

**THE GREAT FAITH OF THE THIRD UNIVERSAL AMNESTY
TÂY NINH HOLY SEE**

**SERMONS OF HIS HOLINESS HỘ PHÁP
VOLUME II**

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1. THE CAO ĐÀI RELIGION IS THE PEACE RESTORATION REMEDY

Holy See, Midnight the 1st day of the 1st month Mậu Tý year (10/02/1948)

Today, in this moment, let us rejoice a little. The year of the Mouse has come upon us. If my memory serves me right, when the Supreme Being performed the dharma He let me know that the Faith would be fully established after three years of the Mouse. This year is the third. We are sure that the Faith will bear fruit as promised by the Supreme Being to His children. This will also mark the success of the Vietnam country.

Let us look back on how much suffering we have endured to protect the children of the Supreme Being in the past 23 years. Are the current results worth those 23 years of suffering? I would like to assert that since the creation of Heaven and Earth no religion has developed as rapidly as the Religion created by the Supreme Being in Vietnam. Let us look back on the past two years when the Faith had fully been established. What do we see? If we have enough intelligence to decipher the Holy Will of the Supreme Being in the past 22 years, why did the Vietnamese people have to endure suffering amid mutual killing, destruction and jeopardy? What is its meaning? The Supreme Being created the experience to let His children see that cruelty and authoritarianism/ dictatorship cannot triumph and govern people on earth.

Force! Oh, force! On this earth, the only method or dharma to govern its people is by human virtue. Cruelty cannot be controlled/ governed by cruelty; only moral virtue can. Why did our country suffer so much in the past two

years? Because we use cruelty to control cruelty. Cruelty cannot control cruelty because people's cruelty is insurmountable at this time. The Supreme Being gave the Vietnamese people a valuable and evidence-rich lesson to contemplate life. He gave us the past two years' experience. He uses the power of moral virtue to demonstrate to the world how only moral virtue can bring happiness to the people. He brightens the Faith by His moral virtue. We saw that I went through all sorts of miseries during the five years in exile abroad; life and death were only a hair's breadth away for me, but I could still return here. In laymen's mind, nobody will intentionally resent or bother the five years of imprisonment; that is the common way of thinking. Resentment and irritation are natural, but the common way of thinking does not have any bearing on us. On the contrary, the body of Phạm Công Tắc is controlled by its master who is Hộ Pháp; the power of Hộ Pháp is stronger than that of Phạm Công Tắc who is only a horse to ride. Hộ Pháp is the rider, so the horse cannot disobey its master. Hộ Pháp is one part, while Phạm Công Tắc is the other; Phạm Công Tắc is the servant, while Hộ Pháp is the power of the Supreme Being.

The Vietnamese people are influenced by the Confucianist culture in four thousand years which teaches us two worthwhile poem lines. If we had applied them before, Vietnam would not fall into the current situation.

"Hành thiện chi nhơn như xuân viên chi thảo, bất kiến kỳ trưởng nhứt hữu sở tăng. Hành ác chi nhơn như ma đao chi thạch, bất kiến kỳ tổn nhứt hữu sở khuy".

The first sentence means that those who do good are like spring grass gardens; they do not grow big but keep thickening everyday. The latter sentence means that those who do wrong are like grindstones; they do not 'wane' visibly, but wear away day by day. We should use humanity to treat the cruel, and use love to erase resentment. It is Buddha's heart; only truly Holy souls can do such. I can do such, and what do I do that for? It is to raise the loftiness of the Cao Đài religion as per the Supreme Being's will.

One way is to use cruelty to destroy cruelty like normal people do; it will satisfy the secular mind and bring joy to Phạm Công Tắc. However, as Hộ Pháp

knows it will harm the future of the country, He holds the sword of wisdom using love to respond to hatred mainly to serve mankind. He proves that the true doctrine of **the Cao Đài religion is the “Peace restoration” remedy for mankind**. Only when the Vietnamese people achieve it can the world achieve it. Anyone that can holds the sword of wisdom will be able to save their country like the Vietnamese people save theirs.