

Promoting glorious traditions, building Ho Chi Minh Academy of Politics with identity, modernization, and integration in the new era of national development

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Exactly 75 years ago, in Autumn of September 1949, Nguyen Ai Quoc Party School was honored to welcome President Ho Chi Minh to visit and attend the opening ceremony of the long-term theory class, the second course, in Luong Village, Binh Thanh commune, Dinh Hoa district, Thai Nguyen province.

He wrote on the first page of the school's Book the extremely valuable teaching: Study to work, to be a human, to be a cadre. Study to serve the organization, the class and the people, to serve the Fatherland and mankind. To this end, we must be "diligent, thrifty, honest, righteous, for the public interests, and impartial".

The event of Uncle Ho's visit set a milestone in the history of Nguyen Ai Quoc Party School, and was recognized as a glorious traditional day of Ho Chi Minh Academy of Politics.

His teachings have become a guideline and a torch that illuminates the way for the Party's cadre training work, carrying sacred meaning in the hearts of cadres, lecturers and students of the Party School over time.

From the two resistance wars to the innovation process of the country, from the roof of the Central Party School, from the original seeds nurtured by beloved Uncle Ho in the Viet Bac War Zone, the Ho Chi Minh Academy of Politics has gone through different stages of development with different names, constantly growing and expanding.

• Editor's note: *The Journal of Political Theory and Communication* respectfully publishes the speech of Prof. Dr. Nguyen Xuan Thang, Politburo member, Director of the Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics, Chairman of the Central Theoretical Council at the meeting to celebrate the 75th traditional anniversary of the Ho Chi Minh Academy of Politics (1949- 2024) and receive the First Class Labor Medal.

In the period 1949-1977, the Academy was named Nguyen Ai Quoc Party School. During the wartime, the school was moved to different places, such as Thai Nguyen, Tuyen Quang, Ha Tay, and Phu Tho provinces. To meet the requirements of revolutionary tasks, the functions and tasks of the school were constantly supplemented and enhanced.

In 1962, the school carried out the task of training and fostering middle and senior cadres and training researchers and teachers of political theory. In 1964, the school opened its first graduate student classes. From 1966, the school began implementing scientific research projects.

After the country's unification, in order to meet the requirements of building socialism, the organizational apparatus of the Party School system was increasingly consolidated and expanded.

In July 1977, the school was given a new name, Nguyen Ai Quoc Senior Party School and established a second campus in Ho Chi Minh City, performing two main tasks: training and fostering middle and senior cadres and theoretical research.

The reform has opened a new period of development for the Party School system across the country. In July 1986, Nguyen Ai Quoc Senior Party School changed its name to Academy of Social Sciences named after Nguyen Ai Quoc (referred to as Nguyen Ai Quoc Academy). In March 1993, Nguyen Ai Quoc Academy was renamed Ho Chi Minh Academy of Politics.

Based on the unification of regional Party Schools and Party communication schools, Ho Chi Minh Academy of Politics has a nationwide sub-institute system, including: units at the Academy center, sub-institutes in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Da Nang and the Sub-institute of Journalism and Propaganda. In October 1996, the Institute for Research on Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought merged with the Ho Chi Minh Academy of Politics. Accordingly, the Academy was enhanced with the function of researching and compiling the history of the Communist Party of Vietnam, guiding and appraising the Party's history and traditional history of different departments, ministries, branches, central and local organizations.

In May 2007, the Academy was merged with the National Academy of Public Administration and named Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics and Administration. In 2014, after the Academy of Public Administration was moved to the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Academy was renamed Ho Chi Minh Academy of Politics.

According to Decision No. 145-QD/TW, dated August 8, 2018 by the Politburo, Ho Chi Minh Academy of Politics is an agency directly under the Party

Central Committee's management; placed under the direct, comprehensive and regular leadership and direction of the Politburo and the Secretariat.

Currently, the Academy includes 18 professional, information and publishing institutes; 10 functional units; Academy of Politics Region I (in Hanoi), Academy of Politics Region II (in Ho Chi Minh City), Academy of Politics Region III (in Da Nang City), Academy of Politics Region IV (in Can Tho city) and the Academy of Journalism and Communication; synchronously connected with the system of provincial political schools in 63 provinces and cities across the country.

Over the past 75 years, with the glorious responsibility and pride of being a school that carries out "the Party's fundamental work", Ho Chi Minh Academy of Politics has trained hundreds of thousands of middle and senior cadres of the Party and political system from the central to grassroots levels and international students with qualifications in political theory, revolutionary ethics, leadership and management skills, practical organizational capacity, timely and effectively responded strategic goals and tasks of the revolutionary cause in different periods.

Along with the country's renovation process, the Academy has gradually affirmed its position as a national center for training and fostering middle and senior leaders, managers, and political theoretical researchers of the Party, State and socio-political organizations. It becomes a national center for theoretical science research on Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought, on the Party's guidelines and policies and laws of the State, political science studies, governance studies, leadership and management studies and provides teaching and learning as well as the scientific basis for policy planning and guidelines by the Party and State.

For its development achievements and great contributions to the revolutionary cause of the Party and nation, the Academy has been awarded Ho Chi Minh Medal (1st time: in 1989; 2nd time: in 2014), Gold Star Medal (in 1996); Title of Hero of Labor in the reform period (in 2009), First Class Labor Medal (in 2024) and many other noble awards.

Inheriting a glorious tradition, following in the steps of the previous generation, Ho Chi Minh Academy of Politics has recently strived to reach up and gained important achievements with many outstanding milestones in all fields, deserving to become the most advanced Party's school with identity, modernization and integration in the innovation period.

(1) The Academy has made many breakthroughs in building, developing and effectively implementing political theory training and fostering programs

in a fundamental, systematic, practical and modern way. It strongly innovated teaching and learning methods with the motto “learners are the center - the school creates the condition - lecturers create the driving force”. It concentrated on improving knowledge, skills and cultivating political qualities; drastically innovated training management in the direction of promoting IT application, strengthening school discipline, enhancing students’ self-awareness, self-management, and the compliance with regulations; determined to overcome and terminate the situation of laziness and reluctance in learning political theory.

Since 2014, the Academy has trained and fostered more than 115,000 advanced political theory students of different courses. Particularly, being the Party’s most senior school, the Academy has been entrusted by the Politburo and the Secretariat to coordinate with the Central Organizing Committee and other agencies to successfully organize training and fostering courses for official members and alternate members of the Party Central Committee, officials planned for strategic-level positions, and many training classes by job title and professional exchange research programs for cadres working in the parties and governments of partner countries.

As a role model and to create widespread inspiration, the Academy has promoted the building of standard political schools, bringing about profound changes, creating motivation and new breeze in the cadres training and scientific research, building material and technical facilities and developing teaching staff in the system of political schools across the country.

To date, projects of building standard political schools in 63 out of 63 provinces have been approved by the Standing Committees of the Provincial Party Committees and Centrally-run city Party Committees. It is expected that by the end of 2024, there will be about 25 political schools recognized to meet level 1 standards.

(2) Being a place where the Party’s political theoretical knowledge converges and crystallizes, the Academy has strongly innovated scientific researches based on theory and practice; theoretical research attached to practical summary and policy planning advisory for the Party and State; with inheritance and development of Vietnamese theoretical knowledge and selectively absorbing the quintessence of human knowledge, in accordance with the development trend of the world.

Since 2014, the Academy has completed approximately 280 national-level programs and projects; nearly 750 ministerial-level projects, programs and

topics; and over 1,800 grassroots level topics. The results of scientific research projects have directly served to innovate and improve the quality of training and fostering staff; directly contributed to the application, supplementation, and creative development of Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh Thought and theory of innovation paths; provided hundreds of reports and recommendations to serve the policy planning and law implementation of the Party and the State, and development strategies for sectors, branches and localities.

(3) As the nucleus of spreading the tradition of patriotism, revolution, pride and confidence in the Party's golden history, the Academy has hosted, in coordination with the standing provincial and city party committees, effectively directed the compilation of Party history. As a result, thousands of high quality historical works by party committees at all levels have been compiled, contributing to clarifying the achievements and experience lessons withdrawn from the glorious history of more than 94 years of revolution led by the Communist Party of Viet Nam.

The Academy has taken the lead in implementing many groundbreaking activities in protecting the Party's ideological foundation, fighting against wrongful and hostile views; proactively integrating ideological foundation protection into the teaching curriculum; posting articles on protecting the Party's ideological foundation on its magazines, newsletters, information portals, websites, and scientific forums. The Academy's initiative to organize the Political Essay Contest on protecting the Party's ideological foundation is a national-level contest, has attracted a lot of participants and became viral throughout the political and social system.

(4) In the context of the country's extensive international integration process, the Academy's international cooperation activities in recent times have been enhanced in both breadth and depth, according to the motto "make use of external relations" to support training and fostering cadres and scientific studies.

To date, the Academy has cooperated with more than 200 international partners from 60 countries and territories. The Academy's communication, journalism, publishing, and scientific information work is increasingly expanded and improved with high quality. The technical facilities of the entire Academy system are constantly invested and modernized, notably the building of a smart administration model, along with high standard halls and dormitories to ensure the learning and teaching in a professional and friendly manner, imbued with the identity, culture and civilization of the Party School.

(5) Under the direct leadership and guidance of the Politburo and the Secretariat, the work of building a clean and strong Academy's Party Committee was carried out synchronously and comprehensively, with many innovations, and great results, creating strength of solidarity and unity to successfully complete political tasks entrusted by the Party, State and people.

Those great achievements are the result of inheriting tradition and continuing the development achievements of the Academy over time; thanks to the close, regular and direct leadership and guidance of the Politburo and the Secretariat; effective cooperation and assistance from central and local departments, ministries, branches; the joint efforts, unanimity, and persistently striving of many generations of leaders, cadres, employees, students and workers of the Academy.

For more than 70 years of establishment and development, the Ho Chi Minh Academy of Politics has been growing with the glorious Party and the heroic country. This embroidered the quintessential identity of the Central Party School and enriched valuable lessons in the teaching career.

Those are: staying persistent and steadfast to the Party's ideological and theoretical foundation, inheriting glorious traditions and constantly promoting the spirit of innovation; paying great attention to building a contingent of cadres and students with steadfast political stance, truly "virtuous and talented", proficient and knowledgeable in both theory and practice; deeply grasping the direct and regular leadership and guidance of the Politburo and the Secretariat, headed by the General Secretary; taking advantage of the cooperation and assistance of central and local departments, ministries, branches, and expanding international cooperation; strengthening system administration synchronously; building a clean, strong and comprehensive Academy's Party Committee, strengthening solidarity and unity, promoting synergy strength, and determination to complete all assigned tasks.

Following the glorious tradition, proudly and confidently entering a new era of development, towards the vision of the 100th anniversary the Central Party School's establishment, the Ho Chi Minh Academy of Politics strives to become a national center with high reputation in the region and the world for training and fostering leaders, middle and senior managers, and political theoretical and scientific staff of the Party and the political system; taking the lead on theoretical scientific research of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought, the Party and State's policy studies, political science studies,

leadership and governance science; advisory on policies and strategies for the Party and State.

With awareness, responsibility and pride of the Party School named after our beloved Uncle Ho, the Academy will continue to renovate the training and fostering cadres in a fundamental, systematic, practical, modern way; enhance and improve the quality and effectiveness of scientific researches, advisory on policy planning of the Party and the State, particularly contributing ideas to the compiling documents of the 14th Party Congress; continue to boost the building standard Party's schools in grassroots level; continue to effectively study and compile the Party's history to sharpening the golden history pages of the Academy on preparation for the 100th anniversary of our glorious Party's establishment; continue to strengthen the organization and operating apparatus to make it lean, effective and efficient; Focus on building a contingent of staff and lecturers with political courage, high quality, capacity, and prestige on par with their tasks; enhance modernization of facilities; build a clean, strong, united Academy's Party Committee, determined to successfully complete all tasks that the Party, State and people entrust.

Fully imbued with the core values of the Central Party School with "Consistency - Exemplary - Innovation - Creativity - Dedication - Development" that have been shaped and crystallized over the past 75 years, we, leaders, cadres, lecturers, workers and students of Ho Chi Minh Academy of Politics are determined to build an Academy of identity, modernization and integration, constantly reaching new heights of development, deserving to its given name as the Party's school with the name of our beloved Uncle Ho./.