

# *Vietnamese President Nguyen Xuan Phuc concludes official visit to Cuba*

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**Photo: Miguel Rubiera and Marcelino Vazquez.ACN.**

Havana, Sep 21 (RHC) On Monday, the official visit to Cuba of the President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Nguyen Xuan Phuc, ended with a tribute to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro at the Santa Ifigenia cemetery in the city of Santiago de Cuba.

In the patrimonial cemetery, he laid floral offerings before the monolith that guards the remains of the historic leader of the Revolution Fidel Castro Ruz and in the mausoleum to the Apostle of national independence, Jose Marti, and dedicated roses to Mariana Grajales and Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, recognized as the Mother and Father of the Homeland, respectively.

Xuan Phuc arrived this afternoon to the southeastern city through the Antonio Maceo International Airport and was received by Deputy Prime Minister Ramiro Valdes and Beatriz Johnson, governor of the province.

As part of the visit - which began last Saturday - the Vietnamese president exchanged in Havana with his peer Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez, the president of the National Assembly of People's Power, Esteban Lazo, and with Manuel Marrero, Prime Minister, as a sign of the fraternity that unites Cuba and Vietnam.

For his contributions to strengthening the ties of friendship, solidarity and cooperation between the two nations, Nguyen Xuan received the José Martí Order, the highest decoration granted by the Cuban State.

A Joint Declaration and several agreements were also signed in the common interest of leading the special relationship towards a new stage of integral development, based on mutual political trust and complementarity between the two countries.

The member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam learned in the Cuban capital about business opportunities in the Mariel Special Development Zone and urged the ministers and businessmen who accompanied him to find key areas of investment that bring practical benefits to the Cuban people.

He visited the Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (CIGB), where he signed a memorandum of cooperation in technology transfer for the production of the anti-COVID-19 Abdala vaccine.

The Vietnamese regulatory authority recently authorized the emergency use of this immunogen, which has proven to be effective in the prevention of symptomatic disease, severity and death, and whose importation - initially planned for five million doses of the drug - will be carried out by the Biological Products and Vaccines Research Center (Polyvac).

In declarations to the press, Nguyen Xuan Phuc described as successful his first official visit to the largest Antillean Island, as important cooperation agreements were signed in all areas, especially in political, economic, commercial and health matters.

He considered it an excellent opportunity to consolidate the bilateral relations established by Ho Chi Minh and Fidel Castro, and ratified the confidence that both States will achieve the road to Socialism and will work for its development in several spheres.

Xuan Phuc arrived in Cuba on September 18 with a large delegation of his country and said goodbye today to this land, after paying honors to the Commander in Chief, who lives in the hearts of brothers around the world, he said. (Source: ACN).

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