

HO CHI MINH NATIONAL ACADEMY OF POLITICS

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**HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY ON ANTI-
CORRUPTION AND ITS APPLICATION AND
DEVELOPMENT IN VIETNAM AT PRESENT**

SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS

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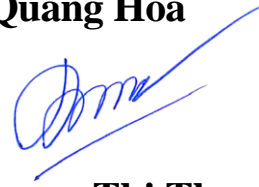


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INTRODUCTION

1. The urgency of the theme

Corruption is a negative phenomenon of social life, intrinsically associated with the degeneration and abuse of state power, and it exists in most countries and across all historical periods since the emergence of the state. Numerous studies have argued that corruption constitutes an “inherent defect” of power, in that wherever power exists without effective control mechanisms, the risk of corruption inevitably arises. Therefore, anti-corruption is consistently regarded as one of the most important political tasks of all nations, regardless of their political regimes.

In the process of leading the revolution, President Ho Chi Minh developed a profound awareness of the risks and the particularly serious consequences of corruption for the revolutionary cause. Corruption not only leads to the loss of assets belonging to the State and the people, but also directly weakens the apparatus of the Party and the State and degrades the contingent of cadres and Party members. More dangerously, it erodes the people’s trust in the Party, the State, and the regime, thereby undermining the strength of national unity and adversely affecting the country’s stability and development. For this reason, he likened corruption to an “internal enemy,” even more dangerous than external aggressors. Accordingly, he identified anti-corruption as a foremost and essential task in Party building and in the construction of the political system. Through the creative application and development of Marxism-Leninism to the specific conditions of Vietnam, the inheritance and promotion of the nation’s fine traditional values, the absorption of the quintessence of human culture, and the practical leadership of the revolutionary movement, Ho Chi Minh formulated a comprehensive and profound system of viewpoints on anti-corruption. These include the necessity and significance of anti-corruption; the subjects and forces involved; and the measures to be implemented. Anti-corruption constitutes an important component of Ho Chi Minh’s political thought, playing a foundational role in building a clean and strong Party and political system.

Throughout its revolutionary leadership, the Communist Party of Vietnam has consistently maintained a profound awareness of the systemic risks and detrimental impacts that corruption poses to the Party, the State, and national development. From the initial struggle for national independence to the subsequent construction of a new regime, the Party and the State have prioritized anti-corruption efforts, even while navigating numerous other urgent historical tasks.

During the renewal period, the Communist Party of Vietnam has consistently identified anti-corruption as a particularly important task in Party building, the development of a socialist rule-of-law State, and the improvement of the political system. Through successive National Party Congresses, especially from the 11th to the 14th National Congress, the Party’s perception of anti-corruption has become increasingly comprehensive and profound. In particular, the 14th National Congress emphasized the imperative to “strengthen the control of power within the Party and the State; continue to intensify the fight against corruption, wastefulness, bureaucracy, and negative practices; and reinforce the people’s trust in and attachment to the Party, the State, and the socialist regime” [68, p. 385]. This demonstrates that, in the new stage of development, anti-corruption is not merely a task of handling violations but also a fundamental requirement for controlling power, building a clean and strong Party and political system, consolidating public trust, and ensuring the country’s sustainable development.

In line with this consistent viewpoint, under the Party's determined, direct, and comprehensive leadership in recent years, anti-corruption, anti-wastefulness, and anti-negative practices have achieved significant results, bringing about noticeable changes in both awareness and action. Efforts to disseminate and educate revolutionary ethics, promote integrity, and strengthen the exemplary responsibility of cadres and Party members have been intensified. The system of mechanisms, policies, and laws on anti-corruption has been progressively improved, while inspection, supervision, auditing, and power-control mechanisms within the Party, the State, and the political system have been strengthened. The supervisory role of the people, the Vietnam Fatherland Front, socio-political organizations, the press, and social media has been increasingly promoted. The detection, investigation, prosecution, and adjudication of corruption and misconduct cases have been vigorously advanced in the spirit of "no prohibited zones and no exceptions," thereby enhancing deterrence, preventing violations, and strengthening public confidence in the Party, the State, and the socialist regime. At the same time, anti-corruption activities have gradually expanded to the non-state sector, closely associated with enhanced international cooperation and the requirement to build an integrity-based, modern, effective, and efficient system of national governance.

However, anti-corruption efforts still reveal several limitations: propaganda and dissemination remain, in some cases, formalistic; the institutionalization of policies lacks synchrony and has not promptly addressed existing "loopholes"; the education of public service ethics is, in certain places, still slogan-oriented; inspection and supervision in some instances remain lenient or avoidant; coordination among functional agencies is overlapping; the recovery of corrupt assets is not commensurate; the role of social supervision has not always been fully promoted; and the phenomenon of "strong at the top, weak at the bottom" persists. Corruption continues to evolve in increasingly sophisticated and complex forms, spreading across multiple levels and sectors, even involving high-ranking officials and tending toward collusion with group interests. The degradation in political ideology, morality, lifestyle, individualism, and "group interests" among a section of cadres and Party members has not been effectively curbed. Corruption thus remains one of the threats to the survival of the Party and the regime.

The above situation indicates that the study, application, and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption since the initiation of the Renovation process have yet to achieve the expected results. In many cases, the application of his ideology has been formalistic, lacking synchrony and not closely aligned with practical requirements. Furthermore, the development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption has not been sufficiently profound, lacking theoretical elaboration and failing to clarify the inheritance and connection between his ideology and the new demands of anti-corruption work in the current period. The review of practical experiences for the purpose of studying, applying, and creatively developing Ho Chi Minh's ideology on this issue has not received adequate attention and remains unsystematic. At the same time, the institutionalization and concretization of Ho Chi Minh's ideology and the Party's viewpoints on anti-corruption in certain areas are still slow and inconsistent.

In the new context, as the country enters a higher stage of development to become a developed nation with a socialist orientation by the mid-21st century, the requirement for anti-corruption becomes increasingly urgent. One of the solutions of both theoretical and practical significance is to continue studying, applying, and developing Ho Chi Minh's ideology on

anti-corruption. Although formed under specific historical conditions, his ideology retains profound contemporary value and guiding significance for current anti-corruption work.

From this practical basis, the doctoral candidate has chosen the topic “*Ho Chi Minh’s Ideology on Anti-Corruption and Its Application and Development in Vietnam at present*” as the dissertation subject in Politics.

2. Research Objectives and Tasks

2.1. Research Objectives

To clarify the theoretical foundations, core contents, and values of Ho Chi Minh’s ideology on anti-corruption; to analyze and evaluate the application and development of Ho Chi Minh’s Ideology on anti-corruption in Vietnam; and, on that basis, to propose viewpoints and solutions for the continued application and development of Ho Chi Minh’s ideology on anti-corruption in Vietnam in the coming period.

2.2. Research Tasks

To achieve the above objectives, the dissertation undertakes the following tasks:

- To provide an overview of the research situation related to the dissertation, thereby identifying the issues that require further study.
- To clarify the contents and values of Ho Chi Minh’s ideology on anti-corruption.
- To evaluate the application and development of Ho Chi Minh’s ideology on anti-corruption in Vietnam from 2012 to the present.
- To propose viewpoints and solutions for the continued application and development of Ho Chi Minh’s ideology on anti-corruption in Vietnam in the new context.

3. Research Subjects and Scope

3.1. Research Subject

Ho Chi Minh’s ideology on anti-corruption and its application and development in Vietnam.

3.2. Research Scope

- *Scope of content:* The dissertation focuses on studying the contents of Ho Chi Minh’s ideology on anti-corruption as reflected in his speeches, writings, and other works, in close association with his practical activities; as well as the application and development of this ideology by the Party and the State.

- *Spatial scope:* The study examines anti-corruption efforts of the Party, the State, and the political system in Vietnam.

- *Temporal scope:* The application and development of Ho Chi Minh’s ideology on anti-corruption have been manifested continuously since the success of the August Revolution to the present day, the Communist Party of Vietnam has consistently exercised leadership over anti-corruption efforts. However, this dissertation focuses primarily on the period from 2012 to 2025. The starting point of 2012 is associated with the Fifth Plenum of the 11th Party Central Committee, at which the Central Steering Committee for Anti-Corruption was placed directly under the Politburo and headed by the General Secretary of the Party. This marked an important turning point in ensuring the Party’s centralized, unified, and resolute leadership and direction over anti-corruption work.

The period from 2012 to 2025 also witnessed the comprehensive intensification of anti-corruption efforts, closely linked with Party building and rectification, the strengthening of the political system, the control of power, and the prevention and combating of political, ideological, moral, and lifestyle degradation, as well as group interests, wastefulness, bureaucracy, and other negative practices. On that basis, the dissertation proposes a number of

perspectives and solutions that may serve as valuable references for anti-corruption policy and practice in the coming period

4. Theoretical and Practical Foundations, and Research Methodology

4.1. Theoretical and Practical Foundations

4.1.1. Theoretical Foundations

The dissertation is conducted on the basis of the viewpoints of Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh's ideology, and the lines, viewpoints, directives, resolutions, and preliminary and final reports of the Communist Party of Vietnam on anti-corruption.

4.1.2. Practical Foundations

The dissertation is grounded in the results of anti-corruption work in Vietnam in recent years. At the same time, it also draws upon the research findings of related works and secondary data sources.

4.2. Methodology and Research Methods

4.2.1. Methodology

The study is based on the methodology of dialectical materialism and historical materialism.

4.2.2. Research Methods

Based on the methodology of Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh's thought, and the viewpoints of the Communist Party of Vietnam regarding Party building, building a socialist rule-of-law state, and anti-corruption, the thesis uses a combination of research methods from political science and social sciences, primarily including: the historical and logical method, the analytical-synthetic method, the document research method, the comparative method, the statistical method, the in-depth interview method, the expert method, and the observation method

The historical and logical methods are employed to clarify the process of formation and development of Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption in relation to the historical context, the realities of the Vietnamese revolution, and the requirements of Party building and State building. These methods also enable the dissertation to identify the application, supplementation, and development of Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption in the Party's guidelines and policies as well as in the State's laws and policies across different periods, particularly from 2012 to 2025.

The analytical-synthetic method is applied throughout all chapters of the dissertation to examine the concepts, contents, characteristics, and values of Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption. At the same time, it is used to synthesize research findings, review reports, statistical data, scholarly assessments, and practical evidence in order to formulate arguments, evaluations, and conclusions consistent with the objectives of the study.

The document analysis method is utilized to collect and systematize Ho Chi Minh's works, speeches, and writings, particularly Ho Chi Minh Complete Works, with the aim of clarifying the content of his thought on anti-corruption. In addition, the dissertation examines Party documents, State legal documents, review reports, specialized materials, and relevant scholarly works to analyze the process of applying and developing Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption in contemporary Vietnam.

The comparative method is employed to compare Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption with the Party's viewpoints and the State's laws and policies across different periods, as well as to compare theoretical requirements with practical implementation. Through such comparisons, the dissertation identifies elements of continuity,

supplementation, and development, while also highlighting issues arising in the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption in present-day Vietnam.

The statistical method is used to collect, process, and analyze data related to anti-corruption efforts, particularly during the period from 2012 to 2025. These data serve as empirical evidence supporting assessments of achievements, limitations, causes, and challenges encountered in the process of applying and developing Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption.

The in-depth interview method is employed to gather opinions from researchers, leaders, managers, and individuals with practical experience in Party building, State building, and anti-corruption work. The interview findings provide additional in-depth insights, clarify practical issues, and enhance the objectivity and persuasiveness of the dissertation's arguments.

The expert consultation method is utilized to seek, receive, and verify opinions from specialists with expertise in Ho Chi Minh Thought, political science, Party building, and anti-corruption studies. This method contributes to validating several assessments, evaluations, and policy recommendations proposed in the dissertation.

The observation method is employed during practical research activities to collect supplementary information on perceptions, attitudes, and approaches to implementing anti-corruption measures within selected agencies, organizations, and relevant institutions. This method serves as a complementary tool, providing additional practical evidence for the dissertation's analyses and evaluations.

These methods are applied flexibly and in combination throughout the study. Specifically, Chapter 1 primarily employs document analysis, analytical–synthetical, historical, and logical methods to review the existing literature and research landscape. Chapter 2 utilizes historical and logical methods, document analysis, and analytical–synthetical methods to clarify the foundations and core contents of Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption. Chapter 3 applies document analysis, statistical, comparative, in-depth interview, expert consultation, and observation methods to assess the current state of applying and developing Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption in Vietnam during the period 2012–2025. Chapter 4 employs analytical–synthetical, logical, comparative, and expert consultation methods to propose perspectives and solutions for the continued application and development of Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption in the coming period.

5. New Contributions of the Thesis

Firstly, this thesis contributes to supplementing the political science approach in the study of Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption. From this approach, anti-corruption is interpreted not only as a requirement of revolutionary ethics, law, or state management, but primarily as a crucial political issue, linked to the nature, leadership capacity, and fighting strength of the Party; the effectiveness and efficiency of state governance; the mechanism of state administration; and the close relationship between the Party, the State, and the people. Through this, it contributes to consolidating social trust, strengthening the legitimacy of political power, and ensuring the purity and strength of the regime.

Second, the thesis systematizes Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption into a relatively comprehensive whole, including: the concept of corruption and the necessity of combating it; the goals, roles, and significance of anti-corruption; the subjects and forces involved in combating corruption; and the methods and measures of combating corruption. This approach contributes to clarifying the theoretical and practical value of Ho Chi Minh's thought for anti-corruption work in Vietnam today.

Third, the thesis contributes to a clearer identification and interpretation of the

application and development of Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption in Vietnam from 2012 to the present in the following aspects: Party building and rectification and political system; governance; improvement of institutions, policies, and laws; and promotion of the role of the people, the Vietnam Fatherland Front, the press, media, and agencies with anti-corruption functions. Through this, it clarifies the relationship between the enduring value of Ho Chi Minh's thought and the practical implementation of anti-corruption work in Vietnam in the current period.

Fourth, the thesis identifies and summarizes several issues arising in the process of applying and developing Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption in Vietnam today. These include the gap between the guiding values of Ho Chi Minh's thought and the degree of its transformation into practical responsibility and action; the gap between the requirement for comprehensive and continuous leadership by the Party and the unevenness in its implementation; the gap between the requirement to build a clean, strong, and honest Party, State, and political system and the reality of exemplary conduct, self-criticism and criticism, self-discipline, and accountability in some places that are still not substantive or effective; the gap between the requirement to leverage the combined strength of the political system, the people, and the entire society and the effectiveness of mechanisms for supervision, criticism, and protection of those fighting against corruption; and the gap between the increasingly sophisticated, complex, and trans-regional nature of corruption and the capacity of anti-corruption actors to identify, coordinate, and control it. Identifying these issues provides a basis for proposing solutions to improve the effectiveness of applying and developing Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption in the new context.

Fifth, the thesis proposes several orientations and solutions for continuing to apply and develop Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption in the new context, linked to the requirements of combating corruption, waste, bureaucracy, and negative phenomena; combating corruption and waste; and promoting accountability in the context of decentralization, delegation of power, and streamlining of organizational structures; and building a clean, strong, honest, efficient, and effective Party, State, and political system.

6. Theoretical and Practical Significance

6.1. Theoretical Significance

The dissertation contributes to clarifying Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption, thereby affirming its enduring values. It also supplements and elucidates several theoretical issues serving the continued steadfastness in and application of Ho Chi Minh's ideology in Vietnam, while suggesting several contents related to Party building, rectification, and anti-corruption work. The theoretical arguments are developed systematically and logically, closely associated with a clear research framework, thereby providing a foundation for enhancing the Party's leadership and governing capacity in the new context; for building a socialist rule-of-law State of the people, by the people, and for the people, characterized by integrity; and for perfecting a public administration system oriented toward transparency, accountability, professionalism, and modernity.

The dissertation also analyzes and clarifies the application of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in Vietnam through assessing achievements, limitations, causes, forces, and anti-corruption measures. The research results contribute to raising awareness among cadres, Party members, civil servants, and the people regarding anti-corruption, thereby promoting strong transformations in awareness, determination, and action. On this basis, the dissertation proposes viewpoints and solutions for continuing to apply and develop Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in the new context.

6.2. Practical Significance

The dissertation provides both scientific and practical foundations for leaders and managers to study and reference in directing anti-corruption work in Vietnam in the coming period; to address emerging practical issues and bottlenecks; and to effectively apply and develop Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in the next stage.

The research findings of the dissertation can be used as informational resources and reference materials for advisory, consultative, teaching, and scientific research activities within Party organizations, academies, and universities.

They may also serve as reference materials for studying, teaching, disseminating, and educating Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption, as well as for research on anti-corruption work by Party and State agencies.

7. Structure of the Thesis

Apart from the introduction, conclusion, list of references, and appendices, the thesis is structured into 4 chapters with a total of 10 sections.

Chapter 1: Overview of the research related to the thesis

Chapter 2: Some concepts, contents, and values of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption

Chapter 3: The application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in Vietnam at present, and several issues raised

Chapter 4: Viewpoints and solutions for continuing the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in Vietnam in the new context

Chapter 1

OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH RELATED TO THE THESIS

1.1. RESEARCH WORKS RELATED TO THE THESIS

1.1.1. Research Situation on Anti-Corruption

In recent years, numerous domestic and international scholars have focused on studying corruption and proposing solutions for anti-corruption.

Regarding foreign scholars, notable figures include: Daniel Treisman; Edgardo J. Campos and Sanjay Pradhan; Fan, C. Simon, Lin, Chen, and Treisman; Ning He; Pablo Valverde et al.

Regarding domestic scholars, notable contributors include: Nguyen Van Quyen, Nguyen Xuan Yem, Nguyen Hoa Binh, Bui Minh Thanh, Phan Ngoc Huyen, Ha Hong Hai, Tang Thi Thu Trang and Quyen Hong Nhung, Tran Dang Vinh, Tran Van Dat, Trinh Thang Quyet, Truong Giang Long, Nguyen Quoc Suu, Phan Xuan Son, Pham The Luc, among others.

In addition, there are studies conducted by organizations such as the United Nations, Transparency International, the Central Internal Affairs Commission, and the Government Inspectorate.

These works approach anti-corruption from multiple perspectives: identifying the nature, causes, and increasingly sophisticated and complex manifestations of corruption; and elucidating the inevitability and urgency of anti-corruption efforts in the context of building a socialist rule-of-law state and promoting international integration.

On that basis, scholars have proposed comprehensive systems of solutions, including: improving institutional frameworks; promoting Party building and rectification; enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of state management; promoting the role of the people, the press,

and social organizations; and strengthening inspection, supervision, and the strict handling of violations. These research results have provided important theoretical and practical foundations, contributing to the orientation of formulating and implementing anti-corruption policies and addressing negative phenomena in Vietnam in recent years.

1.1.2. Research Situation on Ho Chi Minh's Ideology on Anti-Corruption

Research on Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption has attracted considerable attention from scholars, with notable works by Bui Manh Cuong, Nguyen Thi To Uyen, Phung Thanh, Bui Van Manh, Nguyen Ngoc Anh, Nguyen Khanh Bat, Vu Khieu, Cao Van Thong, Ha Quoc Tri, Hoang Thi Huyen, Nguyen Anh Cuong, Kieu Van Nam, among others; along with numerous publications by the Central Propaganda Commission, the Central Internal Affairs Commission, the Party Central Committee, the Central Inspection Commission, and publishing steering councils at grassroots levels. These works primarily systematize the contents and values of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on corruption, embezzlement, wastefulness, and bureaucracy, while also clarifying anti-corruption measures imbued with his ideological imprint, such as enhancing revolutionary ethics, combating individualism, practicing democracy, promoting self-criticism and criticism, and strengthening inspection, supervision, and control of power.

Some recent studies have also compared Ho Chi Minh's ideology with international standards and applied it to specific sectors and subjects, thereby contributing to supplementing and refining the theoretical and practical foundations for anti-corruption work in Vietnam today.

1.1.3. Research on the Application of Ho Chi Minh's Ideology on Anti-Corruption

In the course of leading the revolution, the Party has consistently identified corruption as one of the major risks and challenges, directly threatening the Party's leadership and ruling role as well as the survival of the regime. In recent years, the situation of corruption in Vietnam has evolved in a highly complex and unpredictable manner; therefore, anti-corruption has been regarded as a protracted, arduous, and complex struggle. It is both a fundamental and urgent task that must be carried out regularly, continuously, resolutely, persistently, and steadfastly, with the highest political determination, under the guiding principle of strict enforcement: "no forbidden zones, no exceptions," regardless of who is involved.

In this context, numerous studies have focused on clarifying the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption, thereby providing important theoretical and practical foundations for the Party and the State in formulating strategies and proposing solutions appropriate to the new situation. Notable contributors include Vu Van Phuc, Pham Thi Thuy Van, Nguyen Hung Hau, Le Kim Viet, Le Kha Phieu, Nguyen Vinh Thanh, Pham Thi Hai Chuyen, Ha Quoc Tri, Nguyen Dang Dung, Tran Quang Nhiep, Trinh Thi Xuyen, To Lam, Nguyen Quoc Suu, Nguyen Ba Thanh, Phan Dinh Trac, Vu Thi Mai, along with publications of the Government Inspectorate and articles and speeches by General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong.

1.2. OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF THE RESEARCH SITUATION AND ISSUES REQUIRING FURTHER STUDY

1.2.1. General Assessment of the Research Situation

Firstly, studies on anti-corruption, both domestically and internationally, are relatively abundant and approach the issue from multiple perspectives. They have clarified the nature, causes, manifestations, and consequences of corruption, as well as the roles of key actors such

as the Party, the State, the Fatherland Front, socio-political organizations, the people, and the press. Many works have proposed comprehensive solutions, including institutional improvement, power control, enhancement of transparency and accountability, and the promotion of public service ethics, while selectively incorporating appropriate international experiences. These contributions have helped establish a relatively solid theoretical and practical foundation for anti-corruption efforts.

Secondly, research on Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption has relatively comprehensively elucidated his views on the nature, causes, and harms of corruption; the roles of the Party and the people; and a system of solutions such as building revolutionary morality, practicing thrift, integrity, probity, and righteousness, combating individualism, strengthening inspection and supervision, promoting democracy, and relying on the people in anti-corruption efforts. These works constitute an important body of material for the thesis to inherit and further develop.

Thirdly, studies on the application of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption have initially identified the inheritance and development of his thought in the Party's policies during the renewal period. However, in general, there remains a lack of in-depth and systematic studies on the process of application and development in the new context. Issues such as the theoretical and practical foundations of application, the delineation between core and supplementary contents, the evaluation of effectiveness, and the identification of breakthrough points in "preventing" corruption remain gaps that this thesis aims to address.

1.2.2. Issues Requiring Further Study in the Thesis

Through the process of synthesizing and evaluating recently published research works, the thesis author observes that corruption and anti-corruption have attracted the attention of numerous scholars with diverse approaches, achieving notable results in both theoretical and practical aspects. However, in-depth studies on the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in Vietnam remain limited. Based on inheriting previous research findings, the thesis focuses on analyzing and addressing several key issues as follows:

Firstly, to clarify relevant concepts such as corruption, anti-corruption, and the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption; to systematically explicate Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption, including its harms, causes, necessity, forces involved, and measures; and to affirm the value of Ho Chi Minh's ideology in this field. On that basis, the thesis identifies the objectives, subjects, contents, forms, and methods of applying and developing Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption, thereby highlighting its theoretical and practical significance.

Secondly, on the clarified theoretical foundation, the thesis evaluates the current situation of the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in Vietnam from 2012 to the present; identifies the achieved results, limitations, and the causes of these limitations in the process of applying and developing Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in the current context.

Thirdly, the thesis proposes viewpoints and a system of solutions for the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption, in which two groups of solutions are clearly identified: solutions for the continued application of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption; and solutions for the continued development of his ideology, especially the concretization and development of anti-corruption measures suitable to Vietnam's conditions in the coming period.

Chapter 1 summary

Chapter 1 has systematized an overview of research works related to anti-corruption, Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption, and studies on the application of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption. These works mainly focus on clarifying the theoretical foundations of Ho Chi Minh's ideology regarding corruption and anti-corruption, which serve as an important basis for the thesis author to construct a system of concepts, analyze the relationship between prevention and combating of corruption, and explicate the content of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption; as well as to identify the nature, manifestations, causes, and consequences of corruption, along with the actors, forces involved, and anti-corruption measures.

However, most studies have primarily focused on examining the content of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption and proposing solutions based on his thought, without fully clarifying its theoretical and practical values, nor systematically identifying the contents that need to be applied and developed in the new context.

Research works on the application of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption from the renewal period to the present mainly concentrate on its theoretical and practical foundations in Vietnam. These provide a basis for the thesis author to gain an overall view of the results, limitations, and causes in the process of application; at the same time, to supplement and further clarify these limitations and causes; identify emerging issues and draw lessons learned; thereby proposing viewpoints and solutions for the continued application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in the coming period.

On the basis of this overall assessment of the research situation, the thesis author has identified the "gaps" that require further clarification, including unresolved content and methodological issues, as well as open research questions. Accordingly, the thesis proposes three key issues that need to be further studied and refined in order to effectively apply and develop Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption, meeting the research objectives set forth by the thesis.

Chapter 2

SOME CONCEPTS, CONTENTS, AND VALUES OF HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY ON ANTI-CORRUPTION

2.1. SOME CONCEPTS

2.1.1. Concept of Corruption

Corruption is the act committed by individuals holding positions and powers who abuse their official positions for personal gain or to serve group interests, thereby causing harm to the common interests of the State and society.

2.1.2. Concept of Anti-Corruption

Anti-corruption is the process of organizing forces and employing necessary measures and instruments to prevent, detect, deter, and handle acts of corruption and corrupt assets, thereby contributing to economic development, political stability, and the protection of positive cultural and ethical values within the political system and society.

2.1.3. Concept of Ho Chi Minh's Ideology on Anti-Corruption

Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption is a comprehensive system of theoretical viewpoints on the necessity, role, and significance of anti-corruption; on the subjects and forces involved in anti-corruption; and on the specific methods and measures of anti-corruption. His ideology represents the inheritance, absorption, and creative development of national traditions and the quintessence of human culture and thought, especially Marxism-Leninism, in conformity with the specific conditions of Vietnamese society. It serves as the

basis for the Party to formulate lines and policies for anti-corruption struggle, ensuring the purity of the political system throughout different stages of the revolution.

2.1.4. Concept of the Application and Development of Ho Chi Minh's Ideology on Anti-Corruption

The application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption is the process of inheriting and flexibly, creatively applying his viewpoints - such as the necessity, role, significance, subjects, forces, and measures of anti-corruption - into anti-corruption practices in Vietnam; while simultaneously updating, supplementing, and developing new contents on the foundation of Ho Chi Minh's ideology in accordance with practical contexts and conditions, to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of anti-corruption in reality. Through this process, it contributes to building a pure and strong Party and political system, meeting the requirements and tasks of the revolution in the new period.

2.2. CONTENTS OF HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY ON ANTI-CORRUPTION

2.2.1. On the Necessity, Role, and Significance of Anti-Corruption

From a very early stage, Ho Chi Minh affirmed that corruption causes serious harm in many aspects:

Economically, corruption leads to losses and damage to State assets, wasting the wealth, effort, and time of the people.

Politically, corruption was likened by Ho Chi Minh to an extremely dangerous "poison" - a historical phenomenon and a remnant of the old regime lingering within the new society.

Socially, corruption results in severe social consequences.

On that basis, Ho Chi Minh pointed out the necessity of anti-corruption:

Firstly, anti-corruption aims to reform the old society and build a new one. Ho Chi Minh clearly recognized corruption as anti-cultural, unethical, and an evil legacy left by the old regime - a regime of "exploitation of man by man." Although the old regime had been overthrown, corruption did not disappear; it continued to exist and hinder the progress of the revolutionary cause.

Secondly, anti-corruption contributes to building a pure and strong Party and political system. Corruption weakens the apparatus of state agencies. Anti-corruption is essentially the cleansing of negative and counter-revolutionary elements; it removes obstacles and ensures that state agencies can effectively fulfill their roles, duties, and missions. Ho Chi Minh considered corruption a very serious crime, and those afflicted by it as betraying the people and the revolution.

Thirdly, anti-corruption contributes to building cadres and Party members who are complete in both virtue and competence. Fully aware of the importance of cadres and Party members to the revolutionary cause, President Ho Chi Minh paid great attention to building a contingent that is both "politically sound" and "professionally competent," exemplary in both morality and talent. However, corruption is a dangerous disease that degrades revolutionary ethics. Therefore, combating the "internal enemy" helps eliminate bad habits and shortcomings, thereby improving the qualities and capacities of revolutionary individuals.

Fourthly, anti-corruption contributes to safeguarding revolutionary achievements and preventing and repelling the risk of deviation from the socialist orientation. Corruption is not an act of external enemies sabotaging the country, nor does it directly infringe upon national sovereignty or independence; rather, it arises from individuals entrusted by the people to manage state affairs but who, in reality, undermine the country from within. Corruption negatively affects social life, acts as an internal enemy that disrupts internal unity, and infringes upon national security and human security.

2.2.2. On the subjects and forces of anti-corruption

First, the Communist Party and its Inspection Commissions

Corruption constitutes an obstacle that hinders progress toward the realization of revolutionary goals and ideals. While the Party leads the revolutionary cause, the “disease” of corruption primarily arises from within Party organs and state agencies themselves. Therefore, the Party must formulate effective remedies to address this condition; it must define lines, guidelines, and orientations for anti-corruption, thereby enabling the State to develop policies and laws, socio-political organizations to build action programs, and cadres, Party members, and the masses to internalize and implement them.

Second, the National Assembly, the Government, judicial bodies, and inspection agencies

Ho Chi Minh was not only the founder of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam but also made significant contributions to institutional construction and to the formation and consolidation of the state apparatus. About the legislative body, with the National Assembly as its highest institution, he affirmed that “the National Assembly is the highest organ of state power. People’s Councils are local organs of state power... The National Assembly is the sole body vested with legislative authority. The most important national issues within the scope of the entire country are decided by the National Assembly.” As for the Government, it relies on laws enacted by the National Assembly to draft subordinate legal documents, thereby concretizing them into anti-corruption policies and measures. Acting on behalf of the Government, Ho Chi Minh signed and promulgated numerous decrees, including those related to anti-corruption.

Third, cadres and Party members

Corruption originates from human factors, particularly from the degeneration of power among a segment of cadres and Party members. Ho Chi Minh clearly pointed out: “Cadres in agencies and organizations - those at higher levels hold greater power, while those at lower levels hold lesser power. Regardless of the level, where there is power without conscience, there will be opportunities for embezzlement, bribery, and the misuse of public resources for private gain.” Cadres and Party members are both the subjects and the objects of the struggle against the “internal enemy.”

Fourth, the Vietnam Fatherland Front and Socio-Political Organizations

In Ho Chi Minh’s thought, the Vietnam Fatherland Front and socio-political organizations constitute broad-based forms of organization that bring together diverse social classes and strata, thereby generating tremendous strength for the revolutionary cause. In the field of anti-corruption, the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front and mass organizations is primarily reflected in their contribution to promoting democracy and participating in the building of the cadre contingent, including the selection, nomination, introduction, and supervision of cadres and Party members. Through these activities, they help strengthen accountability, enhance public oversight, and contribute to preventing and combating corruption within the Party and the State apparatus.

Fifth, the People

Within the overall framework of revolutionary tasks, including the struggle against the “internal enemy,” this is identified as a matter of great importance, requiring the mobilization of all forces, especially the promotion of the people’s mastery. As emphasized by President Ho Chi Minh: “When the masses truly exercise democratic rights and when cadres, Party members, and union members take the lead and set examples, bureaucratism, authoritarianism, wastefulness, and corruption can certainly be prevented.” Without the

support and participation of the people, anti-corruption efforts would be difficult to achieve and could even fail.

Sixth, the press and the media

To better serve the Fatherland and the people, the press must actively participate in movements against both external enemies and corruption - the “internal enemy.” The press serves as the mouthpiece of the Party, the State, and the people, and is an indispensable force in this struggle. Accordingly, he required that: “We must mobilize the thinking of the masses so that they detest corruption, wastefulness, and bureaucratism; transform hundreds of thousands and millions of vigilant eyes and ears of the people into powerful searchlights illuminating everywhere, leaving no place for corruption, wastefulness, and bureaucratism to hide.” As corruption is an enemy that undermines the cause of socialist construction, the participation of the press in exposing, denouncing, and condemning those who embezzle and appropriate state and public assets is of vital necessity.

2.2.3. Regarding measures to prevent and combat corruption

First and foremost, it is necessary to recognize that, in order to devise effective and accurate anti-corruption measures, it is essential to identify the root causes of corruption precisely. Accordingly, Ho Chi Minh analyzed and pointed out the causes of corruption very clearly and specifically as follows:

First, Individualism: The fundamental and overarching cause lies in individualism—an internal ideological obstacle within each cadre and Party member that prioritizes private interests over the collective good.

Second, the Degeneration of Power: Corruption stems from the alienation of power. While the people are the supreme subject of power, their exercise without accountability leads to malfeasance.

Third, Institutional Lacunae: An incomplete legal system and insufficiently stringent sanctions create loopholes for corrupt practices.

Fourth, Civic Limitations: The people’s inadequate understanding or incomplete exercise of their democratic rights and obligations weakens social oversight.

Fifth, Historical Remnants: Negative vestiges of the exploitative old regime persist within the new society, manifesting as bureaucratic and predatory behaviors.

Based on the analysis and identification of the causes of corruption as described above, Ho Chi Minh put forward very profound and specific views on anti-corruption measures. These anti-corruption measures, according to Ho Chi Minh's thought, can be summarized as follows:

First, strengthening the leadership role of the Party in anti-corruption

The political system and society operate under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, which is the decisive factor in the success of the revolution. Because corruption directly erodes the Party’s governing legitimacy and leadership capacity, the Party must spearhead the struggle. This involves not only eradicating individualism and bureaucratism but also reinforcing the Party’s internal discipline and strategic direction.

Second, emphasizing ideological work, propaganda, and education

Ho Chi Minh placed immense value on the transformative power of political education. In the struggle against the “internal enemy,” propaganda and education serve as essential tools to elevate the revolutionary consciousness of both cadres and the masses, fostering a social climate that rejects corruption.

Third, improving policies and laws, and promptly detecting and strictly handling corrupt acts

Ho Chi Minh’s ideology advocates for a harmonious synthesis of “rule by virtue” (đức

tri) and “rule by law” (pháp tri). While education is vital, the legal framework is an indispensable instrument of deterrence.

The law must ensure discipline, fairness, and rationality. He emphasized that all individuals - from the President to ordinary citizens - are equal before the law. Furthermore, he demanded that violations by cadres and Party members be handled with greater severity to maintain systemic integrity, supported by mechanisms for transparency and public accountability in state operations.

Fourth, upholding exemplary conduct and the cultivation of revolutionary ethics

The mission of cadres and Party members is to serve the interests of the Fatherland and the well-being of the people. Consequently, they must engage in the continuous self-cultivation of "diligence, thrift, integrity, and righteousness." This moral exemplary conduct is not static but a lifelong process. Only when the vanguard possesses both virtue and competence - with virtue as the foundation - can they inspire the masses and lead the anti-corruption movement effectively.

Fifth, strengthening the control of power

Recognizing the inherent risk of power degeneration, Ho Chi Minh criticized manifestations of "power diseases" such as arbitrariness, favoritism, and bureaucratism. These distortions occur when public power is hijacked for factional interests. To counter this, he emphasized the absolute necessity of robust power-control mechanisms within both Party and State organs to ensure power remains tethered to its original source: the people.

Sixth, promoting the role of socio-political organizations, the people, and the media

As representatives of the people's unity, socio-political organizations must transform Party guidelines into broad mass movements. By promoting grassroots democracy and mobilizing the "millions of vigilant eyes" of the people and the press, the state creates a ubiquitous "searchlight" that leaves no space for corruption to hide.

Seventh, reviewing and applying international experience in anti-corruption

Through his comparative study of global state models, Ho Chi Minh sought to distill the quintessence of human governance. While acknowledging the progress of bourgeois models over feudalism, he ultimately valued the Soviet model for its progressive nature in placing state power in the hands of the laboring people, providing a theoretical reference for building a clean state apparatus.

Eighth, closely combining prevention and combat in anti-corruption

In Ho Chi Minh's ideology, prevention and combat are dialectically unified and mutually reinforcing. Anti-corruption must not be a reactive process limited to post-violation adjudication; it must be a proactive strategy that eliminates the systemic conditions and ideological roots of corruption from the outset, thereby safeguarding the credibility of the Party and the State.

2.3. THE VALUE OF HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY ON ANTI-CORRUPTION

2.3.1. Theoretical value

First, Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption constitutes a solid theoretical foundation for the Party to formulate guidelines and lines for leading anti-corruption efforts.

Second, Ho Chi Minh's ideology contributes to the development of the theory concerning the relationship between morality and power in state activities.

Third, Ho Chi Minh's ideology supplements and deepens the theoretical understanding of the role of the people in controlling power and combating corruption.

Fourth, Ho Chi Minh's ideology enriches the theory of anti-corruption methods through the dialectical combination of “building” and “combating.”

Fifth, Ho Chi Minh's ideology lays the theoretical foundation for the construction of a socialist rule-of-law state associated with ethics and public service responsibility.

2.3.2. Practical value

First, it possesses an enduring value of contemporary significance.

Second, it has practical value in building a clean and strong state.

Third, it has practical value in fostering the ethics of cadres and Party members.

Fourth, it has practical value in building an integrity-based social environment and strengthening public trust.

Fifth, it has practical value in combining corruption "prevention" and "combat."

Sixth, it has practical value in promoting the role of the people.

Seventh, thoroughly grasping Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption contributes to defeating hostile forces' plots and schemes, thereby safeguarding the Party's ideological foundation.

Chapter 2 summary

Corruption is a negative social phenomenon that has existed throughout the historical development of states, regardless of political regime or level of economic development. It is a chronic "disease" of power, a major impediment to development, and may even directly threaten the survival of a political regime if not timely prevented and repelled. Fully aware of the risks and harms of corruption, Ho Chi Minh - the founder and trainer of the Communist Party of Vietnam - identified corruption as an "internal enemy," and anti-corruption as a task of special importance, closely tied to the survival of the Party and the regime.

On the basis of inheriting the ideological legacy of national predecessors, absorbing the cultural quintessence of humanity on the theoretical foundation of Marxism-Leninism, and deriving from the practical leadership of the revolutionary movement, Ho Chi Minh formulated a comprehensive and profound system of thought on anti-corruption. This ideology serves not only as a guiding principle for the Party and the State in formulating anti-corruption guidelines, viewpoints, and policies across different revolutionary periods, but also as a valuable theoretical legacy illuminating the path of anti-corruption struggle and eliminating manifestations of power degeneration within the political system, both historically and at present.

Chapter 2 of the thesis has clarified key concepts such as corruption, anti-corruption, Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption, and the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption. At the same time, it systematizes Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption, focusing on analyzing and elucidating his views on manifestations, harms, and causes of corruption; the necessity of anti-corruption; the subjects and forces involved; and the measures for anti-corruption. On that basis, the author has clarified the significant theoretical and practical values of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption. First, it represents the inheritance and development of the nation's fine traditional values, while also absorbing the cultural quintessence of humanity in anti-corruption. At the same time, it reflects the creative application and development of Marxist-Leninist theory on anti-corruption under the specific conditions of the Vietnamese revolution. This ideology has become a solid theoretical foundation for the Party to formulate correct lines, guidelines, and viewpoints on anti-corruption in each revolutionary stage; contributing to socio-economic development, strengthening public trust in the Party, the State, and the contingent of cadres and Party members; building a clean and strong Party and political system; and forming a cadre contingent that is both "politically steadfast and professionally competent." Moreover, thoroughly internalizing and implementing this ideology helps prevent and repel the risk of

deviation from the socialist orientation, realize revolutionary goals and ideals, and defeat all plots and schemes of hostile forces.

Chapter 2 thus contributes to establishing a fundamental theoretical framework for the study of the entire thesis. The contents of this chapter provide an important theoretical basis for evaluating the current situation and clarifying the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption from 2012 to the present, as well as identifying the issues that arise in continuing to apply and develop this ideology in the forthcoming period.

Chapter 3

THE APPLICATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY ON ANTI-CORRUPTION IN VIETNAM AND EMERGING ISSUES

3.1. THE APPLICATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY ON ANTI-CORRUPTION IN VIETNAM FROM 2012 TO THE PRESENT

3.1.1. The current situation of applying and developing Ho Chi Minh's ideology regarding the necessity, role, and significance of anti-corruption in Vietnam from 2012 to the present

Firstly, the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on the urgency and role of anti-corruption have been institutionalized by the Communist Party of Vietnam in Party documents.

Secondly, the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on the urgency and role of anti-corruption have been institutionalized in the State's legal documents.

3.1.2. The current situation of applying and developing Ho Chi Minh's ideology regarding the subjects and forces of anti-corruption in Vietnam from 2012 to the present

3.1.2.1. The application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology in promoting the role of the Communist Party of Vietnam

3.1.2.2. The application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology in enhancing the role and responsibility of state agencies with functions of preventing and combating corruption and negative phenomena

3.1.2.3. The application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology in promoting the combined strength of the entire political system and the People in anti-corruption efforts

3.1.3. The current situation of applying and developing Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption measures in Vietnam from 2012 to the present

Firstly, the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology in propaganda, education on ethics and integrity culture, and in promoting the exemplary role of cadres and Party members

Secondly, the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology in perfecting institutions, policies, and laws on anti-corruption

Thirdly, the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology in inspection, supervision, and power control

Fourthly, the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology in detecting and handling corruption and negative phenomena

Fifthly, the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology in strengthening and improving the effectiveness of international cooperation on anti-corruption and expanding anti-corruption efforts to the non-state sector

3.2. ASSESSMENT OF ACHIEVEMENTS, LIMITATIONS, CAUSES, AND SOME EMERGING ISSUES IN THE APPLICATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY ON ANTI-CORRUPTION IN VIETNAM FROM 2012 TO THE PRESENT

3.2.1. Achievements and causes

3.2.1.1. Achievements

Firstly, in terms of awareness.

Secondly, in terms of implementation.

Thirdly, in terms of results:

Regarding the level of corruption.

Regarding the scope and sectors of corruption.

Regarding the nature of corruption.

3.2.1.2. Causes of the achievements

Firstly, stemming from the revolutionary and scientific nature of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption.

Secondly, the comprehensive, direct, and absolute leadership and strong political determination of the Party in anti-corruption efforts.

Thirdly, the close linkage between theory and practice in the process of applying Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption.

Fourthly, the synchronous participation of the entire political system and the People.

Fifthly, the impact of the context of international integration and the requirements of national development.

3.2.2. Limitations and Causes

3.2.2.1. Limitations

Firstly, in terms of awareness.

Secondly, in terms of implementation.

Thirdly, in terms of results

3.2.2.2. Causes of the limitations

** Causes:*

Firstly, awareness of the theoretical and practical values of Ho Chi Minh's ideology in anti-corruption remains incomplete.

Secondly, the institutionalization of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in practice still faces many limitations.

Thirdly, the study and emulation of Ho Chi Minh's ideology, ethics, and style in general, and in anti-corruption in particular, remain formalistic and lack substantive diffusion.

Fourthly, the negative impacts of the market economy, international integration, and the degradation of social ethics.

3.2.3. Some emerging issues

First, there remains a gap between the guiding values of Ho Chi Minh's thought on anti-corruption and the extent to which these values are translated into responsibility and practical action.

Second, there is a lack of proportionality between the requirement for the Party's comprehensive and continuous leadership over anti-corruption efforts and the unevenness in implementation across certain localities, sectors, and institutions.

Third, the objective of building a clean and strong Party is facing challenges arising from the fact that exemplary conduct, self-criticism, and criticism have not always been implemented in a substantive and effective manner within certain Party organizations and among some cadres and Party members.

Fourth, there remains a mismatch between the requirement to build a streamlined, integrity-based, transparent, and accountable state apparatus and the actual effectiveness of power control and accountability mechanisms in practice.

Fifth, there is a disparity between the requirement to mobilize the combined strength of the political system, the People, and society as a whole in anti-corruption efforts and the actual effectiveness of mechanisms for supervision, social criticism, and the protection of individuals who participate in combating corruption.

Sixth, there is an incompatibility between the increasingly sophisticated, complex, and cross-sectoral nature of corruption and the capacity of anti-corruption actors to identify, coordinate, prevent, and control corrupt practices effectively.

Chapter 3 summary

The analysis and assessment of the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in Vietnam today is a necessary requirement, contributing to clarifying its theoretical and practical values under new conditions.

Chapter 3 focuses on elucidating the process of applying and developing Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in Vietnam. Specifically, it clarifies the application and development of anti-corruption measures in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology, including: strengthening the leadership role of the Party; promoting propaganda, education, and the building of an integrity culture; improving institutions and controlling power; enhancing the role of competent agencies and the People; expanding international cooperation; and improving the effectiveness of detecting and handling corruption and negative phenomena.

Practical developments from 2012 to 2025 demonstrate that the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's Ideology on anti-corruption have yielded significant achievements. Notably, theoretical awareness regarding anti-corruption has become more comprehensive, profound, and unified, positioning anti-corruption as a regular, long-term political task for the entire political system and society. The system of mechanisms, policies, and laws has been increasingly refined, while anti-corruption measures have been implemented synchronously, closely integrated with Party building and rectification, public ethics education, and the cultivation of a culture of integrity. Furthermore, the supervisory roles of the People, the Vietnam Fatherland Front, the press, and socio-political organizations have been vigorously promoted. The detection and handling of corruption have witnessed breakthrough progress under the principle of "no forbidden zones, no exceptions," thereby strengthening public trust in the political determination of the Party and the State to build a clean and strong apparatus. However, alongside these achievements, the process of applying and developing Ho Chi Minh's ideology still reveals certain limitations. These are manifested in incomplete theoretical awareness, unsynchronized mechanisms, and the formalistic implementation of some measures, resulting in practical outcomes that have not yet fully met the set requirements. Accordingly, Chapter 3 clarifies the underlying causes of both these achievements and shortcomings.

Based on the analysis of the current situation, Chapter 3 identifies several emerging issues in the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption. Specifically, a considerable gap remains between the core values of his ideology and actual awareness and action; the creative development of the ideology has not kept pace with the requirements of the new context; and the process of institutionalization, despite certain gains, still lacks synchronization and substantive effectiveness. Furthermore, the task of studying and following Ho Chi Minh's ideology, ethics, and style remains somewhat formalistic with limited social diffusion. Moreover, contemporary social transformations and challenges

demand a more flexible and creative application of his legacy, harmonizing the relationship between "construction" and "combat" (building and fighting). These findings constitute a vital foundation for proposing orientations and solutions to further apply and develop Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in Vietnam in the coming period.

Chapter 4

VIEWPOINTS AND SOLUTIONS FOR CONTINUING TO APPLY AND DEVELOP HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY ON ANTI-CORRUPTION IN VIETNAM IN THE COMING PERIOD

4.1. CONTEMPORARY CONTEXT AND REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUING TO APPLY AND DEVELOP HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY ON ANTI-CORRUPTION IN VIETNAM IN THE TIME AHEAD

4.1.1. The trend of international cooperation in anti-corruption is increasingly being strengthened and closely implemented among countries worldwide

4.1.2. The rapid development of science and technology

4.1.3. The negative aspects of the market economy and the sabotage activities of hostile forces

4.1.4. National achievements after nearly 40 years of renovation and the ongoing process of reforming and restructuring the organizational apparatus of the political system

4.2. VIEWPOINTS ON CONTINUING TO APPLY AND DEVELOP HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY ON ANTI-CORRUPTION IN VIETNAM IN THE NEW CONTEXT

Firstly, to continue researching, applying, and creatively developing Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption; to overcome ineffective aspects in its application, and to study new contents requiring further development; to emphasize summarizing practice and drawing lessons, supplementing new issues, innovative approaches, and creative practices, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of anti-corruption work; and to continuously renew thinking and improve theoretical frameworks on anti-corruption in line with Ho Chi Minh's ideology.

Secondly, to strengthen the leadership of the Party over anti-corruption work; to closely associate anti-corruption with Party building and rectification and the development of a clean and strong political system; to promote the exemplary role of leaders at all levels, ensuring consistency between words and actions; to shift from merely studying to actively following Ho Chi Minh's ideology, ethics, and style. To innovate methods of evaluation, selection, and proper placement of cadres; to enhance management, education, and prevention of degradation in political ideology, ethics, and lifestyle, as well as manifestations of "self-evolution" and "self-transformation" within the internal apparatus.

Thirdly, to identify anti-corruption as an urgent, important, regular, and long-term task in Party building and rectification, and in building and perfecting the socialist rule-of-law State; to affirm that it is the responsibility of the entire political system under the unified, comprehensive, and centralized leadership of the Party; to promote the combined strength of the entire political system and the whole people in anti-corruption, thereby creating momentum for socio-economic development, maintaining political security and social order and safety, strengthening the great national unity bloc, and enhancing public trust in the Party and the State.

Fourthly, to conduct anti-corruption in a resolute, persistent, continuous, and unwavering manner, with firm, proactive, and focused steps; to implement synchronously

political, ideological, organizational, administrative, economic, and criminal measures; to ensure coordination between Party discipline, State discipline, organizational discipline, and criminal sanctions; and to thoroughly recover corrupt assets.

Fifthly, to consistently adhere to the principle of preventing corruption early and from afar, addressing both symptoms and root causes. Prevention is fundamental, long-term, and sustainable, with proactive early prevention to eliminate corruption from its inception, while the detection and handling of corruption are urgent and essential. It is necessary to closely combine proactive prevention, early detection, and strict, timely handling of all corrupt acts, as well as acts of concealment, tolerance, facilitation, or interference in anti-corruption efforts; ensuring “no forbidden zones, no exceptions, no privileges,” regardless of who is involved.

Sixthly, to proactively build, perfect, and synchronously implement mechanisms that ensure corruption “cannot occur”; deterrent and punitive mechanisms that ensure corruption “is not dared”; the development of an integrity culture so that corruption “is not desired”; and appropriate remuneration policies so that corruption “is not needed.” To build an incorruptible state apparatus that operates publicly, transparently, effectively, and efficiently, thereby gradually forming a sustainable, clean, and transparent environment that minimizes corruption in both state and social activities.

Seventhly, to strengthen and enhance the effectiveness of state power control. All power must be strictly controlled by mechanisms; power must be bound by responsibility; where there is power, there must be corresponding responsibility, and the greater the power, the greater the responsibility. Anyone who abuses or exploits power for personal gain must be held accountable and strictly sanctioned.

Eighthly, to focus on improving the effectiveness and efficiency of operations, promoting the core role, and ensuring close, synchronous, coordinated, timely, and effective collaboration among agencies responsible for anti-corruption. Anti-corruption steering committees at all levels must truly serve as central coordinating bodies, providing direction, harmonization, and a firm foundation for relevant agencies to effectively perform their assigned tasks.

Ninthly, to strengthen international cooperation in anti-corruption; to selectively absorb international experience and coordinate in the pursuit of corrupt offenders, preventing attempts to evade justice by fleeing abroad; to apply science and technology in management and control of corruption; and to inherit experiences from previous terms, while expanding anti-corruption efforts to both the state and non-state sectors.

4.3. SOLUTIONS TO CONTINUE APPLYING AND DEVELOPING HO CHI MINH’S IDEOLOGY ON ANTI-CORRUPTION IN VIETNAM IN THE NEW CONTEXT

4.3.1. Group of solutions to continue applying Ho Chi Minh’s ideology on anti-corruption

4.3.1.1. Continuing to thoroughly grasp Ho Chi Minh’s viewpoint on strengthening propaganda, raising awareness, and responsibility in anti-corruption associated with cultivating revolutionary ethics and eliminating individualism

Firstly, intensifying propaganda and education on anti-corruption in close association with a profound grasp of Ho Chi Minh’s ideology, as well as the Party’s viewpoints, guidelines, and the State’s policies and laws on anti-corruption.

Secondly, strengthening the education and cultivation of revolutionary ethics among cadres and Party members in accordance with the moral standards articulated by President Ho Chi Minh, such as diligence, thrift, integrity, uprightness, and impartiality.

Thirdly, resolutely combating individualism and manifestations of degradation in political ideology, morality, and lifestyle within the contingent of cadres and Party members.

Fourthly, improving the quality and effectiveness of studying and following Ho Chi Minh's ideology, morality, and style.

4.3.1.2. Strengthening the Party's leadership over anti-corruption work in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology regarding core measures in anti-corruption

Firstly, continuing to uphold strong political determination and decisive action by the Party in anti-corruption work.

Secondly, promoting the improvement of the Party's guidelines and resolutions on anti-corruption to meet the requirements of the new stage of development.

Thirdly, enhancing the Party's inspection and supervision over the implementation of anti-corruption tasks.

Fourthly, further consolidating the organizational apparatus and improving the operational effectiveness of specialized anti-corruption agencies.

4.3.1.3. Building and rectifying the Party; practicing democracy, self-criticism, and criticism; promoting the exemplary role of heads and Party committees at all levels in anti-corruption in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology on building a pure and strong Party and promoting the Party's leadership role

Firstly, promoting Party building and rectification in association with the implementation of democracy within the Party.

Secondly, enhancing the effectiveness of practicing self-criticism and criticism in Party activities.

Thirdly, promoting the exemplary role of heads and Party committees at all levels in anti-corruption.

Fourthly, improving the quality of cadre work, especially in the selection and appointment of leaders.

4.3.1.4. Building a streamlined, integrity-based state apparatus operating in a public, transparent, effective, and efficient manner in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology on the role of the State in anti-corruption

Firstly, continuing to reorganize and consolidate the state apparatus in a streamlined direction, ensuring effective and efficient operation.

Secondly, building an integrity-based public administration that upholds public service responsibility and a spirit of serving the people.

Thirdly, strengthening transparency and openness in state management activities in association with power control.

Fourthly, promoting the application of information technology and digital transformation in state management.

Fifthly, studying the development and annual assessment of corruption perception indices for ministries, sectors, and localities, in order to promote the supervisory and evaluative roles of citizens and mass organizations.

4.3.1.5. Mobilizing the strength of the entire political system, the whole society, and relying on the people to combat corruption in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology on promoting aggregate strength

Firstly, mobilizing the strength of the entire political system and the whole society in the struggle against corruption.

Secondly, fully promoting the roles and responsibilities of state agencies, elected representatives, the Vietnam Fatherland Front, and socio-political organizations.

Thirdly, improving mechanisms to better promote the role of the press in the fight against corruption.

Fourthly, creatively applying Ho Chi Minh's ideology on "taking the people as the root."

Fifthly, studying and improving mechanisms to ensure the people's access to information.

4.3.1.6. *Enhancing the effectiveness of inspection, supervision, auditing, investigation, prosecution, and adjudication of corrupt acts in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology on inspection, supervision, and strict handling of violations*

Firstly, creatively applying Ho Chi Minh's ideology on inspection, supervision, and discipline enforcement.

Secondly, strengthening the Party's leadership over inspection, supervision, and discipline.

Thirdly, focusing on inspections where signs of violations are detected in order to prevent and handle corruption cases of concern to public opinion and the people.

Fourthly, synchronously implementing inspection, audit, investigation, prosecution, and adjudication activities in corruption cases.

Fifthly, continuing to strictly and consistently handle corruption cases, with no prohibited zones and no exceptions.

4.3.2. *Group of solutions to further develop Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption*

4.3.2.1. *Consolidating the organizational apparatus and personnel of anti-corruption agencies from the central to local levels to enhance the capacity and effectiveness of anti-corruption actors in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology*

Firstly, consolidating the organizational structures of agencies and units with anti-corruption functions.

Secondly, building a contingent of anti-corruption personnel with strong political integrity, genuine probity, and moral purity.

Thirdly, innovating operational methods and enhancing the capacity and effectiveness of anti-corruption agencies from the central to local levels.

Fourthly, strengthening the application of technology and working facilities for anti-corruption agencies.

Fifthly, improving mechanisms to enhance the effectiveness of recovering corruption-related assets.

4.3.2.2. *Improving preventive mechanisms to ensure that corruption becomes "impossible," "undesirable," "unnecessary," and "deterred," in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology on prevention and anti-corruption struggle*

Firstly, improving preventive mechanisms so that corruption is "impossible."

Secondly, improving mechanisms so that individuals "do not dare" to commit corruption.

Thirdly, improving mechanisms so that individuals "do not want" to engage in corruption.

Fourthly, improving mechanisms so that individuals "do not need" to engage in corruption.

Fifthly, strictly controlling power across all sectors and fields.

4.3.2.3. *Strengthening international cooperation and expanding anti-corruption efforts to the non-state sector in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology on international solidarity and promoting the responsibility of the whole society*

Firstly, committing to the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Secondly, strengthening international cooperation activities in anti-corruption.

Thirdly, improving Vietnam's score and ranking in the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI).

Fourthly, expanding anti-corruption efforts to the non-state sector.

Fifthly, enhancing awareness and business ethics, and promoting transparency in corporate activities.

Chapter 4 summary

In the coming years, the country will enter a new stage of development - an era of national advancement - facing new requirements and tasks, with intertwined opportunities, advantages, as well as difficulties and challenges. Along with national development and deepening international integration, corrupt practices are likely to become increasingly sophisticated, complex, and unpredictable; corruption will remain one of the major threats to the survival of the Party and the regime; hostile forces and malicious elements will continue to exploit this issue to undermine the Party and the State. The anti-corruption results achieved by our Party and State in the recent period represent only an initial step; therefore, complacency and self-satisfaction must be strictly avoided. Instead, it is necessary to persistently and resolutely combat, prevent, and repel corruption with stronger political determination, more vigorous, decisive, and effective actions. It is also essential to formulate new viewpoints, orientations, long-term visions, and strategies, with appropriate steps and roadmaps; to identify key tasks, robust solutions, and breakthrough mechanisms, and to thoroughly address the root causes of corruption - particularly in the forthcoming period - to meet the country's development objectives in the new era.

Chapter 4 inherits the Party's viewpoints on anti-corruption as articulated in recent Party Congress Documents, resolutions of the Party Central Committee across terms, as well as regulations and conclusions of the Politburo and the Secretariat on anti-corruption work, and the National Anti-Corruption Strategy. On that basis, the dissertation proposes nine viewpoints for the continued application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in Vietnam today; and advances two principal groups of solutions: (i) the group of solutions to continue applying Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption; and (ii) the group of solutions to further develop Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption. Notably, several solutions creatively develop new contents in line with Ho Chi Minh's ideology, such as: improving preventive mechanisms to ensure that corruption becomes "impossible," "deterred," "undesirable," and "unnecessary"; strengthening international cooperation in anti-corruption and expanding anti-corruption efforts to the non-state sector; along with other contents related to the application of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption.

CONCLUSION

Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption constitutes a valuable intellectual legacy, possessing profound theoretical and practical significance for the cause of Party building and rectification, safeguarding the political foundation, and promoting national development in the new era - the era of the nation's vigorous rise. It also serves as a guiding principle for the entire Party, people, and armed forces in building an integrity-based socialist rule-of-law state that is truly "of the people, by the people, and for the people." In the current context, this ideology increasingly affirms its great significance, becoming a solid theoretical foundation for Vietnam to advance anti-corruption efforts in a systematic, resolute, and effective manner.

However, the process of applying Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption since the Renovation period has revealed certain limitations, with some contents not being implemented comprehensively or achieving the expected effectiveness. Key aspects such as propaganda and exemplary leadership, the building of an integrity-based state apparatus, and the promotion of the people's role in supervising and denouncing corrupt acts have not been

fully realized, resulting in corruption not being curbed and repelled as anticipated. Certain values in his ideology - such as the identification of indirect forms of corruption or the comprehensive determination of the nature and manifestations of corruption across different social groups - have not been adequately explored.

The awareness of the root causes of corruption - namely, individualism, and the degradation of political ideology, morality, and lifestyle among a segment of cadres and Party members - remains insufficiently profound and comprehensive; corresponding remedial measures have not been thoroughly implemented. The roles of the people, the press, and socio-political organizations as forces for power supervision, in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology, have not been fully promoted. Although the practice of setting examples and cultivating revolutionary ethics among cadres and Party members has been regularly implemented, the outcomes have yet to meet requirements, particularly in terms of exemplary conduct.

Based on an assessment of related research works, the dissertation has clearly identified theoretical and practical "gaps" that require further clarification, while also delineating key research questions. It contributes to clarifying emerging issues; establishing principles and requirements for the application and development of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption; identifying contents that have been effectively applied as well as those supplemented and developed during the renovation period; and pointing out contents that have been ineffectively applied or not yet applied, which require further study and refinement. Thereby, the dissertation affirms and enhances the theoretical and practical value of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in the current context of national development.

The dissertation proposes viewpoints and a system of solutions aimed at improving the effectiveness of applying and developing Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption in the new period, including a group of solutions to continue applying this ideology and a group of solutions to further develop and supplement new thinking on anti-corruption in line with the requirements of the era.

The country is entering a new stage of development - "the era of the Vietnamese nation's rise" - with the goal of becoming, by 2030, a developing country with modern industry and upper-middle income; and by 2045, a developed, high-income country; building a Vietnam that is peaceful, independent, democratic, prosperous, civilized, and happy. Alongside new opportunities come greater difficulties and challenges, including the continued risk of increasingly complex corruption that threatens the survival of the Party and the regime. This necessitates continued efforts to build and rectify the Party and the political system in a clean and strong manner; to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of national governance; to strengthen power control; and to persistently and resolutely combat corruption and negative phenomena.

To successfully achieve national development goals, the continued application and promotion of the values of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on anti-corruption is both urgent and of paramount importance. It is necessary to synchronously implement solutions in accordance with his viewpoint: "prevention is primary, fundamental, long-term; combating is important and urgent," thereby contributing to repelling corruption, maintaining political stability, promoting socio-economic development, strengthening the people's trust, building a clean and strong Party and State, and fostering a contingent of cadres and civil servants who are upright, disciplined, and devoted to serving the Fatherland and the people.

LIST OF PUBLISHED WORKS BY THE AUTHOR RELATED TO THE THESIS

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