

UGC Centre for Southeast Asian and Pacific Studies  
Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati-517502

*International Conference on*  
**India-Vietnam Relations through the Prism of  
Gandhian and Ho Chi Minh Philosophies**

*18-19 March 2019*



## Concept Note

India-Vietnam relations have begun with personal and friendly relations between Nehru and Ho Chi Minh in addition with an admiration of Gandhian philosophy. Of course the friendly relations turned into bilateral relations in the independent regimes. Yet ideological and political differences remain to this day between New Delhi and Hanoi. Over the years, the former has moved away from its socialist roots, while the latter is among the last remaining communist states in the world. However, despite the dissimilar models of governance, India and Vietnam continue to find many shared interests.

India-Vietnam relations have been exceptionally friendly and cordial since their foundations were laid by founding fathers of the two countries. The traditionally close and cordial relations have their historical roots in the common struggle for liberation from foreign rule and the national struggle for independence. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was one of the first visitors to Vietnam in 1954. President Ho Chi Minh visited India in February 1958 and in reciprocation Indian President, Rajendra Prasad visited Vietnam in 1959.

Given the cultural-religious linkages, based on their closer association with the historical kingdoms and the impact of Buddhist philosophy to the anti-imperialist struggle during the colonial rule and foreign intervention during the Second World War and thereafter, both the countries have developed closer ties and a shared destiny. Under the context of geostrategic paradigm and the forces shaping the internal dynamics of Vietnam, its foreign policy orientations vis-à-vis the 'Great Powers' in the region and its engagement with India is a critical area of concern.

In recent times, political contacts have strengthened as reflected in several high-level visits by leaders from both sides. Trade and economic linkages continue to grow. India's thrust under the 'Look East' policy combined with Vietnam's growing engagement within the region and with India has paid rich dividends. Vietnam is an important regional partner in Southeast Asia. India and Vietnam closely cooperate in various regional forums such as ASEAN, East Asia Summit, Mekong Ganga Cooperation, Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM) besides UN and WTO.

The latest developments are more strategic and defence centric. The elevation of the Strategic Partnership between the two countries to that of 'Comprehensive Strategic Partnership' is a clear indication of the goodwill, trust and importance the two countries place on their relationship. It is also an acknowledgment of the existing strong bilateral defense and security ties and our mutual desire to contribute to regional peace, stability, cooperation and prosperity. New Delhi has changed its stand and new-found aggression in taking on China. It

immediately decided to support Hanoi's claims. By accepting the Vietnamese invitation to explore oil and gas in Blocks 127 and 128, India's state-owned oil company ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL), not only expressed New Delhi's desire to deepen its friendship with Vietnam, but ignored China's warning to stay away. In addition, Modi government last year directed BrahMos Aerospace, which produces the missiles, to expedite this sale to Vietnam. India is already providing a concessional line of credit of \$100 million for the procurement of defense equipment and in a first of its kind has sold four offshore patrol vessels to Vietnam, which are likely to be used to strengthen the nation's defenses in the energy-rich South China Sea. This display of backbone helped India strengthen its relationship with Vietnam.

Hanoi is gradually becoming the linchpin of this eastward move by New Delhi. If China wants to expand its presence in South Asia and the Indian Ocean region, New Delhi's thinking goes, India can do the same thing in East Asia. And if China can have a strategic partnership with Pakistan ignoring Indian concerns, India can develop robust ties with states like Vietnam on China's periphery without giving China a veto on such relationships.

Moving beyond the ideological linkages, both countries have endeavoured to revamp their relations under the realities of world politics and subject to global and regional responses of the Great Powers in the Indo-Pacific. From 'strategic partnership' in 2007 to a 'comprehensive partnership' in 2016, the two countries have built up synergies for a deeper cooperation between them. These have been envisaged in a multi-faceted and a multi-sectoral cooperation on a wide range of issues covering political, defense and security relations at international, regional and sub-regional forums.

Commemorating the 150<sup>th</sup> year of Mahathma Gandhi's Birth Anniversary and 65<sup>th</sup> year of President Ho Chi Minh's visit to India, the Centre for Southeast Asian & Pacific Studies, Sri Venakteswara University is holding two-day International Conference on "India-Vietnam Relations through the Prism of Gandhian and Ho Chi Minh Philosophies" on 18-19 March 2019. It is our pleasure to request you to contribute a scholarly paper on one of the following subthemes:

- Cultural, Historical and Philosophical background
- Vietnam in India's Act East Policy
- India-Vietnam relations and implications for Indo-Pacific security architecture
- Mutual Cooperation on Security, Defense and Strategic issues
- Changing trends in Trade and Commerce
- People to people contacts and diasporas
- Cooperation in the areas of confidence building
- Emerging interests in science and technology
- Focused interest on energy and maritime security concerns
- India-Vietnam and the South China Sea Dispute, China factor
- Traditional and Non-traditional Security Issues at regional and global levels

**Conference Dates:** 18-19 March 2019

**Venue:** UGC Centre for Southeast Asian and Pacific Studies  
Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati-517502, Andhra Pradesh

### **Deadlines**

**Abstract Submission:** 20 January 2019

**Full Paper Submission:** 20 February 2019

*For Details Contact:* [director.cseaps@gmail.com](mailto:director.cseaps@gmail.com)

### **Abstract Submissions (Deadline 20 January 2019)**

Abstracts of no more than 300 words including key words should be submitted to [director.cseaps@gmail.com](mailto:director.cseaps@gmail.com) on or before 20 January 2019.

All abstracts will be reviewed by a voluntary team, the decision of which will be notified on 22 January 2019.

The abstract is required in the following order:

Title of paper - bold-faced and centred in upper/lower case;

Name(s) of the author(s);

Affiliation(s) of the author(s);

Address(es) of the author(s);

E-mail address(es) of the author(s); and

Abstract

### **Full Paper Submissions (Deadline 20 February 2019)**

Paper submitted to the conference must be original and have not been submitted, presented or published in any other academic meetings and publications. All papers which will be subjected to a blind review must be written in English. Authors will be requested to submit the abstract and paper through e-mail attachment in Word 2007 to [director.cseaps@gmail.com](mailto:director.cseaps@gmail.com)

The paper should not be more than 15 single spaced pages excluding tables and figures with a font size of 12 pt. Papers should be typed on standard A4 paper using Times New Roman or equivalent with 1 inch margins on the left and right of the page. All accepted papers will be included in the conference's proceedings to be published by the Centre for Southeast Asian & Pacific Studies, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, in a volume with ISBN. Accepted papers will appear in the conference proceedings on the condition that at least one of the authors is registered for the conference.

The full paper needs to be in the following order:

Title of paper - bold-faced and centred in upper/lower case;

Abstract of paper

Name(s) of the author(s);

Affiliation(s) of the author(s);

Address(es) of the author(s); and

E-mail address(es) of the author(s);

References should be placed in an alphabetical order at the end of the text, appearing as follows:

Books:

Siddiqi, Muhamad Nejatullah, 1985, *Partnership and Profit-Sharing in Islamic Law*, Leicester: The Islamic Foundation.

Periodicals:

Hamid, S, Craig, R and Clarke, F. 1993, "Religion: A Confounding Cultural Element in the International Harmonization of Accounting.", *Journal of Accounting Finance and Business Studies*, Vol.X, No. 29.

## **Travel Allowance and Hospitality**

- All the international participants are requested to make their own budgetary arrangements for international travel.
- 2nd AC for faculty and Sleeper class train fare for students will be reimbursed for all the Indian participants.
- Free travel arrangements will be made for all the international participants between Chennai (Madras) and Tirupati only and during their arrival and departure, such facility will be provided subject to the confirmation of their travel plans (flight No. date of arrival and date of departure) well in advance of a week days of their travel.
- International participants, who arrive in other than Chennai Airport shall be reimbursed 2nd AC train fare, even if they travel by air.
- Local hospitality will be provided free of cost to all the delegate of the conference during the conference days.

## **Accommodation**

Air Conditioned accommodation will be arranged for all the participants (national/international) in the university/private guest houses. Those who are interested to stay in the star hotels they can go for their own online booking.

## **No Registration Fee for this conference**