

NGUYEN THE TRUYEN (1898-1969). Prominent political figure in colonial Vietnam. Born in 1898 in Nam Dinh Province, Nguyen The Truyen went to Paris in 1920 and was soon involved in radical political activities connected with the journal Le Paria (the Pariah) and the Intercolonial Union, (l'Union Intercoloniale), a front organization of the French Communist Party (FCP) composed of radical exiles from French colonies in Asia and Africa. An engineer by profession, he became a member of the FCP's Colonial Section and headed the Intercolonial Union after Ho Chi Minh's departure for Moscow in 1923.

In 1926, he set up a new Vietnamese language journal, the Viet Nam Hon (Soul of Vietnam) and organized a new political party among Vietnamese expatriates in Paris called the Annamite Independence Party (Parti Annamite de l'Independance). The party dissolved after his return to Vietnam in the late 1920s.

By the 1940s, Nguyen The Truyen had abandoned radical activities and supported the Bao Dai government in 1949. He died in Saigon in September 1969. (See Annamite Independence Party)