

Vietnam and war aftermaths



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Located in south East Asia, Vietnam is one country that I feel has a lot problems emanating from all sectors that are crucial for the country's survival and well being of the citizens. Having undergone Vietnam War for a period of about 22years, the country has suffered a lot from the aftermaths of the war.

To begin with, the country is facing challenges associated with rapid increase in population. After the Vietnam War, the country experienced a population explosion which has increased pressure on the limited available resources. This is because, most of the social amenities had been either completely destroyed or incapacitated by the war. Therefore, increased population in the country has increased pressure in the existing social amenities such as schools and hospitals. In addition, the infrastructure of the country is also under pressure since little has been done to improve its status despite being destroyed during the war period.

In addition to the challenges caused by the rapid increase in population, poverty levels of people living in Vietnam makes me hate the system of government operating there. In the mid- 1980s and early 1990s, majority of people living in Vietnam were living in deplorable conditions due to the high levels of poverty in the country. However, it is also good to note that the government took an initiative to correct the situation by initiating systematic strategies. This has brought some changes as reported by the United Nations 'Human Development Report' in 2003 which indicated that the poverty levels in Vietnam had greatly reduced. But the situation is still not very stable as many people living in the poverty prone rural areas migrate to town in search of better living conditions. Further, this has led to the famous rural

urban migration resulting to population explosion in towns.

On the other hand, I am worried about the environmental situation of the country. The pollution levels in the country are high causing negative impact on several areas in the country and of much concern, the agricultural sector. To begin with, deforestation practices are much rampant in the country resulting from forest destruction for use of wood as a source of fuel. In addition, due to the dilapidated infrastructure, the sewer systems in town have fallen out of control and end up in lakes and rivers without being treated. This causes serious health risks to people depending on the water sources in addition to destroying the flora and fauna existing in the lakes and river. Further, the industrial wastes are far above the recommended limits resulting to further destruction of the ecosystem. The industrial waste has also led to associated problems such as occurrence of acid rain, which is known to destroy crops and increased green house effects due to high levels of carbon in the atmosphere.

Lastly, the healthcare system in Vietnam also leaves a lot to be desired. Most of the hospitals in Vietnam are still located in the old colonial buildings with very little improvement if at all has been done. In addition, the facilities used in the hospitals are not up to date and the staff available lacks adequate training to deal with complex medical issues. Further, people have to pay for medication and as discussed earlier in this paper, the economic status of the citizens has just begun to increase. Therefore, most people in the country may not be able to afford quality medical healthcare. In addition, the country is also facing challenge in dealing with the pandemic of HIV/AIDS resulting from uncontrolled sexual behavior and drug abuse mostly by the youth. However, it is worth noting that the government initiative of introducing

employee medical national insurance scheme has to some extent contributed positively to then healthcare system in Vietnam.

In conclusion, I would say that it is important to weigh out various options before deciding to relocate to Vietnam. In addition, it is important to put in consideration factors such as health, infrastructure, economic viability and security of a country before setting up investments.