

October 15, 1956

**Speech Given by Mr. Tsi Kuac Than, Chief Delegate
of Vietnam at the Opening Session of the Asia Youth
and Students Anti-Communist Conference**

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Summary:

In a push for unity among non-communist countries in Asia, Tsi Kuac Than of Vietnam announces that "our problems are basically the same as yours."

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Speech given by Mr. Tai Kmac Than, Chief delegate of Vietnam at the opening session of the Asia Youth and Students Anti-Communist Conference on October 15, 1956, Seoul, Korea

Mr. Chairmen, Fellow Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Vietnamese Delegation, I wish to present our most sincere thanks for the warm welcome which has been reserved to us by the Organization Committee of this Youth Conference. We have been also asked by the Youth Organizations of Vietnam to convey to this Conference their greetings and wishes for success.

This is the first time that representatives from youth organizations in Asian countries gather to discuss together the common problems facing their present activities and their future developments. The problems are indeed diversified in their forms, but basically they have a common factor, to check infiltration of Communism through Asia. The task which confronts us here at this Conference is a very heavy one and perhaps our efforts alone will not solve them all. Yet, we firmly believe in the principle of strength through unit and we trust that the pooling together of our ideas and experiences at this Conference will benefit us all in our future work. We thank the Korean Youth Organizations and the Korean Government for having provided us with this trust opportunity by taking the initiative and the responsibility to convene this Conference.

The Youth Organizations of Vietnam are expecting a great deal from this Conference to bring them in closer contacts with their Asian friends. We feel that we have a lot to learn from and to give to our Asian friends. Our problems are basically the same as yours: We must defeat Communism and especially check its evil influence among our youth, to the false promises of utopian paradises and the rigid regimentation of youth by the Communists. We must substitute a positive program of action adapted to their abilities and the free development of all talents in the youth of our country, preparing them for their future role in the service of the nation. Whereas the Communists are duly interested in exploiting for their own purposes the enthusiasm and energy of youth, we must express a genuine interest in the full development of youth as a force working for future peace and progress in the world.

These principles are being implemented in our country by youth organizations, working under the leadership of their elders who participate actively in the total war that President Ngo Dinh Diem is waging against Communism.

My dear friends,

I am confident that this Conference will be successful and that Common bonds of friendship and brotherhood which tied the young peoples of Asia will grow tighter and stronger after this Conference.