



FRENCH ALUMNI VIETNAM ASSOCIATION
UNION DES ANCIENS ÉTUDIANTS VIETNAMIENS EN FRANCE

PRESS RELEASE

Together let's contribute to the rebuild of Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral

Hanoi April 18th, 2019 – Together with the hope of people in all over the world to witness the resurrection of Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral, the symbol of “850 years of history, architecture, painting and sculpture” after the recent disastrous fire in the evening of 15/4, the French Alumni Vietnam Association (UAVF) is making an appeal to people who love France to contribute their small effort to rebuild this famous Gothic cultural monument. Although being aware that there is a great number of big donors in France and all over the world who have announced their donation, after careful reconsideration we still believe that this gesture of goodwill, in order to share the difficulty and especially to contribute to the restoration, preservation of ancient heritage of humankind, is a great necessity, a meaningful and respectful act.

The fire at Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral is considered as a “Tragedy” for France and all Europe, happened at 18:10 on 15/04/2019, makes millions and millions of people in all over the world and Vietnam shocked & stunned. The Cathedral has been seriously damaged after the fire: all the top of the spire and the ancient roof have totally collapsed, the decoration on the walls, on the windows together with other painting & sculptural works have been damaged and cannot be restored. The restoration of the Cathedral is expected to take several decades and for many years to come, dozen millions of tourists will not have the opportunity to contemplate any more this iconic beauty which embodies the historical and cultural value of France.

The construction of Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral started in 1163 and was completed in 1345, it became the most shining precious stone of Europe gleaming on the Seine River. The medieval Gothic architecture was mixed with the delicate features of different human civilizations, every single construction work was meticulously carried out, they were the devotion of the most talented builders. Over the past 8 centuries, Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral has been considered as a living witness of the ups and downs of France, the inexhaustible inspiration for poetry and also the destination which cannot be missed for tourists coming to Europe.

Therefore, Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral has not only been close and has not only been etched on the memory of numerous Vietnamese alumni in France, Francophone community in Vietnam or other people who had the opportunity to visit Paris, the splendid capital. But Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral is also popular for Vietnamese people through the Novel named Notre Dame de Paris of the famous French writer Victor Hugo.

An uncountable number of generations of Vietnamese have read, is reading and will read this famous novel. As much as they show compassion for the fate of the Hunchback Quasimodo and the beautiful bohemian Esmeralda, they also feel heartbroken in the same way in front of the fire of Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral. Tonight, where does the Hunchback sleep?

On behalf of Vietnamese people who love France, the historical and cultural value of the immortal architectural monument, Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral, UAVF would like to make an appeal for fundraising, even a small contribution, to restore the Cathedral via the online fundraising platform Fundme.vn. All the donations will be handed over to the French Embassy, the official diplomatic representative office of France in Vietnam, to transfer them back to the Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral Restoration Fund.

Together with French people let's contribute to restore the pride of the world.

Link for donation:

<https://fundme.vn>

<https://fundme.vn/ung-ho-khoi-phuc-lai-nha-tho-duc-ba-paris-toi-yeu-nuoc-phap>

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