

Research Summary

Han's and Han style Mirrors excavated in Viet Nam and in Japan - a comparative study for co-cultural process under influences of Han's culture in Dong Son-Lach Truong cultures and in Yayoi-Kofu cultures -

The research work completed in several power point reports, two papers: "the archaeologically excavated bronze Mirrors in Vietnam" and "Study on Mirrors Owners in Vietnam and in Japan during late Han time", one catalogue of metal mirrors collected in Vietnam and four material bands: Bronze mirrors excavated in China (three bands), in Japan (one band).

More than two hundred Han metal mirrors were documented and discussed in this work. They belong to the finds, which are excavated in archaeological context or collected by private collectors. The Han mirrors found in archaeological context in Vietnam isn't so much as in Japan. In this work, only 24 pieces in archaeological context were documented. They came from excavations made by French and Sweden scholars (Pajot, Janse) in Thanh Hoa and Bac Ninh also by Vietnamese ones in Dong Son, Thieu Duong, Ngoc Lac, Mao Khe, Quang Nam, Phu Chanh... Other 187 metal mirrors of private collections, which excavated in Vietnam but without archaeological information, are documented also in this work. The first metal mirror came into Vietnam earlier than into Japan, since Ch'in-Han Period (3rd century BC). It's a small mirror decorated by Chinese Hanoi style worm from on the back. Man found it in a Dongsonian dugout log coffin in Ha Tay province together with many Dongsonian bronze objects. Almost of metal mirrors found in Vietnam belong to the first century BC to the first century AD. This time related to happiness of Han immigration movements, which caused by the Nan Yue State was conquered by West Han State and than the East Han General Mayuan established in Jiaoshi a colonial administration after 43 AD. The West Han mirror found in Vietnam almost from earthen tombs with wood coffin and wood chamber. They belonged to the Viet nobles or first West Han mandarins, officers or traders. The East Han mirrors recovered here in more quantity from brick tombes concerning to fast increase of East Han military officers staying here after conquering Trung's sisters rebel and Wou officers in San Quo (Three States) period.

In Japan, the Han and Han style mirrors developed especially in Kofu period with two liked forms. The mirrors with petaloid design in some case were casted in very large size. The genre/triangle rim form influenced strongly from Wou (Ngo) Taoism with Chinese famous family names as Chang, Chen, Lee from East China sea coast, where in Zhan Guo (Waring States) period belonged to Yue (Viet) ancestors (Tung Ou, Ou Yue, Lou Yue). Some southwards of this area was the homeland of many genre/triangle rim metal mirrors found in Vietnam. It evidenced that there was a same local East Han culture influence into Japan and Vietnam from 1st to 3rd century AD. But this influence came directly to Vietnam while indirectly to Japan. Kofu cemetery was quite differ to Han tombs while Han style brick tombs found in Vietnam Lach Truong culture were very like as brick Han tombs in Human, Kwangsi, Kwangtung.

The work focuses also to study the inscriptions on the Han metal mirrors of both countries in order to look for the local dialog reflected from such letters as well for the names of owner/producter. Never found in Vietnam the use of Shi (to be) replacing for Shi (family), those occurred relative popular on the

Japanese Kofu god triangle rim mirrors. The East Han style mirrors were produced in Japan very much and usually larger than original. The large mirrors are not only the normal mirrors for looking face but yet symbolized a power of the right or the rich. This happens evidenced the relative independence on politics of Japanese noble during Yayoi and Kofu period. In Vietnam, the very larger metal mirrors weren't found. The Han mirrors, which were produced in Vietnam (Jiaozhi) during Han time, are rare. We recorded some case, where the Dongson people casted their Dongsonism mirrors in bad quality or re-casted Han style mirrors basing on a mould copied from broken Han mirrors. Such situation in Vietnam reflect the use and production of mirrors in as area, where was under Han direct colonial administration.

In the future, a comparative detail study on literatures (poetries) inscribed on the Han and Han style mirrors found in both countries will be allow to open the secret interesting on the through lives of the indigenous Vietnamese and Japanese from 2000 years ago.

Publication of the Results of Research Project:

Verbal Presentation (Date, Venue, Name of Conference, Title of Presentation, Presenter, etc.)

1. 21st Sep., 2006, Hanoi, Institute of Archaeology, Annual Meeting of Vietnamese Archaeologists, "*The earlies metal mirrors discovered in Vietnam*", Nguyen Van Viet
2. 27th Dec., 2006, Hanoi, Center for SEA Prehistory, Colloquium on Archaeology, Prehistory and Museology in Vietnam, "*The bronze artifacts, where the Dong Son people looked for their face*", Nguyen Van Viet
3. 8th Jul., 2006, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Seminar, "*The metal mirrors found in Vietnam*", Nguyen Van Viet

Thesis (Name of Journal and its Date, Title and Author of Thesis, etc.)

- * *Publication Series*, 2006, Hanoi, *Catalogue of Metal Mirrors from the Pham Huy Thong Museum*.
- * *Publication series*, 2006, Hanoi, *Catalogue of Metal Mirrors excavated in China, three bands*.
- * *Khao co hoc*, 2008, Hanoi, in print, *Nghien cuu guong dong o Viet Nam (studies on Bronze Mirrors in Vietnam)*
- * *Nghien cuu Han Nom*, 2008, Hanoi, in print, *Han letters on the han metal mirrors*

Book (Publisher and Date of the Book, Title and Author of the Book, etc.)

Global Publishing House, Hanoi, 2008, in print, *Bronze mirrors in Vietnam*