

Vietnam: An Education Timeline

Early History

111 BCE : Han Chinese emperor Wu conquers Viet people, beginning nearly 1,000 years of Chinese rule

939 : Chinese overthrown and Viet kingdom re-established; now called Dai Viet (Great Viet) under Emperor Dinh Bo Linh.

1000s–1600s : Confucian and Mahayana Buddhist Viets begin long period of expansion south into Hindu Cham territories

1070 : First confucian university is established in Hanoi, called the Temple of Literature.

Colonization

1627 : Alexandre de Rhodes, a French missionary, adapts Roman alphabet to transcribe Vietnamese language.

1880s to 1945 : France colonizes Vietnam and establishes a French-Vietnamese education system with a heavy emphasis on learning the French language and incorporating the French culture into education.

1945 : Ho Chi Minh claims independence from France and reunites the French provinces as Vietnam.

1946-1954 : French-Vietnam war.

Post-Colonization

1954 : Ho Chi Minh defeats France and both countries sign a peace treaty in Geneva.

1959-1975 : Minh wants unification of North and South Vietnam under a communist government. The Vietnam War begins with the U.S. aiding south Vietnam. The U.S. withdraws in 1975 and the country is united under the communist government.

1975-1985 : Communist government attempts to unify Vietnam under a centralized system. The country's economy remains stagnant and industries and education suffer.

1986 : "Doi Moi" (renovation) reform is passed to improve the market, the economy, and education.

1986-present: Reforms continue to universalize primary, lower secondary and upper secondary education