

The Role of the Thu Dau Mot Diversified Jobs Teaching School in the Development of the Traffic Products of Thu Dau Mot – Binh Duong Time of the French (1901-1945)

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Abstract

In the process of colonial exploitation in the land of Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong, the French paid special attention to the strength of handicrafts, therefore, established Thu Dau Mot Diversified Jobs Teaching School (1901) to train forces of craftsmen that are able to effectively promote the advantages of this land. Accordingly, Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong lacquer craft has had conditions to develop and achieve many successes. This article aims to clarify the role of human resource training of Thu Dau Mot Diversified Jobs Teaching School in promoting the Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong lacquer profession to achieve outstanding achievements on the way of development (1901- 1945).

Introduction

Thu Dau Mot - Ancient Binh Duong, which belonged to the canton of Binh An, was one of the first stops of the Vietnamese on the way to the South. Over time, the Vietnamese have come to exploit the land and make a living in the land of Binh An more and more crowded. During that process, the Vietnamese brought traditional handicrafts from Ngu Quang to Binh An, on that basis, promoting Binh An handicrafts to develop. Next, in the middle of the 19th century, Chinese immigrants (mainly Fujian people) also came and chose Binh An as a place to settle, and at the same time, brought many new industries to Binh An, helping to enrich than manual production methods as well. During the French colonial period, handicraft was an economic sector that the French colonialists were very interested in when conducting colonial exploitation in this land, therefore, Thu Dau Mot Ba Nghe School was established in 1901 to dig create human resources for craftsmen more methodically, in order to fully exploit the strengths and potentials of handicrafts.

Although it was established with the purpose of serving the economic exploitation needs of the French colonialists, it must be admitted that the establishment of Thu Dau Mot Diversified Jobs Teaching School has helped Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong in general and Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong lacquer painting in particular, each painting changes in an upward direction, besides, bringing many positive values to the economic - cultural - social life of residents here. Therefore, understanding the role of the Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school in the development of the traffic products of Thu Dau Mot – Binh Duong lacquerware in the years 1901-1945 is essential. However, in general, up to now, this content has not been fully and properly researched. In fact, the research on the formation and development of the Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school is still confused in the general studies on the history of Binh Duong province. That fact requires more quality scientific works to gradually fill the academic gap, enriching and deepening historical research in Binh Duong province, first of all clarifying the role of the Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school for the development of Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong lacquer craft during the French colonial period (1901-1945).

Literature Review

There are many works referring to the formation of the Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school and its impact on the lacquer industry in Thu Dau Mot under the French colonial period in different aspects. From the French works, such as: "Monographie de la Province de Thu-Dau-Mot" published from Saigon's Indochina Research Company newsletter in 1910 with many policy information, administrative organization and the development of the infrastructure of Thu Dau Mot, some records of contemporaries such as: Dr. JC Baurac, with his book "La Cochinchine et ses habitants (Provinces de l'Ouest)" published in 1899, L.De Grammont with his book "Onze moi de sous-préfecture en Basse Cochinchine"... has somewhat depicted the scene of Thu Dau Mot. In the early days, the French arrived and started mining. The above notes partly refer to traditional handicraft production activities (including lacquer).

Some works have been compiled in the current period on the historical development of Binh Duong, such as: "Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong, the land of people" by Ho Son Diep, the book "Phu Cuong, Cultural History and Revolutionary Tradition" by Huynh Ngoc Dang (Military Press, Ho Chi Minh City, 1990), "The Ancient Seal of Thu Land" by Nguyen Hieu Hoc (Young Publishing House, Ho Chi Minh City, 2009), "Thu Dau Mot Binh Duong, a good land, birds perched on land" edited by Vu Duc Thanh, a collection of articles by researchers inside and outside the province, the project "Binh Duong Geography" published by the Provincial People's Committee in 2010, the conference: "Thu Dau Mot Binh Duong 300 years of establishment and development"... have more or less describe the process of formation, the role of the local school of fine arts Thu Dau Mot, as well as the development of lacquer craft in Thu land under the French colonial period.

Especially the monographs on lacquer craft, a typical handicraft of Thu Dau Mot land in Binh Duong during the French colonial period as well as the present period. These can be mentioned: "The art of applied lacquer in Binh Duong" (Nguyen Van Minh, 2015, Fine Arts Publishing House). The work mentioned that France gathered most of the excellent artisans of Thu land together with French experts to establish Thu Dau Mot Ba Nghe School in 1901 and the role of this school in the development of handicrafts. Binh Duong industry during the French colonial period. Some articles about Binh Duong's lacquer craft such as: (i) "Unique features of Binh Duong lacquerware" (Nguyen Van Minh, Fine Arts Magazine, No. 182 (2), 2008), (ii) "Identifying traditional Vietnamese lacquer in the context of social exchanges imported today" (Nguyen Van Minh, Fine Arts Magazine, No. 189 (9), 2008), (iii) "Lacquer craft in Binh Duong" (Nguyen Van Minh, Cultural Heritage Magazine, No. 4 (29), 2009), (iv) "Something about the four stages of contemporary artistic creation and appreciation" (Nguyen Van Minh, Scientific Notice of the Vietnam Institute of Culture and Arts, No. 25 (10), 2008), (v) "Vietnamese Lacquer Heritage Road" (Nguyen Van Minh, Scientific Notice of Vietnam Institute of Culture and Arts, No. 27 (2), 2010), (vi) "Binh Lac Lacquer Tradition Ocean and orientation in the integration trend" (Thai Kim Dien, Historical Science Information of Binh Duong province, No. 5, 2007), (vii) "Exploring the golden age of Tuong Binh traditional lacquer village Hiep - Binh Duong (Nguyen Thi Phuong, Historical Scientific Information of Binh Duong Province, No. 43, 2016), (viii) "Traditional lacquer in Binh Duong beauty needs to be passed on" (Nguyen Van Quy, Historical Scientific Information of Binh Duong Province, No. 27, 2012), (ix) "Development trend of Binh Duong lacquer art" (Nguyen Van Quy, Thong). Science and History News of Binh Duong Province, No. 24, 2011)...

It can be said that the lacquer industry in Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong during the French colonial period is a topic that has received the attention of many researchers (especially in recent years). As proof, there have been many scientific works, including monographs and reference books, theses and theses, scientific reports at conferences, research works, articles published in journals published by reputable authors/research institutions. However, so far, there has not been a research work that systematically and specifically studies the positive impact from the formation and development of Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school, the first Fine Arts vocational school established by the French in Cochinchina.

Research Method

The method used in this research is qualitative analysis, combined with synthesis and inductive methods and explanatory research. The analysis process was carried out by using historical information and with historical and reading the text.

Results and Discussion

Historical background and birth of Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school

From a very early, the French were interested in Dai Nam in many ways. Entering the nineteenth century, that interest became more special on the basis of assessments of economic potential and geo-political advantages. Accordingly, the invasion of Dai Viet was actively prepared and strongly promoted by the heads of the French government on the path of expansion to the "East" (Tran, 2016). However, for various reasons, the French could not immediately launch an invasion of Dai Nam. It was not until the end of the 50s of the 19th

century that that work officially started with the event that the French-Spanish coalition attacked Da Nang at dawn on September 1, 1858, with the basic goal of pressure to force the Nguyen Dynasty to quickly surrender. However, the French failed before the fierce resistance of the army and people of Da Nang. As a result, after 5 months of attacking Da Nang, the French only captured the Son Tra peninsula. Facing difficulties on the Da Nang front, the French quickly turned their attack on Cochinchina and in mid-1862 captured three provinces in the East of Cochinchina.

Since then, for the convenience of management, the French colonialists re-demarcated administrative boundaries. At this time, Bien Hoa province managed two wards, Phuoc Long and Phuoc Tuy, in which Phuoc Long was in charge of Phuoc Chanh and Binh An districts. On December 31, 1862, the French colonialists dissolved 3 districts: Phuoc Binh, Ngai An, and Long Khanh, then merged Chanh My Ha of Phuoc Binh district into Phuoc Chanh district and merged with Ngai An district into the district. Binh An (Ho, 2012). According to the summary of Nguyen Dinh Dau, Binh An district now has 9 cantons, 87 communes, villages and district capitals at this time located in Bung (Nguyen, 1994). In 1867, the French divided Bien Hoa into 5 administrative regions. Binh An district at that time had 7 cantons, the headquarters was moved to Phu Cuong (Huynh, 1990). After completely occupying Cochinchina, the six provinces, the French divided Cochinchina into 27 counties, and the Thu Dau Mot district officially appeared. By 1871, Thu Dau Mot had 10 totals with 91 communes and villages. The headquarters of this county is still located in Phu Cuong. On December 20, 1889, Thu Dau Mot county changed to Thu Dau Mot province, with a total of 12 cantons and 119 villages. Phu Cuong is still the provincial capital of Thu Dau Mot (Huynh, 1990).

In addition to actively setting up the ruling apparatus, the French government carried out colonial exploitation of this land. In order to effectively implement these two strategic tasks, the French need to overcome and solve the huge obstacle posed "before the conquered peoples, which is the difference in language" (Paulin Vial, 1872). It was in that context that the role of interpreters (then called interpreters) was highly appreciated by the French in governing activities (H. Abel, 1861). In fact, the French authorities soon realized that interpreters were "necessary assistants for colonial activities" and "no less valuable assistants to merchants". our own and great industrial works were established in the colony" (H. Abel, 1861). From an urgent need to a fairly thorough understanding of the role and position of interpreters in governance, the French established the Évêque d'Adran school (also known as Truong Ba Da Loc) even before taking over the three eastern provinces of Cochinchina (September 21, 1861) to teach French to the Vietnamese and Vietnamese to the French (Ngo, 2011).

At the same time, the rule also requires the French to own a team of helpers who are (i) civil servants working in socio-political organizations or (ii) officials working in units. public career and (iii) professional workers – technical workers – foremen – supervisors... working in economic fields. Therefore, in the process of setting up the ruling apparatus as well as conducting colonial exploitation in the land of Southeast Cochinchina, the French authorities established in this land many other vocational training schools for training. human resources for the governing apparatus of the provinces of Cochinchina. For example, the Governor of Cochinchina, Marie Jules Dupré, signed the decision to establish the École normale coloniale in Saigon on July 10, 1871, to train primary school teachers and office workers (especially employees). cadastral officer). More than a year later (August 29, 1873), Marie Jules Dupré continued to sign the decision to establish the Collège des administrateurs Stagiaires, also known as the Apprenticeship School (also in Saigon) to train administrative staff (Nguyen, 2016).

Thus, from the capture of the three provinces of Southeastern Cochinchina until the end of the 19th century, the French colonial government opened two vocational training schools in Southeast Vietnam (including Ba Da Loc school, three schools) with task of training civil servants or officials for the colonial apparatus. Vocational schools with the aim of training professional workers - technical workers - foremen - supervisors... for economic exploitation activities have not yet been established by the French during this period. However, a number of vocational training camps (classes) such as sewing - embroidery - weaving - carving - carving... were also established by the French authorities to meet the initial needs of colonial exploitation. Vocational training camps (classes) have created the premise for the birth and development of schools for training professionals - technical workers - foreman - supervisors in the Southeast region later. The vocational class called Cours d'apprentissage (founded in 1895 at the corner of Massige Chasseloup Laubat - now the intersection of Mac Dinh Chi and Nguyen Thi Minh Khai streets) was upgraded to École professionnelle de Sagone in 1904 is a testament to the "transformation" step of the vocational training camps (classes) that the colonial government established in the Southeast region in the late 19th century (Tran&Tran, 2018).

The main reason why vocational training schools were not established by the colonial government in the period from 1862 to the end of the 19th century was because, at that time, the French were prioritizing building construction. and perfecting the ruling apparatus instead of focusing on colonial exploitation. From the beginning of the twentieth century onwards, the French paid more attention to training "to serve the colonial exploitation, to meet the expansion of small and medium-sized industrial establishments, primary processing

and processing, produce goods using local materials” (Tran, 2014). In that context, the French believe that "must grasp Thu Dau Mot's strengths in traditional occupations to inherit and promote the professions of local people" (Phan, 2010a). Therefore, "they quickly summoned most of the outstanding artisans of Thu to cooperate with French experts in teaching fine arts to establish". *The École d'Art indigène de Thudaumot* in 1901 with three departments specializing in teaching the professions of carpentry - forging - pottery - bronze (due to teaching many traditional trades, the folk of Thu Dau Mot are often called diversified jobs teaching school) (Phan, 2010a) (Nguyen, 2010)*.

Huynh Van Muoi, in the work "Urban Fine Arts of Saigon - Gia Dinh (1900-1975)" said more about the reason that the French established Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school also because "from the fact that the officials The French entered Vietnam to live, live and work as an official of the local colonial apparatus. On the way to Vietnam, they stopped in Singapore, Malaysia and they found that the local woodwork is very good, so the French wanted to train the Vietnamese people in the ability to practice construction demonstrating the products. carpentry products, wood and fine arts products like the Malays (Malaysia)". The birth of the Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school was "for that purpose" (Huynh, 2020). Accordingly, the Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school was born as "a very interesting experiment" by the French and "the results achieved are very positive" when "recruiting students is quite easy despite the difficulties in the recruitment process" prejudices of well-off families towards manual labor (Indochina Research Company, 2015). It should be noted that the Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school is the first practical art school that French colonial authorities have established in Southeast Vietnam in particular and Cochinchina in general, in order to exploit the strengths of nature and economy - society of Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong. Therefore, the establishment of the Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school is considered to have made an important contribution to creating "a historical turning point in the formation and development of the Vietnamese fine arts education and training system" (Huynh, 2020).

Over time (1901-1945), Thu Dau Mot Ba Nghe School became more and more stable and developed strongly (especially in terms of training programs). If before 1932, the school had only 03 departments, mainly teaching carpentry - blacksmithing - pottery - bronze, the training period was 03 years, the training level was Beginner, then from 1932, the program The school's training has been upgraded to Intermediate level, the training period for one course is 04 years, including 04 departments with the training program changed in a more methodical direction: (i) the board of carpentry (the profession of carpentry), (ii) lacquer painting, (iii) sculpture (touching - carving - making statues), (iv) carpentry painting and decoration (interior decoration). Also in 1932, the school changed its name to Thu Dau Mot Practical School of Fine Arts (*École d'Art Applique*)[†]. At that time, the school moved to Bach Dang Street next to the Thu River (Saigon River section of Thu Dau Mot) to this day. Before (1901-1914), the school was located next to Thu Dau Mot Governor's Court on Dinh Bo Linh Street (former Binh Duong People's Committee), in 1914, the school moved to a location opposite Phu Cuong's Office (now known as Phu Cuong's office). is the parking lot in front of Thu Dau Mot market) (Phan, 2010b)[‡].

Contribution of the Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school in the development of the traffic products of Thu Dau Mot – Binh Duong (1901-1945)

During the period 1901-1945, Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school made many marks and contributed significantly to the progress of Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong handicrafts. The key role is to train

*Following the establishment of the Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school was the establishment of Bien Hoa Fine Arts School (now Dong Nai College of Decorative Arts) in 1903 with three departments specializing in teaching carpentry - blacksmithing - ceramic - bronze (Nguyen Thi Nguyet, 2010). In 1904, the French continued to open the Saigon Vocational School (*École professionnelle de Sagone*) to train professionals. Two years later (1906), the *École des mécaniciens asiatique de Saigon* was established by the French with the task of training native technical workers (ship mechanics) for the Navy. France and civilian merchant ships (Tran Van Giau, Tran Bach Dang – editors, 2018). In addition, in 1917, the Governor General of Indochina also signed a decision to establish the *École Pratique kaaagriculture et de Sylviculture* to train foremans - supervisors for forestry mining sites or agricultural plantations and business establishments of horticulture - ornamental plants - silkworm rearing (Phan Xuan Bien, 2010b). Thus, vocational training schools in Southeast Vietnam, specifically in Saigon, Bien Hoa and Thu Dau Mot, were born in turn with two main types: a practical industry school and the other is a technical school and practical fine arts school (Do Huu Tai, Bui Quang Huy, 2010).

[†] After 1932, the school continued to change its name many times: in 1964, it was renamed Binh Duong Technical High School; in 1977, renamed Song Be Industrial Fine Arts High School; in 2000, renamed Binh Duong Technical High School; from 2007 to 2012 is Binh Duong Fine Arts High School; from 2013 until now, named Binh Duong Fine Arts - Culture Intermediate School, on the basis of merging the Fine Arts Intermediate School and the Arts and Culture Intermediate School (Nguyen Van Minh, 2015).

[‡]The principals of the school since its founding to 1975, in order from French to Vietnamese, are as follows: Outrey, Dela Fosse, Robert Neveux, Robert Bâte, Stéphane Brècq, Nguyen Van Long (graduated from the College). Indochina Fine Arts, Class V, 1929-1934), Nguyen Van Thau (graduated from Indochina Fine Arts College, Class IX, 1933-1938), Nguyen Dinh Cuong (graduated from Indochina Fine Arts College), Nguyen Tan Bau (graduated from Indochina Fine Arts College, class VIII, 1939-1944), Bui Van Thanh Tam (Huynh Van Muoi, 2020).

human resources of craftsmen for Thu land as well as other localities throughout the provinces of Cochinchina (Huynh Van Muoi, 2020). Specifically, the school has trained nearly 900[§] skilled craftsmen, whose expertise is a combination of traditional art and modern Western fine arts, with knowledge of art culture and "they have become important factors in the development of handicraft industries", at the same time, they are also the ones who have effectively promoted the local traditional art identity and inherited the ancient art well. that many generations of his fathers have created (Phan, 2010a) (Many authors, 1998). Thus, "it is the establishment of the school and the training of many talented students that has promoted the further development of the long-standing traditional craft villages here such as lacquer craft villages, carpentry carving, painting,... on ceramics, fine art porcelain... excellent. and successful students have made art activities more and more developed, creating many fine art products, especially lacquer, which are quite famous at home and abroad" (Many authors, 2006).

The authors of the work "Binh Duong Fine Arts Past & Present" also highly appreciate the role of Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school in the development of the traffic products of Thu Dau Mot – Binh Duong: "points of view" Most especially, during the training process in this period (1901-1937), the school formed the first class of artisans in Thu land with good skills and knowledge of art culture as the core for later development. Most of the students who graduated from the school became famous artists, teachers, and artisans: Phen workers, Base workers, Do teachers, Dau teachers, Chau Van Tri, Nguyen Van Thanh, Nguyen Thanh Le (Thanh Le), Nguyen Van Nhan, Nguyen Van Yen... became the mainstays in the process of teaching, training and expanding the traditional art career later. Skillfully combining the traditional Vietnamese craftsmanship left behind by the forefathers and the quintessence of European art (France), the first generation of craftsmen has glorified the ancient art of Thu Dau Mot throughout the Southern Continent. province" (Many authors, 1998). In the work "The art of applied lacquer in Binh Duong", Nguyen Van Minh also raised his point of view with similar content as follows: "In the first stage, Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school has trained a class of painters and painters. Artists and artisans of Thu land with good skills and knowledge of art culture. Most of the graduates become famous painters and teachers such as Chau Van Tri, Truong Van Thanh, Nguyen Thanh Le, Nguyen Van Yen, Nguyen Van Tuyen... and skilled painters such as Mr. Nam Nhung, Mr. Tu Hoanh, Mr. Sau Minh, Mr. Ba Lam... it was these artisans who, after becoming the master craftsmen in the school, set up family workshops, recruited more workers, and gradually supplemented the streets. craft, craft village" (Nguyen, 2015).

Thus, people after graduating from Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school have worked in the field of handicraft economy with different roles and jobs. (i) They can be teachers, passing on the knowledge, skills and experiences learned from the school to the next generations (some of them have been retained by the school after graduation); (ii) can also be the owner of a farm, factory, or business shop; (iii) or simply diligent craftsmen directly engaged in production. Regardless of their position or position, they are considered to be an important factor in the development of traditional handicrafts in Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong in the years 1901-1945 and also in the period of 1901-1945 next stages.

Among the handicrafts promoted by Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school, lacquer is the profession that has achieved outstanding achievements. Lacquer, which is a craft, was formed and developed in Binh Duong quite early in history (from the end of the 18th century to the beginning of the 19th century), concentrated mainly in two villages, Tuong Binh and Tuong Hiep belonging to the province. Binh Tho province, then (in 1927), was merged into Tuong Binh Hiep village of Binh Phu canton, Binh An district, Thu Dau Mot province (Binh Duong Museum, 2020). Initially, in Tuong Binh Hiep, there were only a few households specializing in making gold lacquer and mixing then paint. Later, Tuong Binh Hiep craft village gradually developed, Thu's painters became famous and created more and more diverse products (Nguyen Vu Thanh Dat, 2016). Besides the gold lacquer products, there are also other items of mother-of-pearl and wood carving created by many skilled craftsmen who specialize in painting for temples, shrines, home decoration... However, due to During this period (up to the 19th century) there was no painting technique, so this profession (i) is still called painting or painting craft, (ii) the teaching of paint making techniques is still mainly in the form of painting. hereditary or being an employee learning a trade from the boss, (iii) the scale of production facilities is quite modest and of a household nature (Le, 2016).

The transformation step – "from a traditional profession of Tuong Binh Hiep with family nature, has been popularized and developed in a wide direction" has taken place since the French established Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school (Multiple Authors, 1998). Specifically, after 1913, when the French Public

[§] In the period 1901-1932, the school trained nearly 400 people, in the period 1932-1945, the school trained 488 people (Ho Huu Nhut, 2005).

Works Architect André Joyeux went to Thu Dau Mot (at that time he was directing the Gia Dinh Drawing School), he opened "classes" to teach furniture, sculpture and lacquer (Phan, 2010b). In particular, the flourishing has taken place strongly since 1932, with the French officially introducing the lacquer department into the training program of the Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school. Since then, Thu Dau Mot jobs diversified teaching school has trained for society in general and Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong in particular, many generations of talented artisans, painters, sculptors, teachers and fine art business people three (Nguyen, 2009). In other words, the birth of Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school has marked a new development step in the transmission of lacquer vocational training in Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong on the basis of many classes of skilled lacquer craftsmen. formal and methodical (Le, 2016).

Can mention the name of Nguyen Van Tram (graduated in 1933); Nguyen Van Y, Le Van Co, Tu Van Xan, Nguyen Van Thanh (graduated in 1934); Nguyen Van Thot (graduated in 1937); Tu Van Tram, Tu Van Phat, Luong Dinh Thanks, Tran Van Lo (course in 1935); Pham Van Lai (class of 1936); Ho Ngoc Huong (graduated in 1940); Nguyen Thanh Le (graduated in 1941)... Among these, some have returned to their homeland to set up lacquer workshops or camps, mainly concentrated in Phu Cuong such as: (i) Canh An workshop run by Mr. Tu Van Xan was established in 1940, (ii) Hai Huong Cau Ong Danh camp by Mr. Ho Ngoc Huong, (iii) Phat Anh workshop by Tu Van Phat, (iv) Van Thoo workshop by Mr. Nguyen Van Thot, (iv) workshop. Tran Ha, (v) Thanh Le workshop, (vi) Mr. Ba Den's camp, (vii) Lai Lo camp, (viii) Song Gianh camp... (Binh Duong Museum, 2020). The production facilities have attracted and received thousands more skilled workers from many other localities to work, in which, many people have graduated from famous vocational schools such as: Gia Dinh Drawing School, Bien Hoa Fine Arts School, Indochina Fine Arts School. This is a professional team that has contributed to preserving and promoting the capital of Thu Dau Mot lacquer art - Binh Duong, creating the richness, abundance and diversity of designs and types of Thu Dau Mot lacquer - Binh Duong when compared with lacquer in other localities in the country (Nguyen, 2009).

Thanh Le Lacquer Factory was the largest production facility at that time, creating a reputation both at home and abroad, founded by Truong Van Thanh and Nguyen Thanh Le in 1943. Truong Van Thanh and Nguyen Thanh Le were two students. students of Thu Dau Mot School of Arts graduated in 1942 (Truong Van Thanh and Nguyen Thanh Le were retained by the school to teach after graduation). At the end of 1943 (about a year after graduation), Truong Van Thanh and Nguyen Thanh Le together established a lacquer factory named Thanh Le. Because he is good at lacquering and sculpting, on the other hand, he has a talent for organizing, managing and operating, so just a few years after its establishment, from a small production base, Thanh Le lacquer workshop has developed into a large establishment, consisting of 5 main divisions: (i) painting department (specializing in creating designs and drawing designs); (ii) parts for spreading cloth, cutting, polishing, grinding (made according to each technical stage); (iii) conch parts; (iv) eggshell parts; (v) carpentry turning, sawing and sawing boards (Binh Duong Literature and Art Association, 1998).

The key to Thanh Le lacquer workshop's great success stems from the fact that it has attracted a team of highly creative artisans (Binh Duong Literature and Art Association, 1998). The professional capacity and contribution of sculptor Chau Van Tri is very remarkable (graduated from Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school course 1933-1937). With good expertise, Chau Van Tri was invited by the leaders of Thanh Le lacquer workshop to be a special expert in wood carving industry, especially in the field of mother-of-pearl for works of high artistic value. Hundreds of works created by Chau Van Tri all show the smooth and ancient Asian style. For the European style of composition, Chau Van Tri also applied flexibly to suit and enhance the artistic value of his works. Along with famous artists of the same time such as: Ngo Tu Sam, Duy Liem, Thai Van Ngon, Nguyen Van Tuyen, Tran Van Nam, Nguyen Van Co... Chau Van Tri has contributed to making Thanh Le lacquer shine to reach the world. world (Hoang, 2014).

In early 1953, Truong Van Thanh and Nguyen Thanh Le no longer cooperated in production. Accordingly, Truong Van Thanh returned to the base in Saigon, and Nguyen Thanh Le took over the Thanh Le workshop in Thu Dau Mot and changed its name to Thanh Le Fine Arts Company. At that time, Thanh Le factory had 12 painters, 2 painters, 20 carpenters, 60 painters, 4 carvers, 1 mother of pearl carvers (Pham Cong Luan, 2014). According to the elderly artisans who used to work for Thanh Le workshop, the owner of the workshop has been very interested, favored and appreciated good artists and artisans, by creating a favorable working environment and conditions for them to promote their own strengths, increase labor wages or buy compositions at high prices to motivate the spirit and stimulate the creativity of artisans. Thereby, attracting the participation of many artists (including those who have won prestigious painting awards), painters, households and processing

establishments (workers working for Thanh Le Lacquer Factory). sometimes up to 700-800 people) (Binh Duong Provincial Museum, 2020).

In addition to recruiting and teaching at the school, Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school also recruits students to learn painting at home who have graduated and mastered the profession such as Le Van Co or Nguyen Van Tram and some other students. other artisans to meet the decoration, drawing, carving and engraving process. Students who learn painting at home are still granted graduation certificates by the school like students studying at school. Typical are Ho Van Nhuong (Nam Nhuong), Tran Van Lam (Ba Lam), Le Van Hoanh (Tu Hoanh), Tran Van Minh (Six Minh), Le Van Nghi (Muoi Candy)... No different from other students. After being trained at the school, the painting apprentice class outside the school, after mastering the profession, tends to actively participate in lacquer production activities. They have returned to localities such as Tuong Binh Hiep, Phu Cuong, and Tan An (Ben The) to set up workshops, production camps, business establishments, and provide vocational training for children in the family, children of neighbors in need. apprentice. Most students of Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school (including students who learned from teachers who graduated from Thu Dau Mot Ba Nghe School) in the period 1932-1945 became skilled artisans, so they have made significant contributions to the profession contributed significantly to “the formation and development of Binh Duong lacquer craft” (Binh Duong Museum, 2020).

According to Mr. Nguyen Van Minh: The French colonial period, handicrafts in the South in general and Thu Dau Mot in particular had many great and diverse changes compared to the previous period. Diversity is reflected in industries with fast development, concentrated production, consciously training skilled workers, exchanging and rotating products between regions as well as production export. It was the expansion of the market and the requirements for product quality that stimulated the development of lacquer craft in the Saigon - Gia Dinh - Thu Dau Mot region. The export capacity of lacquer products during this period was also much stronger than in the past (Nguyen Van Minh, 2015). This is the time when the people working in Thu land have reached maturity and the classes of skilled workers from Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school more and more. According to statistics at this time, Thu Dau Mot has more than 300 households doing the job, including 10 large production facilities - the most typical is Thanh Le Lacquer Factory. This facility gathers many famous artisans in the region such as Thai Van Ngon, Ngo Tu Sam, Tran Van Nam, Duy Liem, Ho Van Sa, Truong Ngoc Loi, Tran Van Tru, Nguyen Van Co, Nguyen Van Tuyen... and built a famous Binh Duong lacquer brand at home and abroad. Besides Thanh Le lacquer factory, in Binh Duong province, there were many other establishments with smaller production scale but also very "famous" at that time such as: Luong Dinh Cua, Tran Ha, Song Gianh, Phat Anh, Ho Huu Thu, Van Thot, Phat Anh, Lai Leaux... This is also the time when Binh Duong lacquer products resonate in the country and the world with many awards, proving recognition from customers and people who enjoy. By owning a team of skilled artisans, the lacquer products of Thanh Le workshop are made not only with high technical level but also rich and diverse in designs. The evidence is that Thanh Le lacquer products have won many awards when participating in international fairs such as: Gold Medal of the Munich International Fair in 1964, Silver Medal awarded by the Ministry of Economy (South Vietnam) in 1968, Honorary Degree at the Paris Fair in 1969, Medal and Honorary Degree at the Paris Fair in 1970, Gold Medal at Saigon Industry and Trade Fair in 1970 (Pham Cong Luan, 2014) (Hoang Anh, 2020). Binh Duong lacquer products are widely consumed in the country, exported to a number of regional countries (Cambodia, Thailand, China, Japan), especially promoted to the European market. high commercial value. That stimulates the development of lacquer craft in Binh Duong province – both in terms of quantity and product quality. Lacquer goods in this period reached the peak in quantity, with artistic level and artistic quality, rich diversity. It was the golden age of the Thu Dau Mot lacquer industry. After 1975, Thanh Le workshop changed its name to Thanh Le Lacquerware State-owned Enterprise, which, for some reason, ceased operations shortly after. Currently, Thanh Le lacquer products are "regarded as precious artifacts, a reputation that has passed but still quietly exists" (Binh Duong Provincial Museum, 2020).

Conclusion

After capturing three provinces in the Southeast region of Cochinchina, in order to serve the establishment of the governing apparatus and exploit the Eastern land, the French colonial government paid attention to establishing vocational training schools. In that context, Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school was born with a training program including professions such as wood carving, casting, embroidery, mosaic and painting in 1901. Over 44 years of development (1901-1945), this school is an important factor contributing to the promotion of handicrafts in Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong, especially for the development of lacquer craft with the main role of Train human resources for craftsmen methodically from theory to practice.

After graduating from Thu Dau Mot diversified jobs teaching school, most of them are involved in the lacquer field. Some people become teachers to teach, others open their own camps, workshops, art shops and become bosses, some become workers for lacquer workshops. This is the key force to help develop Thu Dau Mot - Binh Duong lacquer craft not only for that time but also to create a premise and positive values for the next development stages.

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