

WORSHIPPING WATER AND HISTORICAL CHARACTER IN THE TRADITIONAL FESTIVAL OF VIETNAMESE PEOPLE IN THE NORTHERN DELTA OF VIET NAM

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Abstracts: *The traditional festival of Vietnamese people in the northern delta in particular, the whole of Viet Nam in general, is a community activity, originated at a break between two harvests, later becoming a sacred activity, with a structure including worship characters, performance, offerings and rituals. The Northern Delta region of Viet Nam has a specific ethnicity characteristic. Only Vietnamese people (Kinh group), in this region, have a dialectical view of the water: both adapting, utility, worshipping and conquering it. The Vietnamese have sanctified the water; therefore, in traditional festivals, the worshiper is a historical figure; water always has a unique position compared to other offering objects.*

This paper, through the selected traditional Vietnamese festivals in the Northern Delta, analyzes the relationship between water worshipping and historical figures to clarify the consciousness of Vietnamese people (Kinh group), identifying cultural layers in Vietnamese culture of the people in the Northern Delta: the folklore, the descended monarchic culture and the transformation of those cultural characteristics through the time.

Keywords: *Water worshipping, historical figures worshipping, folklore, traditional festivals, the Red River Delta/The Northern Delta, Viet Nam.*