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INVESTIGATING VOCATIONAL TERMS OF FISHING IN DONG THAP MUOI

Major: Vietnamese Language

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THESIS SUMMARY

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INTRODUCTION

1. The rationale

1.1. In the lexicon of Vietnamese language, lingua franca vocabulary and other lexical sources make up a wide variety of Vietnamese lexicon such as dialectals, technicals, slangs and vocational terms. Among them, vocational terms are still small in size and research. Under the impacts of the country's current market economy and modernization, like many other traditional vocations, fishing is in the process of enormous change. It is therefore necessary to conduct research on vocational vocabulary with fishing terms included. Vocational terms of fishing in the Southern generally and Dong Thap Muoi region particularly are new topics calling for more attention and research. Thus, it is significant to investigate fishing terms in this region. The obtained results not only discover lexical features of a vocation in a particular region but also help provide a mosaic of Vietnamese lexicon.

1.2. Vietnam lies on the coast of East Sea with a 3,260km-long coastline and a density of rivers, streams and canals, which have been long closely connected with Vietnamese people and the country's longevity. Fishing and farming are traditional and popular in Vietnam. As a result, fishing terms are not only associated with this vocation's development, reflecting the fishermen's spirit, culture as well as their habitual cognition, but also make Vietnamese lexicon larger. That is why it is necessary to investigate fishing terms with regard to multiple aspects of language and culture.

1.3. Farming and seafishing are traditional and popular among Vietnamese people throughout the country. For the Southern area of waters, in addition to seafishing like other coastal areas in the country, fishraising and fishcatching in fresh water is also traditional and popular, specifically in Dong Thap Muoi. This region is affiliated to the Southwest and quite geographically typical of Southern watery areas. The region is dense with rivers and canals accompanying large tram forests. The Tram Chim National Park is a preservation of the world's rare, precious animals and as a "kingdom of fishes". Associated with the rivers for living, fishraising and fishcatching have been long a traditional vocation for the people in this region. As a result, the investigation on fishing terms in Dong Thap Muoi is supposed to somehow discover features of vocational vocabulary from a typical area in terms of the language, environment, and socio-culture of the inhabitants from the watery Southwest - the Mekong Delta.

1.4. For the Southern fishermen, their language certainly is linguistically, culturally characterized by the Southern dialectal area. As a consequence,

investigating Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms also helps uncover the significant relationship between fishing terms and Southern dialectal vocabulary as well as those of language and culture related. Besides, it provides data for writing dictionaries of vocational vocabulary.

2. Analysis unit and scope

2.1. Analysis unit

The thesis focuses on investiagting a number of primary aspects of Dong Thap Muoi region's fishing terms - one of the traditional vocations in Dong Thap Muoi particularly and in the Mekong Delta generally.

2.2. Scope

The thesis covers fishing terms in Dong Thap Muoi region. However, data collection focuses on areas of strong, long-term development in fishing, particularly in Northern districts of the Tien River in Dong Thap province, namely Hong Ngu (both Hong Ngu district and Hong Ngu town), Tan Hong, Tam Nong, Thanh Binh, Cao Lanh (both Cao Lanh city and Cao Lanh district), Thap Muoi; districts in Long An province (Duc Hoa, Duc Hue, Moc Hoa, Tan Hung, Vinh Hung, Tan Thanh, Thanh Hoa, Thu Thua) and those in Tien Giang province (Cai Lay, Cai Be, Cho Gao, Tan Phuoc, Chau Thanh).

3. Research aims and tasks

3.1. Research aims

The thesis aims to:

- point out features in the structure and nomination of fishing terms in Dong Thap Muoi; thereby characterizing the culture via those fishing terms.

- provide data for writing vocational dictionaries (i.e. fishing) as well as references for further studies on the Southern region's language-culture.

3.2. Tasks

For these aims, the thesis completes the following primary tasks:

- Field-surveying for collecting data of fishing terms from strong, long-term developed areas of fishing vocation in Dong Thap Muoi; to establish theoretical framework for the thesis.

- Enumerating, classifying, describing and analyzing features in structure and semantic nomination of fishing terms in Dong Thap Muoi.

- Describing, analyzing linguistic -cultural features in structure, origin and semantic nomination of fishing terms in Dong Thap Muoi.

4. Methods used

To conduct the thesis, we have used major methods and techniques of field-surveying; enumerating; analyzing, describing; cross-major studying; comparing and contrasting.

5. Contributions

5.1. Theoretical significance

- With this thesis, for the first time ever, fishing terms in Dong Thap Muoi have been systematically collected, classified, analized and described in details regarding structure and nomination. Based on these evidences, linguistic-cultural features of Dong Thap Muoi are generalized.

- The thesis set insights into vocational vocabulary by a new approach of cross-disciplines of language-culture. The obtained results help furthering the development of Vietnamese language lexicology.

5.2. Practical significance

- Data and results obtained can be references useful for research on Southern language and culture, also for teaching dialectal language in general and Southern dialects in particular at college.

- The thesis additionally helps develop traditionally cultural values, characters in Dong Thap Muoi via preserving linguistic-cultural features of fishing.

6. Thesis structure

Apart from *Introduction, Conclusion, References, Appendix*, the major contents include 4 chapters:

Chapter 1: Literature review and theoretical framework

Chapter 2: Structural features of fishing terms in Dong Thap Muoi

Chapter 3: Nominal features of fishing terms in Dong Thap Muoi

Chapter 4: Cultural features indicated in fishing terms in Dong Thap Muoi

Chapter 1
LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

1.1. Literature review

1.1.1. Around the world, research on vocational vocabulary has been done by such researchers as L. A. Kapanadze, A. V. Superanskaja, V. D. Bondaletop, and IU. V. Rozdextvenxki. Regarding technical terms and nominating methods, L. A. Kapanadze và A. V. Superanskaja overally discussed vocational vocabulary, especially the emergence of vocational vocabulary and names of subjects. However, these researchers did not mention much about vocational vocabulary aspects of structure, sense or nomination. IU. V. Rozdextvenxki argued that encyclopedia is one of the backgrounds for educating vocational language as well as selecting and explaining vocational lexicon. Basing on nature, sense of linguistic features and actional conditions, Soviet linguist V. D. Bondaletop classified social variations of speech, including vocational vacabulary. Yet, V. D. Bondaletop just generalized relevant concepts and presented a number of unconnected linguistic phenomena from practitioners. The author did not study concretely vocational vocabulary on aspects of structure, nominal sense, origin or culture.

1.1.2. In Vietnam, research on vocational vocabulary can be generalized in the major approaches as follows:

a. Approach 1 introduces concepts, features of vocational vocabulary and suggests criteria for distinguishing it from those of lingua franca and other related vocabulary. Such typical studies are done by: Nguyen Van Tu, Nguyen Thien Giap, Do Huu Chau, Hoang Thi Chau, Mai Ngoc Chu, Vu Đuc Nghieu, Hoang Trong Phien. Since the works are in the form of coursebooks, their authors just only provide general views, not yet to go insights into the relationship between vocational vacabulary and dialectal words, technical terms or slangs. Neither do they present in depths vocational vocabulary on aspects of structure, nominal features, linguistic-cultural senses.

b. Approach 2 studies vocabulary of certain traditional vocations. Such studies of vocational vocabulary have been found in related journals, proceedings, and undergraduate, graduate theses.

Among them, one significant primary-level work at Institute of Linguistics *Từ ngữ nghề nghiệp gốm sứ Bát Tràng* (Vocational terms of Bat Trang china) was conducted by Nguyen Van Khang and others. This work investigated comprehensively vocational words, differing them from other social dialectal ones, pointing out structural models, semantic fields, nominal origins and

collecting 861 vocational terms of Bat Trang china. However, it did not examine the nomination - one major element indicating cultural characteristics of the practition found in language.

Vocational terms of Thanh - Nghe Tinh dialect (over 15 past years) have been much studied at different levels. Significant are two national, ministral level projects chaired by Hoang Trong Canh *Từ ngữ nghề nghiệp trong phương ngữ Nghệ Tĩnh (Bước đầu khảo sát các lớp từ nghề cá, nước mắm, muối)* (Vocational terms of Nghe Tinh Dialect, initial investigation on terms of fishing, fish sauce, salt), *Nghiên cứu từ ngữ - văn hóa nghề biển Thanh - Nghệ Tĩnh* (Investigating vocabulary-culture of sea practition in Thanh - Nghe Tinh) and Nguyen Van Dung's doctoral thesis *Từ ngữ nghề nghiệp nghề biển ở Thanh Hóa (từ bình diện ngôn ngữ - văn hóa)* (Vocational vocabulary of sea practition in Thanh Hoa, language - culture aspects). In general, those works systematically and in depths examined Thanh - Nghe Tinh vocabulary of sea practition. Basing on sizable data of sea practition collected in Thanh - Nghe Tinh, the authors have compared and contrasted them with those of lingua franca; at the same time they analyzed lexical features of structure, sense and reflected reality; discovered characteristics of sea practition vocabulary in Thanh - Nghe Tinh.

Studying vocabulary of fishing in the Mekong Delta generally and in Dong Thap Muoi particularly has so far been done by Nguyen Huu Hieu and Phan Thi Anh Tuyet. The historian Nguyen Huu Hieu with his work *Nghề cá Đồng Tháp Mười năm xưa* (Dong Thap Muoi fishing practition in the past) has overviewed historical stages of development and policies for Dong Thap Muoi fishermen together with a number of ideas on their spiritual life. This work has collected 33 fishing tools and fishing activities. Culture researcher Phan Thi Yen Tuyet with the book *Đời sống xã hội - kinh tế văn hóa của ngư dân và cư dân vùng biển Nam Bộ* (Social, econo-cultural life of Southern fishermen and sea fishermen) has presented issues on sea fishermen's social, econo-cultural life in 9 Southern provinces, and also discussed fishing means as well as aquatic product exploring. However, since they are folk-historically, culturally oriented, these works have collected a limited amount of fishing terms and not yet to go insights into fishing terms generally and freshwater fishing particularly on aspects of language and culture.

On the above basis, we realize that vocational vacabulary in the Southern generally and in Dong Thap Muoi particularly has been little studied. There has been no absolute work of fishing terms in Dong Thap Muoi on aspects of language and culture. That is why the present thesis has been done.

1.2. Theoretical framework

1.2.1. General issues on vocabulary

1.2.1.1. Opinions on lexis and lexical structure of Vietnamese language

a. Opinions on Vietnamese lexis

After presenting researchers' opinions on lexis, we follow Do Huu Chau's Vietnamese lexical approach to identify and analyze vocational vocabulary.

b. Structural patterns of Vietnamese lexis

For consistence in investigating and collecting structural patterns of vocational vocabulary, we take Do Huu Chau's approach to classifying them into: single, compound and repetitive.

c. Vietnamese lexical structure model

Basing on the criteria free/bound, meaningful/meaningless of components in different relations, we come up with the Vietnamese lexical structures.

1.2.1.2. Opinions on phrases and phrasal structures of Vietnamese language

a. Opinions on Vietnamese phrases

Phrases of fishing in Dong Thap Muoi include two types: idioms and technical phrases (both called "nominal phrase").

b. Structural patterns of Vietnamese phrases

After presenting structural patterns of Vietnamese phrases, we find that fishing phrases in Dong Thap Muoi are composed of two types: noun-phrase and verb-phrase.

1.2.2. General issues on vocational vocabulary

1.2.2.1. Concept of vocational vocabulary

a. Definitions on vocational vocabulary by dictionaries

Vocational vocabulary is mentioned in only *Từ điển giải thích thuật ngữ ngôn ngữ học* (Dictionary of Linguistic Terms). Thereby, vocational vocabulary is "words, phrases peculiar to people groups of the same job or domain".

b. Researchers' opinions on vocational vocabulary

The present thesis mentions opinions by Nguyen Van Tu (1968), Do Huu Chau (1981), Nguyen Thien Giap (2010), etc. on vocational vocabulary and shows that there is disagreement among relevant researchers. However, those opinions make grounds for us to come up with a common comprehension on vocational vocabulary.

c. The thesis's approach to vocational vocabulary

1) What is vocational vocabulary? We argue that it has the following contents and characteristics:

- Words of instrument, means, activity, subject, product, etc. for a certain vocation are regularly used by the people within that vocation. There is the case that many of these words are familiar to those unrelated to that vocation and turn out to be lingua-franca words.

- There are words of instrument, means, activity, subject, product, etc. commonly used by vocational insiders but unknown or little used by vocational outsiders. These words usually have a limited coverage use, affiliated to a certain regional language.

- There are vocational words of instrument, means, activity, subject, product, etc. commonly used by both vocational insiders and outsiders in a dialectal region. Geographically, these words are also dialectal.

2) Vocational vocabulary components

Vocational vocabulary includes single components and multiple components, namely direct components found just after the first analysis, and primary components equivalent to a single syllable, following Nguyen Tai Can's view.

1.2.2.2. Vocational vocabulary position in the lexicon of a language

Vocational vocabulary belongs to its practitioners, and has a socially limited use with a spoken style.

1.2.2.3. Relations between vocational vocabulary and other lexical types

a. Vocational vocabulary and lingua-franca lexis: differ in the use scope, the user, reflected content, style and role in the national language, but are closely inter-related.

b. Vocational vocabulary and dialectal lexis: Vocational vocabulary comes from a certain vocation affiliated to a social language; dialectal lexis are commonly used in a certain region, somehow different from those of lingua franca (belonging to geographical dialects). Yet, they are inter-related because vocational language is always present in a certain region.

c. Vocational vocabulary and slangs: Slangs are names "on official names", while vocational vocabulary is composed of direct units nominating instruments, activities, products of that vocation, usually without their synonyms in lingua franca.

d. Vocational vocabulary and jargons: Jargons are only lexical units expressing subjects, events within a social group's scope. They are not names of instruments, activities or products like those of vocational vocabulary.

e. Vocational vocabulary and technical terms: Technical terms are scientifically characterized by a certain discipline or domain, while vocational vocabulary is characteristic of a certain vocation, addressing instrument, means, activity, subject, product, etc. commonly used by vocational insiders.

1.2.3. Overall view on nomination

1.2.3.1. Concept of nomination

Nomination is the result of people's recognizing, dividing the world and using linguistic signs to name and record that obtained recognition.

1.2.3.2. Structure of nominal units

They include: *primary units* (first level) and *secondary units* (second level).

1.2.3.3. Nominal mechanism

Nominating is a transferring process from sensational to physical recognition. The sensational results in a subject, while the physical results in its name.

1.2.3.4. Linguistic-cultural features in nomination

Linguistic-cultural features in nomination are displayed in the nominator who naming the subject has to base on his own nominating reason (perhaps volition, wish, like, dislike, etc.) or on choosing the subject's characteristics (maybe a significant one or insignificant but distinctive) for naming that subject.

1.2.4. Culture and its relation with language

1.2.4.1. Concept of culture

After presenting cultural views by Ho Chi Minh, Phan Ngoc, Pham Duc Duong, Ngo Duc Thinh, etc. the thesis takes up Tran Ngoc Them's definition *"Văn hóa là một hệ thống hữu cơ các giá trị vật chất và tinh thần do con người sáng tạo ra và tích lũy qua quá trình hoạt động thực tiễn, trong sự tương tác giữa con người với môi trường tự nhiên và xã hội của mình"*(Culture is an organic system of material and spiritual values created by human beings and acquired through their practical activities and interactions with the natural and social environments) in the present study.

1.2.4.2. Relation between language and culture

Language and culture are closely inter-related, inseparable. Language is an integral element of culture and as a means of demonstrating culture's cross-interaction records, fostering culture development; in return, culture and national cultural elements are all shared and embedded in language.

1.3. Brief introduction of Dong Thap Muoi, fishing and fishing terms

1.3.1. Brief introduction of Dong Thap Muoi

Dong Thap Muoi is in the Mekong Delta. It borders Campuchia in the north, lining Tien River in the south and west, Eastern Vam Co River in the east. It is administratively affiliated to 3 provinces of Long An, Tien Giang and Dong Thap. This region is good for fishing development.

1.3.2. Brief introduction of Dong Thap Muoi fishing

Fishing has been long connected to Dong Thap Muoi people's existence. It is an integral part of their daily life. Fishing development makes employment for its inhabitants and helps many fishermen get rich in their own homeland.

1.3.3. Results of Dong Thap fishing terms collected and classified

We have collected 2190 fishing terms reflecting 9 life domains: fishing

products; fishing instrument and means; fishing action procedure; natural phenomena of fishing; folk ritual, religion of fishing; individual, organization; fishing field, environment; fishing season; and fishing measurement, positioning.

1.4. Chapter 1 summary

Reviewing the relevant literature, we find that the issue of vocational vocabulary in the Southern generally and in Dong Thap Muoi particularly gets little concerned and studied. Basing on the general theoretical framework of vocational vocabulary, the thesis comes up with one comprehension of vocational vocabulary, its role and relations with other lexical types. In addition, issues of culture, relation between language and culture, nomination, linguistic-cultural features in nomination, views of lexis and lexical structure are discussed to form the theoretical grounds for the present thesis.

Regarding the results, we intitially collected 2190 lexical units of sea practition. In terms of contents reflected, Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms are composed of 9 semantic fields, of which terms indicating products, instrument-means, and action procedure account for the most. Basing on these collected terms, the thesis examines their features of structure, nomination and culture.

Chapter 2
STRUCTURAL FEATURES OF FISHING TERMS IN DONG THAP MUOI

2.1. Types of fishing terms in Dong Thap Muoi regarding structure

2.1.1. Single words: 248 words (accounting for 11.3%). They indicate subjects, fishing products mostly familiar to every one. Examples: *cá (fish), tôm (shrimp), cua (crab), tép (caridina), lươn (eel), chạch (loach),* etc. They are little chracteristic of fishing practition in comparison with those single words of fishing instrument, means and action procedure. Most of them are close to lingua-franca lexis, so a large proportion of them indicating subjects, products of fishing are present in lingua-franca lexis.

2.1.2. Compounds

There are 1870 compounds (making 85.4%), composed of:

2.1.2.1. Separated-meaning compounds: accounting for almost all the compounds of 1859 (99.4%. Most of them contain unfamiliar contents for vocational outsiders. For instance, *bầu bắt (catching one), bầu thả (throwing one), câu thọt (pushing catch), chất chà (bamboo nest piling), cá sặc bướm (butterfly-colorful fish),*

cá sặc bổi (dotted colorfulfish), cá hàm ết (frog-like fish), etc.

2.1.2.2. Combined-meaning compounds: only 11 (0.6%) ones.

2.1.3. Phrases*:* There are 72 phrases (accounting for 3.3%), of which 13 are idioms and 59 technicals. The technicals are all composed of primary plus subordinate. The primary element indicates the generally big kind, while the subordinate serves as classifying that kind into smaller ones. For example: *dây giềng phao lưới vây (rope lining the net floats), dây giềng chì lưới vây (rope lining the net lead), mùa cá chạy (season of fish running), mùa cá lên (season of fish coming), mùa nước nổi (season of rising water), etc.*

So, the primary - subordinate pattern is principal of Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms. In other words, Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms are mostly distinctive nominations. This imples the major ability to sense-specialize of vocational vocabulary.

2.2. Structural types of Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms

2.2.1. Structural types of separated-meaning compounds, regarding direct component quantity

***Model 1: First direct component indicating kinds (C) - second direct component classifying (P) with one primary element P**

There are 1135/1859 terms (61.05%). For examples: *cá lóc (snakehead fish), cá sặt (colorful fish), cá leo (climbing fish), cá ét (sounding fish),…* (indicators of subjets, products); *câu phao (float fishing), đăng tre (bamboo post), lờ bóng (smooth roofing),…* (indicators of instrument-means); *thăm câu (crane visiting), chất chà (bamboo nest piling), bắt hôi (leftover catching), bao chà (bamboo-nest enclosing),…* (indicators of action procedure).

*** Model 2: First direct component indicating kinds (C) - second direct component classifying (P) with two primary elements P1, P2**

There are 563/1859 terms (30.28%). P1 and P2 are found in 3 patterns:

- Pattern 1: P1 and P2 in primary-subordinate relation, P1 primary - P2 subordinate. Examples: *cá linh rìa (outing soul fish), cá rô răm (round thick body fish), cá lóc cửng (rough snakehead fish), cá sặc bổi (up-colorful fish),…* (subjects, products)*; dây thắt đụt (twisting rope), rùng cải tiến (renovated tool), lưới kéo khung (frame pulling net),…* (instrument-means); *kéo cần chong (bar pulling), khai nước dô (in-watering), thả ngang gió (wind-leaving),…* (action procedure).

- Pattern 2: P1 and P2 in primary-subordinate relation, P1 subordinate - P2 primary. Examples: *cá ba kì (three-fin fish), cá ba đuôi (three-tail fish), cá bảy màu (seven-color fish), cá đỏ đuôi (red-tail fish),…* (subjects, products)*; vó ba sào*

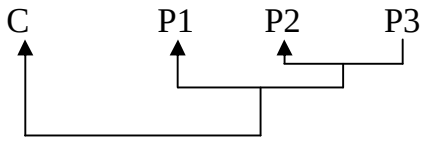
(three-unit net), xuồng ba lá (three-sheet canoe), câu ba tóm (three-post crane), chụp ba phân (3-cm tool),… (instrument-means).

- Pattern 3: P1 and P2 in sound-repetitive or equal relation. Examples: *cá lòng tong (yellowish thin-body fish), cá lòng vòng (ring-like fish), cá lia thia (decorative fish),…* (subjects, products), *côn cổ điển (traditional club), côn cải tiến (renovated club), lưới mành mành (bamboo-bamboo net)…* (instrument-means), *xúc lòng vòng (rounding takeup)* (action procedure).

*** Model 3: First direct component indicating kinds (C) - second direct component classifying (P) with three primary elements P1, P2, P3**

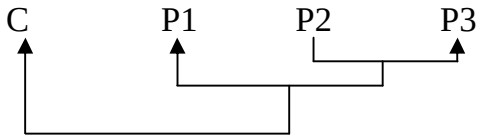
This model includes 138 out of 1859 terms (7.42%). P1, P2, P3 are found in 6 patterns:

- Pattern 1:



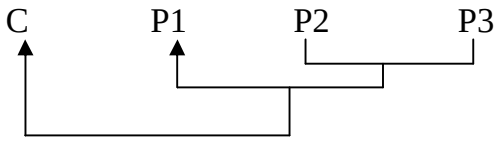
Examples: *cá bơn đầu chấm (dotted heade fish), cá rô đầu duông (squareheaded thichround body fish), cá rô đầu nhím (thinheaded thick round body fish),…* (subjects, products)*; lưới kéo tầng đáy (bottom pulling net), câu cá bụng con (young bell fish catching), cây xôm cá lóc (snakehead fishing post),…* (instrument-means); *đánh hình chữ chi* (*shaping make*) (action procedure).

- Pattern 2:



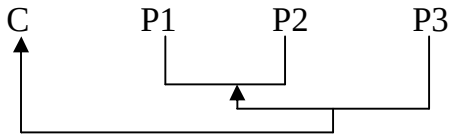
Examples: *xuồng chài ba vách (three-enclosure boat), lưới vó ba sào (three-unit net), lưới vó bốn sào (four-unit net), lưới vó hai sào (two-unit net), lưới úp hai lớp (two-class covered net), lưới rê một lớp (one-class net), lưới rê ba lớp (three-class net),...*

- Pattern 3:



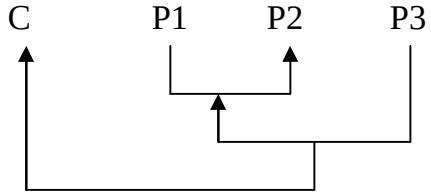
Examples: *lưới cá lòng tong (yellowish thin-body fish net), lưới rùng cổ điển (traditional catch net), lưới rùng cải tiến (renovated catch net),...* (instrument-means); *cá bống lầu cầu (roundbody bridge fish), cá nóc cam pốt (campot ball fish), cá sóc mê kông (mekong barb fish),...* (subjects, products).

- Pattern 4:



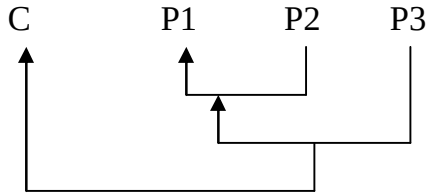
Examples: *cá lòng tong sắt (iron yellowish thin-body fish), cá lia thia phướn (up-decorative fish), cá lìm kìm ao (long-thin pool fish), cá thát lát còm (thin catfish),…*

- Pattern 5:



Examples: *cá bảy màu phướn (up seven-color fish), cá ba kì đỏ (three redfin fish), cá ba kì trắng (three whitefin fish)* (subjects, products); *lưới ba phân rưỡi (3.5 cm net), rổ ba phân rưỡi (3.5cm basket), rổ hai phân rưỡi (2.5cm basket),…*(instrument-means).

- Pattern 6:



Examples: *cá bám đá hổ (tiger rock-clinging fish), cá mào gà đỏ (red-crown fish), cá mề gà trắng (whitehenny fish), cá hạt lựu đen (blackseed fish),….*

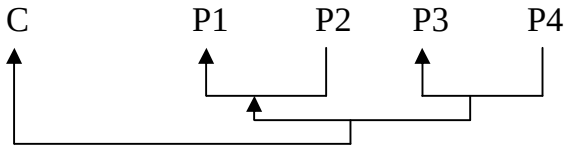
*** Model 4: First direct component indicating kinds (P) with 2 elements P1 and P2 in equal relation - second direct component classifying (C) with two elements C1 và C2 in primary-subordinate relation, C1 primary, C2 subordinate**

Only 1/1859 term found in this model, 0.05%, indicating instrument-means: *mười hai cửa ngục (twelve-hell doors).*

*** Model 5: First direct component indicating kinds (C) - second direct component classifying (P) with 4 elements P1, P2, P3, P4**

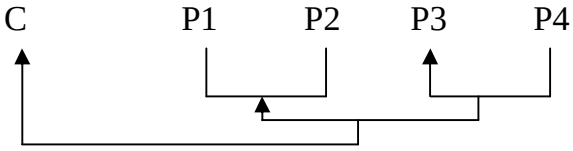
There are 22/1859 terms, 1.19%, with 6 patterns:

- Pattern 1:



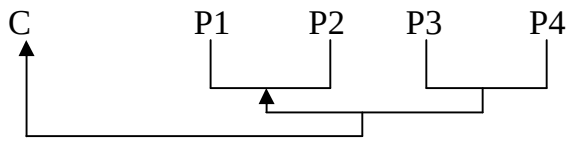
Examples: *cá bống xệ vảy lớn (round large-scale snakehead fish), cá măng rổ vảy nhỏ (small-scale round-body fish), cá bơn sọc phương đông (eastern striped fish),...*

- Pattern 2:



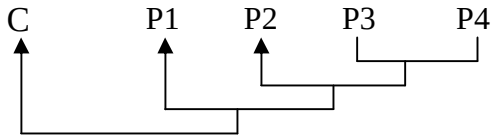
Examples: *cá lia thia mang xanh (blue-fin colorful fish), cá lìm kìm nước ngọt (freshwater needle-size head fish), cá lòng tong lưng thấp (yellowish shortback thin-body fish),...*

- Pattern 3:



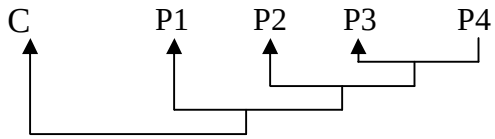
Examples: *cá thát lát còm (cườm) chấm (flatbody dotted fish), cá thát lát còm (cườm) hoa (flatbody color fish).*

- Pattern 4:



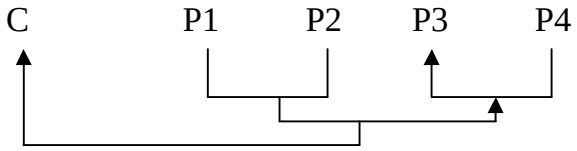
Examples: *cá đuối bồng hoa gai (colored barbed fish), cá sơn biển kop si (kopsi seafish), cá nóc dàng na ri (nari-like fish)* (subject, product); *lưỡi câu cá lòng tong* (*thinbody catching hook*) (instrument, means).

- Pattern 5:



Example: *ghe đục đánh lưới gùn (netting holed boat).*

- Pattern 6:



Example: *đú mười hai cửa ngục (twelve hell-doored chamber).*

Results show that most separated-meaning compounds are composed of 2 direct components (each has one element). Those of 3 or more elements (3 fundamentals) are of a small number, but they are highly distinctive, cognitively dividing the world significantly and specifically.

2.2.2. Structural types of separated-meaning compounds in Dong Thap Muoi fishing, regarding free/bound components

Model 1: Free component (A) - Free component (A)

There are 1716/1859 terms (92.3%). Ex: *cá bẹ (bundle fish), bắp chuối (banana blossom), cá bạc (silver fish), cá chốt sọc (striped sharp fish),…* (subject, product); *đăng tre (bamboo netbase), lưới giăng (netting), câu vút (sharped crane),…* (instrument-means); *bắt chài (netting catch), buông câu (craning), thả lưới (netting),…* (action procedure).

Model 2: Free component (A) - Bound component (B)

Or bound component (B) - Free component (A)

There are 130/1859 terms (6.99%). Ex: *bò trục (plowing cow), cào lếch (down-scratching), ghe ngo (ngo boat),…* (instrument-means); *cá chẽm (chem fish), cá bơn (bon fish), cá buôi (buoi fish), cá cửng (cung fish),...* (subject, product); *đặt chà (bamboo nesting), gỡ ếm (covering takeoff), khai nước (in-watering), xàm ghe (boat wash),...* (action procedure).

Model 3: Bound component (B) - Bound component (B)

With 13/1859 terms (0.71%) found, e.g.: *cần xé (bamboo basket), xà ngôn (bad speech), định vị (positioning),...*

Model 1 is dominant, while model 2 and 3 are limited. Thus, it indicates that separated-meaning compounds related are mostly free and semantic. Additionally, these compounds are composed of pre-primary and post-subordinate. Clearly, vocational vocabulary comes from traditional vocation products, made up chiefly in the Vietnamese's common thinking.

2.2.3. Structural types of separated-meaning compounds in Dong Thap Muoi fishing, regarding the use-scope of components

Considering geographical use scope, we have a lingua franca (A) and a regional (B). These appear in patterns as follows:

- Pattern 1: A + B → AB: cá + dồ → *cá dồ (catfish)*, câu + ết → *câu ết (frog craning)*, câu + thọt → *câu thọt (thump craning)*, cây + lẹm → *cây lẹm (sharp post),…* This pattern has 195/1859 terms,10.48%.

- Pattern 2: B + A → BA: dụ + cá → *dụ cá (fish inducing)*, dớt + cá → *dớt cá (fish uptaking)*, dét+hầm → *dét hầm (pool uptaking)*, xôm + cá → *xôm cá (fish stabbing),…* with 146/1859 terms, 7.85%.

- Pattern 3: A + A → AA: cá + chim → *cá chim (birdfish)*, đan + lưới → *đan lưới (net weaving)*, đăng + ven → *đăng ven (bordering band)*, lưới + rùng → *lưới rùng (loose net),…* with 1496/1859 terms, 80.47%.

- Pattern 4: B + B → BB: xàm + ghe → *xàm ghe (boat wash)*, ghe + ngo → *ghe ngo (ngo boat)*, xàm + xuồng → *xàm xuồng (boat wash)*, chộp + duông → *chộp duông (right catch),…* with 22/1859 terms, 1.2%

The lingua franca used in vocation is popular and significant in vocational vocabulary structure, while the regional is limited but characteristic of vocation in each region.

2.3. Chapter 2 summary

Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms are composed of singles, compounds and phrases. These lexical types are unequally found regarding quantities. A large proportion of Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms are compounds (85.4%), of which

virually all of them are separated-meaning (99.4%). This shows that Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms are outstandingly characteristic of distinctively lexical units.

Structural types of separated-meaning compounds are various. Most of their components tend to be free, belonging to basic lexis and pure Vietnamese origins. Meanwhile, bound-component terms are rare. With regard to component relations, in addition to the dialectal aspect, fishing terms make use of many elements from lingua franca, creating a wide variety of structural relations. Lingua franca elements used are significantly enormous in Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms. The regional elements are small, but highly characteristic of vocation and Dong Thap Muoi culture.

Chapter 3
NOMINAL FEATURES OF FISHING TERMS IN DONG THAP MUOI

3.1. Nominal features of fishing terms in Dong Thap Muoi

The results show that Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms are nominated by a single element (X - primary nominator) or 2 elements (XY - secondary nominator), in which X serves as a classifier and Y as a distinctive. Numbers and percentage in nominal types are as follows:

Nominal types	**Numbers of lexical terms**			**%**
X	248			11.32
XY	1942			88.68
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
	1146 (59.01%)	715 (36.82%)	81(4.17%)	
Total	**2190**			**100**

The table indicates that Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms are nominated chiefly by XY (88.68%), while the type X is of a much smaller proportion (11.32%).

As a consequence, Dong Thap Muoi fishermen tend to nominate subjects distinctively and individually. Clearly, fishing is a traditional vocation, popular, long-termed and significant to Dong Thap Muoi inhabitants' existence. If this is not the case, how could fish types, fishing instruments and means be classified and nominated in such a varied, detailed and systematic way? And behind these names, it also implies the practical views, recognitions of Dong Thap Muoi people particularly and the Southerners generally, which is basically considered to be generous and straightforward.

3.2. Nominal features of Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms

3.2.1. Common nominal bases of fishing terms

3.2.1.1. Format-oriented nomination

This nominal type observes 264/1923 terms (accounting for 13.73%). This type is shared by 3 lexical groups. Examples: *nhap fishing, re fishing, tha fishing, giut fishing, buoc fishing, giang fishing…* (instrument, means); *vay beating, vong beating, giang beating, cam fishing, fixed fishing, chay fishing, thot fishing,…* (action procedure); *fished eel, electric-catch eel, raised eel, raised fish, raised fish… (*subjects, products).

3.2.1.2. Placial -oriented nomination

This nominal type names subjects basing on their habitats or fishing fields. There are 133/1923 terms (6.92%) found in this type. Examples: *river fishing, pool netting, duong catching, pool catching, long catching, bottom-level net, middle-level net, top-level net,…* (instrument, means); *field fish, field crab, field eel, river fish, bamboo-enclosure fish, cage fish, pool fish, earth smooth-skin fish, mud smooth-skin fish ,* (subjects, products); *bamboo-enclosure cleaning, pool cleaning, pool upcleaning, duong cleaning, dia cleaning, dia catching, dia water-filling, bau waterfilling, duong waterfilling, pool raising, bamboo-enclosure raising,… (*action procedure).

3.2.1.3. Qualitive - oriented nomination

This nominal type is based on subjects' outstanding qualities, status. There are 29/1923 terms (1.5%) found in this type. Examples: *fish fries, shrimp fries, littleshrimp fries, smooth-skin fish fries, snakehead fish fries, colorful fish fries, rice-fish fries, catfish fries, pale fish fries, dead fish fries,...* (subjects, products); *fake bait, true bait, binding post, flat one...* (instruments, means); *pressure, release, misfortune release, pressure release* (action procedure).

3.2.1.4. Shape-oriented nomination

This nominal type is shared by two lexical groups. fishing subject-products and instrument-means. It is also the nominal one mostly found in Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms. Examples: *old-man fish* (curve back, upperlip out, lowerlip backward like an old man's mouth), *snake fish* (kind of snake shape with lip-hair, without scale, and can bite a person into deep sleep), *devil-face fish* (look like an ugly devil), *cá hàm ếch frog-like fish* (mouth like that of a frog), *pin-size fish* (round body, no scale, with long pin-size head), *ho fish* (freshwater fish, rare in the Mekong River, large size, delicious flesh, silver scale, flat body, mostly blackish grey, mouth outwards like a person with a upperlip out),…

3.2.1.5. Functional - oriented nomination

There are 197/1923 terms found in this type (10.24%). Dong Thap Muoi

fishermen use it to nominate both instrument-means and subject-products. This type is used mainly to name, distinguishing instruments, means of fishing. Examples: instrument-means: *gang ham net (particularly used to treat different pools), gang be net (particularly used to treat different bamboo enclosures), gang bon net (particularly used to treat different watertank), boat chamber (boat parts for containing items), steering chamber (used for boat driving), open cave bottom, river cave bottom, slipping ground, signal lamp, lighting lamp,...* subject-products: *bait-fish (used as a bait), flesh fish (used for collecting flesh), breed fish (used to breed).*

3.2.1.6. Subject structure - oriented nomination

There are 167 terms (8.68%) found in this type, which is shared by 2 lexical groups: subject-products (85 tokens, 50.9%) and instrument-means (82 tokens, 49.1%).

Examples: *three-fin fish, three-tail fish, three-tongue fish, three-type fish,…* (subjects, products); *three-sheet boat, five-sheet boat, two-unit net, one-level tool, ten-protect boat, nine-protect boat, single wood boat,...* (instrument-means).

3.2.1.7. Size-oriented nomination

This type is used by Dong Thap Muoi fishermen to name instruments, means and subject-products. There are 67/1923 terms (3.49%). Examples: *2-cm basket, 3-cm basket, 1.5cm basket, 8-mm basket, 7-cm basket, seven-net, four-net, small-eye net, large-eye net, grand-door boat,…* (instrument-means); *rough fish, rice fish, wild snail, thin snail, leftover shrimp, little shrimp, wild shrimp, fat shrimp, mosquito shrimp,…* (subjects, products).

3.2.1.8. Original - oriented nomination

There are 19/1923 terms, accounting for 0.99%. Those of subject-products are 11/19 (57.9%), e.g. *7-color xiem fish, campot noc fish, eastsea noc fish, xiem touch fish, Australian dragon fish, xiem mountain fish, xiem fish, Indian fish, Indian carp, Japanese carp, Afrian ro fish.* And terms of instrument-means are 8/19 tokens (42.1%), e.g. *Thai rake, Vietnamese rake, Hue trapbox, Thai trapbox, Hue net, Japanese net, Thai net, Tra Vinh net.*

3.2.2. Particular nominal bases of fishing terms

3.2.2.1. Color - oriented nomination

There are 164 terms (8.53%). This particular type is used to name subjec-produtcs of fishing. Examples: *grey horse fish, red tail fish, 3-red crown fish,3- white crown fish, red crown fish, pink fish, yellow noc fish, white block fish, green blockfish, blackcow fish, yellow cow fish, blackbong fish, ashbong fish, firechach fish, earthchach fish, ricechach fish, colorchinh fish, whitechinh fish, whitechot fish,...*

3.2.2.2. Characteristic - oriented nomination

There are 42/1923 terms (2.18%) in this type. Dong Thap Muoi fishermen use

it to name subject-products of fishing. Examples: *jumping little shrimp, dungdinh fish, crystal fish, iron shrimp, red iron shrimp, black iron shrimp, limkim fish, tichshrimp, rockcling fish, doctor fish, snail iron fish, flyiron fish, smoothbong fish,…*

3.2.2.3. Growth - oriented nomination

It is used to subjects, products of fishing. We collected 18/1923 terms (0.94%). Basing on the growth phases of snakehead fish, Dong Thap Muoi fishermen name the same fish differently from young to adult time: *rong rong fish, cot snakehead fish, cung snakehead fish, grand snakehead fish*. Or *catfish* has different names from young to adult time: *powder catfish, perfume catfish, centimeter catfish, class catfish, flesh catfish.* Other kinds of fish such as *white fish, ro fish,…* are named in this way.

3.2.2.4. Religion - oriented nomination

There are 4/1923 terms (accounting for 0.2%) nominated in this way. These cases are all of subject-products of fishing, namely: *grandman fish, waterfish, crocodile man, holy fish.*

3.2.2.5. Breed - oriented nomination

This type of nomination is commonly found in animals. Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms have 3/1923 terms (0.16%) in this way, which are used to name subject-products of fishing: *father fish, mother fish, parent fish.*

3.2.2.6. Taste - oriented nomination

There is only one term (0.05%) found in this way: *bitter snail.*

3.2.2.7. Part-for-entire oriented nomination

There are 64/1923 terms (3.33%) found in this way. This is used particularly for instrument-means of fishing. Examples: *fishing rod, rake handle, club handle, filter handle, boatsheet, net lead, nickle ring, sail rope, border rope, netpulling border rope, float netpulling border rope,…*

3.2.2.8. Means position - oriented nomination

There are 52/1923 terms in this way (accounting for 2.7%). This type is used particularly by Dong Thap Muoi fishermen to name instruments, means of fishing. Examples: *bottom wing, net wing, borderpulling band, middle chamber, front double chamber, rear double chamber, front chamber, rear chamber, top chamber,...*

3.2.2.9. Material - oriented nomination

There are 40/1923 terms (2.08%), which all indicate instruments, means of fishing. This is because the instrument-means is specially made of that material. Examples: *banana tree raft, wood raft, bamboo raft, lead bind, iron club, wood boat, iron boat, rubber basket, plastic basket, iron trapbox, bamboo wall, reed wall, net wall, wood float, rubber float, iron tank, bamboo tank,...*

3.2.2.10. Goal - oriented nomination

There are 84/1923 terms (4.37%). Dong Thap Muoi fishermen use this way to name groups of action procedure of fishing. Examples: *fish raking, fish catching, shrimp catching, fish pressing, fish weighing, fish netting, snail netting, fish needling, bait scattering, fish electricing, little shrimp basketing, shrimp basketing, fish stabbing,...*

3.2.2.11. Instrument-means used - oriented nomination

Fishing vocation has to use a variety of instruments and means to catch fish. This is why the nominator makes use of them to name different activities in fishing. There are 58/1923 terms found in this type (3.02%). Examples: *hookline releasing, net releasing, hookline positioning, net cutting, boat fixing, raft fixing, net weaving, net crossing, netting, net collecting, hooklining, bamboo rafting, bung making,…*

3.2.3. Unknown reason nomination

In addtition to the known-reason nominal fishing terms (nominal bases identified), a small number of Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms have unknown reasons (nominal bases have yet to be identified). Of 1923 terms collected, 215 (11.18%) are of the case. Most of them are single terms just like other original singles in Vietnamese language generally. Examples: *fish, shrimp, crab, little shrimp, oyster, eel, moat, mussel, bong fish, ro fish, burnt fish, two-female fish, loach fish,… (*subjects, products of fishing); *net wall, net, net pulling, hooklining, boat,…* (instruments, means of fishing); *water-outing, catch, wallmaking, swim, hooklining, covering, fish covering, shrimp covering,… (*action procedure of fishing).

The above names previously could have their own nominal bases. But, since it is years ago, no one knows the nominal reason. They are habitually used and handed down from generation to generation. We made an attempt to ask many elderly and fishing-experienced people, but they failed to give full answers. Thus, we place these terms in this type.

3.3. "Classifying depth" in the nomination of Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms

3.3.1. Quantities

Examining 3 basic term groups of Dong Thap Muoi fishing, we have collected 1923 terms. Each group presents the classifying depth as follows:

Classifying depth of lexical groups		**Number**		**Percentage %**	
Term groups of kind	Subjects, products	***107***	10	***5.56***	9.35
	Instruments, means		57		53.27
	Action procedure		40		37.38
Term groups of type	Subjects, products	***1816***	756	***94.44***	41.63
	Instruments, means		747		41.13
	Action procedure		313		17.24
Total		**1923**		**100**	

3.3.2.Term groups of kind

For common subjects, Dong Thap Muoi fishermen place them at kind level. It is the sense of term groups of kind that indicates Dong Thap Muoi people's distinctive thinking of synthesis and generalization. Also, the term groups of kind enrich the inhabitants' daily speech.

3.3.3. Term groups of type

Meanwhile, term groups of type indicate "classifying depth" in more specific details. In each type, members can fall into microtypes or levels. Distinctive elements go into level 1, 2, 3 to distinguish concerned subjects. We classifying these term groups into types and microtypes as follows:

#	Term groups		Number	Percentage %
1	Type		100	5.5
2	Microtype	*Level 1*	978	56.99
		Level 2	716	41.73
		Level 3	22	1.28
Total			**1816**	**100**

The microtypes make the most quantity, which implies that Dong Thap Muoi fishermen tend to specify subjects for convenient recognition. Thus, Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms are clearly and specifically characterized.

3.4. Chapter 3 summary

Most of Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms are composed of 2 parts: *one of kind* (X) and *the other of type* (Y) with 3 levels of nominated subject distinction. There are 19 nominal bases taken by Dong Thap Muoi fishermen to name subjects. Those nominal bases of shape, form, structure, and color are dominant. This shows that Dong Thap Muoi fishermen basically select common, familiar, daily-seen features. Cognitively, Dong Thap Muoi fishermen appear to specify subjects. All these show that the classifying depth of Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms is more specific than those of lingua franca and in Nghe Tinh dialect.

Chapter 4
CULTURAL FEATURES OF FISHING TERMS IN DONG THAP MUOI

4.1. Brief introduction

Language is the product, component of culture and also the means of expressing culture. Therefore, 2190 fishing terms collected in Dong Thap Muoi are part of the local culture. They somehow uncover the local fishermen's role and characters. We address these indications via the major points as follows:

4.2. Cultural features indicated in lexical structure

Structurally, separated-meaning compounds are dominant in Dong Thap Muoi fishing structure. In other words, its lexical structure tends dominantly to make meaning-distinctive, specified lexis. The meaning specification of Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms is significant. This indicates the inhabitants' creative cognition, division and presentation of the world in language use.

Additionally, Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms are mostly composed of separated-meaning compounds with 2 components: classifier and specifier. Profound specification generates names of multiple level structure with multiple syllables. Based on the obtained results of 1859 separated-meaning compounds, apart from 1135 terms (61.05%) of 2 components, there are up to 563 ones (30.28%) of 3 components, such as: *colored snakehead fish, three sheet boat, colorful fish fries,…*; 139/1859 terms (7.47%) of 4 components, e.g. *square-head ro fish, bottom level pulling net, young bell fish catching,…*; 22/1859 (1.19%) of 5 components, e.g. *small scale pond bong fish, short back yellow-white fish, twelve hell door placebox,…* This definitely results from the authentic demand for classifying and nominating a wide variety of subjects in Dong Thap Muoi of the waters. Fishing terms varied strucrue, multiple levels, syllables and images correspond to the inhabitants' common thinking and language use.

4.3. Cultural features indicated in lexical origins

On investigating, we find that the origins of Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms are quite various. There are inequalities regarding number and percentage between pure Vietnamese terms and borrowed ones. However, the presence of other languages in Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms, specially Khmer, makes up a distinctive shape of this region's language-culture. It is this that generates a significant characteristic of Dong Thap Muoi culture.

4.4. Cultural features indicated in lexical nomination

4.4.1. Cultural features indicated in subject charactersitics selected for nominal bases

Various nominal bases reflect a wide variety of realities in Dong Thap Muoi. It specially indicates Dong Thap Muoi fishermen's specific, rational cognition and thinking. Clearly, Dong Thap Muoi fishermen are generous, straightforward, generative as the Southerners, but they are distinctively characteristic of specific cognition.

4.4.2. Cultural features indicated in classifying depth in nomination

The classifying depth of Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms is clearly and profoundly specified. This again confirms Dong Thap Muoi fishermen's vocational expertise and specific, concrete, systematic recognition, reflection of realities.

4.4.3. Cultural features indicated in nominal fields of reality and representative meanings

Generally, in Dong Thap Muoi fishermen's physical and spiritual life, fishing vocation is integral. As a result, linguistically it contains images of diversity, multiple dimensions and representative meanings. These representative images are embedded in folk poetry, expressing a mosaic of vocation. The core of that writing is to display a clear, true cognition of fishing vocation and reflect the world of vocational life mosaic. Thereby, we can see representative images and multiple dimensions in Dong Thap Muoi fishermen's physical and spiritual-cultural life.

4.5. Chapter 4 summary

Like other lexis of fishing generally, Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms are largely originally pure Vietnamese. The two nations Vietnam and Khmer in Dong Thap Muoi via their interaction have partly changed the language and gradually generated linguistic-geographical variations characteristic of that region, which is the presentation of featured culture, filled with regional qualities and enriches the national culture.

Dong Thap Muoi fishermen preferrably make lexical units of distinctive nomination with a large number of separated-meaning compounds in their fishing terms. Specially, the second direct component (type classifying) of separated-meaning compounds has many basic elements of different levels. On the other hand, nominal structure of Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms is various, preferrably for multiple level nominations. Classifying depth of nomination in fishing terms is clear, and more specified than those of other dialects. In addition, the selection of nominal bases is characterized by representative images connected with fishing life. All these show the local fishermen's recognizing subjects in details of life as well as specific thinking of analysis.

CONCLUSION

Investigating Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms, we come to the following conclusions:

1. Vocational vocabulary - a lexical part of the national language still receiving little attention from linguists, especially those of freshwater fishing in Dong Thap Muoi - a typical vocation in the Southern area of waters. Investigating Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms by means of language - culture not only discovers features of local fishing terms but also helps providing a language - culture mosaic of Vietnam's language and culture.

In the current disagreement on vocational vocabulary among researchers, the thesis made an attempt to suggest one comprehension to establish framework for the thesis and also to somehow clarify the nature of vocational vocabulary in linguistics. The thesis made a relevant literature review, analysing, explaining, pointing out close relations between vocational vocabulary and those of social dialects as well as the inseparable connection with those of geographical dialects. The obtained results presented in the thesis somehow indicate the significance of vocational vocabulary in Vietnamese language and cultural, historic values reflected in vocational vocabulary.

2. Investigating Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms, we find that vocational vocabulary covers a limited reflection (subjects, products, instruments, means, action procedure, etc. of the vocation), but the lexical terms are various. Among these terms, some are known by many people and characteristic of lingua franca due to their popularity in daily use. Meanwhile, many of the terms are little or unknown to vocational outsiders due to their technical contents.

The wide variety of Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms reflects the authentic mosaic of fishing in the area of thick rivers and canals abounding with fish-shrimps. It also indicates the inhabitants' long-term association with the land and vocation.

3. Structurally, Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms include: singles, compounds and nominal phrasals. However, these term groups are significantly inequal regarding their proportions. The singles and nominal phrasals get small numbers, while the compounds is dominant. Among the compounds, separated-meaning ones get a large proportion, while the combined-meaning are few. It shows that Dong Thap Muoi fishermen pay special attention to coin distinctive words, and the distinctive components can be 1, 2, 3, or 4 basic elements. We come up with 5 structural models of 17 patterms for separated-meaning compounds. This reveals highly distinctive nomination and also Dong Thap Muoi fishermen's recognition, specific dividing the world.

4. Regarding quality and scope, lingua franca elements are commonly used, with large proportions and free, important ones in coining Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms. Although dialectal components get a small proportion, they address clearly

vocational qualities, characteristic of the region. In the coinage, we can see the mixture, interchange of dialectal components and those from lingua franca. All these show quite clearly the ability to reflect cultural features, both common and distinctive of Dong Thap Muoi fishing terms. Baside that, in those fishing terms there are borrowed elements (Chinese, Indo-European, Khmer), which are mostly bound with a limited use scope.

5. For nomination, Dong Thap Muoi fishermen base on a variety of subject characters, namely 19 selected in nominating subjects. Specially, they tend to base on those characters easily observed, recognized and connected with vocational activities. In addition, the number of type indicators is dominant (94.44%). Dong Thap Muoi fishermen preferrably use 2-component structures: kind indicator (X) and type indicator (Y) with different levels for classifying and distinguishing subjects. Thus, it implies Dong Thap Muoi fishermen's specifying subjects in nomination.

6. A wide variety of fishing terms generate a decent means to profoundly, vividly reflect the local fishermen's qualities and spiritual life. Lexical structures, origins, nominal chacracters selected, realities divided and the use of representative vocational terms are partly to picture the local fishermen with their specific observation, analyzing the world in details and multi-dimensional imagination, indicating flexible behaviors towards the nature and waters.

7. Freshwater fishing is one of the age-old vocations, closely connected with Dong Thap Muoi fishermen. The vocational traits are existent in Dong Thap Muoi inhabitants and expressed in local lexical terms as well as in folk writings. Fishing knowledge and experiences are valuable assets calling for further research of single and multidisciplinary approaches.

Hopefully, the contents presented in the thesis will be useful reference for those people working in collecting, researching and teaching langauges and culture in the Mekong Delta particularly and the Southern area generally. With these initial results, we would like to somehow help preserving and developing the cultural identities of the Southern area.

LIST OF PUBLISHED WORKS BY THE PRESENT AUTHOR RELATED TO THE THESIS CONTENTS

1. Trần Hoàng Anh (2012), "Một kiểu định danh đối với lớp từ chỉ tên gọi cá ở Đồng Tháp", *Tạp chí Khoa học Đại học Sài Gòn* (11), tr.44-48.
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