

# **New Perspectives On Traditional Cultural Values Education For Preschool Children: A Case Study In Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam**

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## **Abstract:**

The article gives new perspectives on traditional cultural value education in Vietnam. Through which the manuscript demonstrates the significance of educating preschool children in traditional cultural values, a foundation in the development of traditional values for East Asians. In order to comprehensively evaluate the process of educating children with traditional values, the article also conducts a survey with a number of preschool teachers who are directly teaching in the kindergarten classes of some children. Kindergarten in Ho Chi Minh City. The survey results outline briefly the achieved and outstanding issues in the education of traditional cultural values for preschool children in Ho Chi Minh City today. The results from the manuscript show the applicability of this educational model for children not only in Ho Chi Minh City but also in many other localities. In the future, the research will provide directions to promote and improve the cognitive value of my traditional value education.

**Keywords:** traditional cultural values, children, education

## **1. Introduction**

To ensure the sustainable development of a country, besides investing in economic development, the preservation and promotion of traditional cultural and national values also play an important role [1] [2] [3]. Traditional cultural values serve as a foundation and guiding principle for human development [4] [5]. This is especially true in Asian countries, where traditional cultural values serve as the foundation and orientation for people and countries [6] [7] [8]. Vietnam is a prominent country in Asia where traditional cultural values are drawn from generation to generation [9] [10] [11] and they will be passed on to future generations as a continuation to serve as the foundation for traditional values, to preserve and promote the national spirit, and to be the foundation for the orientation of the

nation [12] [13] [14]. According to the changing rhythm of life, it can be seen that the change of traditional cultural values will lead to the change of human values. Not only that, [15] [16] [17] but this change shapes human values in global development when traditional values are forgotten, mixed with other values, or have negative variations. Therefore, it is necessary to conduct a specific assessment of a particular segment of society to determine the core traditional cultural values so that there can be a way to promote and preserve the inherent good values.

People, whether they are children, adolescents, or adults, have different advantages and disadvantages when it comes to absorbing, shaping, and forming their personalities. Therefore, the early acquisition of good traditional values does not guarantee the complete assimilation of these values and their preservation later. However, people who are well educated from a young age can fully master, retain and maximize their potential thanks to the specific skills of their brains at this age. Children not only absorb, but also form an unconditioned reflex when applying and practicing what they have learned. Children at this age not only absorb quickly, but also correctly, and are not influenced by false values from the outside. Therefore, this study is aimed at children because of the characteristics and urgency of the process of absorbing good traditional values. The manuscript will analyze the age characteristics of age groups, affecting the ability to absorb, isolate, and select the values transmitted, and from there give advice and solutions to consider in the implementation. Education is most effective. The object of the research is the traditional cultural values for preschool children because this is the starting age for new and passive understanding. To be effective, preschool teachers' awareness of educating children about traditional cultural values plays an important role. In addition, the contents, methods, organizational forms, and environmental conditions ensure the organization of traditional cultural value education.

## 2. Research method

The manuscript uses a mixed research method, a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods. The quantitative method consists of drafting a survey questionnaire and selecting a sample. The survey was conducted at 9 preschools, in Ho Chi Minh City. HCM. The survey sample was selected according to the multi-stage cluster sampling and the quota sample was based on the classification list of criteria and requirements at preschools in Ho Chi Minh City. According to the formula for calculating sample size [9], with 95% confidence ( $K = 1.96$ ) and desired error  $E = 5\%$  for most prediction rates ( $P = Q = 0.5$ ), the target population of 200,000 or more, the required sample size for a sampling study is 384 units, the evaluation method is shown as expression (1).

$$n = \frac{NPQ}{\frac{(N-1)E^2}{K^2} + PQ} = \frac{K^2 NPQ}{(N-1)E^2 + K^2 .PQ} \quad (1)$$

To ensure disaggregation of each group of teachers and preschool children in a stratified sampling strategy. The draft defines the survey sample size as 45 preschool teachers and children being sampled in two groups. Qualitative method: We used in-depth interviews and

focus group discussions, including teachers in preschool and early childhood education institutions.

### 3. Problem solving

#### 3.1. Outstanding traditional characteristics of Vietnamese people

Within the scope of the article, culture is understood as a product of mankind. Culture is created and developed through the interaction between people and society. Traditions are virtues, customs, ideas, and lifestyles that are formed in life and recognized by society. It is passed on from generation to generation and has a great effect on each individual and society as a whole. Traditional Vietnamese cultural values are the ideas, symbols, values, and social standards formed, developed, and distilled during the nation-building and defense processes. This makes the unique distinction needed with social groups and communities around the world.

In order to build the Vietnamese people in today's era, besides updating new knowledge, advanced technology techniques, and renewing education day by day, the focus on preserving, conserving, and promoting intrinsic cultural values is essential, so that when interacting with international Vietnamese people, their unmistakable outstanding traditional characteristics of the Vietnamese people can be mentioned as:

- **Patriotism:** In general, this is a value that any nation in the world has. However, the patriotic spirit of the Vietnamese nation has its own color and is eloquently demonstrated throughout the nation's history of "building and defending the country." This is a red thread that has crossed the entire history of Vietnam since the time of Van Lang (2,700 years ago). He united 15 brother tribes, had a stable territory, had a brilliant culture, and had considerable material strength... Next is a long series of resistance wars against invaders of powerful countries, in which resounding in the world history list can be mentioned three times: the resistance wars against the Yuan-Mongols, crushing the Qing army, and fighting against the Mongols colonialism, empire.
- **Tolerance:** This value is not only reserved for the Vietnamese people, but in Vietnam, but in Vietnam, this value is affirmed in the content of Ho Chi Minh's ideological ethics and is the core value of Ho Chi Minh's ideology. ethical standards of Vietnamese people. This is the result of love, the norm in human-to-human relationships since ancient times "Bầu ơi, thương lấy bí cùng – Tuy rằng khác giống nhưng chung một giàn" or "Nhiều điều phủ lấy giá gương – Người trong một nước phải thương nhau cùng", is one of the noble moral qualities that originate the cohesion of the community and society. At the same time, Vietnam is a country with the belief of "Ancestral spirit", which means that in addition to their own religion, they often still worship ancestors. Every family has an ancestral

altar in the house or at least has a place to honor grandparents' photos. This creates the characteristic of Vietnamese tolerance.

- **Gratitude:** Being open-minded, sincere, for everyone, living a life for good, not being selfish, sharing when winning, serving good, and progressing when losing. A life of gratitude takes on meaning first, overcoming selfishness, fighting for rights, conceit, and pride. In Vietnam, this value can be seen in the "village life", "village love," "the fire and the lights are off together," "the spirit of mutual love and affection," and "good leaves protect torn leaves."
- **Solidarity:** This has been the traditional value of our nation for thousands of years, starting with the cohesion of families, clans, villages, and the whole country. The solidarity of the Vietnamese people is especially evident when facing natural disasters, epidemics, and foreign invaders. Especially with a country like Vietnam, experiencing thousands of years of colonization and invasion, suffering from natural disasters every year (storms, floods, saltwater intrusion, etc.), solidarity becomes the core value. Only solidarity can bring the strength to defeat foreign invaders and only solidarity can help the nation overcome natural disasters. As a result, this is a very core value of the nation, and it must be preserved and instilled in every person from childhood.
- **Diligence:** When talking about the traditional cultural characteristics of Vietnam, it is impossible not to mention "industrious". Industriousness is a series of diligent and diligent labor in daily work, an important part of the virtue of "need" in "necessity, thrift, integrity, and righteousness" according to the ancient moral tradition and was approved by President Ho Chi Minh. Minh preached on the meaning of the times. Since ancient times, every Vietnamese person has taken diligence as a moral standard because in order to create wealth and material things, one must work and endure. As a result, Vietnamese people have had to build dams, ditches, and dikes since ancient times. Thanks to their diligence, the Vietnamese people have transformed the country from one of hunger and lack of clothing to the second-largest exporter of rice in the world.

It can be seen that each country in the world has the values and traditional characteristics mentioned above, but the formation and expression of these traditional characteristics are different. It is the difference between these expressions that make up the distinctive characteristics of Vietnamese people. These characteristics are the quintessential property of the previous generation, passed on to the next generation. Having traditional values as the foundation will create great strength in the construction of a rich, beautiful, and civilized country.

## **2.2. Traditional Vietnamese cultural values are identified, recognized and honored today**

Vietnam is a country with an area not too large in the Indochinese peninsula (Southeast Asia). In this geographical location, Vietnam is at the intersection of many ancient civilizations. Vietnam is also a multi-ethnic country with 54 ethnic groups. Each ethnic group has its own cultural characteristics, typical bold colors, but sticks together in the common destiny of the country in harmony. long term case. From these things, a unified Vietnamese culture is created on the basis of diverse national cultural nuances and good traditional moral values with distinct nuances found only in Vietnamese people.

Traditional cultural values are a non-stop flow in the cultural history of our nation. Although we always talk about keeping tradition as it is, that which is inherent is always changing. The only thing that remains unchanged about these traditional cultural values is the symbolic meaning that people associate with them when practicing those traditional values. It can be said that traditional cultural values, although constantly developed and updated, still retain the core values of the past. Understood in such a broad sense, it shows that the traditional cultural value system of our Vietnamese people is not constant but constantly changing and moving.

As mentioned above, the outstanding traditional characteristics of the Vietnamese people, along with the trend of integration and globalization, have affected the traditional cultural value system of Vietnam, which has also undergone many changes. During that transformation, the core cultural values will be retained, fostering new expressions suitable for the new era. However, in the expressions of the above-mentioned traditional cultural values, there is also a certain variation. Specifically:

- Regarding patriotic traditional cultural values: this is the red thread throughout Vietnam's history from ancient times to the present, thanks to patriotic values (shown to the outside by specific expressions and actions). At the moment, the Vietnamese people and the country of Vietnam exist as a nation, as an independent country, whereas many other Asian peoples have assimilated or are unable to maintain their own state. However, some manifestations of patriotism, such as focusing only on the interior, insisting on the past, not opening up to accept new things, and excessive national pride, become extreme and harmful. not found.
- Tolerance and affection: these cultural values are expressed in social relations within the family, the village, and the community of the country. However, if you are not careful, tolerance and affection will be taken advantage of, turning into a cover-up, partial, and taking advantage of the trust and sympathy of those around you for wrongdoing. This can now be seen clearly in the fact that some subjects take advantage of the inherent kindness of the Vietnamese people to cheat, to call for destruction. Because of tolerance, it is easy to overlook mistakes, but it leads to limitations in criticism or "reconciliation and respect."
- Solidarity: In terms of the expression of solidarity of the Vietnamese people, it is often shown in the situation of the country in danger, difficulty, and poverty.

However, in better and richer living conditions and circumstances, this spirit rarely appears.

- Industriousness: Vietnamese people take the value of diligence as the root, so it can lead to slow progress. Creativity is still limited and heavy on instinct and spontaneity. At the same time, due to the influence of wet rice civilization, psychology and ways of thinking are still small-scale, unscientific, heavy on experience, fragmented and short-sighted. Vietnamese people are industrious but also easily satisfied because of their pragmatic, short-sighted thinking. This thinking is only suitable for the conditions of small-scale agricultural production, so it is no longer suitable for the current conditions. Sometimes industriousness is mistakenly attributed to the characteristics of wet rice farming, according to which "the buffalo goes first, the plow follows". Therefore, the preservation, preservation, and promotion of traditional cultural values still needs to have a distillation of the expressions of these values.

Throughout history, these traditional cultural values have been taught and spread widely from generation to generation. The precious traditional cultural values of our nation have created a "miracle strength" to help the Vietnamese people fight and win against backwardness, poverty, and wars of foreign aggression. In today's era of international integration, through traditional cultural values, Vietnam has been and is a peaceful, unified country with high international prestige, contributing to the creation of a peaceful world through peace, friendship, and prosperity. For that reason, the preservation and promotion of national traditional cultural values is extremely necessary. Vietnamese people understand that losing culture and being assimilated into culture is losing the nation and the country. We will always have the spirit of preservation and promotion. However, it is necessary to clearly recognize the manifestations of core traditional cultural values such as patriotism, tolerance, love, solidarity, and diligence. Uphold values with positive manifestations and eliminate negative manifestations. Avoid taking advantage of the preservation and promotion of traditional cultural values to maintain outdated customs.

### **3.3. The meaning of traditional cultural value education with the development of preschool children**

Vietnamese culture is the synthesis of the cultural values of 54 ethnic groups, including indigenous peoples living in the territory of Vietnam. The diversity in quantity and quality of the traditional cultural values that Vietnamese culture always preserves and promotes is aimed at forming a unique, beautiful, and precious culture for the Vietnamese nation. Children born and raised in that context need to be nurtured and educated in harmony, in accordance with the conditions of the community environment in which they live.

The dizzying development of information technology, social networking sites, and online electronic applications has directly influenced the way people behave and interact with each other in the same culture as well as around the world. different cultures and countries. Hiding the truth can create people who are bolder in communicating and expressing their thoughts and insights, but with less commitment and responsibility. This

affects the culture of communication and friendly, sociable, and empathetic behavior that existed before, as well as obscures the traditional cultural values of the Vietnamese people. Children, with the age of exposure to application platforms in cyberspace increasing earlier and earlier, it is necessary to consider in order to form appropriate cultural knowledge and skills.

Preschool education is the first level of education in the national education system. Appreciating the value of traditional culture and rituals was summed up by the ancient grandparents with the sentence, "First learn etiquette, then literature." People need to learn both etiquette and knowledge, not place any weight on either side.

Traditional cultural value Preschool education is a pedagogical influence process that forms, maintains, and strengthens ideas, symbols, values, social standards, and cultural works in the way nice and typical Vietnamese tradition for children aged 3-6. Specifically, education for children teaches values such as passionate patriotism, self-reliance, solidarity, compassion, tolerance, gratitude, studiousness, diligence, optimism, etc. The task of educating traditional cultural values for preschool children is hidden in the task of moral education for children, namely, forming in children the first foundations of a new socialist human personality. respecting gratitude, solidarity, tolerance, caring, yielding to help those close to you (parents, friends, friends, teachers...).

Kindergarten age is one of the important developmental stages, marking a transformation in children's awareness and actions towards the surrounding environment. Children begin to integrate into a new environment, make contact, and learn basic life skills and values. Education at this stage has a significant impact on the formation and development of a child's personality. In particular, traditional cultural value education is an indispensable component, helping children to shape standards, foundations, and build anchorages during the process of receiving, adjusting, and adapting to suit the needs of children. movement of the community and society.

Cognitive processes in preschool children are becoming overloaded, industrialized, and synchronized on a large scale through online courses without careful consideration of their effects on harmonious development, balanced, and comprehensive for children. The formation of traditional cultural values for preschool children therefore becomes even more necessary and important.

In the trend of global integration that is taking place strongly in Vietnam, it is necessary to preserve and promote the unique and good traditional cultural values of the nation. Educating traditional cultural values for preschool children is the right step for preschool to evoke and bring about positive impacts, leaving symbols for children about traditional cultural values. It creates a solid foundation for children to firmly absorb new values.

### **3.4. Content of traditional cultural values education for preschool children**

The selection of traditional value education content for preschool children needs to be suitable to the needs, interests, and abilities of the children and associated with the children's lives so that the children can easily feel the meaning of these values as well as convenience in regular practice. Therefore, the traditional cultural values formed for children need to be

selected based on the expressions suitable to the child's comprehension ability as well as the local implementation conditions, starting from the smallest unit, which is the self of children, and then families, villages, and the larger community; Avoid giving general or general educational content when children do not have these values for themselves and their families. As follows:

No,	Traditional cultural values	Expression
1	Solidarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Do not cause division, factions: do not speak ill of, criticize without goodwill, do not incite friends to be angry or fight...</li> <li>- Advocate for the vulnerable: prevent violence, report to adults (parents, teachers...) when seeing unjust oppression or wrongdoing that I cannot advise.</li> </ul>
2	Tolerance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Has a vibration, is sensitive to the beauty of the surrounding nature and has a sense of preservation.</li> <li>- Don't hate people who are different from you.</li> <li>- Empathize with the sadness and loss of people around.</li> <li>- Willing to forgive when the offender sincerely regrets and apologizes; I don't hate people who do wrong to me.</li> <li>- When there is a mistake, ready to accept and correct it so as not to harm the people around, listen and absorb the opinions of the people around without anger or pride.</li> </ul>
3	Love Respectful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Loving family: family members, traditional family activities (meetings, holidays, anniversaries...), family meals, traditional family dishes.</li> <li>- Get along with family members: no quarrels, jealousy, fights or violence...</li> <li>- Help each other: brothers are like limbs, sisters fall, I lift, yield to each other...</li> <li>- Be filial to your parents, grandparents and those who have the gift of nurturing and educating yourself: caring, caring according to your ability, polite, not whining or pleading.</li> <li>- Kindness to the village and people: friendly in communication, respecting the private life of others...</li> <li>- Share with friends and neighbors: visit when people around you are sad or sick, donate to help in their own strength, cooperate in common tasks...</li> </ul>



Choosing the above-mentioned expressions to educate children will affect their self-perception and the connection between themselves and their families, villages, and ethnic groups naturally and systematically according to each step of the child's comprehension. Therefore, children will easily absorb and memorize better because there is an inheritance in each piece of content. Besides, this content can be approached and practiced by children in daily life; it is close, easy to understand and feel, so it will be more effective. When children love themselves and their families and realize their own and their family's values are related to their nation and country, continuing education on patriotism and compatriotism at later school levels will be effective because it has a deep foundation.

### 3.5. Survey on the practice of educating traditional cultural values for preschool children in Ho Chi Minh City

We conducted a quick survey of 45 teachers teaching preschool children (3-6 years old) at 9 preschools in Ho Chi Minh City about the practice of teaching traditional cultural values to preschool children. Specifically, the working years of the respondents are as follows:

**Table 1 shows the working years of preschool teachers.**

	Time	Amount	Ratio %
Working years	Less than 5 years	6	13,3
	5 - 10 years	16	35,6
	11 – 15 years	6	13,3
	Over 15 years	17	37,8

In this survey, we learned about the practice of educating traditional cultural values for preschool children, the results are shown in detail as follows:

Preschool teachers' perception of the need for traditional cultural values education for preschool children

**Table 2 shows the importance of traditional cultural value education for preschool children.**

No.	Criteria	Amount	Ratio
1	It is very important to educate children from an early age	34	75.6
2	Confused, don't know if it should or not?	8	3,8
3	No need because children are too young to understand traditional cultural values	3	1

According to the above data, over two-thirds of preschool teachers participating in the survey think that the education of traditional cultural values for children is very necessary

and should be conducted from an early age. completely consistent with the meaning of traditional value education for preschool children and in line with the folk experience passed down from generation to generation in our country "bending trees from a young age".

To learn about the perception of preschool teachers about the manifestations of 3 traditional cultural value education contents are given. Accordingly, the results obtained are as follows:

**Table 3. Preschool teachers' perception of the manifestations of traditional cultural value education contents**

No.	Traditional cultural values	Expression	Agree		Disagree	
			A	%	A	%
1	Solidarity	- Do not cause separation, factions: do not say bad words, criticize without goodwill, do not incite friends to be angry or fight...	41	91.1	4	8.9
		- Advocate for the vulnerable: prevent violence, report to adults (parents, teachers...) when seeing unjust oppression or wrongdoing that I cannot advise.	33	73.3	12	26.7
2	Tolerance	- Has a vibration, is sensitive to the beauty of the surrounding nature and has a sense of preservation.	40	88.9	5	11.1
		- Don't hate people who are different from you.	35	77.8	10	22.2
		- Empathize with the sadness and loss of people around.	38	84.4	7	15.6
		- Willing to forgive when the offender sincerely regrets and apologizes; I don't hate people who do wrong to me.	41	91.1	4	8.9
		- When there is a mistake, ready to accept and correct it so as not to harm the people around, listen and absorb the opinions of the	36	80	9	20

		people around without anger or pride.				
3	Love Respectful	- Loving family: family members, traditional family activities (meetings, holidays, anniversaries...), family meals, traditional family dishes.	44	97.8	1	2.2
		- Get along with family members: no quarrels, jealousy, fights or violence...	39	86.7	6	13.3
		- Help each other: brothers are like limbs, sisters fall, I lift, yield to each other...	42	93.3	3	6.7
		- Be filial to your parents, grandparents and those who have the gift of nurturing and educating yourself: caring, caring according to your ability, polite, not whining or pleading.	40	88.9	5	11.1
		- Kindness to the village and people: friendly in communication, respecting the private life of others...	36	80	9	20
		- Share with friends and neighbors: visit when people around you are sad or sick, donate to help in their own strength, cooperate in common tasks...	37	82.2	8	17.8

The data shows that preschool teachers agree on choosing the above expressions to teach traditional cultural values. Based on these values, teachers will build activities to form traditional cultural values for children. Therefore, children will be self-aware of themselves, connecting with themselves and their families, villages, and ethnic groups naturally and systematically according to each step of their understanding. Therefore, children will easily absorb and memorize better because there is an inheritance in each piece of content.

To educate traditional cultural values for preschool children, it is impossible not to use educational methods. The application of educational methods to traditional cultural value

education depends on preschool teachers. Appropriate selection and application will help maximize efficiency and bring great learning value to preschool children.

**Table 4 shows methods for instilling traditional cultural values in preschool children.**

No.	Methods of educating traditional cultural values	Amount	Ratio
1	Observation through visual images	36	80
2	The method of using literary works, daily activities, through games.	34	75.6
3	Practical method, practical experience.	38	84
4	The exemplary method - evaluation.	24	53.3
5	Method of education with affection (encouragement).	36	35.5

According to the above results, we see that preschool teachers evaluate the method of practical experience to teach traditional cultural values to preschool children. To form children's love and pride for scenic spots, historical sites, or to understand the meaning of customs and habits so that they can have a sense of protection and introduce them to others in need. They have real-life experiences to share. Experiential activities can be visiting or participating in traditional festivals or simply participating in activities related to traditional cultural values in work or daily life. Accordingly, when children go to historical and cultural places, festivals, craft villages, majestic natural scenes, etc., it stimulates exploration, discovery, and knowledge that comes naturally to children and children perceive with their own senses. Next, methods such as observing through visual images, the use of literary works, daily activities, games, and model-evaluating methods are also rated highly by preschool teachers.

The application of these methods in traditional cultural value education activities for preschool children also requires the appropriate selection of educational content, and the combination of methods should be flexible. for each group of educational content. Besides, the frequent use of the mother tongue to communicate with children is also an effective way of educating traditional cultural values because language is associated with cultural values expressed through words, word usage, Language also includes many rules of communication and behavior. Therefore, language development for children also has a significant impact on the effectiveness of this activity.

The above survey results show that the education of traditional cultural values for preschool children is necessary, and at the same time, the selection of traditional cultural value education content as well as accompanying expressions plays a role. This is decisive for the effectiveness of traditional cultural values education for preschool children. In addition, the selection and application of educational methods to teach traditional cultural values to preschool children will affect the quality of this educational activity.

#### 4. Conclusion

Traditional cultural value Education is the factor that creates national identity in each person, so it needs to be formed as soon as possible. That's why the ancients often taught "First learn etiquette, then literature". Therefore, the education of traditional cultural values for preschool children is necessary and meaningful because it helps to build children's personality traits and moral qualities and fosters their standards and regulations. The code of conduct defines their attitudes towards each other, towards the family, towards other people, and towards the nation. In order for this activity to be really effective, it is necessary to avoid the use of content that is far from the reality of the child, beyond the child's comprehension. In addition, it is necessary to avoid the dogmatic and imposing form of education and should be replaced with the opportunity to experience and feel reality at the same time through an emotional way. In addition, it is necessary to strengthen elements belonging to traditional cultural values in architecture, facilities, uniforms, and communication culture at schools.

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