

Freedom of Poetry (Or Poetry of Freedom)

By Ton That Thien

Down with democracy!
Up with democracy!
Out with dictatorship!
In with generalship!
Long live The Revolution!
Long live free competition!

The ship of state is leaking;
Everything is stinking,
The general is gone,
But the harm is done.

The Chief of State says: "No",
The dismissed ministers won't go,
The angry Catholics agitate,
The Hoa Hao and Buddhists imitate,
So do the Cao Dai,
Followed by the Bahai.

The Ambassador is perplexed,
The Council is vexed,
The Prime Minister shouts: "what is this?"
The generals inquire: "Crisis?"

Oh Buddha, stop our serfdom!
Oh Jesus, give us freedom!
Oh Lord, we need ability!
Oh God, we need stability!

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