



Universität Innsbruck – Institut für Christliche Philosophie

Gastvortrag

Organisation & Kontakt: Winfried Löffler

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Communists and Catholics in Vietnam Today: Co-Operation or Antagonism?

Do., 24.1.2013, 19.30 Uhr s.t., Seminarraum I (Karl-Rahner-Platz 1)

Vietnam is a multi-religious country. Vietnamese are well known for being religiously tolerant people. There have been no religious wars in the country's history. However, nowhere in South-East Asia is the relationship between Christian Churches and native authorities as problematic as in Vietnam. The persecution of Christians under the Nguyen dynasty in the 19th century; Christian massacres at the beginning of the French colonization with thousands of victims; the exodus of North Vietnamese to the South after the Geneva agreement in 1954, a majority of whom were Christians, etc., are prominent examples.

On April 30, 1975, while millions of Vietnamese were very happy with the unification of their country and the end of the Vietnam War, Vietnamese Catholics worried about what would happen to them in the future. Why is the distance between Christians and non-Christians in Vietnam so problematic? Is a common life between Communists and Catholics nowadays possible? These are the questions our report pursues.

To clarify the role of Christian communities in Vietnam in this period, our analysis should take on an external perspective, also regarding the relation between Christian communities and native authorities, and that between Christians and non-Christians, rather than to adopt an internal perspective from within a Christian community.

Prof. Dr. Nguyễn Quang Hưng (*1961), studierte Philosophie und Religionswissenschaft in Hanoi, Passau und Berlin und ist gegenwärtig Stv. Direktor des *Center of Contemporary Religious Studies* (CeCRS) sowie Leiter der Abteilung für Philosophiegeschichte an der Vietnam National University, Hanoi. Forschungsschwerpunkte: Religionsphilosophie, Religionswissenschaft, Geschichte des Katholizismus in Vietnam.

Ausgewählte Publikationen in deutscher Sprache: *Der Katholizismus in Vietnam unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der Zeit der Nguyen - Dynastie* (1802-1883), Marburg 1998; *Der Katholizismus in Vietnam 1954-1975*, Berlin 2004; *Religionskritik innerhalb der katholischen Kirche in Vietnam*, in: M. Hutter (Hg.), *Religionskritik und religiöser Pluralismus im gegenwärtigen Südostasien*, Frankfurt 2008, 203-214. – Daneben mehrere Monographien und mehr als 30 Buchbeiträge und Artikel in vietnamesischer Sprache.

Alle InteressentInnen sind herzlich eingeladen!