

THE VALUE OF HO CHI MINH'S TESTAMENT FOR PEOPLE'S PUBLIC SECURITY SCHOOLS

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Abstract:

This article provides an in-depth analysis of the core values embedded in President Ho Chi Minh's Testament and its profound significance for the education and training missions of Vietnam's People's Public Security schools. The Testament is not only an ideological and moral legacy, but also a guiding compass for shaping ideals, ethics, and political will among public security officers and students. Through studying and implementing the Testament, students are equipped with heightened political awareness, revolutionary moral qualities, strengthened faith in the Communist Party, and a solid foundation of resolve, combat spirit, and a high sense of responsibility. The article also emphasizes the Testament's role in fostering a healthy learning environment, promoting revolutionary traditions, and cultivating a contingent of public security officers with competence, integrity, and capacity to meet the demands of the new era.

Keywords: Ho Chi Minh's Testament; People's Public Security; Ideological Education; Revolutionary Morality; Political Will.

President Ho Chi Minh's Testament is a precious cultural and spiritual heritage of the Vietnamese nation, reflecting his strategic vision and boundless compassion. The study and teaching of the Testament within the system of People's Public Security schools is not only an important duty but also a moral compass for shaping the ideology and ethics of future generations of officers and soldiers. Through the Testament, students are equipped with high humanistic values, patriotism, and a strong sense of responsibility to the Fatherland—helping them

become public security officers who are both competent and virtuous, ready to face challenges and successfully fulfill their duties.

1. The Core Values of Ho Chi Minh's Testament

President Ho Chi Minh's Testament is not only a valuable historical document but also a profound source of political ideology, ethics, and strategic vision that continues to illuminate the path of Vietnam's national development in the current era. Transcending the limitations of time, the Testament retains its contemporary relevance and serves as a compass for every Party member, cadre, and Vietnamese citizen in the cause of national construction and defense.

First and foremost, the Testament affirms the pioneering leadership role of the Communist Party of Vietnam in the cause of building and safeguarding the nation. The Party must "wholeheartedly serve the working class, serve the people, serve the Fatherland"¹ "and "keep our Party clean and worthy of being a truly loyal leader and servant of the people"². These are sacred instructions reflecting the Party's immense responsibility for the fate of the nation. To fulfill this role, the Party must remain pure, strong, and always put the interests of the people as its highest goal. It must promote democracy, solidarity, and mobilize the wisdom and strength of the entire nation to advance the country.

The Testament also emphasizes the crucial role of Party members and cadres in the process of national renovation and development. Ho Chi Minh wrote: "Every Party member and cadre must truly imbibe revolutionary ethics, practice diligence, thrift, integrity, uprightness, and selflessness"³, while also enhancing their political resolve and professional capacity, ready to sacrifice personal interests for the common good of the nation. These are the moral qualities he required of every cadre and Party member to fulfill their responsibilities.

¹ Ho Chi Minh. (2011). *Complete Works* [Toàn tập], Vol. 15, p. 611. Hanoi: National Political Publishing House.

² Ho Chi Minh. (2011). *Complete Works*, Vol. 15, p. 612.

³ Ho Chi Minh. (2011). *Complete Works*, Vol. 15, pp. 611–612.

The close-knit relationship between the Party and the people was a deep concern of President Ho Chi Minh as expressed in the Testament. He emphasized that the Party must always act for the people's interests, serve the people, and be accountable to them. Every policy and guideline of the Party must be people-centered and earn their support and consensus. In the Testament, he advised: "The first thing to be done is to rectify the Party, so that every Party member, every Youth Union member, and every Party cell strives to fulfill the tasks assigned by the Party, with wholehearted service to the people"⁴. This is a fundamental principle of Party activity, reflecting the Party's nature as "a Party of the people, by the people, and for the people".

President Ho Chi Minh always cared deeply for the material and spiritual well-being of the people. He wished for every citizen to enjoy a prosperous and happy life. In the Testament, he instructed the Party and the State "to have a sound plan for economic and cultural development, with the aim of constantly improving the people's lives"⁵ - a sacred reminder of the Party's and State's responsibility in building a more prosperous and developed society.

Ho Chi Minh also highlighted the value of the human being as the decisive factor in the development of the country. In his Testament, the first task he affirmed the Party and State must address is "work concerning people"⁶. He emphasized the need to care for and nurture the revolutionary generation of the future, considering it "a very important and very necessary task." The top priority was to "educate them in revolutionary ethics" with the goal of "training them to become successors to the socialist cause who are both 'red' (ideologically sound) and 'expert' (professionally competent)"⁷.

⁴ Ho Chi Minh. (2011). *Complete Works*, Vol. 15, p. 614.

⁵ Ho Chi Minh. (2011). *Complete Works*, Vol. 15, pp. 622–623.

⁶ Ho Chi Minh. (2011). *Complete Works*, Vol. 15, p. 616.

⁷ Ho Chi Minh. (2011). *Complete Works*, Vol. 15, p. 622.

Furthermore, the Testament affirms Vietnam's foreign policy of peace, friendship, cooperation, and development with countries around the world. This was a vital orientation for Vietnam's external relations. Ho Chi Minh expressed his hope that Vietnam would "make a worthy contribution to the world revolutionary cause"⁸. This affirms the peaceful nature of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and aligns with the global trend of development in the modern era.

In conclusion, President Ho Chi Minh's Testament is an invaluable asset of the Vietnamese nation, a guiding light for national construction and defense in the new era. Every cadre, Party member, and citizen must study, internalize, and effectively implement the Testament in order to contribute to building a stronger, more civilized, and prosperous Vietnam. The Testament is a torch illuminating the path of national development and a powerful source of inspiration for every Vietnamese person to strive and dedicate themselves to the common cause of the nation.

2. The Value of Ho Chi Minh's Testament in the People's Public Security Schools

Within the system of People's Public Security schools, President Ho Chi Minh's Testament is a fundamental document in the curriculum on Ho Chi Minh Thought. It provides officers, cadets, and students with essential historical knowledge, personality development, and professional ethics. Studying the Testament enables them to deeply understand the core values of Ho Chi Minh's ideology and apply them in practice, thereby improving the quality of training and building a strong People's Police force—ideologically firm, committed to ideals, and exemplary in action.

First, raising awareness of ideals, ethics, and responsibility among officers and cadets. President Ho Chi Minh's Testament plays a crucial role in raising the

⁸ Ho Chi Minh. (2011). *Complete Works*, Vol. 15, p. 614.

awareness of ideals, ethics, and responsibility among People's Public Security officers and cadets. It is not merely an educational text or a teaching content, but a solid foundation for cultivating political courage, ethical qualities, and a strong sense of responsibility.

The Testament helps officers in the People's Public Security force clearly define their noble ideal of serving the Fatherland and protecting the people. It inspires students to better understand their roles and missions in national development. It also emphasizes essential humanistic virtues such as loyalty, bravery, intelligence, and profound patriotism, forming a solid foundation for their revolutionary career.

Ethically, the Testament guides officers and cadets to adopt a simple lifestyle, stay close to the people, and avoid signs of moral decline or degradation. This nurtures their cultural values and contributes to the preservation and promotion of national identity.

Regarding responsibility, the Testament underscores the role of each Party member in building and defending the Party, the State, and the regime. Public Security officers and cadets are aware of this responsibility and strive to study and train to fulfill their assigned duties, always ready to fight against any threats and hostile schemes.

Moreover, through studying the Testament, they develop a determined fighting spirit and trust in the Party's leadership, strengthening their political courage to remain steadfast in the face of adversity.

Second, reinforcing trust in the Party's leadership. President Ho Chi Minh's Testament is a precious source of spiritual strength in reinforcing trust in the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam among People's Public Security officers and cadets. Through clear and strong affirmations of the Party's leadership role, the Testament strengthens their faith in the Party as "the vanguard of the

working class, the laboring people, and the entire nation.” The Party has led the people through major struggles—from the resistance wars against the French and Americans to national unification—demonstrating its decisive role in every historical period.

Studying the Testament helps officers and cadets better understand President Ho Chi Minh’s deep concern and efforts for the cause of national construction and defense, thereby nurturing their firm belief in the Communist Party of Vietnam. It affirms that the Party will always accompany the people and lead the country toward prosperity and happiness.

This firm belief enables Public Security officers and cadets to study, train, and dedicate themselves wholeheartedly to the revolutionary cause. They constantly strive to improve their professional knowledge and ethics, live upright lives, and become exemplary officers worthy of the Party's and people’s trust.

With this strong belief in the Party’s leadership, they also enhance their sense of responsibility toward the revolutionary mission and the nation. They will always be ready to meet and overcome any challenge, contributing to national development and protection.

Third, strengthening political will and fighting spirit. President Ho Chi Minh’s Testament serves as a valuable source of inspiration for People's Public Security officers and cadets to build political will and a resilient fighting spirit. It becomes essential mental baggage that equips them to face any challenge and fulfill their assigned tasks, especially in maintaining public order and national security.

The Testament conveys optimism and determination, as President Ho Chi Minh wrote: “No matter how difficult and arduous, our people will surely triumph

completely”⁹. This is a powerful source of motivation, helping officers and cadets remain fearless in the face of adversity and always ready to confront challenges.

Through studying the Testament, they are equipped with strong political courage and fighting determination. They learn military techniques, enhance their combat capabilities, and operate confidently and effectively in any situation—not just to accomplish tasks, but also to safeguard national peace and order.

Furthermore, the Testament raises their sense of responsibility toward the revolutionary cause and the nation. With strong will and determination, they are always ready to contribute and devote themselves fully to defending and developing the Fatherland.

Fourth, contributing to building a healthy learning and training environment. The Testament plays an important role in fostering a healthy learning and training environment within People's Public Security schools. Through its noble guidance, it becomes a compass for officers and cadets to build ethics, lifestyle, and unity, creating a positive learning atmosphere and enhancing their sense of responsibility.

Firstly, the Testament emphasizes the importance of cultivating ethics and lifestyle. President Ho Chi Minh upheld the ethics of “diligence, thrift, integrity, uprightness, public-mindedness, and selflessness” for all cadres and Party members, including those in the People's Public Security. This encourages officers and cadets to foster revolutionary morality, live simply, and stay close to the people. It reminds them to preserve good national traditions and avoid signs of moral decline. Studying the Testament helps them recognize the importance of ethics and lifestyle, and actively improve themselves to become virtuous public security officers.

Secondly, the Testament promotes unity and mutual support in the learning environment. President Ho Chi Minh always emphasized the tradition of solidarity

⁹ Ho Chi Minh. (2011). *Complete Works*, Vol. 15, p. 612.

among our Party and people, calling it “a most precious tradition” that must be safeguarded “as one would protect one’s own eyes”¹⁰. Studying the Testament helps officers and cadets appreciate the value of solidarity and the importance of building a supportive and cohesive learning community. It encourages them to nurture responsibility and a cooperative spirit, helping one another in learning and training to create a positive and unified educational environment.

Thirdly, the Testament helps build a well-rounded and disciplined training environment. President Ho Chi Minh valued comprehensive human development. Public Security officers must be morally upright, intellectually capable, and physically strong. Studying the Testament helps officers and cadets understand the importance of self-discipline and abiding by school regulations, nurturing themselves to become resilient and capable officers.

Finally, learning the Testament enhances their sense of responsibility. President Ho Chi Minh often emphasized the responsibility of Public Security officers in maintaining order and safeguarding peace for the nation. Officers and cadets must understand this heavy responsibility and strive to study and train to fulfill their duties well. The Testament reminds them to maintain a firm political stance and to resolutely fight against any hostile schemes. It instills a deep sense of personal responsibility for the revolutionary cause, encouraging them to dedicate themselves to national construction and protection.

Fifth, raising awareness of the Party’s and nation’s glorious revolutionary traditions. President Ho Chi Minh’s Testament plays a vital role in educating officers and cadets in the People's Public Security about the history of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the nation. It provides a solid foundation for raising revolutionary awareness and preserving the Party’s and the nation’s treasured traditions.

¹⁰ Ho Chi Minh. (2011). *Complete Works*, Vol. 15, p. 622.

The Testament is not only a cultural and political legacy but also a valuable historical document about the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Vietnamese nation. Written in a profound yet simple language, it contains valuable knowledge about the Party's history and leadership role in revolutionary struggles and national development.

Moreover, it is an important resource for officers and cadets to study national history, thereby better understanding the significance of patriotism, resilience, and the unyielding spirit of the Vietnamese people in defending and building the country. This helps form a solid foundation for training a new generation of People's Public Security officers with strong ethics, steadfast will, and readiness to serve the revolutionary cause and meet the challenges of a new era.

Conclusion

President Ho Chi Minh's Testament embodies the cultural quintessence and revolutionary philosophy of the Vietnamese nation, deeply reflecting his strategic vision and profound patriotism. Studying and teaching the Testament within the People's Public Security education system is a sacred mission. It helps students and cadets internalize Ho Chi Minh's thought, thereby cultivating strong political will, enhancing moral character, and reinforcing their trust in the leadership of the Communist Party. This serves as a crucial foundation for building a powerful and capable People's Police force—ready to confront and overcome any challenge, contributing to the protection of national security and the development of the country.

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