, the revolutionary mounting of the people of Vietnam with the general trend of the world. However, in view of Hồ Chí Minh, needing solidarity with the international revolutionary forces, the colonial revolution must always uphold the spirit of self-reliance and initiative revolution, not expected dependence on external assistance. He criticized the wrong trend in mobilizing the

dependence of the masses, but forgetting the self-reliance, and made sure that the people have to help themselves first if they need some help. Hồ Chí Minh made a meaningfully important contribution to Vietnam's revolution and the world's.

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