

**HO CHI MINH NATIONAL ACADEMY OF POLITICS**

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**BUILDING GRASSROOTS PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN  
RURAL AREAS OF THE MEKONG DELTA AT PRESENT  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH HO CHI MINH THOUGHT**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS**

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## INTRODUCTION

### 1. The urgency of the theme

Ho Chi Minh Thought on Party building, especially the viewpoints on building grassroots Party organizations, on “Party cells as the foundation of the Party,” on building a contingent of Party members who are both politically steadfast and professionally competent,” and on maintaining close ties with the People, serves as the theoretical foundation and guiding principle for the renewal of grassroots Party organization building today. Deeply imbued with President Ho Chi Minh’s thought on building grassroots Party organizations, since its establishment up to the present, the Communist Party of Vietnam has consistently paid close attention to the work of building grassroots Party organizations; thereby maintaining and affirming their position and role as the political nucleus at the grassroots level, leading the People to overcome countless difficulties and challenges and achieve many great victories of historic significance.

Under the current new conditions, it is required to creatively apply his thought to build truly pure and strong grassroots Party organizations, improve their leadership capacity and combativeness, and organize and lead the People in socio-economic development while ensuring national defense and security. Therefore, studying Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations has profound theoretical and practical significance. His thought serves as a guiding light for Party building and rectification, for improving the political system, and for consolidating the People’s trust in the Party today.

The Mekong Delta is a strategically important region in terms of economy, national defense, and security, holding a particularly important position in ensuring national food security, developing agricultural and ecological economies, and responding to climate change. In recent years, the building of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta has achieved noteworthy results, demonstrating the application of Ho Chi Minh Thought on Party building in practice. Many grassroots Party organizations have maintained their role as the political nucleus at the grassroots level; their leadership capacity in socio-economic development and new rural development has been enhanced; and leadership methods have been renewed in the direction of being close to the People, respecting the People, and promoting the People’s role as the central subject. In many localities, Party members have demonstrated responsibility and exemplary conduct, thereby contributing to strengthening the People’s trust in the Party. However, besides the achieved results, *“the quality, leadership capacity, and combativeness of some*

*grassroots Party organizations remain limited; leadership methods have been slow to innovate; working regulations have not been revised and supplemented promptly; the principle of democratic centralism has not been strictly implemented; the quality of Party cell activities, grassroots Party committee meetings, executive committee meetings, the spirit of self-criticism and criticism, and the work of evaluation and classification remain limited; and the Party's leadership role in resolving difficulties and pressing concerns among the People at the grassroots level has not been clearly demonstrated...".* The current situation of building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta also reveals several shortcomings. Some rural Party cells still face limitations in leadership capacity and combativeness; Party activities have not yet become truly regular and systematic; and Party member development encounters difficulties due to the migration of young laborers and the specific characteristics of the rural economy. A section of rural cadres and Party members has not yet met the requirements in the context of digital transformation, the development of high-tech agriculture, and adaptation to climate change. Inspection and supervision work, as well as self-criticism and criticism, are sometimes still formalistic in nature. Therefore, studying Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations not only contributes to raising the awareness of cadres and Party members regarding the scientific and revolutionary nature of Ho Chi Minh Thought, but also provides additional scientific arguments for improving the leadership capacity and combativeness of grassroots Party organizations, with the determination to successfully realize the goal of “a prosperous people, a strong country, democracy, justice, and civilization.”

In the current new context, with historical and cultural conditions as well as profound changes in the economy, society, and environment, there is an urgent requirement to build grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought. Rural areas of the Mekong Delta are being strongly affected by climate change, saltwater intrusion, water resource depletion, together with economic restructuring, labor migration, and rapid urbanization, making the role of grassroots Party organizations as the political nucleus increasingly important. At the same time, the requirements of developing high-tech agriculture, building advanced new-style rural areas, and implementing digital transformation demand that grassroots Party organizations in rural areas possess new leadership capacities, maintain close ties with the People, listen to the People, and mobilize the People's strength to build rural areas, develop agriculture, and improve the material and spiritual lives of farmers. Moreover, building pure and

strong grassroots Party organizations in rural areas plays an important role in strengthening the grassroots political system. This serves as the foundation for ensuring the Party's effective leadership, enhancing the operational efficiency of the two-tier local government system, while also contributing to maintaining political stability and combating sabotage plots by hostile and reactionary forces. Therefore, the application of Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations constitutes the basis for ensuring that grassroots Party organizations are truly pure and strong, capable of meeting the requirements for sustainable development in the Mekong Delta region in the new period, thereby contributing to the country's vigorous development as it enters a new era.

For the above reasons, the doctoral candidate has chosen the topic: “***Building Grassroots Party Organizations in Rural Areas of the Mekong Delta at Present in Accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought***” as the subject of the doctoral dissertation in the major of Ho Chi Minh Studies.

## **2. Research Objectives and Tasks**

### ***2.1. Research Objectives***

To study the theoretical issues and the current situation of building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought, thereby identifying orientations and proposing solutions for continuing to build grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta toward 2030, with a vision to 2035, in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought.

### ***2.2. Research Tasks***

- Providing an overview of research works related to the dissertation topic;
- Clarifying relevant concepts;
- Presenting and analyzing the content of Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations;
- Assessing the current situation and identifying the issues arising in the building of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought during the period from 2021 to June 2025;
- Proposing orientations and solutions for building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought toward 2030, with a vision to 2035.

## **3. Research Subjects and Scope**

### ***3.1. Research Subject***

The issue of building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta at present is in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought.

### **3.2. Research Scope**

- Content Scope: Within the framework of the dissertation, the doctoral candidate focuses on analyzing and clarifying the fundamental contents of Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations, the building of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought, and proposing solutions for continuing to apply Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

- Spatial Scope: Because the area of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta is broad and diverse, the doctoral candidate focuses on studying several representative localities in the rural Mekong Delta, specifically the provinces of Ca Mau, Soc Trang, Tien Giang, Kien Giang, An Giang, Vinh Long, Long An, and Can Tho City. The reason for selecting these localities is that Kien Giang, An Giang, and Long An are provinces with border communes; Soc Trang and An Giang are provinces with large Khmer populations; Ca Mau and Kien Giang have coastal and island communes; while Can Tho City and Tien Giang are urban centers of the Mekong Delta with communes adjacent to urban areas.

- Temporal Scope: From 2021 to June 2025. (Reason: In implementation of Resolution No. 60-NQ/TW dated April 12, 2025, adopted at the 11th Plenum of the 13th Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, district-level administrative units cease operations from July 1, 2025, and a two-tier local government organizational model is established.)

## **4. Theoretical Basis and Research Methodology**

### **4.1. Theoretical Basis**

The dissertation is based on the theoretical foundations of Marxism–Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought, as well as the guidelines, viewpoints, directives, and resolutions of the Communist Party of Vietnam on Party building and rectification.

### **4.2. Methodology and Research Methods**

#### **4.2.1. Methodology**

The dissertation was conducted based on the methodologies of dialectical materialism and historical materialism.

#### **4.2.2. Research Methods**

Based on the methodology of Marxism–Leninism, the dissertation employs the following research methods: document analysis, logical-historical method, analysis, synthesis, deduction, induction, comparison, sociological investigation, and other related methods.

## **5. New Contributions of the Thesis**

- Developing a system of conceptual tools, such as Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations (GPOs), building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought, etc., while also systematically presenting the fundamental contents of Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations.

- Clarifying the achievements, limitations, and their causes in the building of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta during the period from 2021 to June 2025, and identifying the issues that need to be addressed and overcome.

- Proposing orientations and solutions for building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought toward 2030, with a vision to 2035.

## **6. Significance of the Dissertation**

- *Scientific Significance:* The dissertation contributes to providing scientific arguments for enhancing awareness and understanding of Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations. It also provides scientific grounds to assist the Standing Committees of Provincial and Municipal Party Committees in the Mekong Delta in researching and applying these ideas to build increasingly pure and strong grassroots Party organizations in rural areas.

- *Practical Significance:* The research results of the dissertation may serve as reference materials for research, teaching, and studying Ho Chi Minh Thought at provincial and municipal political schools in the Mekong Delta and throughout the country. They also contribute to supplementing the database for advisory and research agencies in the preparation of resolutions and specialized resolutions on Party building and the building of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas.

## **7. Structure of the Thesis**

Apart from the introduction, conclusion, list of references, and appendices, the thesis is structured into 4 chapters with a total of 9 sections.

## Chapter 1

### OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH RELATED TO THE THESIS

#### 1.1. RESEARCH SITUATION RELATED TO THE THESIS

##### 1.1.1. Studies Related to the Building of Grassroots Party Organizations

Studies on grassroots Party organizations have focused on clarifying their position and role as the political nucleus at the grassroots level, as well as the requirements for enhancing leadership capacity, combativeness, and the quality of cadres and Party members. Many works by scholars such as Do Muoi, Le Duc Binh, Nguyen Phu Trong, To Huy Rua, Tran Thi Le Viet, Mach Quang Thang, Ngo Kim Ngan, Nguyen Van Hoa, Nguyen Duc Ha, Hoang Van Cu, Vu Van Phuc, and Lai Quan Sung have analyzed core issues such as Party building in terms of politics, ideology, morality, and organization; renewal of leadership methods; improvement of Party cell activities; strengthening inspection, supervision, and Party discipline; and promoting democracy and the close relationship between the Party and the People. In addition to domestic studies, several works by scholars, such as Mai Thu Quyen and Tran Thi Anh Tuyet, have drawn on the experiences of the Communist Party of China in establishing grassroots Party organizations under conditions of reform and international integration. Overall, these studies have provided important theoretical and practical foundations for further research and for proposing solutions to consolidate and build clean and strong grassroots Party organizations in the new period.

##### 1.1.2. Studies Related to Ho Chi Minh Thought on Building Grassroots Party Organizations and Its Application in Practice

Research on Ho Chi Minh Thought regarding the building of grassroots Party organizations and its practical application has attracted the attention of many scholars from different perspectives. Works by scholars such as Nguyen Vinh Thanh, Pham Ngoc Anh, Bui Dinh Phong, Le Kha Phieu, and Pham Hong Chuong have focused on clarifying Ho Chi Minh's thought on building a clean and strong Party in terms of politics, ideology, morality, organization, and cadres, emphasizing that Party building and rectification constitute the law of existence and development of the Communist Party of Vietnam. Many studies affirm the foundational role of revolutionary morality, the need to strengthen self-criticism and criticism, practice democracy, and improve the quality of Party activities and cadre work. Several works by scholars such as Tran Minh Truong and Nguyen Vinh Thanh have deeply analyzed Ho Chi Minh Thought on building Party cells - the leadership nucleus at the grassroots level - and proposed solutions for applying this thought under current conditions, especially in preventing and combating moral degradation among cadres and Party members. In general, these studies have contributed to clarifying the theoretical and practical

values of Ho Chi Minh Thought on Party building and grassroots Party organization building, while also providing a scientific basis for its continued application in the new period.

### **1.1.3. Studies Related to the Building of Grassroots Party Organizations in Rural Areas and in the Mekong Delta**

Studies on the building of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas and in the Mekong Delta are relatively abundant and approach the issue from many different perspectives, such as improving the quality of Party cells and grassroots Party committees; developing Party members; renewing the content and methods of leadership; strengthening leadership capacity and combativeness; and linking Party building with the consolidation of the political system and mass mobilization work. Many studies affirm the role of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas as the political nucleus in implementing socio-economic development tasks, building new-style rural areas, and strengthening the great national unity bloc. Some studies have focused on specific regional and local characteristics and target groups, such as Khmer ethnic communities, areas with large Catholic populations, or the practice of Party building in Mekong Delta provinces such as Tra Vinh, Kien Giang, Bac Lieu, Can Tho, Ben Tre, and Dong Thap. Overall, these studies have provided a relatively comprehensive reflection of the current situation of building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas and in the Mekong Delta; clarified achievements, limitations, and causes; and proposed numerous solutions to improve the leadership capacity and combativeness of grassroots Party organizations under new conditions. These works constitute an important theoretical and practical basis for continuing in-depth research on building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta today in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought.

## **1.2. OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH RESULTS AND ISSUES FOR FURTHER STUDY IN THE DISSERTATION**

### **1.2.1. Overview of the Results of Related Research Works**

Through reviewing studies on the building of grassroots Party organizations, the building of grassroots Party organizations in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought and its practical application, as well as the building of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas and in the Mekong Delta, it can be seen that many domestic and foreign scholars and researchers have paid attention to these issues. In general, these studies have focused on clarifying a number of theoretical issues concerning the building of grassroots Party organizations, assessing the current situation, and proposing solutions for building grassroots Party organizations in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought.

### **1.2.2. Issues for Further Study in the Dissertation**

A review of the existing research works shows that, although many important results have been achieved regarding the building of grassroots Party organizations and Ho Chi Minh Thought on grassroots Party organization building, as well as the building of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas, there remains a lack of in-depth and systematic studies on the building of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta in the current context of renewal and international integration in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought. Therefore, the doctoral candidate identifies the following key issues for further research:

*First*, to analyze and clarify Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations, focusing on their position, role, contents, and methods of construction.

*Second*, to apply Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations in evaluating the current situation of grassroots Party organization building in rural areas of the Mekong Delta from 2021 to the end of June 2025, thereby clarifying achievements, limitations, causes, and emerging issues.

*Third*, to forecast influencing factors, identify orientations, and propose solutions for building and consolidating grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta toward 2030, with a vision to 2035, in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought.

### **Summary of chapter 1**

Domestic and foreign studies on the building of grassroots Party organizations, especially studies on Ho Chi Minh Thought regarding Party building, have provided important scientific arguments clarifying the theoretical and practical foundations for building a clean and strong Party. Many studies affirm that Party building is the key task, focusing on issues related to politics, ideology, morality, organization, cadres, Party members, and the renewal of leadership methods, especially at the grassroots level. Regarding the building of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas and in the Mekong Delta, these studies have reflected practical realities and clarified the role of grassroots Party organizations as the political nucleus in socio-economic development and the consolidation of the political system. However, no study has yet comprehensively and systematically examined the building of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought. This is the research gap that the dissertation seeks to address.

## **Chapter 2**

### **SOME THEORETICAL ISSUES ON BUILDING GRASSROOTS PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN RURAL AREAS OF THE MEKONG DELTA IN ACCORDANCE WITH HO CHI MINH THOUGHT**

#### **2.1. SOME BASIC CONCEPTS RELATED TO THE THESIS**

##### **2.1.1. The Concept of “Grassroots Party Organizations in Rural Areas”**

*Grassroots Party organizations in rural areas are Party organizations established at the commune level (commune Party committees), serving as the Party’s political nucleus within the locality. These organizations include Party members conducting Party activities within the commune area; they have the function of leading the implementation of the Party’s guidelines and policies; organizing the dissemination, propaganda, and mobilization of the People to implement the Party’s resolutions and policies; and carrying out Party-building work and the development of Party members. In addition, grassroots Party organizations in rural areas also provide leadership in the political, economic, cultural, social, national defense, and security fields within rural localities.*

##### **2.1.2. The Concept of “Ho Chi Minh Thought on Building Grassroots Party Organizations”**

*Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations is a comprehensive, profound, and consistent system of viewpoints covering aspects such as the position, role, contents, and methods of building grassroots Party organizations within the Party’s organizational system. This system of viewpoints aims to improve the leadership capacity and combativeness of grassroots Party organizations, thereby contributing to building the Communist Party of Vietnam into a clean and strong Party capable of meeting the requirements of the revolutionary cause in each historical period.*

##### **2.1.3. The Concept of “Building Grassroots Party Organizations in Rural Areas of the Mekong Delta in Accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought”**

*Building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought is the process of applying his system of viewpoints, principles, and methods in order to build grassroots Party organizations that are comprehensively strong in politics, ideology, morality, organization, and cadres. Through this process, grassroots Party organizations are ensured to truly serve as the political nucleus at the grassroots level, possessing sufficient capacity to comprehensively lead socio-economic development tasks, new-style rural development, maintenance of political security, and close relations with the People, in a manner suitable to the region’s socio-cultural characteristics, economic conditions, and natural environment.*

The above concept clearly identifies the objectives, subjects, contents, and methods of building grassroots Party organizations, specifically as follows:

**Objectives of Building:** (1) Consolidating and developing grassroots Party organizations that are comprehensively strong in politics, ideology, morality, organization, and cadres; (2) Ensuring their role as the political nucleus at the grassroots level, with sufficient leadership capacity to implement socio-economic development tasks, build new-style rural areas, and maintain political security; (3) Strengthening close ties with the People and meeting the development requirements of rural areas in the Mekong Delta.

**Subjects of Building:** (1) Party organizations at all levels (Provincial Party Committees, Municipal Party Committees, Commune Party Committees, etc.); (2) Party members within grassroots Party organizations; (3) The grassroots political system (local authorities, the Vietnam Fatherland Front, and socio-political organizations, etc.); (4) The People, with roles in participation, supervision, and support.

**Contents of Building:** (1) Political and ideological building: maintaining steadfastness in the Party's line, improving political courage, and enhancing the quality of ideological work; (2) Organizational and institutional building: consolidating organizational structures and improving leadership capacity and combativeness; (3) Building the contingent of cadres and Party members: enhancing moral qualities, competence, prestige, and close ties with the People; (4) Building Party morality: practicing exemplary conduct, preventing degradation, and strengthening discipline and order; (5) Renewing leadership methods: focusing on socio-economic development tasks, new-style rural development, and adaptation to climate change.

**Methods of Building:** (1) Applying Ho Chi Minh Thought on Party organization, mass mobilization, cadre work, and inspection and supervision; (2) Combining education, training, inspection, self-criticism, and criticism; (3) Promoting democracy and maintaining close relations with the People; (4) Strengthening inspection, supervision, and the exemplary role of key cadres; (5) Renewing leadership methods in accordance with rural conditions associated with the development of agriculture and rural economies.

## **2.2. CONTENTS OF HO CHI MINH THOUGHT ON BUILDING GRASSROOTS PARTY ORGANIZATIONS**

### **2.2.1. The Position and Role of Grassroots Party Organizations**

*First, grassroots Party organizations are the foundation and root of the Party.*

*Second, grassroots Party organizations are the bridge and bond connecting the Party with the People.*

*Third, grassroots Party organizations are the Party's leadership nucleus at the grassroots level.*

The role of grassroots Party organizations (Party committees and Party cells) as the leadership nucleus is reflected in three principal types of relationships: The relationship between grassroots Party organizations and the Party itself. The relationship between Party cells and Party members. The role of Party cells within residential communities.

### **2.2.2. Contents of Building Grassroots Party Organizations**

*First, building grassroots Party organizations politically.*

*Second, building grassroots Party organizations ideologically.*

*Third, building grassroots Party organizations ethically*

*Fourth, building grassroots Party organizations organizationally.*

Building grassroots Party organizations organizationally means establishing proper order and implementing Party organizational principles and Party activities, thereby ensuring a strong Party organizational system with high leadership capacity and combativeness.

*First, the principle of democratic centralism.*

*Second, the principle of self-criticism and criticism.*

*Third, solidarity and unity within the Party.*

*Fourth, strict and self-conscious discipline.*

*Fifth, maintaining close ties with the People.*

*Fifth, building grassroots Party organizations in terms of cadres*

According to Ho Chi Minh Thought, the contents of building grassroots Party organizations include political, ideological, ethical, organizational, and cadre dimensions. Each dimension has its own specific contents, requirements, and measures; however, they form a unified whole with close interrelationships, mutually promoting one another to create the Party's internal strength. Among them, the ethical building serves as the foundation, the ideological building as the core, the political building as an important aspect, while organizational and cadre building constitute the key task.

### **2.2.3. Measures for Building Grassroots Party Organizations**

*First, strengthening educational work to raise awareness and responsibility among Party committees and Party organizations regarding the building of grassroots Party organizations.*

*Second, selecting and fostering capable cadres and Party committee members to build strong grassroots Party organizations.*

*Third, seriously implementing the principles of Party organization and Party activities, improving the quality of Party cell activities, and building strong Party cells as the core foundation for building grassroots Party organizations*

*Fourth, promoting the spirit of self-consciousness and exemplary conduct among cadres and Party members in building grassroots Party organizations.*

*Fifth, effectively carrying out inspection work and enforcing Party discipline within grassroots Party organizations.*

*Sixth, strengthening the close relationship between the Party and the People, while promoting the role of the masses in participating in the building of grassroots Party organizations.*

*Seventh, resolutely combating negative manifestations within grassroots Party organizations.*

*Eighth, renewing the leadership methods of grassroots Party organizations*

### **Summary of chapter 2**

Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations is a comprehensive and profound system of viewpoints, reflecting the creative application of Marxism–Leninism to the Vietnamese revolutionary reality. He affirmed that grassroots Party organizations are the foundation of the Party and the political leadership nucleus at the grassroots level; therefore, they must be comprehensively built in terms of politics, ideology, morality, organization, and cadres, in which cadres constitute the key link and morality is the root foundation. Ho Chi Minh’s viewpoints and solutions regarding political education, Party member training, implementation of the principle of democratic centralism, strengthening discipline, and maintaining close ties with the People carry long-term orienting significance for Party building and rectification. The continued creative application of his thought to the building of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta today is of decisive importance in improving the Party’s leadership capacity and combativeness at the grassroots level.

## **Chapter 3**

### **BUILDING GRASSROOTS PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN THE RURAL MEKONG DELTA ACCORDING TO HO CHI MINH THOUGHT – CURRENT SITUATION AND EMERGING ISSUES**

#### **3.1. OVERVIEW OF THE RURAL MEKONG DELTA AND GRASSROOTS PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN THE RURAL MEKONG DELTA**

##### **3.1.1. Characteristics of the Rural Mekong Delta**

As of December 31, 2024, the Mekong Delta consisted of 12 provinces and 1 centrally governed city, with 134 district-level administrative units, including 19 provincial cities, 10 towns, 5 urban districts, and 100 rural districts. The region had 1,575 commune-level administrative units, including 1,234 communes (accounting for 78.34% of the total number of commune-, ward-, and township-level

administrative units in the region), 213 wards, and 128 townships. In implementing Resolution No. 60-NQ/TW dated April 12, 2025, adopted at the 11th Plenum of the 13th Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, provincial- and commune-level administrative units were merged, the district level was abolished, and a two-tier local government model was established. Accordingly, the country was reorganized from 63 provinces and centrally governed cities into 34 provinces and centrally governed cities. According to Resolution No. 306/NQ-CP dated October 5, 2025, the Mekong Delta region currently consists of five provinces and centrally governed cities: Can Tho, Vinh Long, Dong Thap, An Giang, and Ca Mau. The region has 492 commune-level administrative units, including 93 wards, 3 special administrative zones, and 399 communes (including 11 mountainous communes and 8 island communes).

The rural Mekong Delta possesses a vast natural environment, low-lying and relatively flat terrain, and a dense network of rivers and canals. The rural population of the region is large, with a relatively high population density, although unevenly distributed among localities. Rural areas in the Mekong Delta constitute the country's largest agricultural commodity production region, playing an especially important role in ensuring national food security and exporting key agricultural and aquatic products. A distinctive feature of the Mekong Delta's cultural tradition is its strong sense of community solidarity, appreciation of human relationships, and an open and generous lifestyle. Rural inhabitants display a flexible and pragmatic mentality and adapt readily to riverine environments and changing natural conditions. Rural areas in the Mekong Delta also play an important role in preserving the nation's traditional cultural values. In addition, the Mekong Delta is a multi-religious region.

In the current context, the Mekong Delta continues to occupy an important strategic position in terms of national defense, security, and foreign affairs. Hostile forces frequently exploit issues relating to ethnicity, religion, history, borders, and maritime sovereignty in attempts to undermine the Party and the State. This situation requires that the work of building grassroots Party organizations be closely linked with the tasks of safeguarding political security, maintaining social order and safety, and strengthening the people's trust. At the same time, it places increasingly high demands on the political qualities, revolutionary ethics, and practical capabilities of cadres and Party members in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

### **3.1.2. Characteristics of Grassroots Party Organizations in Rural Areas of the Mekong Delta**

*First*, regarding quantity, operational areas, and composition: According to reports from the Central Organization Commission and the Organization Commissions of provincial and municipal Party Committees in the Mekong Delta, as of June 2023, the provinces and centrally governed cities in the Mekong Delta region

had 21,893 grassroots Party organizations, including 12,857 grassroots Party cells and 8,036 grassroots Party committees; the total number of Party members was 1,210,458, accounting for approximately 10.8% of the total number of Party members nationwide. In rural areas alone, there were 1,234 commune-level Party committees.

*Second*, grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta are widely distributed and closely associated with residential communities stretching along the dense network of rivers and canals.

*Third*, the contingent of Party members in rural areas of the Mekong Delta largely originates from the peasantry and maintains close ties with agricultural production and community life.

*Fourth*, the leadership content of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta mainly focuses on agricultural production development, new-style rural development, restructuring crops and livestock, responding to climate change, saline intrusion, erosion, sea-level rise, and protecting the ecological environment.

*Fifth*, grassroots Party organizations, with commune-level Party committees and hamlet Party cells as their core, play a central role in leading and organizing the implementation of the Party's guidelines and policies, as well as the State's laws and policies, in rural areas.

*Sixth*, the diversity of ethnicity, religion, natural conditions, and agricultural livelihoods in the Mekong Delta requires grassroots Party organizations in rural areas to adopt flexible methods of leadership and mass mobilization appropriate to each target group. At the same time, challenges such as climate change, inadequate infrastructure synchronization, requirements for digital transformation, and agricultural restructuring place increasingly high demands on the leadership capacity and combativeness of grassroots Party organizations.

### **3.2. CURRENT SITUATION OF BUILDING GRASSROOTS PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN RURAL AREAS OF THE MEKONG DELTA ACCORDING TO HO CHI MINH THOUGHT (FROM 2021 TO JUNE 2025)**

#### **3.2.1. Achievements and Causes**

***3.2.1.1. Awareness of the Position and Role of Grassroots Party Organizations in Rural Areas of the Mekong Delta Has Undergone Many Positive Changes***

***3.2.1.2. The Content and Measures for Building Grassroots Party Organizations in Rural Areas of the Mekong Delta Have Become Increasingly Comprehensive, Effective, and Practical***

*First, in terms of politics:* Political and ideological propaganda and education have been strengthened; the leadership capacity of grassroots Party organizations has

been consolidated; inspection and supervision work has been intensified; and the pioneering and exemplary role of cadres and Party members has been promoted.

*Second, in terms of ideology:* The content and methods of ideological work have been innovated through the combination of “building” and “combating”; propaganda and education on Marxism–Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought for grassroots cadres and Party members have been carried out regularly with many innovations and positive changes; Party committees at all levels have consistently attached importance to disseminating the Party’s guidelines and policies as well as the State’s laws and policies through diverse and appropriate forms tailored to different groups; the work of grasping and reflecting public opinion, forecasting, and orienting ideological issues within the Party and society has received close leadership and direction from Party committees at all levels and achieved many positive results; grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta have led patriotic emulation movements in localities, promoted the strength of the great national unity bloc, and inspired the spirit of solidarity and collective responsibility among the people.

*Third, in terms of ethics:* The exemplary role of cadres and Party members has received increasing attention and has been implemented in a more substantive manner; the education of revolutionary ethics associated with studying and following Ho Chi Minh’s thought, morality, and style has been widely and systematically implemented; standards of revolutionary ethics for cadres and Party members have gradually been concretized and incorporated into Party activities; the close relationship between the Party and the people in rural areas of the Mekong Delta has been consolidated and strengthened; from the practice of studying and following Ho Chi Minh’s thought, morality, and style, many effective models associated with cultural and human development, administrative reform, and service to the people have been implemented and replicated in rural localities of the Mekong Delta; grassroots Party committees and organizations have attached importance to inspecting and supervising the moral cultivation and self-improvement of cadres and Party members, promptly detecting and rectifying manifestations of deviation and degradation. As a result, Party discipline and order have been strengthened, contributing to maintaining the purity and strength of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas.

*Fourth, in terms of organization:* Efforts have been made to improve the leadership capacity and combativeness of Party committees and Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta; the policy of having Party cell secretaries concurrently serve as hamlet heads or as heads of the hamlet Fatherland Front Committee has been implemented in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

*Fifth, in terms of cadres:* Cadre training and fostering have been organized regularly; cadre planning, utilization, and evaluation have gradually become systematic and conducted in accordance with principles; political steadfastness, revolutionary ethical qualities, and working styles characterized by closeness to the people, respect for the people, and service to the people have increasingly been emphasized and promoted.

### **3.2.1.3. Causes of the Achievements**

*First,* the implementation of the Party's resolutions in association with promoting the study and following of Ho Chi Minh's thought, morality, and style has created a strong political driving force.

*Second,* Party committees at all levels have consistently regarded the building of grassroots Party organizations as a key and regular task, while strengthening leadership and direction in a specific and synchronized manner.

*Third,* grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta have promoted their role as the political nucleus within the grassroots political system.

*Fourth,* the contingent of cadres and Party members, especially the heads of Party committees and Party cells, has shown positive changes in both awareness and action, demonstrating a strong sense of responsibility and a pioneering and exemplary spirit in self-cultivation, self-improvement, and task performance.

*Fifth,* many grassroots Party organizations have actively renewed the content and forms of Party cell meetings in a practical direction closely associated with local political tasks.

*Sixth,* the promotion of science and technology application in conjunction with administrative reform at the grassroots level has contributed to improving management and operational efficiency as well as the leadership capacity of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

*Seventh,* the traditions of patriotism, community attachment, solidarity, and mutual support deeply embedded in social life have provided an important social foundation for the building of grassroots Party organizations.

## **3.2.2. Limitations and Causes**

### **3.2.2.1. Limitations**

*First,* the awareness of the position and role of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta among a section of Party members remains incomplete and insufficiently comprehensive.

*Second,* the leadership role and political steadfastness of a number of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta have not been fully promoted.

*Third*, political and ideological education in some localities has not yet met practical requirements.

*Fourth*, the cultivation and training of revolutionary ethics among a section of cadres and Party members have not been carried out rigorously.

*Fifth*, the quality of Party activities and the combativeness of some grassroots Party organizations remain limited.

*Sixth*, Party member development and organizational structuring at the grassroots level still face many difficulties.

*Seventh*, the work of building the contingent of grassroots-level cadres still reveals many shortcomings.

### **3.2.2.2. Causes of the Limitations**

*First*, the negative impacts of the market economy and the process of international integration.

*Second*, the specific natural and socio-economic conditions of the Mekong Delta region.

*Third*, the rapid development of cyberspace and multidimensional information flows.

*Fourth*, the awareness and sense of responsibility of some Party committees and grassroots Party organizations have not yet met the requirements of tasks in the new situation.

*Fifth*, the influence of community cultural characteristics and the open and liberal lifestyle of residents.

## **3.3. ISSUES RAISED IN BUILDING GRASSROOTS PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN RURAL AREAS OF THE MEKONG DELTA TODAY ACCORDING TO HO CHI MINH THOUGHT**

*First*, the issue of improving the leadership capacity and combativeness of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

*Second*, the issue of renewing ideological and political work in building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

*Third*, the issue of strengthening the cultivation of revolutionary ethics and promoting the exemplary responsibility of cadres and Party members within grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

*Fourth*, the issue of improving the organizational quality and Party cell activities.

*Fifth*, the issue of building a contingent of cadres and Party members within grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta capable of meeting task requirements in the new context.

*Sixth*, the issue of consolidating the close relationship between grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta and the people.

### **Summary of chapter 3**

The work of building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta from 2021 to mid-2025 achieved many important results. Party committees at all levels applied Ho Chi Minh Thought in association with implementing Central resolutions, thereby contributing to improving the leadership capacity and combativeness of grassroots Party organizations and strengthening the people's trust. Party building in terms of politics, ideology, ethics, organization, and cadre work witnessed positive changes, promoting the role of grassroots Party organizations as the political nucleus at the grassroots level. However, several limitations still remain, such as uneven leadership capacity, Party cell activities in some places remaining formalistic, and difficulties in Party member development. In light of new requirements, identifying and effectively addressing the issues raised in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought constitutes an important condition for firmly consolidating the Party's political foundation at the grassroots level.

## **Chapter 4**

### **FACTORS AFFECTING, ORIENTATIONS, AND SOLUTIONS FOR BUILDING GRASSROOTS PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN RURAL AREAS OF THE MEKONG DELTA ACCORDING TO HO CHI MINH THOUGHT THROUGH 2030, WITH A VISION TO 2035**

#### **4.1. FORECAST OF SOME FACTORS AFFECTING THE BUILDING OF GRASSROOTS PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN RURAL AREAS OF THE MEKONG DELTA ACCORDING TO HO CHI MINH THOUGHT**

First, strategic competition among major powers and its impact on the ideological work of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

Second, climate change, Mekong River water security, and changes in socio-economic conditions in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

Third, transboundary issues, cultural, ethnic, and religious interactions, and the requirement to strengthen the great national unity bloc in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

Fourth, the reorganization of administrative units and changes in the structure of Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

Fifth, the Fourth Industrial Revolution and the requirement to renew the leadership methods of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

Sixth, the increasingly high expectations of the people toward the grassroots political system.

## **4.2. ORIENTATIONS AND SOLUTIONS FOR BUILDING GRASSROOTS PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN RURAL AREAS OF THE MEKONG DELTA ACCORDING TO HO CHI MINH THOUGHT THROUGH 2030, WITH A VISION TO 2035**

### **4.2.1. Orientations**

*First*, steadfastly applying and creatively developing Ho Chi Minh Thought on Party building constitutes a principled orientation of foundational significance for improving the quality of activities of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

*Second*, enhancing the leadership capacity and combativeness of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta must be placed in an organic relationship with the requirements of sustainable socio-economic development, especially in the context of climate change and livelihood transformation in the Mekong Delta.

*Third*, building a contingent of cadres and Party members with sufficient qualities, capabilities, and prestige is a decisive orientation for the quality of activities of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

*Fourth*, renewing the content and methods of leadership of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta is an objective requirement in the context of digital transformation, economic restructuring, and changes in the rural population structure.

*Fifth*, in the context of reorganizing administrative units, streamlining the organizational apparatus, and implementing the two-tier local government model, promoting the role of the grassroots political system carries particularly important significance.

*Sixth*, the increasingly high expectations of the people toward the grassroots political system.

### **4.2.2. Solutions for Building Grassroots Party Organizations in Rural Areas of the Mekong Delta toward 2030, with a Vision to 2035, in Accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought**

#### ***4.2.2.1. Raising Awareness among Party Committees, Cadres, and Party Members in Grassroots Party Organizations in Rural Areas of the Mekong Delta regarding the Position and Role of Grassroots Party Organizations***

*First*, strengthening political, ideological, and revolutionary moral education is a fundamental solution for building a contingent of cadres and Party members who are steadfast in ideals, possess firm political courage, maintain pure moral qualities, and uphold a spirit of close attachment to the People.

*Second*, improving the effectiveness of studying and thoroughly grasping the Party's resolutions and directives.

*Third*, resolutely and persistently implementing the Resolution of the 4th Plenum of the 12th Central Committee and Conclusion No. 21-KL/TW on Party building and rectification, as well as the viewpoint on continuing to promote comprehensive and strong Party building and rectification; enhancing the Party's leadership capacity, governing capacity, and combativeness in the spirit of the Documents of the 14th National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam (2026), closely associated with the specific conditions at the grassroots level.

*Fourth*, improving the capacity for summarizing practical experience.

#### ***4.2.2.2. Renewing Political and Ideological Work in Building Grassroots Party Organizations in Rural Areas of the Mekong Delta***

*First*, renewing the contents of political and ideological work in building grassroots Party organizations in the direction of closely adhering to the Party's ideological foundation and the Party's resolutions on Party building.

*Second*, renewing methods of conducting political and ideological work toward improving persuasiveness and practical effectiveness.

*Third*, promoting the role of relevant actors in political and ideological work for building grassroots Party organizations in the spirit of the Party's resolutions.

*Fourth*, improving the quality of formulating and implementing resolutions of grassroots Party committees in rural areas of the Mekong Delta.

#### ***4.2.2.3. Strengthening the Cultivation of Revolutionary Morality and Promoting the Exemplary Responsibility of Cadres and Party Members in Rural Areas of the Mekong Delta***

*First*, concretizing standards of revolutionary morality into criteria for daily actions.

*Second*, linking the study and following of Ho Chi Minh's thought, morality, and style with the specific tasks of each cadre and Party member.

*Third*, upholding the exemplary responsibility of leaders through concrete actions.

*Fourth*, incorporating moral cultivation and exemplary conduct into regular Party cell activities.

#### ***4.2.2.4. Improving Organizational Quality and Renewing Party Cell Activities in Rural Areas of the Mekong Delta***

*First*, renewing the contents of Party cell activities in close association with political tasks and practical local issues.

*Second, strictly implementing the principle of democracy and improving the quality of self-criticism and criticism.*

*Third, linking Party cell activities with reviewing the implementation of resolutions and Party members' responsibilities.*

*Fourth, strengthening thematic Party cell activities in a practical and in-depth direction.*

*Fifth, improving the capacity of Party secretaries and Party committees to manage Party cell activities.*

*Sixth, linking the improvement of Party cell activity quality with Party inspection, supervision, and discipline work.*

*Seventh, arranging Party cell organizations appropriately in accordance with population characteristics and practical conditions.*

*Eighth, strengthening the leadership and guidance of higher-level Party committees toward Party cell activities.*

#### ***4.2.2.5. Building a Contingent of Cadres and Party Members in Grassroots Party Organizations in Rural Areas of the Mekong Delta to Meet Task Requirements in the New Situation***

*First, renewing grassroots cadre and Party member planning work toward standardization and alignment with the development requirements of rural areas in the Mekong Delta.*

*Second, improving the quality of training and fostering grassroots cadres and Party members under the principle of "combining learning with practice."*

*Third, strengthening the training and practical testing of grassroots cadres and Party members, and assigning cadres in accordance with their capacities and strengths.*

*Fourth, promoting the creation of sources and the development of new Party members to ensure continuity within grassroots Party organizations.*

*Fifth, improving policies and regimes for grassroots cadres and Party members.*

*Sixth, renewing Party member management and improving the quality of Party cell activities in rural areas.*

#### ***4.2.2.6. Consolidating the Close Relationship between Grassroots Party Organizations and the People in Rural Areas of the Mekong Delta in Accordance with the Thought of "Taking the People as the Root"***

*First, strengthening the closeness and attentiveness of grassroots Party organizations and cadres and Party members toward the People.*

*Second, renewing and improving the effectiveness of mass mobilization work in rural areas.*

*Third, linking mass mobilization work with tasks of sustainable development and adaptation to climate change.*

*Fourth, promoting the role of prestigious persons within residential communities.*

*Fifth, regularly conducting preliminary reviews, comprehensive reviews, and replication of effective mass mobilization models.*

#### **4.2.2.7. Strengthening Inspection, Review, and the Drawing of Experience**

*First, strengthening the inspection and supervision of higher-level Party committees over grassroots Party organizations.*

*Second, renewing methods for evaluating the quality of grassroots Party organizations and Party members.*

*Third, improving the effectiveness of inspection and supervision work in accordance with Party regulations.*

*Fourth, promoting the role of the People in supervising the building of grassroots Party organizations.*

*Fifth, summarizing practical experiences and supplementing and improving Party organizational operational mechanisms in line with the new situation.*

### **Summary of chapter 4**

Based on the assessment of the current situation and the new development requirements of rural areas in the Mekong Delta, the dissertation proposes a comprehensive and synchronized system of solutions for building grassroots Party organizations in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought. The focus is placed on raising awareness among Party committees regarding the position and role of grassroots Party organizations; renewing leadership contents and methods; strictly implementing working regulations; improving the quality of cadres and Party members; promoting democracy and consolidating the close relationship between the Party and the People; and strengthening inspection, supervision, and Party discipline. These solutions closely associate the building of grassroots Party organizations with socio-economic development tasks, the safeguarding of national defense and security, and adaptation to the specific characteristics of the Mekong Delta region. They contribute to enhancing the leadership capacity and combativeness of grassroots Party organizations, consolidating the people's trust, and promoting sustainable development towards 2030 with a vision to 2035.

## CONCLUSION

Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations constitutes an important and consistent component of his overall thought on building a clean and strong ruling Party. It is a comprehensive and profound system of viewpoints, reflecting the creative application and development of Marxism–Leninism under the specific conditions of the Vietnamese revolution, while also demonstrating Ho Chi Minh’s strategic vision, dialectical thinking, and scientific leadership style. In his thought, grassroots Party organizations occupy a foundational role within the Party, serving as the roots closely attached to the People and as the nucleus of political leadership at the grassroots level. Building strong grassroots Party organizations is therefore the decisive condition for the Party to maintain its revolutionary nature and enhance its leadership capacity and combativeness throughout all revolutionary periods.

Through a systematic study of Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations, the dissertation clarifies the core contents of his viewpoints, including: building grassroots Party organizations comprehensively strong in politics, ideology, morality, organization, and cadres; emphasizing the building of a contingent of cadres and Party members who are both “politically steadfast and professionally competent”; strictly implementing the principles of Party organization and Party activities, especially the principle of democratic centralism; promoting the pioneering and exemplary role of Party members; and particularly emphasizing the close relationship between the Party and the People as the source of strength and the measure of the leadership capacity and combativeness of the ruling Party. These contents possess not only historical value but also profound methodological significance for Party building and rectification in the current context.

On the basis of applying Ho Chi Minh Thought to practical research, the dissertation analyzes and evaluates the current situation of building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta during the period from 2021 to June 2025. The research findings indicate that Party committees and Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta have made considerable efforts in thoroughly grasping and applying Ho Chi Minh Thought in association with implementing Party resolutions. Party building work in political, ideological, ethical, organizational, and cadre aspects has achieved positive results. The role of grassroots Party organizations as the political leadership nucleus has been promoted in many localities, contributing significantly to socio-economic development, new-style rural development, maintaining socio-political stability, and improving the material and spiritual life of the People.

However, from the perspective of Ho Chi Minh Thought, the dissertation also points out that the building of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta still reveals certain limitations. From identifying the issues raised, the dissertation affirms that building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought must be conducted

comprehensively, synchronously, and creatively. Applying his thought should not merely stop at awareness raising, but more importantly must be reflected in renewing the contents and methods of leadership of grassroots Party organizations; building a contingent of cadres and Party members with moral qualities, practical competence, and a spirit of serving the People; promoting democracy and strengthening the close and inseparable relationship between the Party and the People; and maintaining Party discipline and order in association with regular inspection and supervision.

The building of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought toward 2030, with a vision to 2035, is influenced by numerous factors. Each factor exerts different impacts, with advantages and challenges intertwined. This requires relevant actors to properly recognize these influencing factors and to build grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta that are comprehensively strong in politics, ideology, morality, organization, and cadres in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought.

On that basis, the dissertation proposes a system of principal orientations and solutions aimed at building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta today into organizations that are comprehensively clean and strong in politics, ideology, morality, organization, and cadres in accordance with Ho Chi Minh Thought. These include: raising awareness among Party committees, cadres, and Party members regarding the position and role of grassroots Party organizations; renewing political and ideological work in Party building; strengthening the cultivation of revolutionary morality and promoting the exemplary responsibility of cadres and Party members; improving organizational quality and renewing Party cell activities; building a contingent of cadres and Party members capable of meeting the requirements of tasks in the new situation; consolidating the close relationship between grassroots Party organizations and the People; and strengthening inspection, review, and the drawing of experience. These solutions both ensure the inheritance of the enduring values in Ho Chi Minh Thought and demonstrate creative application suited to the natural, socio-economic conditions and new development requirements of rural areas in the Mekong Delta, especially in the context of climate change, economic restructuring, urbanization, digital transformation, and the establishment of a two-tier local government model. Thereby, they contribute to improving the leadership capacity and combativeness of grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta and consolidating the People's trust in the Party.

In summary, studying and applying Ho Chi Minh Thought on building grassroots Party organizations in rural areas of the Mekong Delta today is not only of practical significance for Party building and rectification at the grassroots level, but also contributes to affirming the enduring value, contemporary relevance, and lasting vitality of Ho Chi Minh Thought in the cause of building a clean and strong ruling Party capable of meeting the requirements of the country's sustainable development in the new era.

## **LIST OF PUBLISHED WORKS BY THE AUTHOR RELATED TO THE THESIS**

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