

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISSERTATION

**Doctoral candidate:** Do Thi Kieu Nga

**Dissertation title:** The folk knowledge of the Red Dao people in the resettlement area of Tuyen Quang Hydropower.

**Major:** Folklore Studies                      **Code:** 9229041

**Scientific supervisor:** Assoc Prof. Dr. Pham Lan Oanh

**Institution:** Vietnam National Institute of Culture and Arts Studies

### CONTENT OF THE ABSTRACT

#### ***1. Aims and objects of the study***

##### ***1.1. Aims of the study:***

The thesis evaluates the role of folk knowledge in the lives of the Red Dao people before and after resettlement. It analyses issues related to the transformation of their folk knowledge in the context of migration. This includes influencing factors, the changes in folk knowledge, the role of the ecological environment and cultural actors in cultural adaptation and change. From the results of research on cultural change and adaptation, the thesis raises issues from the folk knowledge of the Red Dao people, with discussions on preserving and promoting the value of folk knowledge of the Red Dao people in the current context.

##### ***1.2. Objects of the study:***

The subject of the dissertation is the folk knowledge of the Red Dao people in the Tuyen Quang Hydropower resettlement area, focusing on the changes and adaptations in their folk knowledge before migration and after resettlement.

#### ***2. Methods of the study:***

To achieve the proposed research goals, the thesis uses the following research methods: synthesis and analysis of secondary documents, participant observation method, in-depth interview method, discussion method group, and comparison method.

#### ***3. Main results and conclusions***

##### ***3.1. Main results***

1. The thesis provides an overview of the research context and clarifies the theoretical basis and issues related to ethnicity, livelihood characteristics and socio-cultural aspects of the Red Dao people in the resettlement area Tuyen Quang Hydropower project.

2. The thesis studies the practice of folk knowledge of the Red Dao people in the resettlement areas of the Tuyen Quang Hydropower Project before and after relocation, identifies changes, adapts, and evaluates the role of folk knowledge in the life of the Red Dao people.

3. The thesis analyzes influencing factors and challenges related to the process of changing folk knowledge of the Red Dao people. At the same time, discuss preserving and promoting the value of folk knowledge of the Red Dao people in the current context.

4. The dissertation contributes to providing a systematic source of materials on the folk knowledge of the Red Dao people, supporting research and education in the fields

of folklore and ethnic culture. It also serves as a valuable resource for governmental agencies in formulating ethnic policies and policies on migration and resettlement for ethnic minority regions.

### **3.2. Conclusions**

1. The living area of the Red Dao people in the resettlement area of Tuyen Quang Hydropower Project before resettlement was characterized by high mountainous terrain. Thanks to that, the Red Dao people possess a rich store of knowledge about agricultural production, natural resource exploitation and conservation, health care and healing methods as well as expertise in many other fields.

2. The thesis clarifies the folk knowledge practices of the Red Dao people and their transformation before and after resettlement. In the new context, their culture and folk knowledge have been adjusted to adapt. While modern elements gradually replace many traditional methods, the Red Dao people continue to preserve applicable folk knowledge. These experiences not only help them sustain their livelihoods, but also reflect a deep relationship and respect for nature.

3. During the resettlement process, the Red Dao people are willing to modify traditional knowledge, prioritizing improving living standards over maintaining traditional practices, demonstrating their proactive role in the modern process. This adaptability is evident in the way the Red Dao people flexibly adjust their knowledge to suit the new conditions encountered upon resettlement.

4. The thesis clarifies the important role of folk knowledge in the lives of the Red Dao people, especially in resettlement and socio-economic development. This knowledge not only helps them adapt to the environment and maintain their livelihoods, but also protects their health and preserves traditional culture in their communities. Influenced by many different objective and subjective factors, the folk knowledge of the resettled Red Dao people is gradually changing.

5. With a major turning point, the Red Dao people have overcome numerous challenges to stabilize their lives after resettlement. Thanks to support from the government and their own efforts, their living conditions have significantly improved. However, a pressing challenge for the community today is the risk of losing many traditional values and cultural identities, including their folk knowledge. This raises the critical issue that government agencies need to place greater emphasis on the cultural elements and customs of ethnic minorities when implementing resettlement programs.

**Scientific Supervisor**

**Doctoral Candidate**

**Assoc Prof. Dr. Pham Lan Oanh**