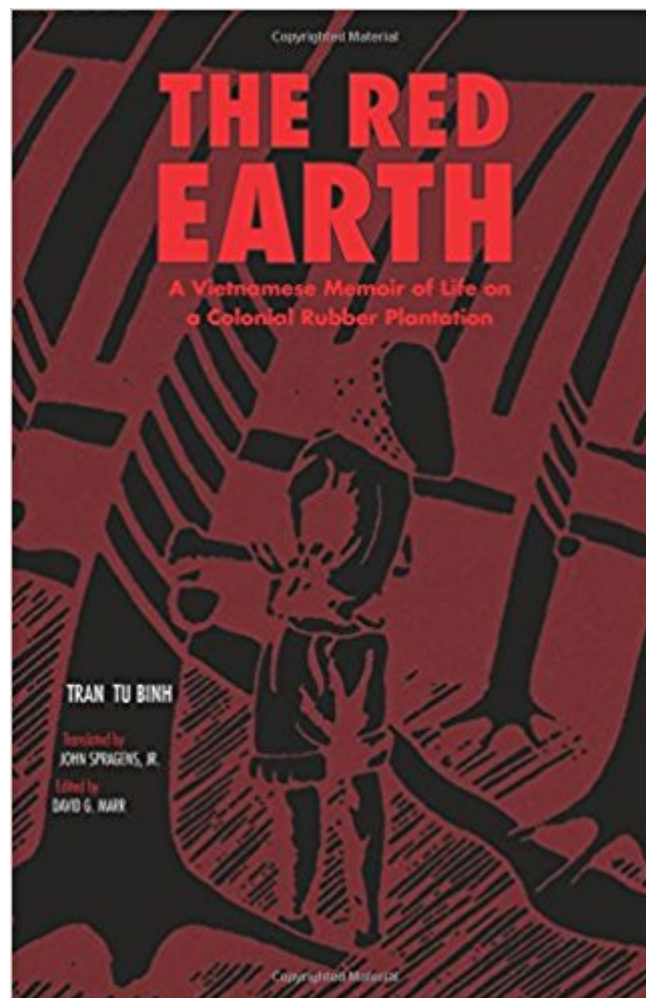




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# Red Earth: A Vietnamese Memoir Of Life On A Colonial Rubber Plantation (Ohio RIS Southeast Asia Series)



## Synopsis

Phu Rieng was one of many French rubber plantations in colonial Vietnam; Tran Tu Binh was one of 17,606 laborers brought to work there in 1927, and his memoir is a straightforward, emotionally searing account of how one Vietnamese youth became involved in revolutionary politics. The connection between this early experience and later activities of the author becomes clear as we learn that Tran Tu Binh survived imprisonment on Con Son island to help engineer the general uprising in Hanoi in 1945. *The Red Earth* is the first of dozens of such works by veterans of the 1924-45 struggle in Vietnam to be published in English translation. It is important reading for all those interested in the many-faceted history of modern Vietnam and of communism in the non-Western world.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Tran Tu Binh's recollection of his experience of labor service in the rubber villages of the Michelin company was first published in 1965 in Hanoi under the title *Phu Rieng Do* [Red Phu Rieng]. His description of the maltreatment, brutal punishment, lack of adequate food, housing, and medical care that Vietnamese workers had to endure in the hell on earth, as plantations were called, corroborates what we know of the terrible forms of exploitation the representatives of the rubber companies practiced. *The Journal of Asian Studies*; This is a fascinating and short book; it extends to just 90 pages, including end notes and introduction. It is ably translated by John Spragens Jr. and edited by

David G Marr for Ohio University and is a vital part of not just modern Vietnamese history but of post-colonial literature as a whole. [Book Ideas](#)

Text: English, Vietnamese (translation)

Fascinating memoir of a Vietnamese Communist organizer working on a French rubber plantation during the colonial period. The brutality of the rubber workers' existence is vividly - and accurately - described. It reads like an organizer's manual. One gets a better understanding of why the Vietnamese rebelled against French colonialism at the end of World War II

A chilling and insightful look into the social strife of a generation who struggled to survive under imperialistic French intention. A well defined look into the struggle of the proletariat and the appeal that nationalism and communism had for a society struggling to survive.

i buy this because it is Vietnamese history, but the truth is this book is so poor in writing, or in translation!

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