

The History of the Vietnam-Cambodia Borderline in South Vietnam from the 17th Century to the Early 20th Century

Dr. Nguyen Dinh Co

Institute of Strategic Development, Thu Dau Mot University, Vietnam.

Email: nguyendinhco@tdmu.edu.vn

Abstracts: The article analyzes the process of forming and establishing the border between Vietnam and Cambodia in southern from the time the Vietnamese arrived in Mo Xoai and Dong Nai areas to reclaim land and establish villages (17th century). When the Vietnamese people's resistance war against the French ended successfully (July 1954). In the 17th - 18th centuries, along with the step of "South progress", the Vietnamese gradually explored and established villages in the Dong Nai River area, then moved down to the vast lower Mekong River, creating a premise for the Nguyen lord's government gradually merged the lands here into the territory of the Dang Trong land. The borderline between Cochinchina - Chan Lap in this period was initially established, but it was still unclear and fluctuated frequently. In the early nineteenth century, the early kings of the Nguyen Dynasty (Gia Long, Minh Mang, Thieu Tri, Tu Duc) had a certain interest in the western border area of Cochinchina. The border between Cochinchina and Cambodia was basically established on the basis of consensus between the Dai Nam court and the Cambodian court. During the French colonial period, the French government paid special attention to the planning of the border between the colonial Cochinchine region (Cochinchine Française) and Cambodia, by means of treaties between the two governments, drawing authentic maps and marking landmarks on the field.

Keywords:borderline in South Vietnam, Vietnam, Cambodia, Cochinchina, 17th century, the early 20th century.

Introduction

In the early seventeenth century, due to many reasons, the Vietnamese migrated from the five Quang¹ lands to Mo Xoai, Dong Nai along with the indigenous communities here to settle down, explore and gradually establish the Southern region. In the first stage to encourage exiles to exploit the land, the Nguyen lord's government had many policies to encourage reclamation and expansion of the area. In the 18th century, the Vietnamese set foot in the border area with Cambodia from Ba Den mountain (Tay Ninh) to the southernmost tip in Mang Kham area (later Ha Tien town). After the establishment of the Nguyen government, the central court had many policies to encourage the people to explore, to send soldiers to guard the exile, and to protect the national border, even though it was still in its infancy. After the French occupied Cochinchina, in addition to establishing the administrative apparatus, the colonial Cochinchina government had negotiations, signed treaties with the Cambodian government, and planted landmarks to affirm its sovereignty. The border between Cochinchina and Cambodia was basically established in a stable manner, according to international practices, with the consensus of the two governments.

Content

1. The border between Vietnam and Cambodia from the 17th century to the early 19th century.

Southern Vietnam is an ancient land, inhabited by humans about 4000 years ago. 3000-2500 years ago today, residents here knew how to use brass and iron tools, although stone tools are still popular. On that basis, the Oc Eo culture arose and flourished in the South. From the Oc Eo culture, the ancient kingdom of Funan was formed with the main area being the Southern region (Vietnam) and spreading to the lower Mekong River, the capital was located in the Angkor Borei region (Cambodia) (Nguyen, Q.N, 2017, 26). From the 7th century, due to many reasons, the kingdom of Funan weakened and was annexed by Chenla (Tchenla, which was dependent on Funan). According to Chinese history, in the 7th century, Chan Lap was divided into two countries: Luc Chan Lap (currently Cambodia's territory, part of Laos) and Thuy Chan Lap (present-day Southern Vietnam).

In nominal terms, Southern Vietnam in the VII - XVI centuries was basically compatible with Thuy Chan Lap, the land that Chan Lap won by destroying Funan. However, Chenla's control over this land was very loose (Phan, H.L, 2017, 72). The South is a wild, unexplored, almost derelict land (Chau, D.Q, 2008, 72). In the year of the Tiger year (1698), lord Nguyen Phuc Chu sent Le Thanh Marquis Nguyen Huu Canh to the southern region, and Gia Dinh Palace (including two palaces Tran Bien and Phien Tran) was established (Trinh, H.D, 2005, 112). In 1708, Gia Dinh government was merged with Ha Tien town (but with relatively high autonomy). The land of Ha Tien was merged into the territory of Cochinchina in 1708, an important event in the process of expanding the

¹ five Quang includes: Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Quang Duc (Hue), Quang Nam and Quang Ngai

sovereignty of the Nguyen Lords in the Southern region². By the early 18th century, Dai Viet's sovereignty had extended to the tip of Ca Mau (belonging to Ha Tien town), including islands in the East Sea and the Gulf of Thailand (Vu, M.G, 2018, 33-34). In 1732, Lord Nguyen annexed Dinh Vien continent into Gia Dinh government to expand the southern region. In 1744, Lord Nguyen Phuc Khoat proclaimed himself king and divided the administrative boundaries. The Dang Trong land had 12 palaces, the area now known as Southern Vietnam has 3 palaces (Tran Bien district, Phien Tran district, and Long Ho district) and 1 town is Ha Tien³. In 1757, with the support of Nac Ton as king of Chan Lap, the Cochinchina government collected the land of Tam Phong Long (An Giang) and a large area of land north of Ha Tien from Componsom port to the border of the town. Ha Tien consists of 5 districts: Can Bot (Kompot), Vung Thom (Kompong Som), Chun Rum (Chal Chun), Sai Mat (Bantey means), and Linh Quynh (Raung Veng). Lord Nguyen Phuc Khoat established 3 more administrative units in the lands that Chan Lap had just transferred to Cochinchina: Dong Khau religion (in Sa Dec), Chau Doc religion (in Chau Doc), and Tan Chau religion. in Cu Lao Gieng), are dependent on Long Ho palace (Trinh, H.D, 2005, 114). In 1772, Lord Nguyen continued to establish Truong Don (in My Tho), in 1778 it was changed to Truong Don palace (Phan, K, 1968, 78-82).

Thus, by the end of the 18th century, most of the territory of the Southern region was transferred by the Chenla government to the Nguyen Lords to govern. Not only administratively but more importantly, the Cochinchina government awakened and revived a land that had been almost forgotten for many centuries. From here, the southern land integrates into the general development trend of the Vietnamese community, politics, economy, and culture. In addition, the Nguyen lords also gradually established an administrative management system throughout the South, with the motto: the people pioneer first, the state establishes the management apparatus later. Administrative units were established by the government in Tran Bien, Phien Tran, Ha Tien, Long Ho (Vinh Tran), and Truong Don (Tran Dinh). Also during this time, the territory of Dang Trong of the Nguyen Lords in the South became a unified, geographically continuous area from Bien Hoa to Ha Tien on the shores of the Gulf of Thailand. The borderline was initially formed: the western border went to the upper part of Ba Den mountain (also known as Ba Dinh) belonging to 3 religions Quang Hoa, Quang Phong, and Thuan Thanh (present-day Tay Ninh) cutting two rivers Vam Co Dong and Vam Co West; cut the Tien river, Hau river in the west of Chau Doc today (the area west of Vinh Te canal); then run west to the Siamese border separating Chenla from the Gulf of Thailand. This borderline had some changes in the years 1790 and 1829 due to the adjustment agreement of Nguyen Vuong and Emperor Minh Mang with the Chan Lap government.

For Chan Lap, the Nguyen dynasty still maintained the same policy as the Nguyen lords had implemented before. Meanwhile, in the West, Siam also carried out a policy of expansion to the East. Chan Lap became the place to compete for influence between the Nguyen and Siamese courts. Meanwhile, Chenla itself was weakened with power struggles, unable to protect its independence. Internally, the Chan Lap court was divided into two factions: the pro-Vietnamese faction and the pro-Siamese faction.

² The National History of the Nguyen Dynasty recorded: "Taking Mac Cuu as the General of Ha Tien. Mac Cuu from Lei Chau, Guangdong. When the Ming Dynasty collapsed, he let his hair run to the South, and when he came to Chan Lap land to work as an official in Oc Nha, he saw that there were many merchants in that country gathered, so he opened casinos to collect taxes, called Hoa chi tax. dug a silver hole and became rich. He recruited people to Phu Quoc, Can Bot, Gia Khe, Luong Cay, Huong Uc, Ca Mau, in Ha Tien province to form 7 communes and villages. Seeing that there was a legend that a fairy often appeared on the river, it was named Ha Tien. At this time, Mac Cuu commissioned his subordinates, Truong Cau and Ly Xa, to submit a letter to the head of Ha Tien, Lord Nguyen accepted and gave him the position of General. Mac Cuu built a mansion in Phuoc Thanh, more and more people settled. [National History of the Nguyen Dynasty (2002), Dai Nam Thuc Luc, Volume 1, Education Publishing House, Hanoi, p.122]

³ The National History of the Nguyen Dynasty records "At the beginning of the country, the territory expanded day by day, dividing the whole country into 12 palaces: in Ai Tu it was called Old palace, in An Trach it was called Quang Binh palaces, in Vo Xa it was called Luu. The fortress, in Tho Ngoa, is called Bo Chinh palaces, in Quang Nam it is called Dien Khanh, in Binh Khang it is called Binh Khang palaces, in Binh Thuan it is called Binh Thuan palaces, in Phuoc Long it is called Tran Bien palaces, in Tan Binh it is called is Phien Tran palaces, in Dinh Vien called Long Ho palaces. The palaces all set fortresses, rulers, and scribes to rule. Only two wards, Quang Ngai and Quy Nhon, were subordinate to Quang Nam's palace, so they had to attain the position of governor of the province to govern. Ha Tien made a town, had the rank of admiral. Phu Xuan is called Chinh palaces, now God has ascended to the throne, so it has been changed to become the capital" [National History of the Nguyen Dynasty (2002), Dai Nam Thuc Luc, Volume 1. Education Publishing House, Hanoi, p.134 – 135].

In 1815, the Nguyen army drove the Siamese out of Cambodia, eliminating the threat in the southwestern region of the country. King Gia Long sent Le Van Duyet, Governor of Gia Dinh citadel, brought troops to defend and rebuild Phnom penh citadel, and escorted Nac Chan to become King of Cambodia under the protection of the Nguyen Dynasty. In 1824, Chan Lap King Nac Chan cut the land of 3 Chan Sam, Mat Luat, and Loi Bat areas to the Nguyen Dynasty. King Minh Mang only received 2 palaces of Chan Sam and Mat Luat, and assigned them to the government of Vinh Thanh town for dominion and management (National History of the Nguyen Dynasty, 2007, 349). At the end of 1833, the Siamese court sent troops to attack the Nguyen army in Cambodia, then invaded both Ha Tien and Chau Doc of Dai Nam. In 1834, the Nguyen army organized a counterattack to drive the Siamese out of the territory and then defeated the Siamese army out of Cambodia. After that, the Nguyen Dynasty took the land of Can Bot (Cambodia) and Huong Uc, which was cut and donated by the Cambodian king Nac Chan, and placed the city of Quang Bien dependent on Ha Tien province. At the end of 1834, Nac Chan died without a son to succeed the throne, the Nguyen dynasty abolished the protectorate. At the beginning of 1835, when King Minh Mang decided to apply the direct rule, he merged Chan Lap into Vietnamese territory with the name Tay Thanh town, bringing Chau Rum and Sai Mat to the west of Chau Doc, and later The whole Quang Yen government depends on it. The border between Cochinchina and Cambodia has been significantly adjusted. To guard the western border, the Nguyen Dynasty organized 25 guards along with the points adjacent to the territory of Siam for prevention. The Tay Thanh town was maintained until 1841 when King Thieu Tri decided to withdraw and ordered Dai Nam's army to withdraw to hold An Giang. Dai Nam and Siam both recognized Sa Ong Giun (Ang Duong) as the king of Cambodia, recognizing the independence of Cambodia. In relation to the Nguyen Dynasty, Sa Ong Giun accepted the ordination ceremony of the Nguyen Dynasty, kept the national ceremony, and voluntarily acknowledged the entire territory of Dai Nam bordering with Cambodia that existed before 1824, including the islands: Phu Quoc, Co Cong, Tho Chu, Co Cot... are completely under Dai Nam's sovereignty. At this point, the border between Vietnam and Cambodia has basically been established stably. The Nguyen Dynasty managed to land and border residents by the administrative and military apparatus. Until the French colonialists invaded Vietnam (1858), from Bien Hoa province to Ha Tien province, Vietnam's territory was adjacent to Cambodia in 8 districts of 6 provinces, 5 provinces were well defined, including:

Bien Hoa province is at the extreme northwest: Phuoc Binh district belongs to Phuoc Long government (in the French period, it changed to Thu Dau Mot province, now Binh Phuoc province).

Gia Dinh province: there are 2 districts of Tan Ninh and Quang Hoa, both belonging to Tay Ninh government (the French colonial period was Tay Ninh province).

Dinh Tuong province: there are 2 districts Kien Phong and Kien Dang, both belonging to Kien Tuong government (the French colonial period was Sa Dec province).

An Giang province: has 2 districts: Ha Am belonging to Tuy Vien government and Dong Xuyen district belonging to Tay Thanh government (under the French colonial period, Chau Doc province).

Ha Tien province has Ha Chau district under An Bien government (the French colonial period was Ha Tien province).

All these localities have a land border between Vietnam and Cambodia. To the west of Phuoc Binh district, there is Ba Ra mountain and the area of ethnic minority communes in the south of the Truong Son range has been subject to the court since the reign of King Minh Mang and Thieu Tri. Phu Tay Ninh has Linh Son mountain (Ba Den), Lap Vo mountain, 60 miles north of Linh Son, Luat river (Vam Co Dong) west of Phu Tay Ninh near Cambodia, through Xi Khe (Tay Ninh canal) to Quang Phong (present-day Tay Ninh city)⁴

It can be seen that, by the middle of the nineteenth century, the border between Vietnam and Cambodia was basically established on the basis of the consensus of Dai Nam and Cambodia governments, and the Siamese government had no objection. According to Vu Duc Liem: Although the French later drew the maps from which this borderline was internationally recognized, Vietnam and Cambodia based it on to plan their border, the reality is that it based on the borderline established by Lord Nguyen and Cambodian dynasties from 1755 to 1847 by many different ways. The Nguyen Dynasty used natural geographical factors such as means of building a military system, population arrangement and gradually organizing the administrative system in order to "territorialize" the lower Mekong region. By the middle of the nineteenth century, this boundary line was basically shaped. And on the basis

⁴ Le Quang Dinh described in 1806 as follows: "From Khe Rang canal 19,740 miles (about 41.85 km) to the headquarters of Quang Phong religion, the army in this citadel was a team, here the army and people planted themselves. From there go up to three branches: Tuc Tra, Cai Bat, Cai Cay, all three are bordering the border of Cambodia" [Le Quang Dinh (2005), Hoang Viet unified geographical location, Phan Posted in translation, Thuan Hoa Publishing House, Hue, pp.92-93]

of the power interaction between Dai Nam - Cambodia - Siam in this period, that borderline was recognized by both Hue, Phnom Penh, and Bangkok (Vu, D.L, 2017).

In addition to establishing the borderline, the Nguyen lord and king's government established garrison posts and sects in the border areas and sent troops to the garrison to protect the exiles and protect the border. Right from the time Lord Nguyen basically completed the process of Southern advancement (1757), the Cochinchina government established a number of "religions" in the southern region, sending soldiers to the garrison, while protecting the exiles, border protection, and as a premise for the formation of administrative units in the border areas. In the Gia Dinh area, there are Quang Phong, Quang Hoa, Thuan Thanh (present-day Tay Ninh), Bang Bot (Thu Dau Mot) religion, Can Gio (Saigon) religion, Tan Chau religion, Chau Doc religion, Long Xuyen religion, Truong Don religion... In the Nguyen Dynasty at the beginning of the 19th century, Dai Nam government continued to strengthen the border guards and strengthen the garrison of border guards. From the capitals of Tan Loi, Tan Dinh, Tan Binh, Tan Thuan in the west of Bien Hoa province (now in Binh Phuoc) through the outposts in Tay Ninh province (Quang Hoa, Thuan Thanh, Quang Phong, Dinh Lieu), down to As far as Ha Tien was established, more border guards were stationed to protect the forts, watchtowers, canals, and villages of Vietnam, which have become special visual imprints of the geographical region because Hue government control. The Nguyen Dynasty paid special attention to building communication systems and defensive works from Ha Tien to Tay Ninh (established in 1836). Officials in Ha Tien sent monthly reports on the border situation to the Hue court (Vu, D.L, 2016, 534).

2. The border between Cochinchina and Cambodia was confirmed according to international regulations under French rule (1862-1954).

In 1858, the French-Spanish coalition attacked Son Tra peninsula (Da Nang) and started the process of invading Dai Nam. The plot of France and Spain when attacking Da Nang was to implement the strategy of "beating quickly and winning quickly", taking Da Nang as a springboard, from which to attack inland, destroying the vitality of the Nguyen court in the area. here, then attacked the capital Hue, forcing Dai Nam to surrender (Dinh, X.L, 2000, 17). After more than 5 months of not achieving the goal, taking advantage of the north wind conditions, France - Spain sent boats down to attack Gia Dinh. In January 1859, French admiral Riganlt de Genouilly sent troops to attack Vung Tau and Bien Hoa, then sent boats to the Can Gio estuary to attack and capture Gia Dinh outposts. Gia Dinh citadel quickly fell, Admiral Vo Duy Ninh and Le Tu committed suicide. However, the Gia Dinh people's struggle movement was still going strong, making the French army unable to stay in the citadel peacefully. Riganlt de Genouilly decided to destroy the citadel, burn all the grain stores, withdraw troops to build under warships, leaving only a small force to stay here. According to Nguyen The Anh, in the face of great difficulties at this time, the French government wanted to withdraw its troops from Vietnam, but Riganlt de Genouilly returned to France to defend the reason for maintaining the presence of the French army in Saigon and finally, The French government agreed to the plan of expanding the invasion of Cochinchina after solving difficulties in China (Nguyen, T.A, 1961, 138-139). On October 25, 1860, the commander of the French army's navy, Vice Admiral Chaner, sent 70 warships and 3500 troops to support the French army stationed in Cochinchina. On February 23, 1861, after having reinforcements, the French-Spanish coalition led by Vice Admiral Chaner with about 8000 troops with many cannons of all kinds began to attack the Chi Hoa garrison⁵. Due to the passive response of the imperial army, the Chi Hoa garrison quickly fell after only 2 days of attack (February 25, 1861). Nguyen Tri Phuong was seriously wounded and retreated to Hoc Mon and then retreated to Bien Hoa to entrench; The French army expanded to invade other areas of Cochinchina (first of all, the eastern provinces). Dinh Tuong (4/1861), Bien Hoa (12/1861), Vinh Long quickly fell into the hands of the French. In May 1862 Tu Duc hurriedly sent two envoys to negotiate with the French representative and signed the Treaty of Nham Tuat ceding to the French three provinces of Southeastern Cochinchina and Con Lon island. From June 20 to June 24, 1867, the French army annexed 3 more

⁵ According to Monographie de la province de Gia Dinh (monograph on Gia Dinh province - 1902): Minister of Finance Ton That Hiep commanded 1000 soldiers to build 3 outposts (Fort Tien on the way to Tay Ninh, with two left sides. 400 m apart are Fort Huu and Fort Left). In August 1860, Nguyen Tri Phuong, as soon as he was sent to Gia Dinh to replace Ton That Hiep, continued to mobilize militiamen to consolidate and complete the Chi Hoa garrison to become a solid defensive work. These lines were located on Thien Ly road (the current August revolutionary road – NDRC uncle), with a thickness of 3m, a height of 2.5m, on the line there were many fortresses equipped with cannons, in the middle. Protected by a moat dividing the camp in two, the Trung post was used as a headquarters, and around it was the supply depots and the residences of the mandarins and soldiers. The gunpowder depot was located between the Trung and Tien forts. Behind Ba Queo, two outposts guarded the camp: Tien and Ta - Hau posts [Indochinese Studies Association, Monographie de la province de Gia Dinh (monograph on Gia Dinh province - 1902), Nguyen Nghi- Translated by Nguyen Thanh Long, Youth Publishing House, pp.154-159].

western provinces (Ha Tien, Vinh Long, An Giang) without losing a bullet or a soldier. The six provinces of Cochinchina fell into the hands of the French.

As early as 1862, after capturing 3 provinces in the Southeast region of Cochinchina from the Nguyen dynasty, the French government was interested in clearly planning the Cochinchina-Cambodia border. Although the time before the French set foot in Indochina, the feudal dynasties of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia were basically united with divided sovereignty within their spheres of influence, the specific boundary between countries are still just border areas, inconsistent, often changing. In this context, the French authorities found it necessary to plan and demarcate administrative boundaries throughout Indochina. In early 1863, Admiral De la Grandière - acting commander of the French expeditionary force in Cochinchina - sent naval lieutenant Doudart de Lagree to Udon to meet the Cambodian king, Norodom I (Duong, K.Q, 1999, 39).

After the French colonialists established a protectorate in Cambodia (August 1863), the border study was assigned to Inspector Philastre. In 1867, after completely annexing the Luc Cochinchine province, along with the construction of the administrative apparatus, the French colonialists paid great attention to the specific demarcation of the border between Cochinchina and Cambodia.

From March 1870, in order to prevent people along the border from trying to evade taxes, a Franco-Cambodian joint committee was established to study and plan the contiguous boundary between Tay Ninh province of Cochinchina and Kampong Cham province (Cambodia). In March 1870, this committee carried out demarcation in the field and planted 19 landmarks from the banks of Tonle Tru river (milestone N01) to Hung Nguyen (milestone N019). Due to a complaint from Cambodia, when signing the agreement on July 9, 1870, the French and Cambodian authorities only confirmed the location from the banks of the Tonle Tru river (milestone N01) to the point where the Ta Sang canal meets the Cai Can canal (the location of the canal landmark N016) removed the boundary segment from landmark N017 and landmark N018 to Hung Nguyen (milestone N019), but ceded the land between Cai Cay and Cai Bat canals to the Cambodian side, in exchange for 486 roofs forming Snok villages painting, Bang Chnum, and the strip of land along both sides of the Vam Co river (Le,T.D, 2015, 189). According to *Annuaire général commercial, administrative & industriel de l'Indo-Chine* (Indochina Commercial, Administrative, and Industrial Yearbook) published in 1901, the treaty in French is specified as follows: "La frontière demeure telle qu'elle a été tracée sans aucun changement depuis le poteau no 1 (à l'embouchure du Peam-prien), jusqu'au poteau no 16 (à Casang sur Cai-cay). Le terrain compris entre le Cai-bach, et le Cai-cay qui faisait partie du territoire française (et dont le revenue annuel s'élève environ à 1.000 francs), sera concédé au Cambodge, en compensation des 486 maisons environ qui forment les villages situés vers Soc-trang à Bang-chrum. Les poteaux nos 17, 18 et suivants seront annulés jusqu'à Hung-nguyên; le Cambodge conservera tout les pays actuellement habité par les Cambodgiens des province Prey-reng, Boni-fuol, Soc-thiet"⁶

From 1871, the two sides continued to demarcate in the field from the landmark N017 onwards and the French authorities completed the map of the two provinces of Ha Tien and Chau Doc. In 1872, the two sides demarcated the field and planted 12 boundary markers on the remaining border between Tay Ninh province and Svay Rieng province. On July 15, 1870, the governor of Cochinchina, Admiral Dupré, and King of Cambodia Norodom officially signed the "Convention on the definitive settlement of the border between the Kingdom of Cambodia and French Cochinchina". The borderline between Cochinchina and Cambodia includes 124 landmarks, starting from landmark 1 on the Tonlé Tru river, ie Saigon River, and going southwest until landmark 124 is identified at Ha Tien. Along with the Tay Ninh - Tan An border, the 1873 convention also defined the border from milestone 60 to milestone 124 and then continued to the Gulf of Thailand⁷. The French government completed the demarcation of the two counties of Ha Tien and Chau Doc of Cochinchina, the land north of Vinh Te canal and present-day Ha Tien town, allotted to Cambodia. By 1874, the parties had completed planting landmarks in the field according to this convention (Border Department (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), 2006, 27).

⁶ *Annuaire général commercial, administrative & industriel de l'Indo-Chine*, P-H. Schneider, Imprimeur - editeur, Paris, p.187. Translation: "The border is kept as drawn without any change from landmark 1 (at Peam Prien valley) to marker number 16 (at Ta Sang on the banks of Cai Cay canal). The land between Cai Bat canal and Cai Cay canal is part of French territory (annual income is up to about 1,000 francs), will be ceded to Cambodia, clearing 486 households, forming hamlets from Soc Trang to Bang Chrum. Milestones No. 17, No. 18 and subsequent milestones up to Hung Nguyen will be cancelled; Cambodia will keep all the land currently inhabited by Cambodians in the provinces of Prey Veng, Boni Fuol, Soc Thiet."

⁷ Association for Indochina Studies (2017), *Monographie de la Province de Chau Doc*. Young Publishing House. Ho Chi Minh City, p.6. Refer to the text of the treaty in French: <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k1261881t/f3.item>.

With two agreements 1870 and 1873, the border between Cambodia and Cochinchina was established. Until 1896, France and Cambodia signed a series of legal documents on demarcation and border marking between Cochinchina and Cambodia. On the basis of signed legal documents, the two sides of Cochinchina and Cambodia set up committees to set landmarks to put the fixed borderline on the ground and draw a map of the border. Later, due to a number of disputes arising in the actual management process, then, this borderline was modified and adjusted in some small points by different decrees of the Governor-General of Indochina. In turn: decree dated December 10, 1898, amending the border section between Tay Ninh and Svay Rieng province; decree dated March 20, 1899, adjusting the border section of Tan An province (now Long An) and Svay Rieng province; Decree dated July 31, 1914, was the adjustment on many border sections, including the border between Ha Tien province and Kampot province, the border between Tay Ninh province and Prey Veng province (the land along the south bank). Cai Can canal (agreement in 1870 stipulating that Tay Ninh, Cochinchina until this decree was cut back to Cambodia), and the border between Thu Dau Mot province and Kampong Cham province.

By 1942, the entire land border between Cochinchina and Cambodia had been unanimously demarcated and marked by both sides (France and Cambodia). Along with the border planning and demarcation on the field, the Department of Geography of Indochina has printed a map system that fully and clearly shows the border between Cochinchina and Cambodia. By 1954, the entire border between the two countries Vietnam and Cambodia had been shown on 26 pieces of a map at the scale of 1/100,000 published by the Department of Geography of Indochina. Basically, the border between Cochinchina and Cambodia shown on these map pieces is consistent with legal documents signed between the two countries related to border planning on the basis of inheriting the border. The border was established under the Nguyen dynasty, serving as a premise for border markers on the field, as well as a premise for the formation of the current border between Vietnam and Cambodia.

Conclusion

The Vietnam-Cambodia border in the South has been stably formed over the course of hundreds of years of history, in line with the reality of the two countries' relations and international law. Along with the process of migrating from the North to exploiting the Southern region of Vietnam, the Vietnamese people have gradually set foot in the border area to reclaim land and establish villages here. The Nguyen government (and then the Nguyen Dynasty) had many policies to attract people to explore, send troops to the garrison to protect the new land, and assert sovereignty in the lands along the Vietnamese border South - Cambodia today. In the process, the governments of the two countries have agreed and recognized each other's border, but the boundary on the ground is still vague. When the French established the yoke of Cochinchina (the end of the nineteenth century), the colonial government had negotiations and came to sign with the Cambodian government successive treaties demarcating clearly the borderlines, drawing up the borders. maps and practice of placing landmarks in the field in accordance with international law, on the basis of consensus and supervision of the two governments.

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