The Process of Industrialization and Modernization in Vietnam: Contents and Features

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Abstract—Industrialization is one of the most important tasks of the development process because it brings both material production and the country’s socio-cultural life to a new level. For the cause of building socialism, industrialization plays the role of creating conditions and material and technical premises for the socialist regime. In each historical period, based on the socio-economic situation, industrialization has specific and appropriate content and steps. For Vietnam, when officially entering the transition period to socialism, the Party advocated socialist industrialization, and from the end of the twentieth century to the present, this process has been fully determined is industrialization and modernization. It is a comprehensive and extensive economic, technical-technological and socio-economic process aimed at transforming Vietnamese production and society from the backward agricultural level to the industrial level technology is increasingly advanced, modern, and civilized. The article clarifies the content and characteristics of industrialization and modernization in Vietnam today.

Keywords---industrialization, modernization, contents, features, Vietnam.

Introduction

Industrialization is the transformation of a small production based on manual labor into a large production based on industrial machine labor. From the end of the eighteenth century to the present. There have been two different types of industrialization in the world: capitalist industrialization and socialist industrialization. Up to now, when many countries have become modern industrialized countries, industrialization is still the goal of Vietnam. Resolution No. 23-NQ/TW of the Politburo on orientations for building national industrial development policies to 2030, with a vision to 2045, has determined: By 2030, Vietnam will complete its public goals industrialization and modernization,
basically becoming an industrialized country in the direction of modernity; belongs to the group of 3 leading countries in the ASEAN region in industry, in which several industries are internationally competitive and deeply involved in the global value chain. Vision to 2045, Vietnam becomes a modern industrialized country (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2018). To accomplish this goal, determining the content and characteristics of industrialization and modernization in Vietnam now has scientific and practical significance.

Related to this topic, the work *Thinking about industrialization and modernization in our country: some theoretical and practical issues* presented the concept of industrialization and modernization; objectives, tasks, steps, conditions, and measures of industrialization and modernization in Vietnam (Giao, 1996). *Industrialization - modernization in Vietnam - Theory and practice*, the work presented theoretical and practical issues on the issue of industrialization and modernization in Vietnam and the world today (Chuan, Nghia & Toan, 2002).

Focusing on analysis and orientation on the path of industrialization and modernization in Vietnam, the work of *Industrialization and modernization in Vietnam - outlining* the roadmap has analyzed the domestic situation and international, internal, and external influencing factors for the process of industrialization and modernization, the work has raised the viewpoints, goals, directions, and roadmap along with solutions for public implementation industrialization and modernization in our country by 2020 (Thien, 2002).

In the work *Some issues of industrialization and modernization in Vietnam*, the author has focused on explaining the lessons learned and policy implications drawn from the study of world experience on industrial models globalization, major development trends of the world economy, and its impact on late industrialized countries; analyzing the relationship between the development of a socialist-oriented market economy and industrialization and modernization, considering the synchronous formation of a socialist-oriented market economy institution as a breakthrough to promote industrialization and modernization in Vietnam. Initially clarifying the scientific basis of the shortened model of industrialization and modernization based on promoting the comparative advantages created by Vietnamese people, implemented in the integration environment and based on promoting maximize internal resources and actively integrate into the international economy under the impact of economic globalization (Nam, 2004).

**Research Methods**

In terms of methods, this study closely follows the point of view of Marx - Lenin, Ho Chi Minh’s thought, the guidelines of the Communist Party of Vietnam, and the policies and laws of the State of Vietnam on industrialization and modernization; at the same time, using methods of analysis, synthesis, induction, deduction, system - structure, comparison, textual research... to clarify the problems posed of the article.
Results and Discussion

The vivid reality of industrialization at the end of the 18th century shows that the path of industrialization and modernization is the inevitable development path of all countries. The process of industrialization of countries around the world has created an economy based on modern industry, advanced science, and technology, promoting production to achieve productivity, efficiency, high quality, and transforming economic structure in a positive direction. Although born later, from the mid-twentieth century to the present, modernization has been closely associated with the scientific-technical revolution modern, more advanced developed society.

The success of industrialization and modernization has pushed some countries in the world to integrate deeper and more fully into the international economy; promote internal resources, comparative advantages, take advantage of external resources - capital sources, new technologies, management experience to expand the market. Along with industrialization and modernization, integration into the world economy is an inevitable trend. Today, no economy can develop in isolation. The process of economic integration will bring great opportunities that, if taken advantage of, will have a positive impact on shortening the process of industrialization and modernization of each country - getting rid of the isolation from other countries world, getting rid of poverty and backwardness.

Thus, the impact of industrialization and modernization is enormous, promoting economic growth, creating positive changes in the way of wealth creation, in people's lifestyles, and thinking people. Successful industrialization and modernization of production processes are all automated. Machines not only replace humans in heavy work but also replace humans in complex stages of production and management, not only replacing human labor manipulation but also thought manipulation. In the global economy, with the development of the internet, e-commerce is becoming a very strong development field, it promotes service industries all over the world, and is especially important. Important for developing countries, especially for remote areas, these countries and regions have the opportunity to access international markets.

Besides the positive side, the negative side of industrialization and modernization is posing great challenges, that is, the gap between the rich and the poor, the division between nations and peoples who know how to grasp and exploit exploiting the benefits of science and technology, and on the one hand, countries and peoples that have not or have not developed such technologies. Therefore, any country or nation that quickly grasps and masters technology will exploit more and faster its advantages. It is also from here that a huge challenge for developing countries (like Vietnam) is how to promote the strengths of their internal resources to promote the development of society without losing their identity precious culture of the nation.

The current cause of industrialization and modernization must necessarily exploit the country's potential and strengths, promote science and technology development, and consider it a necessary condition to achieve the goals of the period of accelerating industrialization and modernization of the country. This is
the necessity, necessity, and multifaceted impact of industrialization and modernization in the new context.

**Contents of the process of industrialization and modernization in Vietnam**

Industrialization and modernization is a fundamental and comprehensive transformation of production, business, service, and socio-economic management activities from using manual labor as the main one, to using a way of disseminating labor power along with advanced and modern technologies, means, and methods, based on the development of industrial and scientific and technological progress, creating high social labor productivity (Communist Party of Vietnam, 1994, p. 65).

The process of industrialization and modernization in our country must closely combine the two contents of industrialization and modernization in the development process. In that process, it is not only industrial development but also structural transformation in each industry, each field, and the entire national economy in the direction of modern techniques and technology. That process not only goes through the steps of mechanization, automation, and computerization sequentially but also uses a combination of traditional manual techniques with modern techniques and technology, taking advantage of quickly entering the present day at all possible and decisive stages.

However, industrialization and modernization in our country not only have technical and technological significance, economic development but also social significance. Successful industrialization and modernization also create development and progress in all aspects of social life. From the general theoretical problems of industrialization and modernization and the specific conditions of Vietnam, it can be generalized that industrialization and modernization in our country today have the following basic contents:

*First of all, in the field of economics.* Ensure fast and sustainable economic development; developing the knowledge economy in association with renovating the growth model, improving the quality and competitiveness of the economy; building an independent and self-reliant economy, effectively participating in the global production network and value chain; promoting the new division and redistribution of social labor to create many new professions and specialties to meet the employment needs of workers, as stated by the Communist Party of Vietnam: “Structural construction reasonable economy and labor structure, promoting comparative advantages, high labor productivity and competitive productivity, extensive participation in production networks and global value chains; industrial civilization prevails in production and social life; develop rapidly and sustainably by the conditions of each period” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2016, p. 90).

At the same time, continue to perfect the institution of ownership, develop all economic sectors and types of enterprises; synchronously develop market factors and types of markets; promote and improve the efficiency of international economic integration. To attach importance to the development of industry, agriculture, and rural economy in association with the construction of new rural
areas, urban development, and the construction of socio-economic infrastructure systems.

Second, in the socio-political field. Continue to perfect the socialist rule of law state, build a lean, clean and strong state apparatus; perfect the legal system, accelerate administrative reform, build a contingent of qualified and capable cadres, civil servants, and public employees to meet requirements, and tasks. Economic development must be associated with equity and social progress. Therefore, our Party has determined: "From now to the middle of the twenty-first century, our entire Party and people will strive to build our country into a modern, socialist-oriented industrialized country" (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2011, p. 25), because to build our country into a country of “rich people, strong country, democratic, just and civilized society” (Communist Party Vietnam, 2011, p. 70)

Third, in the field of science - technology. Vietnam carried out industrialization and modernization from a small production base, an economy based on simple labor, manual labor as the main, and labor productivity. Therefore, to develop the economy-society, improve productivity, labor efficiency, improve competitiveness, and add the value of goods, we must develop and apply science and technology technology; renewing and modernizing machinery and production technology, bringing modern technology to gradually replace outdated and outdated technology; replacing simple labor with complex labor, together with modern and advanced technology, methods and technical means in each field, each industry, and each stage of production and business.

Moreover, in the context of globalization, our country has a wide choice to rapidly increase the content of science and technology in products, participate more and more deeply and widely in the international division of labor, participate in effectively and comprehensively joining the global value chain at higher levels of intellectual content and added value, integrate more firmly into the international production network, and constantly learn and improve gradually progress from imitation, adaptation, to research and creation of new things in the fields, products, and technologies with the highest comparative advantage. This is both the content, the requirement, and also the way to carry out the industrialization and modernization of Vietnam. Only then can we improve the competitiveness and added value of goods, and gradually integrate into the world’s knowledge economy. At the same time, develop and implement a policy on training, fostering, appreciating, treating, and honoring science and technology staff (including science and technology staff in research institutions) - development, universities, officials engaged in science and technology activities in enterprises, state management agencies, political, social, and professional organizations).

Fourth, in the field of education and training. Developing high-quality human resources is, in essence, developing and perfecting human physical, mental, and personalities. Investment in education and training is an effective way to improve the quality of human resources to meet the requirements and requirements of development in the process of accelerating industrialization and modernization under socialist orientation international integration. Therefore, the process of industrialization and modernization must accelerate the renewal and
synchronization of the basic elements of education and training in the direction of attaching importance to the development of learners’ qualities and capacities. Renovate educational programs and contents in the direction of streamlining, modernity, practicality, suitable for ages, levels, and professions.

Diversify learning content and materials to meet the requirements of all levels of education, education and training programs, and lifelong learning needs. Continue to strongly innovate teaching and learning methods, exam forms, and methods, check and evaluate educational and training results, ensuring honesty and objectivity. Completing the national education system towards an open education system, lifelong learning, and building a learning society. To fundamentally renovate the management of education and training, to ensure democracy and unity; increase the autonomy and social responsibility of education and training institutions; attach importance to quality management.

In short, the process of industrialization and modernization is a complex process with rich contents expressed in vivid concrete forms in all areas of social life. To implement the above contents, it is necessary to mobilize all resources of the society, and at the same time, it is necessary to have oriented scientific methods.

**Characteristics of the process of industrialization and modernization in Vietnam**

The process of industrialization and modernization in Vietnam in addition to the common inherent characteristics, the process of industrialization and modernization of the world also has differences, because of historical and traditional conditions, in terms of Natural, economic, cultural – social, and human conditions, together with the domestic and international context and the current situation, industrialization and modernization have some main characteristics as follows:

- **Accelerating industrialization and modernization associated with the development of a knowledge-based economy** is a way for the country to soon get rid of its backwardness. As a developing country that has just been included in the group of middle-income countries (but only low-middle-income), it is in the trend of opening up and integrating, linking industrialization and modernization with development. The knowledge-based economy in the process of transforming the agricultural economy into an industrial one is a huge challenge for our country. This comes from the reality of a country facing the risk of falling further and further behind economically than other countries in the region and the general development level of the world. This is also an urgent requirement, and it is imperative to simultaneously solve two tasks: development to overcome the backwardness and shift to the development of a knowledge-based economy.

- **Accelerating industrialization and modernization associated with the development of a knowledge-based economy** is a mandatory requirement to create the material-technical basis of socialism. For countries that have passed the development stage of capitalism and entered the construction of socialism, the establishment of the material and technical basis of socialism is carried out through inheritance, adjustment, and development perfecting the material and technical foundations achieved in capitalism as required by the new regime.
and developing it to a higher level. For countries transitioning to socialism from a low starting point, at the early stage or not through the development stage of capitalism, it is required to build the material and technical foundations of socialism to become even more urgent.

Creating a material-technical basis for building real socialism is a mandatory requirement for all countries that want to transition to socialism (Lenin, 1978, 214). This becomes even more urgent for a country with a low starting point like Vietnam. The basic way to build the material-technical basis of socialism in our country in the current context is inevitable to accelerate industrialization and modernization associated with the development of the knowledge economy. It should be emphasized that the trend of developing a knowledge-based economy has been and is a great challenge and opportunity for our country on the way to building the material and technical basis of socialism. If we do not promptly seize opportunities and rely on the knowledge-based economy to accelerate industrialization and modernization, our country will fall further and further behind. Industrialization and modernization must be accelerated in association with the development of the knowledge-based economy to quickly catch up with other countries and realize the goal of building socialism. It is an urgent requirement, a major strategic shift. This is the rare historical opportunity that the times have created.

- Accelerating industrialization and modernization associated with the development of the knowledge-based economy originate from the requirements of deeper and more complete international economic integration. International economic integration is a key content of economic globalization, which is the process by which countries link their economies with the regional and world economies by making efforts to self-liberalization, economic opening on bilateral and multilateral levels, and minimizing differences to become an integral part of the global economy. It is not only a cooperative process but also a vital competition between businesses and national economies.

If in the past, assignment and exchange were limited by regional, local and national, but today in the trend of globalization, assignment and exchange are done through a global network. This trend inevitably causes more and more industrial products to be produced with the participation of many enterprises in different countries, and then combine them. The division of labor has made national borders no longer as tightly bound as before, but closer together. Therefore, international economic integration makes the information system no longer belong to each country, but many countries in the world. International economic integration makes businesses and countries willing to cooperate to benefit from cooperation.

However, international economic integration also poses challenges of stiff competition between businesses and economies. Success in this competition, of course, will belong to enterprises and countries that have advantages in scientific and technological knowledge in creating goods and services. Countries that are rich in natural resources and abundant labor, resource prices, and cheap labor will gradually lose their advantages as knowledge becomes more and more decisive in the value of products.
Accelerating industrialization and modernization associated with the development of the knowledge-based economy is also due to the multifaceted impact of this process on economic, political, and social life. In addition to the above reasons, the promotion of industrialization and modernization associated with the development of the knowledge economy in our country is also due to the positive impact of this process on economic, political, and social life. It not only creates the material-technical basis and organizational model of a new economy, strongly promotes the social division of labor, transforms the economic structure towards progress, and ensures continuous improvement of the economy. Social labor productivity, but also early access to advanced and modern material and technical foundations to effectively exploit and use the country's resources for rapid economic growth. Create more jobs and increase income for workers. Improving working conditions, liberating workers, developing intellectuals, bringing knowledge into the fields of social life, promoting social learning, mastering, absorbing, and creating new knowledge, thanks to it improves the quality of social life. The process of accelerating industrialization and modernization associated with the development of the knowledge economy is also the process of creating conditions for building an independent and self-reliant economy, on that basis, proactively integrating into the economy effective international; create material and technical conditions to consolidate and strengthen national defense and security, and strengthen the role and function of the State.

With such necessity and multifaceted impact as above, to speed up and soon shorten the lag behind developed countries, before the urgent requirements of production and life, we have no choice. The other is to promote industrialization and modernization in association with the development of the knowledge economy.

In fact, after decades of industrialization and modernization, our country has acquired the initial material foundations of a new industry, including elements close to modernity; information technology and telecommunications have developed at a rapid pace, the development of the open economy has initially penetrated businesses and residents; Investment in human resource development has been valued by the whole society. In particular, our Party and State are very interested in promoting this development process of great significance. These are practical capabilities that are very important for our country to successfully carry out the industrialization and modernization associated with the development of the knowledge economy.

**Conclusion**

Industrialization towards modernity is the goal that any country in the world today sets. The times have posed new problems, and Vietnam’s modern industrialization path in the new period has partly met those requirements. Based on full and profound awareness of the content and characteristics of the process of industrialization and modernization of Vietnam to make the most of domestic and foreign resources; building an autonomous economy and
deepening international integration. Successfully implemented the process of industrialization and modernization in Vietnam, soon becoming an industrial country with a position in the region and the world.

References


