



STUDY OF NEW RELIGIONS IN VIETNAM AND EAST ASIA COUNTRIES- THEORETICAL ISSUES

MA. NGUYEN THOAI LINH

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES,
VIETNAM NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, HO CHI MINH CITY

Center for Religion Studies

Scholars and researchers from many countries have set the subject of reasoning, classification, characteristics and theoretical framework for new religious study in East Asian countries and Vietnam

1. Definitions of new religions



Japan: New religion (Shinshukyo) was established during the turbulent period of society to meet the demand seeking to live or social reform of part masses. Most of the new religions were founded by masters of mundane background and appeared at the end of the Tokugawa, early period of Meiji Restoration and in the period after World War II




China: New religious movement to indicate new idea trends massive development in the modern society of traditional and mainstream religion, such as movement of Theological, Social, Spiritual Cultivation, Internal Reform... have direct or indirect effects on country



Korea: (Shin jonggyo):

1. A contemporary religion, apart of Donghak
2. National or racial religion (minjok jonggyo)
3. Having positive social values Redemption
4. having a mission meeting the people interests
5. Accepted by number of people.



Vietnam: “New religions are forms of organization social, religious, ritual and beliefs are different, independent with conventional religion, traditional religion. They reflect great changes in the cultural life, the contemporary social spirit and the spiritual transformation needs of a group of people in a particular socio-cultural environment”

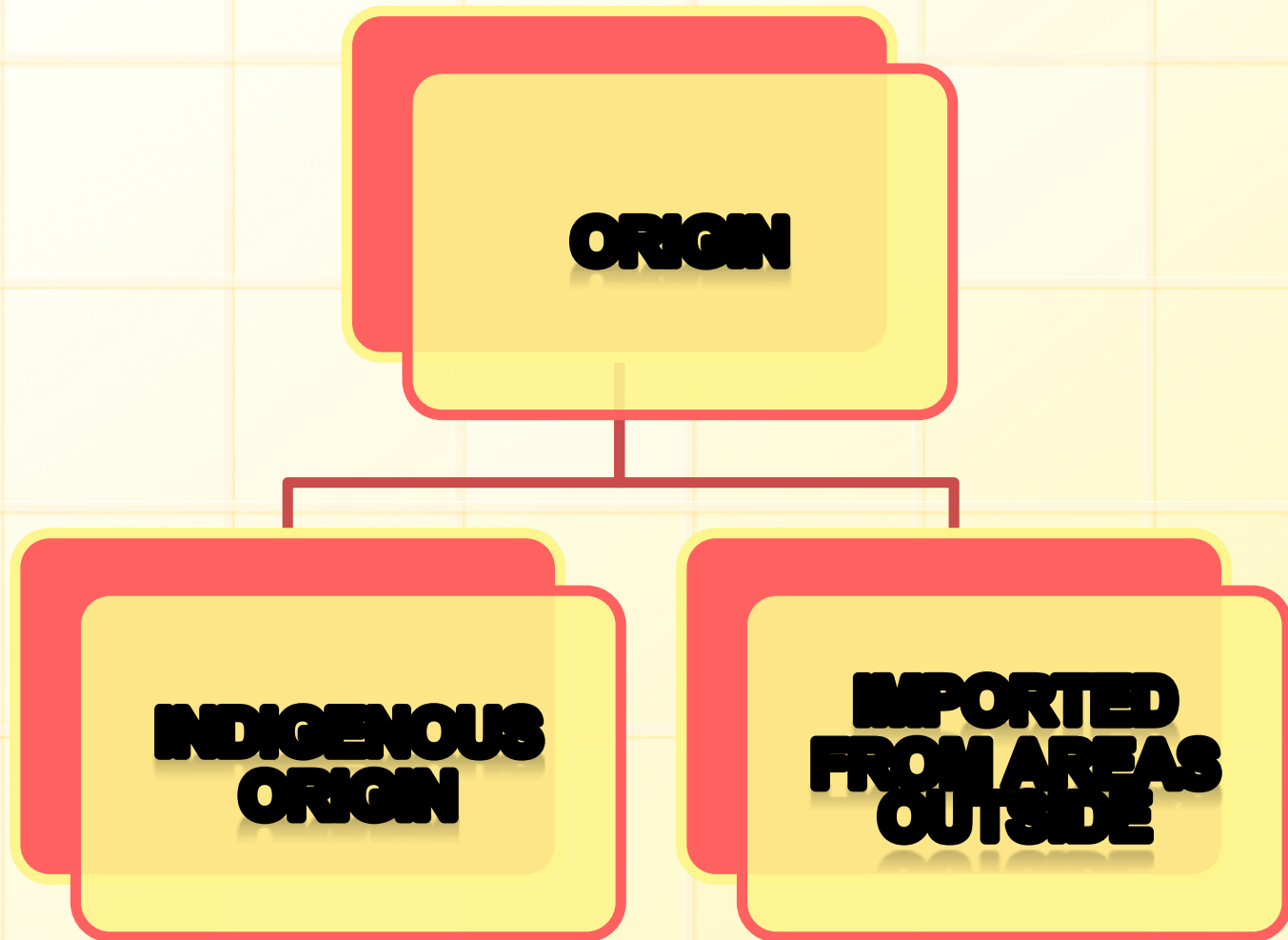
General principles of the new religion in China, Korea, Japan and Vietnam

1. Reflect contemporary social context, different from traditional or mainstream religions

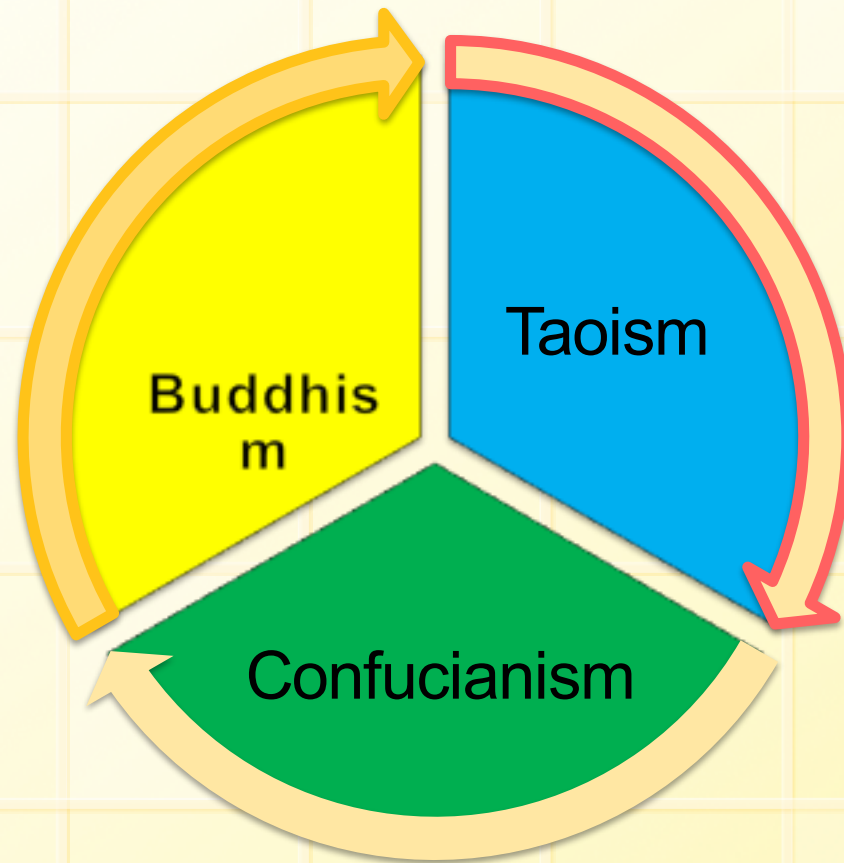
2. To meet the spiritual needs of a part of the contemporary people

3. Role and motivation of the founder or leader

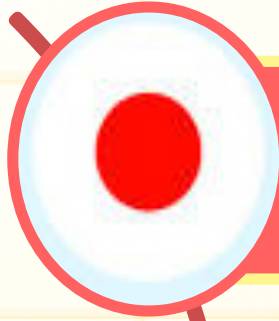
2. Classification of new religious forms



the three religions fused is most important feature new religions having indigenous origin



Configuration of the three religions fused



In Japan: as an ancient floor was usually changed, sometimes Shinto, sometimes Confucianism was the nucleus



Korea: sociable- three religions are a characteristic through the history of philosophical, cultural and religious thought in Korea.



China: in the three religions fused model of Chinese historical thought (Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism), Confucianism is the nucleus that governs the other two ideologies

Comment about three religions fused

Religious Syncretism:

“These are religious forms that mix, conjugate, amalgamate elements, parts of different religions, creating a new form”

AND “...Southern religions in Vietnam: Buddhism, Son Ky Huong, Hoa Hao, Cao Dai are new religious forms”

(N.S Capustin)

D.M Ugrinovic confirms that:
fused religions are formed by "melting"
concepts, doctrine, ritual, and the way of life
of this religion into another for corresponding
and the true motive of religions fusion is
complex socio-economic factors
interwovening with each other.

Conclusion: the academic side, many issues have been raised about three religions fused, clarifying this issues have not only for theoretical and academic significance, but also for practical urgency in international relations in the region and in the world.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LISTENING

The article represents the position of the author as presented in a CESNUR conference, rather than of CESNUR or its directors.