

THE CRAFT OF BUILDING *GHE BÀU* IN ĐÔNG TÁC VILLAGE: MANUFACTURING TECHNIQUES AND OPERATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Nguyễn Thăng Long*

Abstract: *This paper is the result of a case study focusing on the knowledge and techniques of the past craftsmanship of building ghe bàu (wooden boats) in the coastal region of Central Vietnam. The data was gained through the author's interviews with a senior artisan in Đông Tác village. By meticulously describing details, components and the process of building ghe bàu as well as knowledge and experience in operating such vehicles on the sea, the paper contributes to the restoration of a complete boat as existed in the past. It also helps highlight the important role of ghe bàu in the economic, historical and cultural activities of people living in the central coastal region during a long period in the past.*

Keywords: *Coastal village, ghe bàu, boat building, experiences, techniques.*

* MA. Sub-Institute of the National Institute of Culture and Arts Studies in Huế City.