

Seminar ehvn

Environmental History of Vietnam

Second Session, January, Monday 13^d, 14:00 to 16:30, Hanoi, USSH (VNU) + Visio-conference through Renater



Natural hazard and socio-political dynamics in Vietnam

- **Natural disasters, diseases, and social violence in the early 19th century northern Vietnam**
Phd student Vũ Đức Liêm, is faculty member at the Department of History, Hanoi National University of Education and PhD candidate of University of Hamburg

- **Discussant**

Dr. Andrew Hardy, French School of Asian Studies (EFEO, Hanoi)

How do historians establish and discuss interaction between environmental events - such as floods, drought, and other natural hazard - and social, economic and political history? To address this central issue in environmental history, this session will focus on the impacts of climate-related hazards to explain the political upheaval, dynastic changes and the social violence.

Mr. Vũ Đức Liêm will grasp the relationship between climate and history, natural and human systems through the interplay of environmental and socio-political factors between 1800 and 1850 in northern Vietnam. Increasing social violence under the Nguyen rule has generated much speculation and controversial theories. None of them, nevertheless, deliberately measured multifaceted environmental drivers and the impacts of natural disasters on the trajectory of Vietnamese history. Here we investigate historical records to reconstruct the climatic and ecological aspects of the social and political turmoil claimed by floods and epidemics in the Red River Delta. The aim is to demonstrate the constant interaction between humans and nature as part of history-making. Going beyond deterministic and reductionist arguments, this 'environmental hypothesis' illustrates the significance of climatic vicissitudes in major historical events by recognizing patterns of possible effects of past climate variability on Vietnamese history.

PLEASE NOTE a Renater session will be open to allow people who are not in Hanoi nor Paris to follow the seminar from the place they will be. For technical reasons, we need to assess how many external isolated connections we will have. Be kind to inform us by email return if you expect to use this sort of connection and you will receive access information for the connection one week before the event.

Venue in Hanoi

University of Social Sciences and Humanities (USSH),
336 Nguyễn Trãi, Thanh Xuân
Multimedia Room, Museum of Anthropology, Third Floor, Building D

Steering committee: Pr. Hoàng Anh Tuấn (University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Hanoi), Dr. Frédéric Thomas (IRD-Paloc/MNHN), Dr. Emmanuel Pannier (IRD-Paloc/MNHN), Dr. Etienne Espagne (AFD, coordinator of GEMMES-VN), Nguyễn Ky Nam (University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Hanoi), Dr. Mathieu Guérin (INALCO_CASE), Dr. Christian Culas,(CNRS), Pr. Andrew Hardy (EFEO)