

**TAY SON DYNASTY (Nha Tay Son) (1788-1802).** Short-lived dynasty formed after the Tay Son Rebellion in eighteenth-century Vietnam. The dynasty was founded in 1788 by Nguyen Hue, second oldest of the three so-called Tay Son Brothers who launched the revolt in 1771 that eventually defeated the Nguyen and Trinh Lords, who had ruled southern and northern Vietnam in the name of the effete Le Dynasty since the sixteenth century. After the seizure of the capital Thang Long (Hanoi) in 1786, Nguyen Hue at first recognized the legitimacy of the reigning Le ruler. But when the Le called on Chinese aid to drive out Tay Son influence, Nguyen Hue defeated the Chinese, forced the Le emperor to flee to Peking, and declared himself Emperor Quang Trung of a new Tay Son Dynasty in 1788.

Quang Trung proved to be a very vigorous and effective ruler, but he died suddenly in 1792. His son and successor, Quang Toan (dynastic name of Canh Tinh), was young and inexperienced, and the dynasty soon fell prey to internal dissension. In 1802 it was overthrown by Nguyen Anh, last surviving member of the Nguyen house in the South. On seizing power, the latter had Canh Tinh and all remaining members of the Tay Son Dynasty executed. (See Nguyen Dynasty; Nguyen Hue)