

CONTENTS

List of figures xii

List of tables xiii

List of maps xiv

Acknowledgements xvi

Introduction 1

Prologue 1

Vantage 2

Language 4

Apologia 6

Summary 9

Pronunciation and spelling of Vietnamese names 12

1 The provincial era 14

The empire comes south 14

The Han conquest 19

Shi Xie and the rise of the great families 24

Giao Province 29

Imperial weakness and local heroes 34

The Protectorate of An Nam 37

The Nan Zhao War 40

A lesser empire 44

vi / **Contents**

- 2** The Ly dynasty 51
- Hoa Lu 51
 - Ly Cong Uan 59
 - Ly Phat Ma 64
 - Ly Nhat Ton 72
 - Outbreak of the Ly–Song War 77
 - The Ly–Song War 83
 - Ly Can Duc 86
 - Do Anh Vu and To Hien Thanh 92
 - Collapse of the Ly dynasty 99
- 3** The Tran dynasty 108
- Tran Thu Do 108
 - Early Tran literati 114
 - Solidarity among the princes 117
 - Poetry and language 119
 - Mobilizing resources: eunuchs, slaves, dikes, and war 121
 - The First Mongol War 123
 - Living with danger 125
 - The Mongols return 131
 - Farewell to tattoos 137
 - Farewell to the princes 139
 - Tran Manh and the late Tran literati 144
 - Agrarian unrest, Tran Hao, and Nhat Le 150
 - Tran Phu 154
 - Le Quy Ly 157
- 4** The Le dynasty 165
- Destruction of the Tran aristocracy 165

vii / [Contents](#)

- Ho Quy Ly 170
A historic watershed 174
Ming Giao Chi 177
The abandonment of Ming Giao Chi 180
Le Loi 183
A new dynastic structure 187
Great lords and Le Nguyen Long 192
Great lords and Le Bang Co 198
Le Tu Thanh as teacher 205
Le Tu Thanh as ruler 211
Expanding the borders 218
- 5** The beginning of inter-regional warfare 224
Return of adolescent kings and great lords 224
Rise of the east 232
The early Mac dynasty 237
Outbreak of the Seventy Years War 242
The Le restoration 249
- 6** The Fifty Years War 258
The north 258
The south 265
War begins 273
Dao Duy Tu and southern mobilization 279
Trinh mobilization 283
Christianity 287
Maritime trade 290
New leaders in an old war 295
The far south 300

viii / **Contents**

Nguyen Phuc Tan, Trinh Tac, and the Nghe An campaign	307
The last battle	312
7 The south and the north diverge	319
Relations with Cambodia	319
Politics and government in the south	325
Nguyen Phuc Khoat, the first southern king	331
Misgovernment in the north	339
Trinh Cuong's reforms	343
Trinh Giang and the collapse of government	351
Trinh Doanh and the age of rebellion	355
Another cycle of Trinh misgovernment	360
8 The Thirty Years War	365
The rise of Qui Nhon	365
Resurgence of the Nguyen Phuc and decline of the Trinh	370
Tay Son ascendancy and division	373
Nguyen Hue, the Quang Trung emperor	377
Nguyen Phuc Anh at Saigon	380
From Saigon to Dien Khanh	386
From Dien Khanh to Binh Dinh	390
A new peace	393
9 The Nguyen dynasty	398
Between north and south	398
Literature	403
Siam and the question of Khmer vassalage	409
Dynastic discipline	411
Relations with the Khmer vassal	413

ix / Contents

Minh Mang's centralizing policies	415
Background to Le Van Khoi's rebellion	420
Le Van Khoi's rebellion and war with Siam	425
Thieu Tri and the French navy	429
Tu Duc's accession and incapacity to rule	436
The threat from Europe	441
10	
The French conquest	446
The Treaty of Saigon, 1862	446
Formation of French Cochinchina	451
The Treaty of 1874	454
Post-treaty disorder in the north	459
French administration in rural Cochinchina	461
Law and language in Cochinchina	464
The Sino-French War	468
The French take Hue	472
Formation of French Indochina	477
11	
Franco-Vietnamese colonial relations	484
Intellectuals respond to the colonial regime	484
The 1908 disturbances and their sequel	490
Domestic ferment with Europe at war	493
The beginning of Saigon politics	497
Cochinchina and the new generation	500
The new generation in Tonkin and Annam	504
The soviets in Nghe-Tinh and western Cochinchina	509
The French resort to the monarchy	511
Vietnamese politics and the Popular Front	514
New cultural patterns	517

x / [Contents](#)

12	Indochina at war	524
	The Japanese arrive	524
	Formation of the Viet Minh	529
	The August Revolution	532
	Return of the French	536
	Outbreak of a new war	540
	A Franco-Vietnamese government	544
	Radicalization of the Viet Minh	547
	The beginning of United States involvement	551
	The peace settlement	556
13	From two countries to one	561
	Saigon	561
	Hanoi	566
	Start of a new war	572
	Ngo Dinh Diem between communists and Americans	575
	The Kennedy escalation	578
	Assassination of Ngo Dinh Diem	583
	Political turmoil in Saigon	590
	Formation of the Second Republic of Vietnam	597
	The communist offensive of 1968	601
	US redeployment out of Vietnam	605
	The Second Republic	607
	The victory of Hanoi	611
	The Sino-Khmer War and renovation	614
	Retrospective	620

xi / Contents

<i>Bibliographic essay</i>	627
<i>Materials in Asian languages</i>	627
<i>Suggested readings in English and French organized by chapters</i>	630
<i>Figures</i>	644
<i>Tables</i>	649
<i>Maps</i>	654
<i>Index</i>	674