

# **A BITTER CONFLICT ABOUT PRESERVATION OF INDIGENOUS CHAM SCRIPT IN VIETNAM AND NEGATIVE EFFECTS ON TEACHING MOTHER TONGUE FOR CHAM CHILDREN IN SCHOOL**

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## **Abstract**

Cham ethnic minority in Vietnam today is citizen of ancient Champa kingdom which existed from the 2nd to the 18th century in the South-Central region and wiped out from the world map due to the expand of Vietnam. Champa had ever a brilliant civilization in the past and it was known as the most famous architectural tower system that has been remained up to now. Next, the Cham stone statues with sculpture art have reached a climax and Cham script writing system formed from the 4th century and the standardized completely, called as Cham Akhar Thrah in the 16th century by the King of Po Rome.

There have existed conflicts in conservation of the Cham script and lead to the negative result of the Cham language education. Cham children have been encouraged to study the mother tongue up to class 5. While other minorities languages are taught to class 9. So, they are easily forgotten and become illiterate again; Especially, the conflict raised doubts in the Cham Youth's mind when they study the modify Cham Akhar Thrah in school, therefore they have no inspiration or enthusiasm in learning their mother tongue It leads to the result of that the Cham children have been affected psychologically and to be at disadvantage compared with other groups in Vietnam. From that, the article tries to give some solutions to bring the favorable conditions for the Cham children in leaning Cham language based on the role of Education to understand the conflict, finding the caused and give solutions. as follows: The Vietnamese Educational Ministry should have a study to assess again of the modify Cham Akhar Thrah which is used in present schools, look deeply on opinions from other side group; Organization of public dialogue or scientific workshops with participants presented by the Ministry of Education, Department of Heritage, BBSSCC, the Cham elders, Imam dignitaries, intellectuals and students to unify the curriculum and Cham textbooks for Cham children learning; Expanding and improving the programs to lower secondary school, high school and colleges, universities. Implementation and experimental teaching continue to gradually revised annually complete; Except that, teachers and students should be encouraged to participate in researches to develop and preserve the purity of Cham Akhar Thrah inside and outside the school.