

Studying and emulating Ho Chi Minh's ideals of loyalty to the nation and devotion to the people - contributing to inspiring the desire to build a prosperous and happy country

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Date of Submission: 25-03-2024

Date of Acceptance: 05-04-2024

ABSTRACT

The ideology of "Loyalty to the nation, devotion to the people" is the core content of Ho Chi Minh's moral standards. Studying and emulating Ho Chi Minh's ideals in the current period are highly necessary. This article focuses on elucidating the fundamental contents of Ho Chi Minh's ideology regarding "Loyalty to the nation, devotion to the people" and links learning and emulation with solutions to contribute to inspiring the aspiration to build a prosperous and happy nation.

Keywords: Loyalty to the nation, devotion to the people, Ho Chi Minh, prosperity, happiness

I. INTRODUCTION

In the system of Ho Chi Minh's ideology, his moral thoughts hold exceptional importance. The moral qualities outlined by Ho Chi Minh are diverse, profound, and suitable for each target group, but the most fundamental and overarching quality is "Loyalty to the nation, devotion to the people." This moral quality in Ho Chi Minh's ideology not only inherits the values of traditional patriotism of the nation but also surpasses its limitations, transforming and innovating old value scales into new ethical standards - revolutionary ethics on a larger scale. The 13th Party Congress has also set the goal: "Inspiring the desire for the development of a prosperous and happy country." This is a legitimate and deserving aspiration for the benefit of the entire populace. Thus, thoroughly understanding and emulating Ho Chi Minh's moral example, in which the primary and crucial quality is "Loyalty to the nation, devotion to the people," becomes an important content contributing to inspiring the aspiration to build a prosperous and happy nation.

1. Ho Chi Minh's Ideals of Loyalty to the nation and devotion to the people

"Loyalty to the nation, devotion to the people" is the most important and dominant moral quality. Loyalty and devotion are ancient ethical concepts deeply rooted in Vietnamese and Eastern moral thought, reflecting the greatest relationship and also the most dominant quality: "Loyalty to the king, devotion to parents" Ho Chi Minh utilized this moral quality with new and extensive content: "Loyalty to the nation, devotion to the people," creating a profound revolution in the field of ethics.

The Content of Ho Chi Minh's viewpoint on loyalty to the nation

*Principles of loyalty to the nation

According to him, loyalty and devotion are expressions of the unity between ideals, political qualities, and revolutionary ethics. Love for the country, pride in the glorious tradition of the nation is the duty and responsibility of each citizen to the community, to the cause of the Party and the nation, to the aspirations of the country; it is the will and determination to overcome all difficulties, challenges, and readiness to sacrifice for the common goal of the revolutionary cause; it is the trust and respect for the people. Therefore, Ho Chi Minh often reminds revolutionary cadres to have a spirit of selflessness and sacrifice for the people, for the country, and "The lifelong determination to fight for the Party and the revolution, revolutionary morality is absolute loyalty to the Party and the people, revolutionary morality is exerting utmost efforts to achieve the goals of the Party, and being utterly loyal in serving the working class and the laboring people" [4, p. 603]. In 1969, in his Will

before departing, Uncle Ho wrote: "Throughout my life, I have devoted myself to serving the Fatherland, serving the revolution, serving the people. Now, even though I have to bid farewell to this world, I have no regrets, only regrets that I couldn't serve longer and more" [5, p. 615].

***Striving to achieve revolutionary goals**

Independence, freedom, peace, and national unity are the burning desires of a nation deprived of sovereignty. For without sovereignty, all is lost. Living in a state of lost sovereignty, shattered homes, where all power lies in the hands of invading forces and their lackeys, threatens not only human life but also the rights of equality, freedom, and democracy for all. If there is any semblance of freedom, it is merely the freedom to plunder, oppress, kill, and imprison by the invading forces and their lackeys. Hence, "Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom," one of the great ideas of Ho Chi Minh in the Vietnamese revolution, has become the truth of the Vietnamese nation and of all humanity with conscience. Independence for the nation, freedom for the people - this idea of Ho Chi Minh has become the foremost goal of the Vietnamese revolution. This idea has been thoroughly grasped throughout the entire process of the Vietnamese revolution and prominently manifested at historical turning points. If addressing the national issue in the Vietnamese revolution were to stop at the struggle for national independence and freedom for the people, then that revolutionary cause would only have traversed a short distance. For if there is independence and freedom but the people still suffer, then that independence and freedom have no meaning. Therefore, the path to socialism and independence must be linked with socialism as the core content of Ho Chi Minh's ideology, a strategic goal in the revolutionary cause of the Communist Party of Vietnam for two-thirds of a century and forever after.

***Excellentlly implementing Party and state policies**

The Communist Party is the leading revolutionary force, the force that charts the course for the revolution. To fulfill that role, the Party has constructed political lines and correct policies that meet the interests of the people. The state has concretized those lines into policies, laws, and put them into practice. The Party and State's approach always reflects the principle of "rooted in the people," truly embodying the "The Party's viewpoints and the aspirations of the people". Thanks to the correct and innovative approach, the Party has not only unleashed the strength of the

entire Party and people but also leveraged international and contemporary strength, step by step achieving victories for the Vietnamese revolution. Therefore, patriotism also encompasses the need to excellently implement all Party and State policies.

Ho Chi Minh's Viewpoint on devotion to the people

***Love, trust, respect, and rootedness in the people**

To be filial towards the people means, first and foremost, to be filial towards one's parents, not only towards one's own parents but also towards the parents of others. It entails ensuring that everyone understands the importance of loving and respecting their parents. According to Uncle Ho, this sense of filial duty extends to the entire Vietnamese nation, transcending borders to embrace oppressed peoples worldwide. It means that officials must recognize the immense and boundless power of the People and acknowledge that the People are the true holders of state power. Officials are merely delegated, empowered by the People to address the collective affairs of the nation. Ho Chi Minh had unwavering faith in the masses, believing that "the country takes the people as its root" and that "with a firm root, a tree grows strong / Building victory on the foundation of the People". Throughout his life, Ho Chi Minh acted solely for the People's well-being.

***Emphasizing the spirit of serving the people**

Throughout his life, President Ho Chi Minh was deeply concerned with the spirit of serving the people. Speaking of the spirit of responsibility, he wrote: "The spirit of responsibility... is when the Party, the Government, or superiors assign us any task, regardless of its size or difficulty, we bring our spirit and strength to accomplish it, overcoming all obstacles to achieve success."

Throughout his life, Ho Chi Minh dedicated himself to the nation and the people until the end. Even while lying on his sickbed, he continued to work. Every day, he listened to comrades in the Politburo reporting on the situation in the rear and the front lines, read books, newspapers, and bulletins. In his final days, when he was running a high fever and experiencing heart pain, upon waking, he would inquire: "How is the North dealing with the floods? How has the South been fighting recently?" Even in the moments of life and death, he forgot his own pain to think of everyone.

***Showing care and concern for people's lives**

According to Ho Chi Minh, the most practical aspect of nurturing the "roots" is to consistently care for the people's lives, to safeguard the legitimate interests of the people. He often recalls the sayings of ancient sages, "being practical is the basis for morality," "people must have real benefits from heaven". He reminds cadres and party members: "One cannot just theorize with the people". The policy of the Party and the Government is to take utmost care of the people's lives: If the people are hungry, it is the fault of the Party and the Government. If the people are cold, it is the fault of the Party and the Government. If the people are ignorant, it is the fault of the Party and the Government. If the people are sick, it is the fault of the Party and the Government.

*Respecting and upholding the people's right to self-determination

According to Ho Chi Minh, democracy must be practiced with the people to enhance the people's spirit of self-determination, which is the essence of the issue where the people are the root. He often says: "Our regime is a democratic regime, meaning that the people are the masters". So how should the authority and responsibilities of the masters be? His answer is: If the Government makes mistakes, it must be criticized, but criticism should not involve cursing. And he requests: the masters must first fulfill their citizen duties, meaning they must comply with state laws; comply with labor discipline; maintain public order; pay taxes on time; protect public property; protect the Fatherland.

Being loyal to the country must be coupled with devotion to the people

Despite their differences, Loyalty and Devotion are always intertwined, showing a unified relationship. Ho Chi Minh believes that loyalty to the country must be linked with devotion to the people. Because the country belongs to the people, and the people are the masters of the country, all power and forces are with the people, all interests are for the people, and officials are servants of the people, not "revolutionary officials". According to him, the country belongs to the people, and the people are the masters of the country. Therefore, "loyalty to the country, devotion to the people" is a manifestation of responsibility for the nation-building and preservation cause, for the country's path of progress and development.

2. Studying and following ho Chi Minh's Ideals of loyalty to the nation and filial devotion to the people - contributing to the awakening of the

aspiration to build a prosperous and happy country

The aspiration to build a prosperous and happy nation is an essential element in the ideology, ethics, and style of Ho Chi Minh. He is the epitome of patriotism and revolutionary heroism in Vietnam. His ideological legacy holds profound historical and contemporary significance, retaining its theoretical and practical value to this day. Ho Chi Minh's vision of "aspiring for the development of a prosperous, happy nation" entails realizing the ambition of building a strong, thriving nation under the Party's leadership, establishing a new regime, and seeking warmth and prosperity for the people. This involves constructing a robust economy through planned efforts with the unanimous cooperation of the Government and the people, maximizing the nation's internal strength, leveraging external resources, and implementing open-door policies to attract foreign investment. It is evident that studying and adhering to this Ho Chi Minh's ideals is a crucial factor in awakening the aspiration to build a prosperous and happy country. Love for the nation and compassion for the people provide the impetus for striving towards building a prosperous nation that ensures a comfortable and happy life for its citizens.

The exemplary ideological principles and moral qualities of Ho Chi Minh, characterized by his fervent, wholehearted patriotism and dedicated service to the Fatherland and the people, are enduring aspirations. His burning desires continue to inspire successive generations of Vietnamese people to learn from and emulate his example.

After nearly 40 years of renewal and over 30 years of implementing the policy of nation-building during the transition to socialism, our country has achieved significant and remarkable accomplishments. These achievements, which have directly enhanced the country's overall strength, include remarkable economic development, political and social stability, cultural and social progress, and strengthened defense and security. Vietnam's independence, sovereignty, unity, territorial integrity, and socialist regime have been firmly maintained, while its position and prestige in the international arena have been elevated. These achievements are the clearest evidence affirming that the path towards socialism is in line with Vietnam's reality and the historical trend of development. Moreover, they serve as a source of pride, motivation, and vital resources for overcoming all difficulties and challenges, continuing to renew and sustainably develop the country in the years to come.

To contribute to the awakening of the aspiration to build a prosperous and happy country, we must effectively implement the following points:

Every cadre, party member, and citizen must be infinitely loyal to the goals and ideals of the Party and the nation. They must steadfastly apply and develop creatively the Marxist-Leninist ideology and Ho Chi Minh's thoughts, remain committed to the goals of national independence and socialism, and adhere to the Party's reform direction to build and defend the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Everyone needs to deeply appreciate and fully understand the great sacrifices of our ancestors, which have provided us with our homeland, the independent and unified Vietnam we have today. Enhancing patriotism and pride in the heroic traditions of the nation is the conscience and responsibility of every genuine Vietnamese.

Being loyal to the nation today means being infinitely loyal to the cause of building and protecting the homeland, safeguarding its independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, cultural foundation, protecting the Party, the regime, the people, and the renewal cause, safeguarding the nation's interests.

Being loyal to the nation and filial to the people requires always respecting and upholding the people's sovereignty under all three forms: representative democracy, direct democracy, and community self-management; wholeheartedly serving the people, promptly addressing their legitimate demands and suggestions; overcoming indifference, apathy, and passivity towards the people's grievances and difficulties.

Being loyal to the nation and filial to the people today is manifested in the determination to rise above poverty and backwardness, striving to lift our country out of underdevelopment at an early stage, contributing to the construction of a prosperous nation in line with the beloved desire of President Ho Chi Minh: "to build our country decently and beautifully".

Being loyal to the nation and filial to the people means always being conscious of preserving national unity, unity within the Party, within organizations, units; resolutely fighting against attempts to divide the nation, undermine national solidarity, and weaken the Party's relationship with the people by hostile forces. Any localism, factionalism is contrary to the genuine spirit of patriotism.

Being loyal to the nation and filial to the people requires a high sense of responsibility towards work, professional ethics, and integrity;

being determined to strive for success and contribute as much as possible to the country and the people; determined to build a rich and beautiful homeland, a civilized society. There must be a spirit of eagerness to learn, to inherit and value our ancestors' tradition of learning and talent appreciation; to creatively apply scientific knowledge, modern technology, and innovations in production and work, to excellently fulfill the assigned tasks. Any conservatism, sluggishness, aversion to learning, labor aversion, demands for excessive benefits, and results of dedication are contrary to the national moral principles and the patriotic ideals of President Ho Chi Minh.

Being loyal to the nation and filial to the people requires each of us to properly resolve personal-family-collective-societal relationships; the relationship between obligations and rights. Whatever we do must be primarily for the collective, for the homeland, for the people, fostering a sense of responsibility, not being greedy, self-serving, or nurturing personal interests.

Strengthening the monitoring efforts and proactively detecting early signs of hostile forces' schemes, methods, and tactics aimed at undermining the grand unity of the entire people, sabotaging the patriotic spirit, and the self-reliant will of our people is paramount. Taking initiative in studying, identifying fallacies, and countering the erroneous viewpoints of hostile forces that aim to destroy the "patriotic spirit, the will for national self-reliance, and the strength of national solidarity" effectively involves both theoretical struggles in traditional media outlets and organizing resistance through social media.

II. CONCLUSION

The ideology of "Loyalty to the nation, devotion to the people" constitutes the core content in Ho Chi Minh's moral standards. It serves as a guiding light, the root for revolutionary soldiers to dedicate their lives to the revolutionary cause and ideals, willingly sacrificing themselves for the current revitalization of the country. Moreover, it serves as the source from which the entire Party and people strive, labor, and study to lead the nation steadily on the path of development. Studying and following this Ho Chi Minh's ideology demonstrates the creative application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology into the Party's line to build a prosperous and happy country. It also embodies the best determination to realize the aspirations and wishes of President Ho Chi Minh for a bright future of the nation: Independence, freedom, happiness.

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