

DONG VAN KART PLATEAU GEOPARK development: Another look from cultural anthropology.

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A "geological park" concept (geo-park) is referred to a physical area containing geological heritage and landscape values (UNESCO 2014). Accordingly, it generally focuses on conserving and managing natural and material values. However, in fact, almost all geoparks (especially Asian geoparks) are constructed within living areas and/or cultural heritage sites such as archaeological sites, historic sites, and cultural landscape (Farsani, Coelho & Costa 2011). From perspectives of cultural anthropology, this paper considers the "geopark" as a cultural construct and geopark management as a construction of cultural identity. Therefore, it argues that the model of geopark as a Western cultural construction of regional identity may affect and change identity constructs and identity constructions of Asian societies geoparks located. This argument is examined by analysing ethnographic data collected from participation and observation of the researcher to minority communities at Dongvan kart plateau Global Geopark (DGG) in the North of Vietnam. Decolonizing methodologies and ethnographic methodology are the writer's theoretical perspective positions in this paper.