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President Ho Chi Minh's 125th birthday marked nationwide and abroad

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A delegation of the Party, State, National Assembly and Viet Nam Fatherland Front laid wreaths at President Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum in Ha Noi today.

The delegation included Party General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong, President Truong Tan Sang, National Assembly Chairman Nguyen Sinh Hung, Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung and President of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front Central Committee Nguyen Thien Nhan.

The national leaders expressed their respect and gratitude to President Ho, who founded and trained the Viet Nam Communist Party, for his great contributions to the nation's revolution. The delegation also laid floral tributes at the Monument to the Fallen Soldiers.

Worldwide celebrations in overseas Vietnamese communities also saw various activities to mark President Ho Chi Minh's 125th birthday anniversary.

At the Vietnamese Embassy in New Delhi, an Indian delegation, led by President of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Lokesh Chandra, yesterday recalled memories of President Ho's visit to India in 1958.

The delegates said the leader's modesty and sincerity left a great impression on many Indians at that time.

Also, the Vietnamese embassy in the capital city of Pretoria, South Africa, hosted a cultural and sports exchange on Friday with ambassadors and diplomats from the embassies of ASEAN

member countries, including Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

That same day, the Vietnamese Cultural Centre in Paris, France organised a ceremony to mark 40 years since reunification day and the 125th birthday anniversary of the late President.

President Ho Chi Minh was born on May 19, 1890 in Kim Lien Commune, Nam Dan District, the central province of Nghe An.

He devoted his life to the national liberation cause, while tirelessly striving for peace and progress in the world. He also led the nation to success in the struggle for national independence and establishing the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam following the August Revolution in 1945. The president passed away in 1969.

#### Ho Chi Minh's Moral Example contest

On this occasion, as many as 217 of the top entries entered into the contest on 'Studying and Following President Ho Chi Minh's Moral Example', phase 2 (2013-15) have been honoured at an awards ceremony in Ha Noi.

Since the contest was launched two years ago, the steering committee and organising boards have received thousands of literary, artistic and journalistic works from artists and journalists at home and abroad.

The entries included a variety of media formats including prose, poetry, plays and literary criticism, as well as paintings, photography, music, cinematography and dance.

All of the entries depict President Ho Chi Minh as a national hero and a man of great culture and portray exemplary individuals in the 'Study and Follow President Ho Chi Minh's Moral Example' campaign.

The event was held as part of activities to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the late President's birthday. — VNS

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