

Research Article**ANALYSIS OF UNREASONABLE FACTORS IN THE CHINESE BASES DETERMINING SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE TWO ARCHIPELAGOS OF HOANG SA AND TRUONG SA OF VIETNAM*****Dr. Nguyen Thanh Minh**

East Sea Studies Specialist, Vietnam

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Abstract

Although China has tried to provide scientific evidence and legal basis for its sovereignty over the two archipelagos that they call Xisha and Nansha, their arguments increasingly reveal weaknesses and limit. China's collected and cited materials are largely mutilated, ascribed, speculative and forced, and contradicted by one document and another. It is no coincidence that there are more and more people in the international scholarly world who oppose China's logic, even Chinese scholars have voiced their criticisms. Meanwhile, Western documents (intermediaries) and Vietnamese documents have a solid, objective and consistent basis affirming Vietnam's sovereignty over the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagos.

Keywords: Sovereignty, Vietnam, Hoang Sa, Truong Sa.

INTRODUCTION

Ever since the army invaded the Paracel Islands in 1974, China has mobilized a large number of scholars under the leadership of Han Zhenhua to conduct research and compile a massive book, trying to prove it. The two archipelagos of Hoang Sa and Truong Sa (which China calls Xisha and Nansha) belong to China's sovereignty. In 1985, the book was completed and published at Xiamen University Press, under the name of Nanyang Research Institute. As a deliberate combination, along with the military action to occupy Gac Ma Island in the Spratly Islands of Vietnam, in 1988 the aforementioned document set under the title NgaQuoc Nam Hai Chu Islands History and Reconciliation. Bien (我國南海諸島史料匯編-Collection of historical data on the islands of our country in the southern sea) was reprinted and published in large numbers by Dong Phuoc Publishing House. This nearly 1,000-page volume has quickly become the main argumentation base for China's diplomatic statements and political decisions on issues related to the Paracels, Spratlys and the East Sea in general. Before looking at the scientific basis for affirming Vietnam's sovereignty, it is necessary to understand the logics of Chinese scholars on this issue. So what are the main grounds and arguments of the book's authors? It is not difficult to see that the main idea of the book is to try to prove that the Chinese discovered, named and possessed these two archipelagos since the Eastern Han Dynasty, nearly 2,000 years ago today. Then, in the Tang, Song, Yuan, and Ming dynasties, and especially from the Qing dynasty up to now, China continuously exercised its sovereignty over these two archipelagos. The consistent method of the authors of this book is to not specify the historical context, cite the material to make it difficult for the reader to imagine the historical context, the original context, and then explain the meaning of the excerpts it according to his will.

Some documents lack scientific and legal basis cited by Chinese scholars

The earliest book cited by Chinese scholars as a basis for China's "sovereignty" over the two archipelagos is the Foreign Office (records of strange objects) by Yang Fu during the Eastern Han Dynasty (23-220). The sentence that is written is: "Zhang Hai Ky first Thuy Thien Nhi has many words of stone..." (漲海崎頭水淺而多磁石..., which means the sea with high tides and bumpy reefs, shallow water but many magnet rocks...). The authors explain that Truong Hai was the name of the East Sea by the Chinese at that time, and the magnetic reef below is the two archipelagos of Xisha (Paracel) and Nansha (Spratly). This document is cited in many places, posted on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China with the argument that these two archipelagos were discovered and named by the Chinese people the earliest (from the Eastern Han Dynasty). Similarly, to reinforce the above argument, Han Zhenhua and the authors of the book NgaQuoc Nam Hai Chu Islands Historical Records also quoted many other verses from ancient books of the Three Kingdoms, Sui, and Tang dynasties such as: Funan stories of Khang Thai, Ngo Luc of Truong Bo, ErNha of Quach Phac ... say that people at that time wrote in Truong Hai (the name of the East Sea as the Chinese call it) with corals, tortoises, and corals. The snail is as big as a fight, the shell can be used to drink wine... to further deduce that in his book, Quach Phac has noted that the sea mentioned here is the sea in Nhat Nam district (the land from Quang Nam) Binh to Quang Ngai), that the Chinese at that time knew the two archipelagos. These quotations are actually just records of phenomena that contemporary authors consider interesting and strange (foreign objects), but have absolutely no meaning in terms of discovering and naming the islands cannot be considered as evidence of sovereignty and even less evidence of the government exercising sovereignty over these two archipelagos. From 960, the Song dynasty established dominion over the whole of China. The historical documents from this period on sovereignty are remarkable. However, the documents presented by Chinese scholars are also not

***Corresponding Author: Dr. Nguyen Thanh Minh**
East Sea Studies Specialist, Vietnam.

convincing. Most of the quotations mentioning the two archipelagos of Van Ly Truong Sa and Thien Ly Thach Duong (which China says is another name for Xisha/Paracels and Nansha/Spratlys) appear in the sea lanes described in books by Chinese authors, but referring to foreign countries, or relating to foreign countries (non-Chinese) such as Zhu Qufei's Lingyue Dai Da and Zhao Ruguo's Zhu Zhiguo. True to the name of these books, "Foreign Affairs" is beyond China's borders, talking about outside things. The "chuyens" are the countries that China considers their vassals, the stories are about the countries around them. Therefore, the descriptions of seas and islands or the route to countries such as Giao Chi, ChiemThanh, and Chan Lap, the names of the Thien Ly Truong Sa archipelagos and Van Ly Thach Duong (which China considers Xisha and Nam Sa) is referred to as a completely meaningless position in determining China's sovereignty. That is not to mention the words used in these books show that the author also only heard the transmission, but did not know exactly how. Here are a few excerpts describing the position around Hainan Island that Han Zhenhua used to confirm that the book Chu Phien Chi said these two archipelagos were Chinese: "The south is opposite Champa, the west is opposite to Champa to the west. Looking at Chan Lap, in the east, Thien Ly Truong Sa, Van Ly Thach Duong, far away without shore, sky and water one color. Another excerpt: "It is said that [original language: transmission] to the east, there is the Truong Sa Thach Road, which is thousands of miles wide, and the tidal water pushes it into the nine-u-u place." Later historical documents compiled in the Yuan and Ming dynasties were collected and quoted in basically the same way. All quoted passages are interpreted according to the narrator's intent. Readers can hardly be convinced by that interpretation. Many domestic and foreign scholars have made valid analyzes and are quite unanimous in saying that the style of gathering, quoting and explaining historical data of the Han Zhenhua group does not follow scientific principles but has the intention of subjectivity, mutilation, arbitrary assembly, and forced interpretation.

It can be said that the logic of Chinese scholars about their sovereignty over the two archipelagos mentioned here dates back to the Eastern Han Dynasty and has been implemented since then, less and less people are interested in it because of its absurdity. , its opposite science and therefore, the Chinese side does not talk about it much. In recent times, China has tried to appreciate the fact that the Qing Dynasty admiral, Li Chuan, sent troops to Xisha (Paracel) to raise the flag and fire artillery in 1909 and consider it a milestone to establish its sovereignty. China for this archipelago. This event is no longer meaningful because it took place in the early twentieth century, when Vietnam had a lot of documents asserting its sovereignty and exercising its sovereignty over the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagos before that centuries (shown below). Moreover, this promotion itself refutes the arguments that Chinese scholars have to painstakingly build documents to prove that Xisha and Nansha were discovered and possessed by the Chinese since the Han Dynasty. , several thousand years ago today. In February 1948, the Department of Borders and Territories, Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of China published a map called Map of the Locations of Nanhai Islands (南海诸岛位置图) with 9 dashed lines accounting for about 75 % of the water surface of the East Sea, embracing the two archipelagos of Truong Sa and Hoang Sa. This map is drawn on the basis of a personal map drawn a few decades ago

with 11 broken segments, 2 of which have been removed, located in the Gulf of Tonkin. Although the nine-dash line is being used as an "indisputable basis" for China's sovereignty over the two archipelagos, its irrational and anti-scientific nature is being strongly criticized. In recent times, China's scientific arguments have not seen anything new, mainly just statements in the form of "China has indisputable sovereignty", lacking scientific basis, basis juridical.

Western documents on Vietnam's sovereignty over the Truong Sa and Hoang Sa archipelagos

As early as the sixteenth century, the Pacific Ocean became very familiar to Westerners, who were able to map Asia fairly accurately with notes showing their deep understanding of shipping routes frequent visits. Recently, in some localities, 56 ancient maps drawn by European navigators from the 16th to the 19th centuries are only part of them. All these maps show or accurately annotate the two archipelagos of Pracel or Paracels (Hoang Sa) and Prately (Truong Sa) belonging to Ciampa (transliteration of the name Champa, an ancient kingdom equivalent to Central Vietnam).) or Cochinchine (equivalent to the land of the South, also translated as the kingdom of Cochinchina). There are many documents of European countries that reflect Vietnam's sovereignty over the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagos. Here are a few examples. The materials are cited in chronological order. First of all, the Dutch ship Grootebroek on its way from Battavia (Indonesia) to Turon (Da Nang) was wrecked in the Paracels (Paracels) area in 1634. The surviving sailors brought 4 silver boxes. On a large island in Paracel, then sent a group of 12 people to take a small boat to Phu Xuan to meet Lord Nguyen Phuc Nguyen for help. God allowed them to charter a ship to return to the island to pick up 50 sailors and take 4 silver barrels. The story that clearly reflects Vietnam's sovereignty over this Paracel Islands was exploited by this J.M. Buch in the documents of the Dutch East India company and published in the journal of the ancient French School of the Far East in 1936. In 1701 a Frenchman named Jean Yves Clayes in his diary described the reefs very specifically, stating: "Paracel is an archipelago of the Kingdom of Annam". In the middle of the eighteenth century there was a very famous figure, the priest and merchant Pierre Poivre. Thanks to his books and articles, the French had a special interest in Vietnam. Even Thomas Jefferson, the US ambassador to France, later President of the United States, after reading P. Poivre was drawn to this country. In 1803, shortly after being elected, the new President sent a mission to bring a draft of a trade agreement to Vietnam in the hope of establishing cooperative relations, but it failed. P. Poivre has the conditions to frequently travel to Vietnam and was once received by Lord Nguyen PhucKhoat in the citadel of Phu Xuan. One of his books, Mémoires sur La Cochinchine (Memory of Cochinchina) published in Paris in 1744, mentioned that many cannons arranged on the walls of the city, which he saw with his own eyes, belonged to the The sunken western ship was retrieved from Paracel. In a later document, Admiral M.d'Estaing made a similar comment: "Around the [Phu Xuan] citadel, there was a place where there were many cannons, many of which were more decorative is for use. It is thought that there may be 400 guns, partly cast iron, a large number of them Portuguese recovered from previous shipwrecks in the Paracels Islands. These are objective observations, but they are very convincing evidence of the results of the work trips of the Hoang Sa Team that the Nguyen lords organized to exercise sovereignty over

the two archipelagos. Jean Baptiste Chaigneau, a man very knowledgeable about the situation in Vietnam in the late seventeenth and early nineteenth centuries, had a report to the French Foreign Ministry about the Nguyen Dynasty in May 1820, in which it was written: "Today's King [...] ie King Gia Long] was crowned emperor [of a country] including the old Cochinchina (Cochinchina), the former Tonkin (Tonkin), a part of the Kingdom of Cambodia, a number of inhabited islands not far from the shore, and archipelagos Paracels are made up of small islands, rapids and desolate rocks. In 1837, Bishop Jean Louis Taberd wrote an article about Vietnam, in which he wrote about the Paracel Islands as follows: "Paracel or Paracels is a labyrinth of small islands, rocks and sandbanks spread over an area to 11 degrees north latitude, 107 degrees east longitude... The Cochinchina call this archipelago Con Vang. Although the archipelago is nothing but rocks and large dunes, it promises more inconveniences than advantages, King Gia Long still thinks he will increase his territory by taking over this sad land. In 1816, he came solemnly planted the flag and officially took possession, but no one seemed to argue with him. Here J. L. Taberd talks about the event that King Gia Long assigned the army to serve as a landmark and to plant the flag in 1819. Right from the time he ascended to the throne (1802), he had linked an edict to strengthen the activities of the Hoang Sa team was founded by the Nguyen Lords from the 17th century. In the following year (1838) this same bishop published a map, clearly stating that the archipelago in the Hoang Sa location was "Paracelseu Cat Vang" (Paracel or Golden Sand). Cat Vang is a pure Vietnamese name that is called Hoang Sa in official documents. This is valid evidence for the fact that the Vietnamese have named the archipelago that Westerners call Paracel.

In 1849, Dr. Gutzlaff, a member of the Royal Geographical Society of London, compiled a book on the Geography of the southern land of Vietnam, with a passage about the Paracels as follows: "...The Paracel Islands (Kat Vang), outside off the coast of the Annam basin, spreading between 15 to 17 degrees North latitude and 111 to 113 degrees East longitude... I don't know because of the coral or other reasons, the rapids are getting bigger, but it's clear that the small islands are getting bigger and bigger. The year is higher, and a few islands are now permanently inhabited, but only a few years ago the waves broke through... The Annam government saw the benefits it could bring if a tax was imposed and set it up to display boats and a small army camp here to collect taxes that everyone outside must pay, and to protect the local fishermen...". Mid-nineteenth century, General Geography, a massive volume of books by the famous Italian geographer Adriano Balbi has been published in Livorno. In the geographical description of the Kingdom of Annam, it is stated: "Belonging to this Kingdom are the Paracels [Paracel] Islands, the Pirati [Pirate] island group and the Poulo Condor [Con Dao] island group". Meanwhile, the description of Chinese geography, although very long, the author does not mention anything about Hoang Sa and Truong Sa.

Historical documents on China's self-denial of sovereignty over the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagos

While Vietnamese documents are always consistent with the names of the two archipelagos, Hoang Sa (or Nom name is Cat Vang or Con Vang) and Truong Sa or Van Ly Truong Sa, which are identified with the names of the Western world.

West is Paracels and Prately, the name given by China is very chaotic. The names Xisha and Nansha only appeared very late. Moreover, in many of its documents China denies itself sovereignty over these two archipelagos (actually unprecedented in history). The best evidence is on Chinese maps. Excluding the early atlas, by the Qing Dynasty in 1894, 1904, 1908 and under the Republic of China in 1919, a series of maps drawn by China had just been widely exhibited. In general, there are no two archipelagos of Hoang Sa (which China calls Xisha) and Truong Sa (which China calls Nansha) that have made a strong impression on viewers both at home and abroad. Even more surprising when the Atlas printed in the book Republic of China Postal Residency, published in 1933, also completely lacks these two archipelagos. Thus, based on these official maps, at least until the 30s of the twentieth century, China's southernmost boundary at that time was only Hainan Island. This is completely consistent with historical documents compiled by the Chinese themselves, or narrated by Westerners who all show their "insensitivity" about sovereignty over the two archipelagos. Going back in history, this is even more obvious. At the end of the seventeenth century, a Chinese monk named Thich Dai San was invited by Lord Nguyen Phuc Chu to Cochinchina. When he returned home, he published the book Overseas Records in 1695 about this trip. In his work, the Chinese monk casually recounted that the Nguyen lords organized armies to go to the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa (which he collectively called the Great Truong Sa) to "collect gold and silver, tools of damaged boats washed in". This completely coincides with Vietnamese history books. In the work Phu Bien Tap Luc, in addition to the grounds affirming the sovereignty of the Nguyen lords over the two archipelagos, Le Quy Don also said a detail that the Qing officials acknowledged Vietnam's sovereignty over the Paracels and Truong Sa.

He wrote: "I once saw a plagiarized official dispatch from the district official of Van Xuong district, Quynh Chau [Hai Nam, China] sent to ThuanHoa saying that: in the 18th year of Kien Long (1753), there were 10 commune soldiers. An Vinh team Cat Liem (probably Cat Vang, ie Hoang Sa team) ChuongNghia district, Quang Ngai government, Annam country, on July 7 to Van Ly Truong Sa to search for things, there were 8 names ashore to search, Only 2 names kept the boat, the wind broke the boat, washed up at ThanhLan port, and the officials there examined the food and brought it back to the original place. Nguyen Phuc Chu sent ThuanHoa's governor Thuc Luong Hou to reply. Thus, the Quynh Chau government, after knowing that the two Vietnamese were soldiers on duty in the Paracels, not only did not cause difficulties or punishment like those who "infringed upon national sovereignty", but conditions to return home. That time was in the middle of the eighteenth century. During the two-year period from 1895 to 1896 in the Hoang Sa archipelago, two shipwrecks continuously occurred. One is German, the ship is named Bellona and the other is Japanese, the Imegi Maru. Both ships bought British insurance, so when the Chinese people heard that the Chinese people took advantage of the ship's accident, they were robbed, the insurance company and the British government representative in China asked the Chinese side to be responsible. , but they refused on the grounds: "...the Paracels ... are not part of China... they are not administratively incorporated into any district of Hainan...". Thus, the Hainan authorities were innocent of the consequences of the looting, but at the same time this fact also showed that, until the end of the nineteenth century, the

authorities in the southernmost land of China were completely unaffected have any idea about their sovereignty over the Paracels (closer to China) let alone the Spratlys (far away from China). Regarding this event, a Chinese scholar, Mr. Li Linghua of the China Oceanographic Information Center, made a very relevant remark in a lecture read at a scientific conference. Here: "When it comes to interests in the South China Sea, we [China] often like to say something like: from ancient times to now, this and that, sometimes we get excited and add two words "sacred"... but the evidence What's really convincing is reality control. You said the place was yours, did you manage it? Do people there submit to your management? Do other people have no idea? If the answers to these questions are all "yes", then you win for sure. In Nam Sa [or Truong Sa], we didn't get that... In the Qing Dynasty (Ham Phong or Dong Tri dynasties), there was a French cargo ship carrying copper that passed through the Xisha (or Hoang Sa) sea. I met a pirate and was robbed. According to the rules of freight transport at sea, they must go to the local authorities to report and offer to help catch the robbers, and at the same time ask the authorities of that place to confirm that they do so when they return to report to the shipper and claim compensation from the insurance company. The captain took the ship to the nearest port, Du Lam on Hainan Island, and reported it to the local trifu (probably tri county). That local official said to the captain: "The place we are standing here is called ThienNhai Hai Giac (the corner of the sea). The land of the Celestial Dynasty is here. Where did he know that he was robbed at sea? He was robbed, we are not responsible, we can't control it, and we don't want to manage it."

Then kick the robbed captain out of the gate. But that event needs to have an end, if not, how can we talk if we don't return home? The captain had to let the ship run into Hai Phong port. The local officials there were very good, confirmed for him, and even sent the train out to run around, as if he had caught the robbers. What evidence is that? That is the proof of actual control and management. This evidence shows that the Chinese government right from the Qing dynasty did not recognize "Xisha" as its territory, nor did it undertake the policing work there. The Vietnamese government at that time not only considered "Xisha" to be their territory, but also carried out the work of maintaining order there. Doesn't that prove that "Xisha" from the past up to now belongs to Vietnam? If you are a Chinese negotiator, fully trained in the law of the sea and international law, what should you do in the face of such evidence? Will definitely want to have a time machine to go back to that time to strangle that trifu! ... ". In 1974, China used force to attack and occupy the Paracel Islands. Soon after, the Chinese government sent a historical and archaeological research team, including Prof. Han Zhenhua surveyed some islands. In the work edited by him, he mentioned the pagoda named Hoang SaTu on Vinh Hung Island (iePhu Lam Island after the name of Vietnam). Although the name of the pagoda and the couplets are written in Chinese characters (黄砂寺), this is one of the most convincing proofs of Vietnam's sovereignty over the Hoang Sa archipelago. This temple has been mentioned by the Chinese press since 1957, after the Chinese army landed on Woody in 1956, when the French army had just failed on the battlefield of Vietnam. According to the description in the magazine "Traveler" book 6, published in 1957 in Beijing, at that time, the temple was still dated to be restored in Bao Dai year 14 (1939). Based on the records in the Dai Nam Thuc Luc Chinh Bien, it can be known that this temple was ordered by King

Minh Menh to be built at the request of the Ministry of Public Affairs and Quang Ngai province. The person assigned to take charge of this job is team leader Pham Van Nguyen. Soldiers and villagers in BinhDinh and Quang Ngai provinces transported materials from the mainland to build.

Documents affirming the sovereignty of the State of Vietnam over the two archipelagoes of Hoang Sa and Truong Sa have a solid basis and are increasingly abundant

Hoang Sa and Truong Sa are two archipelagos appearing on Western maritime maps before the 17th century, most of which are associated with the name Ciampa or Campa. This means that these islands were once closely associated with the Champa kingdom, later becoming a part of Vietnam. The author's annotation writes: "In the middle of the sea there is a long stretch of sand, called Golden Sand Beach, 400 miles long, 20 miles wide, standing in the middle of the sea, from Dai Chiemestuary to Sa Vinh estuary. Every time there is a southwest wind, the merchant ships of the countries traveling in the country drift there; If there is a northeasterly wind, the merchant ships running outside will also drift there, they will all starve to death, and the goods will be left there. The Nguyen family every year in the last month of winter brings 18 boats to get goods, most of which are gold, silver, currency, guns. This one document alone says a lot. Since the seventeenth century, the Vietnamese have been visiting, mapping, naming (very Vietnamese), exploiting and exercising sovereignty over the two archipelagoes. This type of document has such a valid basis that China does not have. In the 18th century, the record of scientist Le Quy Don in Phu Bien Tap Luc also said that the Nguyen lords' government had asserted sovereignty through the organize regular units in charge of performing official duties on the two archipelagoes (Paracel Squadron and Beihai Squadron), clearly specifying the regime, clearly defining the implementation localities, processes, procedures and tasks. Specifically: "In the past, the Nguyen family ordered the Hoang Sa team 70 times, took an AnVinh Sung villager in it, took turns every year in March, and received orders to work in the wrong country, bring a salary to eat for 6 months, travel by 5 cars. It took a small fishing boat to go to the sea, it took three days and three nights to reach this island... Obtained the ship's treasures such as swords, money, bronze, tin blocks, lead blocks, guns, porcelain, ivory, beeswax, tortoiseshell, sea cucumber, snail shell... a lot. In August, he returned, entered the Eo gate, went to Phu Xuan citadel to pay. After weighing and grading, we sell all kinds of snails, sea cucumbers, sea cucumbers separately, and then receive them back." The work of these task forces is very closely managed. Le Quy Don saw with his own eyes the notebook of a team captain named Thuyen and said: "In Nham Ngo collected 30 bucks of silver; in the year Giap Than got 5,100 pounds of tin; In the year of the Rooster, he got 126 silver coins...". The book Phu Bien Tap Luc by Le Quy Don records how the Nguyen Lords established the Hoang Sa and Bac Hai teams to go to these two archipelagos every year to do their duties. This is the state evidence of the exercise of sovereignty of Vietnam since the 17th century. In 1802, the Nguyen Dynasty established and built a unified government from North to South. Continuing to maintain their presence and exploit resources like the Nguyen lords, the emperors were especially interested in consolidating their sovereignty over the territorial sea and on the islands, including Hoang Sa and Truong Sa. Researchers have shown a lot of official historical passages, official documents (texts) and edicts and decrees

directly issued by the emperor on affairs related to the two archipelagos, such as the King Gia Long ordered the army to set up flagstones in 1816, King Minh Menh directly handled the reward and punishment for officers and soldiers on official duty; directly approve the plan to build the temple with the allocation of budget and human resources to carry out such work... The grounds could not be more accurate than with the documents recorded in the historical records, documents in the archives, Vietnamese sovereignty is also reflected in documents kept among the people as relics of ancestors who participated in Hoang Sa and Bac Hai teams. There are also relics such as shrines, ritual sacrifices for Hoang Sa soldiers before going on duty... It can be said that in the Nguyen Dynasty, Vietnam's sovereignty over the two archipelagos of Hoang Sa and Truong Sa was established fully and completely established and enforced, without any dispute. Therefore, when conquering Vietnam, France automatically placed the management rights of the colonial government on the two archipelagos. The French built meteorological stations, observation stations and stationed troops on the islands.

In 1950, the French government transferred the management of the two archipelagos to the Vietnamese government. Premier Phan Van Giao is the one to receive. Just over a year later, in August 1951 China's Xinhua News Agency voiced "affirming China's rights to Xisha and Nansha". This is the first time China has made a public statement on this matter. Faced with that situation, on September 7, 1951 at the San Francisco Conference, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the National Government of Vietnam Tran Van Huu solemnly declared Vietnam's sovereignty over the two archipelagos of Paracels and Islands, Truong Sa. There is no objection to that statement. Meanwhile, there was an idea to hand over these two archipelagos to the People's Republic of China, which was rejected by 48/51 votes.

Dai Nam Thuc Luc Chinh Bien, Book XXII in the 2nd year of Gia Long (1803) writes: "Cai Co Vo Van Phu was the keeper of the Sa Ky seaport, and sent a foreigner's grave to form the Hoang Sa team". During the time when Vietnam was temporarily divided into two regions, the two archipelagos located south of the 17th parallel should be under the management of the Government of the Republic of Vietnam. The Government of the Republic of Vietnam has taken over the management, rearranged the administrative unit and continuously made statements and actions against China's provocative acts or claims to sovereignty. In 1974, after many raids, China openly used force to occupy the islands of the Paracels. This is an act contrary to all international laws and conventions on territorial acquisition. But since then, China has increasingly stepped up propaganda, diplomatic measures and increased military pressure to unilaterally assert its sovereignty not only over the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagos but also over the entire archipelago most of the East Sea through the 9-dash line claim. In 1988, China once again used force to occupy Fiery Cross, Chau Vien, Ga Ven, TuNghia, Gac Ma and Subi islands in the Spratly archipelago. The Vietnamese government has always persisted in using peaceful methods and respecting international treaties to settle disputes. However, through the statements of the heads of the country, and the attitude of the people, Vietnam has always shown its resolute attitude to defend its sacred sovereignty, not only with words but also with the whole world act when necessary.

In short, the East Sea is heating up. Along with the military, diplomatic and communication measures that relevant parties are trying to promote, the research to deeply understand and build scientific arguments for affirming Vietnam's sovereignty. The South on the two archipelagos of Hoang Sa and Truong Sa is extremely urgent. It can be said that China has been ahead of Vietnam for a long time in gathering forces and organizing research to build scientific arguments and legal bases about China's sovereignty over the two archipelagos they call Xisha and Nansha. That effort has been shown in a series of books with the participation of a large number of Chinese scholars.

However, up to now, the arguments given are increasingly revealing weaknesses and limitations. The material collected and cited is largely mutilated, ascribed and interpreted speculatively and forcedly. That is not to mention the contradictions between one document and another. It is no coincidence that an increasing number of international scholars oppose China's logic. Even Chinese scholars have criticized them. Meanwhile, it is worth noting the great efforts of responsible agencies, researchers and the entire people both at home and abroad in collecting, donating documents and publishing the results research results, making the scientific argument and legal basis for Vietnam's sovereignty more and more mature. As an objective truth, Hoang Sa and Truong Sa are two archipelagos of Vietnam, so the documents and evidences affirming Vietnam's sovereignty over time have become clearer and richer. In the cause of struggle to protect sovereignty over the territorial sea and on these two archipelagos, the scientific community plays a very important role.

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