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Work without name : changing patterns of children's work in a Northern Vietnamese village

Van Chinh, Nguyen

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GLOSSARY

This glossary includes specific words, slang phrases, proverbs and sayings that have appeared in this text. Most of them are widely used in Northern Vietnam but some should be understood in the context of Giao village.

Words and phrases

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Ac tat</i> | Malignity |
| <i>Am</i> | Yin |
| <i>Anh chi em ruot</i> | Full siblings |
| <i>Anh chi em ho</i> | Patrilineal/matrilateral same-generation cousins |
| <i>Anh/chi cung cha khac me</i> | Senior half-brothers/sisters |
| | |
| <i>Ba khoan</i> | Three points contract system |
| <i>Bac</i> | Father's older brothers/sisters |
| <i>Ban Bao Ve Di Tich Lich Su Van Hoa</i> | Committee for Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments |
| <i>Ban Khanh Tiet</i> | Village Committee for Rituals |
| <i>Bat kinh voi bo me</i> | Disrespect to the parents |
| <i>Binh cong</i> | Public evaluation of workpoints |
| | |
| <i>Cai thau</i> | Entrepreneur |
| <i>Cam</i> | Bran |
| <i>Cam lon</i> | The mixture of vegetable and bran for pigs |
| <i>Can bo trung uong</i> | Central cadre |
| <i>Cau tu</i> | Praying for having a male heir |
| <i>Chau dich ton</i> | The eldest son who will inherit and continue the lineage |
| <i>Chi bo dang</i> | The village cell of the CPV |
| <i>Chi ho</i> | Extended family |
| <i>Chi tieu</i> | Work norm |
| <i>Cho nguoi</i> | People market (where labourers are hanging around to hire out their labour) |
| | |
| <i>Chong</i> | Husband |
| <i>Chu quoc ngu</i> | The national script |
| <i>Chua Huong</i> | Perfume Pagoda |
| <i>Con gai</i> | Daughter/girl |
| <i>Con trai</i> | Son/boy |
| <i>Con sen</i> | Maid-servant |
| <i>Cong diem</i> | Payment points |
| <i>Cong khoan</i> | Payment based on piece-work |
| <i>Cong nhât</i> | Fixed daily payment |
| <i>Cuc</i> | Marigold |
| <i>Cuoi lai</i> | Re-marriage |
| <i>Cuong hao</i> | Local tyrant |
| | |
| <i>Dam dang viec nha</i> | Responsible for housework |
| <i>Dam dat</i> | Lewdness |
| <i>Dan ba</i> | Woman |
| <i>Dan ong</i> | Man |
| <i>Dan ngu cu</i> | Adopted residents |
| <i>Dao Hieu</i> | Filial Duty |
| <i>Day cu</i> | Full-day old (referred to newly born child) |
| <i>Day nam</i> | One full-year old |
| <i>Day thang</i> | One full-month old |
| <i>Den</i> | Temple |

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|------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Di hoan</i> | To get castrated (a slang referring to people who receive sterilisation) |
| <i>Dia chu</i> | Landlord |
| <i>Dieu cong</i> | Work distribution |
| <i>Doi cac cu</i> | Elderly people team |
| <i>Doi cay</i> | The plowing team (mostly male workers) |
| <i>Doi cay</i> | The planting team (mostly female workers) |
| <i>Doi cong</i> | Labour exchange |
| <i>Doi Moi</i> | Renovation |
| <i>Doi san xuat</i> | Production brigade |
| <i>Doi thu cong</i> | Handicraft team |
| <i>Doi trong cay</i> | Tree planting team |
| | |
| <i>Doi truong tuan</i> | Guarding team |
| <i>Doi tuong chinh sach</i> | Subjects covered by a social policy |
| <i>Dong</i> | The <i>dong</i> (or: the piaster, Vietnam currency) |
| <i>Dong ho</i> | Lineage |
| <i>Dua o</i> | House servant |
| <i>Duc Ong</i> | Guardian Deity |
| <i>Duong</i> | Yang |
| | |
| <i>E chong</i> | Those women who have difficulty in finding a husband |
| | |
| <i>Ghen tuong</i> | Jealousy |
| <i>Ghen ty</i> | Envy |
| <i>Gia dinh</i> | The family |
| <i>Gia dinh tuyet tu</i> | Heirless family |
| <i>Gia pha</i> | The family record |
| <i>Giao vien chu nhiem</i> | Teacher in charge |
| <i>Giap</i> | An organisation of village male members aged from 18 and older |
| | |
| <i>Gio to</i> | The ancestor's death anniversary |
| <i>(Go) lim</i> | Erithlophreum fordii (wood) |
| <i>(Go) mun</i> | Ebony wood |
| <i>(Go) po-mu</i> | Filkieniahodginisi (wood) |
| <i>(Go) trac</i> | Delbergia cochinchinensis (wood) |
| <i>Gui (ban) con vao cua thanh</i> | Commending the child to deity |
| | |
| <i>Hang xao</i> | Rice miller |
| <i>Hiep tho</i> | The guild of worker. |
| <i>Ho dang cha/ho noi</i> | Father's patrilineage |
| <i>Ho dang me/ho ngoai</i> | Mother's patrilineage |
| <i>Ho gan</i> | Close relatives |
| <i>Ho xa</i> | Distant relatives |
| <i>Hoc cach lam nguoi</i> | To learn the way of living |
| <i>Hoi Bao Tho</i> | Association for Protection of Elderly People |
| <i>Hoi Cac Gia</i> | Buddhist Association of Elderly Women |
| <i>Hoi Dong Nien</i> | Association of people of the same age group |
| <i>Hoi ho</i> | Credit association |
| <i>Hoi tho moc</i> | Association of carpenters |
| <i>Hoi Tu van</i> | Association of Confucian scholars |
| <i>Hop tac xa mang non</i> | Co-operative of young persons |
| <i>Hop tac xa nong nghiep</i> | Agricultural co-operative |
| <i>Hu</i> | Naughty |
| <i>Huan Dich Thap Dieu</i> | Ten Commandments to the Children |
| <i>Huong uoc</i> | Village convention |

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| <i>Khoan</i> | Contract |
| <i>Khoan ho</i> | Household contract |
| <i>Khoan san pham</i> | Output contract |
| <i>Khoan viec</i> | Contracted tasks |
| <i>Khoan 100</i> | Contract 100 (comes from the directive numbered 100 (issued by the CPV) |
| <i>Khong con</i> | Childlessness |
| <i>Kinh Le</i> | The Book of Rites (Confucian text) |
| <i>Lam giup</i> | To help |
| <i>Lanh</i> | Cool |
| <i>Lao dong chinh</i> | Main labourers |
| <i>Lao dong phu</i> | Assistant labourers |
| <i>Lao dong gian tiep</i> | Indirect labour |
| <i>Lap tu</i> | Nomination of a male heir |
| <i>Lam dieu</i> | Garrulousness |
| <i>Lam thue</i> | Hired labour for wage |
| <i>Lay cong lam lai</i> | Using labour to make a profit |
| <i>Long</i> | Dragon |
| <i>Lop day them</i> | Additional tutorials |
| <i>Lop mau giao</i> | Kindergarten/nursery school |
| <i>Luong thuc dieu hoa</i> | Harmonizing food |
| <i>Ly</i> | Unicorn |
| <i>Ly truong</i> | The village head (old) |
| <i>Mai</i> | Apricot |
| <i>Mat net</i> | Undisciplined |
| <i>Mau</i> | Land measurement unit, an area of 3,600 square meter (about 1/3 hectare). |
| <i>Minh Dao Gia Huan</i> | Family Instruction (Confucian text) |
| <i>Minh Tam Bao Giam</i> | Collection of Chinese wisdom sayings (used as text book to teach children). |
| <i>Nam Dieu Bac Ho Day</i> | Uncle Ho's Five Commandments to Children |
| <i>Nam nu thu thu bat than</i> | Boy and girls are not allowed to be close (Confucian ethics) |
| <i>Ngoan</i> | Good behaviour |
| <i>Nganh phu</i> | Supplementary production branch |
| <i>Ngu Kinh</i> | The Five Classics (Confucian Text) |
| <i>Nguoi ich ky</i> | Selfish people |
| <i>Nguoi lon</i> | Adult |
| <i>Nguoi thien ha</i> | Strangers |
| <i>Ngu Thuong</i> | Five Ethics |
| <i>Nha tre</i> | Crèche |
| <i>Nha van hoa</i> | Cultural House |
| <i>Nhan con nuoi</i> | Adopting a child |
| <i>Nhi Thap Tu Hieu</i> | Twenty four filial duties of the children (Confucian ethics) |
| <i>Nhuong nhin</i> | Self-denial |
| <i>Nong</i> | Hot |
| <i>O do</i> | Bonded labour |
| <i>O doi</i> | Servant for life |
| <i>O mua/o vu</i> | Seasonal servant |
| <i>O nam</i> | Servant on annual basis |
| <i>Ong gia khot-ta-bit</i> | A conservative man (slang), |

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| <i>Phat giao</i> | Buddhism |
| <i>Pho thon</i> | Deputy head of village |
| <i>Phu nong</i> | Rich peasant |
| <i>Phuong</i> | Phoenix |
| <i>Phuong nghe nghiep</i> | Craft and trade guilds |
| <i>Pho nho</i> | Little worker/apprentices |
| | |
| <i>Qua bao</i> | Retribution based on karma |
| <i>Qua do</i> | Transition |
| <i>Quy</i> | Tortoise |
| <i>Quy dat</i> | Land fund |
| | |
| <i>Ruong chua</i> | Land owned by (Buddhist) Pagodas |
| <i>Ruong cong lang xa</i> | Communal land |
| <i>Ruong dinh</i> | Land owned by the village communal house |
| <i>Ruong ho</i> | Land owned by specific patrilineage |
| <i>Ruong huong hoa</i> | Ancestral cult portion land |
| | |
| <i>Sao</i> | A land measurement unit, an area of 360 sq.m2. |
| <i>Sep</i> | Chief |
| <i>So ghi cong diem</i> | Workpoints records |
| <i>So phan ham hieu</i> | Unfortunate fate |
| <i>Su nu</i> | Nun |
| <i>Su nghiep trong nguoi</i> | The cause of cultivating the people |
| | |
| <i>Tam</i> | Broken rice |
| <i>Tam Cuong</i> | Three Principles (Confucian ethics) |
| <i>Tam Thien Tu</i> | Three Thousand Words (Chinese characters) |
| <i>Tam Tong, Tu Duc</i> | Three Follows and Four Virtues (Confucian ethics regarding women's morality) |
| | Trimetrical Classics |
| <i>Tam Tu Kinh</i> | Premature marriage |
| <i>Tao hon</i> | "Leaving the wife at large" (a village custom) |
| <i>Tha co</i> | Village Tutelary Deities |
| <i>Than Thanh hoang</i> | Houseboy |
| <i>Thang hau</i> | Goddess |
| <i>Thanh Mau</i> | Priest |
| <i>Thay cung</i> | Village teacher of classical Chinese |
| <i>Thay do</i> | Teacher |
| <i>Thay giao</i> | Christianity |
| <i>Thien chua giao</i> | |
| <i>Tho ban</i> | Craftsman |
| <i>Tho ca</i> | Foreman |
| <i>Tho cham</i> | Carvers |
| <i>Tho long</i> | Carpenter |
| <i>Tho Mai Gia Le</i> | Confucian Book of Family Rites |
| <i>Thoc can doi</i> | Balanced paddy |
| <i>Thu tu</i> | Custodian |
| <i>Thuan phong my tuc</i> | Good practices and customs |
| <i>Thue than</i> | Poll-tax |
| <i>Thuy to</i> | Founder of patrilineage |
| <i>Tien heo</i> | Withering [slow] money (slang word) |
| <i>Tien tuoi</i> | Fresh [quick] money (slang word) |
| <i>Tiet thanh minh</i> | Grave-visiting festival |
| <i>Tinh cam</i> | Sentiment |
| <i>Tram xa</i> | Clinic station |
| <i>Trau</i> | Rice husk |

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|--|---|
| <i>Tre con</i> | Child |
| <i>Trom cap</i> | Kleptomania/Thievery |
| <i>Truc</i> | Bamboo |
| <i>Truong chi</i> | The head of patrilineage branches |
| <i>Truong chuyen</i> | Specialized school |
| <i>Truong ho</i> | The head of patrilineage |
| <i>Truong thon</i> | The head of village (new) |
| <i>Tu Dan (Sy, Nong, Cong, Thuong)</i> | Four social classes (intellectual, peasant, craftsman, trader) |
| <i>Tu Thu</i> | The Four Books (Confucian text) |
| <i>Tung</i> | Pine |
| <i>Tuoi mu</i> | Age formed by "goddess" |
| <i>Tuoi tay</i> | Chronological age (by solar calendar) |
| <i>Vang loi</i> | Obedience |
| <i>Viec khong ten</i> | Work without name |
| <i>Viec linh tinh</i> | Odd jobs |
| <i>Vo</i> | Wife |
| <i>Vu</i> | Crop/Harvest |
| <i>Vu chiem/vu thang 5</i> | Paddy crop harvested in May- June |
| <i>Vu dong</i> | Winter crop |
| <i>Vu mua/vu thang 10</i> | Paddy crop harvested in October-November |
| <i>Xoa dau cau</i> | Custom of "touching the head of male heir" |
| <i>Xom</i> | Hamlet |

Proverbs and sayings

| | |
|---|--|
| <i>Be ngouoi con nha bac, lon xac con nha chu</i> | (Though young as she/he is, she/he is the child from the higher patrilineal offshoot, though old as [you are], you are only a child from a lower branch) |
| <i>Ca ao ai vao ao ta ta duoc</i> | (If a fish comes to my pond, it is mine no matter where it comes from). |
| <i>Cha me dat dau con ngoi day</i> | (Children have to sit at the place arranged for them by their parents). |
| <i>Co tien mua tien cung duoc</i> | (With money, you can even buy angles). |
| <i>Cong Dung Ngon Hanh</i> | (The Four Woman Virtues: Housewifery, Tolerance, Nice Words, Good Character). |
| <i>Con hu tai me, chau hu tai ba</i> | (Children are spoiled by their mothers, and grandchildren are spoiled by their grandmothers). |
| <i>Con gai la con ngouoi ta, Con dau moi that me cha mua ve</i> | (A daughter is someone else's child, A daughter in law is a real child bought by the parents) |
| <i>Con dai cai mang</i> | (Parents have to bear responsibility for their children's foolishness). |
| <i>Dat vua chua lang</i> | (The land belong to the King, the pagodas belong to the village) |
| <i>Day con tu thuo con tho</i> | (A child needs to be taught at an early age). |
| <i>Dep trai di bo khong bang mat ro di Honda</i> | (An ugly boy riding a Honda motorbike is more respectable than a handsome boy going about by foot). |

- Dong tien la Tien, la Phat, la suc bat cuoc doi*
(With money, you can be regarded as Angles and Buddha,
and money make you stronger in life)
- Gai thap tam, nam thap luc*
(A girl is mature at 13, a boy at 16)
- Giu cua nhu giu ma to*
(Keeping the valuables as careful as keeping the ancestral tombs).
- Gia don non nhe*
(To enforce discipline (on children), just use a big stick).
- Giau con ut, kho con ut*
(For better or worse, parents prefer to stay with the last-born son).
- Giot mau dao hon ao nuoc la*
(A drop of kinship blood is much more precious than a pond of water).
- Khi doi, dau goi phai bo*
(When you're hungry, you'll have to crawl).
- Khong thay do may lam nen*
(Without a teacher, you will be nobody).
- Mot me gia bang ba con o*
(An elderly mother can work as hard as three house servants).
- Mua khong den mat, nang khong den dau*
(One's face and head are safe from rain and sun-- meaning the preference of light jobs).
- Nam ton nu ty*
(Veneration for men and disregard for women).
- Nham mat lam ngo*
(Turn a blind eye).
- Nhan cu vi bat thien*
(Idleness is the root of all evils).
- Nu nhi ngoai toc*
(Females are outsiders of the patrilineage)
- Phep vua thua le lang*
(The King's Law surrenders to the village custom)
- Ra duong hoi nguoi gia, ve nha hoi tre nho*
(If you want to know your way around, ask the elderly;
If you want to know what really goes on in the home, ask the children).
- Ruong be be khong bang nghe trong tay*
(Having a lot of rice land is no better than possessing a skill)
- Ruong sau trau nai khong bang con gai dau long*
(A first-born daughter is worth more than a piece of fertile rice land or a good buffalo).
- Sinh nghe, tu nghiep*
(To be born into the trade and to die for the trade).
- Tam nam bat phu, tu nu bat ban*
(Three sons do not make you rich, four daughter do not make you poor).
- Thang gu lung lam cho thang ngay lung an*
(The hard worker do more but in the end, lazy-bones eat)
- Thuong con cho roi cho vot, Ghet con cho ngot cho bui*
(If you love your children, give them the rod and the stick;
If you loathe your children, give them sweets and tidbits;
or: Spare the rod and spoil the child).
- Tien hoc le, hau hoc van*
(Learn the rites first, then acquire the knowledge).
- Ton su trong dao*
(Veneration for educational ethics).
- Trai o re nhu cho chui gam chan*
(Son-in-law living at his in-laws is just like a dog living under the pantry).

Van hay chu tot khong bang thang dot lam tien

(A well-educated man is worth less than an illiterate boy making a lot of money).

Vang nhu chua ba Danh

(As quiet as a pagoda).