

Children's literature in southern vietnam period 1954 - 1975 in Tuổi Ngọc Magazine

Nguyen Thi Thuy¹

Le Van Dung²

Abstract: Before 1975, In southern Vietnamese cities, there were many publishing houses that printed publications for children. Besides those individual publications, there were also newspapers that always accompanied young readers. It can be said that Tuổi Ngọc weekly magazine was a spiritual gift that writers who love children gave to young readers at that time. The collaboration between Duyen Anh and Vũ Mộng Long (From now on, depending on the author's name when printed with the same work, we will sometimes write it as Duyen Anh or Vu Mong Long), Đinh Tiến Luyện, Từ Kế Tường, Hoàng Hải Thủy, Mưỡing Mán, and many other authors have brought children's readers good and valuable works. This weekly newspaper operated for nearly 6 years and then discontinued publication. During that period of operation, the newspaper contributed for the country's literature in general and children's literature in particular, especially in the southern urban area, with typical author faces and works of immense value, not only in terms of genre but also in content value such as educational and entertainment value. The weekly newspaper always receives love from young readers and trust from their parents.

Keywords: Tuổi Ngọc weekly. Literature of Southern urban areas in Vietnam. Children's Literature. Teenager's Literature.

Literatura infantil no sul do vietnã no período de 1954 a 1975 na Revista Tuổi Ngọc

Resumo: Antes de 1975, nas cidades do sul, havia muitas editoras que imprimiam publicações para crianças. Além dessas publicações individuais, há também jornais que sempre acompanham os jovens leitores. Pode-se dizer que a revista semanal Tuổi Ngọc foi um presente espiritual que os escritores que amam as crianças deram aos jovens leitores naquela época. Sob o acompanhamento de Duyen Anh e Vũ Mộng Long (de agora em diante, dependendo do nome do autor quando impresso com a mesma obra, às vezes o escreveremos como Duyen Anh ou Vu Mong Long), Đinh Tiến Luyện, Từ Kế Tường, Hoàng Hải Thủy, Mưỡing Mán e muitos outros autores trouxeram aos leitores infantis obras boas e valiosas. Esse jornal semanal funcionou por quase seis anos e depois deixou de ser publicado. Durante esse período de operação, o jornal contribuiu para a literatura do país em geral e para a literatura infantil em particular, especialmente na área urbana do sul, com rostos de autores típicos e obras de imenso valor, não apenas em termos de gênero, mas também em termos de conteúdo, como valor educacional e de entretenimento. O jornal semanal sempre recebe o carinho dos jovens leitores e a confiança de seus pais.

Palavras-chave: Seminário Tuổi Ngọc; Literatura das áreas urbanas do sul do Vietnã; Literatura infantil; Literatura adolescente.

1 Thu Dau Mot University. ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0009-0007-3539-5865>

2 University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University. ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0009-0002-4993-7569>

INTRODUCTION

It's interesting to note that despite Vietnamese children's literature being a popular topic of research, the characteristics of children's literature in Tuoi Ngoc weekly magazine remain largely unknown. Tuoi Ngoc was published in Saigon from 1969 to 1975 and consisted of 156 issues. Even though its existence is short, what made it so loved by children, and what made it unique? What contributions did the Weekly Magazine have in terms of content and art to writing for children, especially Vietnamese children before 1975? Our article utilizes statistical methods to classify primary documents (children's works printed in the magazine) and secondary documents (evaluations and comments of experts and scholars) to analyze the typical characteristics of the newspaper such as content, art, and literary genre. Through this analysis, we hope to make objective and honest judgments and assessments to affirm the role of Tuoi Ngoc Weekly magazine in the formation and development of Vietnamese children's literature during this pivotal period in the country's history. Thereby affirming the role of this weekly magazine in the formation and development of Vietnamese children's literature currently.

Tuổi Ngọc - major weekly newspaper for children before 1975 in the South

In the period after 1954 to 1975, Southern Vietnamese society had many economic, political, and social changes. This had a profound impact on culture. The capitalist economy has created conditions for the private economy, including the printing and publishing market to develop. According to Nguyễn Vy Khanh (2019, p. 668), in *Southern Literature 1954–1975 Overview* (upper volume), only Saigon had about 1,000 printing houses, 45 daily newspapers, 30 magazines, and 150 publishers. In such a vibrant literary and journalistic life, the formation of many newspapers for children is understandable. On the other hand, the education of children during this period has an open direction. Children do not have to have only one source of learning and entertainment materials from school publications anymore. At this time, printing has opened up countless open learning materials for children because it is not one-sided, dogmatic, and dry like school books. Children come to these new newspapers and books with passion and excitement, not only because of their high entertainment value but also because of their many profound educational lessons.

Children's publications are regularly released to meet the growing needs of young readers. What is worth mentioning here is that many newspapers (weekly, semi-monthly) were born and were warmly and excitedly welcomed by young readers, such as Tuổi Hoa, Thiếu Nhi, Thanh Hoa, Ngân Thông, Cỏ Lau, Tinh Hoa, Búp Bê, Tuổi Trẻ, Măng Non, and Tuổi Ngọc weekly magazines (NGUYỄN VY KHANH, 2019, pp. 641-642). Tuổi Ngọc is a gathering place for many authors dedicated to children. Besides, the newspaper is also a place for children to submit and publish their own work.

Tuổi Ngọc is a weekly magazine written for teenagers and published every Thursday in the period before 1975. Due to historical events and other objective reasons, this magazine, as well as other newspapers at the same time, operated intermittently. The operating period of Tuổi Ngọc weekly magazine is divided into two periods: the old series was published from July 18, 1969, to January 2, 1970, with 24 issues; the new series was released from May 27, 1971, until April 5, 1975, with 157 issues, then discontinued completely. The magazine was published for nearly 6 years, with a total of 181 issues published in both sets (old and new). However, due to historical limitations, up to now, Tuổi Ngọc weekly magazine has been largely lost. There are very few remaining newspapers, which are currently kept in libraries and used bookstores at home and abroad. In addition, it is also published on literary forums on the Internet. Perhaps the lost issues will still be somewhere that has not been widely disseminated. We also hope that in the future, the issues of this the weekly will be collected more and more fully so that future generations can have a correct assessment of its contributions. The data we use in this article is based on the collection and processing of data sources obtained from libraries, used bookstores, and the Internet. When we access the source material to

complete this article, it is likely that some of the lost newspapers will have been published. Therefore, this article will only limit the data from the 60 existing newspaper issues.

In the 1960s and 1970s of the twentieth century, printing was quite easy. At that time, each newspaper was associated with a certain printing house or publisher. Sometimes each newspaper has its own publisher, and Tuổi Ngọc is no exception. The weekly magazine was born to serve readers at children's ages, especially adolescents. Tuổi Ngọc published about 8,000 issues per period at its peak (TRẦN QUÂN THUY, 2020). The price for each book sold also gradually increased compared to the price in each period at that time. The first 11 issues in the old series were priced at 20 VND per book. By number 12 of the old series, the price had increased to 25 VND per book. This price remains until the last issue of the old set. After a period without publications, on May 27, 1971, the first issue of the new series was released at a price of 40 VND per book. This first few dozen issues of the new series remained with the same price, then increased to 60 VND per book. In addition, special issues each cost up to 200 VND, such as numbers 37, 38, and 39 (3 issues printed together), and even 220 VND per book for special issues like numbers 87, 88, and 89 printed together with the name *Giai Phẩm Xuân Quý Sửu*. In particular, *Giai phẩm Xuân Hồng* No. 152 and 153 printed together cost up to 450 VND per book. In general, such a selling price is considered suitable for the publishing cost and affordable for readers.

In terms of capacity, the old Tuổi Ngọc magazine has a page count of 23–24 pages per book. Moving to the new series, the number of pages per book released in each issue ranges from 60 to 62 pages. However, there are special issues such as *Giai Phẩm Xuân Hồng* that include many issues bound together in one book in one publication, so the number of pages is very large. For example, the publication of the special *Giai Phẩm Xuân Hồng* issue in 1972 included the numbers 37, 38, and 39, with up to 64 pages including covers, or the special *Xuân Hồng* issue in 1973, with three common issues: 87, 88, and 89, for a total of the number of pages is up to 194 per book (including the cover page).

Tuổi Ngọc operates under the talent of the editor-in-chief and famous and dedicated writer for children, Duyên Anh - Vũ Mộng Long, and Đinh Tiến Luyện as editorial secretary. In addition, there is also the participation of many veteran writers who write for children, including Từ Kế Tường, Hoàng Hải Thủy, Mường Mán, etc. To attract the interest of readers, the authors have exploited many genres in the creative process for children: short stories, long stories, comics, essays, plays, and poetry. Besides, to increase the fun of the newspaper, each published issue has an entertainment section that is very attractive to children.

The weekly magazine is a specialised magazine with quality articles for children. There, children readers can experience the joys and sorrows of the characters, enjoy... Enjoy exciting adventures in picture stories or indulge in emotional poems. On the other hand, the weekly newspaper is also a playground for young writers to unleash their creativity. In each issue, Tuổi Ngọc always has a section to post articles submitted to the "Writing about My Mother" contest by readers from different parts of the country. It was in this column that many literary talents were nurtured. They are now not only objects of enjoyment but also promising young writers. Among those writers is Nguyễn Nhật Ánh, a writer who is still passionate about writing for children. He had a story published in Tuổi Ngọc weekly magazine when he was only 14 years old.

Although it existed for only nearly 6 years, Tuổi Ngọc weekly magazine has left behind an extremely impressive amount of literary works for children. Based on survey data on our survey data on 60 publications, there are 1,105 units of literary works for children in many genres, such as long stories, short stories, comics, essays, plays, novels and poems. Children loved every genre and demonstrated their interest on Tuổi Ngọc and Reader Section. This is a bridge between the editorial board and the magazine readers, who give feedback to the newspaper on both content and presentation. Sometimes, there are readers who do not like the ending of a certain work, so they will use the Tuổi Ngọc and Readers section to express the ending they want. There are also times when readers wait for a long time to read the next part of an unfinished work in previous issues and, through this section, they urge

the author to continue writing because they eagerly expect to read it. Every week, the children eagerly wait for the magazine to publish. Tuổi Ngọc, the “weekly magazine of love,” “weekly magazine of the most beautiful period of life,” and the “weekly magazine of middle-aged people” for young people, was published every Thursday, and an expected gift for everyone, male and female students at different level from 1971 to 1975 in the South (BÛI THUẬN, 2019). Children always loved the weekly magazine because of its diversity in content and aesthetic appeal in form. It is worth mentioning that the content of this weekly magazine is aimed at readers who are teenagers, that is, students between middle and high school. That is the principle that authors such as Duyên Anh, Từ Kế Tường, Đinh Tiến Luyện, Đinh Hùng, Mai Thảo, Nguyễn Thị Hoàng Nguyễn Nhật Ánh, Tôn Nữ Thu Dung, Tôn Nữ Thu Nga,... have posed when writing for them.

About publication time, Tuổi Ngọc was mentioned in the previous paragraph. This weekly newspaper launched with its first issue on July 18, 1969 with the name Weekly Magazine of Love, used for a 24-issue period and discontinued in December 1969. After half a year of suspension, with the longing and waiting of readers, the regret and desire to give young people a spiritual, pure and wholesome food by responsible writers such as Duyên Anh, Từ Kế Tường, Đinh Tiến Luyện..., the the weekly magazine was published again. In this second release. Its name was changed to Weekly magazine for Teenagers with a total circulation of 157 issues in the second period.. This magazine, along with other publications for children such as the semi-monthly Tuổi Hoa magazine, the semi-monthly Ngàn Thông magazine, the weekly Thăng Bờm... have become essential spiritual food for Vietnamese Children in general, but mainly for Southern Vietnamese children, but specifically Southern children in particular. Those were the pages of books and newspapers that always received the trust of parents at that time.

About the target audience, Tuổi Ngọc magazine focuses its pen mainly on young adults (about 12 to 17 years old). Therefore, the authors also work very hard when composing, so that the newspaper is always the spiritual food that children look forward to. At this age, children are not children, but they are not adults either. At the end of middle school and high school, children will have changes not only in their physical condition but also in their mental and cognitive abilities. They have the private emotions of adolescence. Trương Đình Tuấn, a child at the time, sadly recalled his very honest feelings when waiting for the issues of Tuổi Ngọc, He shared, “We had just entered adolescence at that time, so Tuổi Ngọc met the passion for reading of the age group starting to dream. Long stories such as Áo tiểu thư (LADIES’S DRESS), Quán trọ tuổi trẻ (Youth Inn - Duyên Anh), Trong nhật ký của Quỳnh (In Quynh’s Diary - Đinh Tiến Luyện), Huyền Xưa (The Old Huyen - Từ Kế Tường), Lá tương tư (Leaves of Longing - Mùng Mán), Phía ngoài cửa lớp (Outside the Classroom Door - Mai Thảo) etc... have captivated readers without missing a week without reading” (TRƯƠNG ĐÌNH TUẤN, 2018).

In terms of reflective content, the magazine shows quite a variety of fields, such as the natural sciences: physics, chemistry, and biology. Common sense science covers a wide range of topics like health care, beauty, sex education, quizzes, and especially the field of literature, which is most clearly shown with a variety of genres such as jokes and stories, fairy tales, poems, essays, short stories, long stories, essays... For each genre, the author gently and deeply explores the psychology and age characteristics of the characters. Therefore, each issue of the magazine always brings readers a lot of new, attractive, meaningful, and scientific information. Literary works come to children like sweet milk to nourish their souls, understand the vibrations in their teenage souls, and perfect their personalities. Those works are always associated with the names of authors such as Duyên Anh-Vũ Mông Long, Từ Kế Tường, Mai Thảo, Nguyễn Xuân Hoàng, Đinh Tiến Luyện, Hạ Phúc Trầm, Hoàng Hải Thủy, Nguyễn Đình Toàn and Nguyễn Bình. In addition, the sections on entertainment quizzes, scientific knowledge, and health care sections for teenagers are also very popular with children.

In terms of presentation, the front cover of Tuổi Ngọc weekly magazine is always meticulously crafted with extremely vivid and beautiful drawings by dedicated artists like Đinh Tiến Luyện and Lê Vĩnh Ngọc. In every literary work, there are often eye-catching and meaningful illustrations. The back cover of the newspaper is often used to

post advertisements such as music shows, auto-rickshaw vendors, milk vendors, etc., and especially to introduce upcoming books by writers of that time. Besides, the weekly newspaper is also very sophisticated in presenting its sections, especially literary works. For example, on the current page, a certain story is being shown. Rarely does the newspaper present the entire content of that story, but only a certain part of it. While presenting the clima. At the bottom of the page, it says “continued on page...” if it is a short story, or “continued in next issue” if the work belongs to the long story genre. This is to help readers easily find the unfinished story on the next page and, at the same time, stimulate readers to read the next issue of the newspaper out of curiosity.

With the enthusiasm of writers who love children, we have created a special weekly magazine for for children, who always eagerly waited for the next weekly magazine in each release period because it was attractive in content and eye-catching in form. Tuổi Ngọc Weekly and many other publications for children in the South before 1975 have created an “ageless paradise” (LÊ CÔNG SƠN, 2019). This sounds like a personal comment, an opinion, which should be avoided in an article.

Contributions of Tuổi Ngọc Weekly to children's literature

The number of authors and works

With an operating period of nearly 6 years, despite occasional interruptions, Tuổi Ngọc weekly magazine has contributed to the country's children's literature in general and to the Southern children's literature region in particular, with a large number of authors. Based on our survey data on 60 existing newspaper issues, we find that with regard to the number of authors, Tuổi Ngọc weekly magazine has gathered more than 500 authors in all genres of literature, from long stories, short stories, autobiographies, comics, plays, and essays to poetry. The literary and journal sections alone have gathered the largest number, with up to 217 authors. The second most important thing to mention is the short story section, with 150 authors enthusiastically participating in composing for the published issues. The poetry section also received support from 124 authors with many published works. Particularly, the drama and comic genres are limited in the number of authors. In the comic genre, in the process of counting over 60 existing issues, we only found the author Đinh Hiền with 3 works. In the long story genre, there are also 13 authors participating in the writing process for each issue. The long stories published in these issues were later collected and printed into separate books.

During the process of learning about this weekly magazine, we realised that there are many authors devoted to children, such as Duyên Anh-Vũ Mộng Long, Từ Kế Tường, Nhật Tiến, Đinh Tiến Luyện, Hoàng Ngọc Tuấn, Mùng Mán, Mai Thảo, Thảo Trường, Doãn Quốc Sỹ, Hoàng Hải Thủy etc. Among them, there are writers whose writing career has been associated with children until now, such as authors Tô Hoài and Nguyễn Nhật Ánh. Particularly, Nguyễn Nhật Ánh had an article published in Tuổi Ngọc n.21, December 1969, when he was only 14 years old, and until now, the works he composed are still best-sellers in the children's book market.

The writing power and enthusiasm that writers have for Tuổi Ngọc as well as children's readers is extremely great. This can be seen in through the compositions they have created for children. Many authors connect their writing careers with young readers in this weekly magazine not only in one but in many genres. The first typical author to mention is Từ Kế Tường. Not only is he the person with the highest number of works published on Tuổi Ngọc (51 works), but he also ranks first in the writing of many genres. he writing of his 51 works shows that he has devoted great effort and affection to Tuổi Ngọc and the readers of this weekly magazine. Not only successful in the prose genre, Từ Kế Tường is also known for his in poetry, since he had up to 25 works published in Tuổi Ngọc. The person ranked second among the authors with many works published on Tuổi Ngọc is the director and editor - writer Duyên Anh- Vũ Mộng Long with 35 works in genres such as essay-magazines (12 works), long stories (18 works), short stories (5 works). Next is author Đinh Tiến Luyện with 18 works in three genres: essays, long stories and short

stories. In addition, the weekly magazine also has the participation of many writers such as: Hoàng Hải Thủy, Mường Mán, Võ Hồng, Hoàng Anh Tuấn, Đỗ Thị Hồng Liên... whose names are still mentioned in the newspaper, history of the country's children's literature.

Regarding the number of works, it is possible to find more than 500 authors accompanying this weekly magazine during nearly 6 years of operation, with a significant amount of work for children's literature. Based on survey data from 60 issues, we found a total of 1,114 literary works for children in all genres. The largest number is poetry with 469 units of work including forms such as six-eight and free. The second largest number of works is the literary and magazine genre, with up to 371 units of work.

About the volume of the works, they are generally very suitable for the expectations of children, especially teenagers. The poems are not too long, usually between 10 and 16 lines per poem. Few poems are dozens of lines long. In the short story genre, the capacity is usually about 1 to 3 newspaper pages. The genre of long stories and comics is large in capacity, printed in many issues of newspapers. For example, the story *The Schoolyard Horse* by author Vũ Mộng Long was published in 20 issues of *Tuổi Ngọc* (new series), *The Con* by author Duyên Anh was published in 16 issues, or *A Little Bird* by Đinh Tiến Luyện was also published. published in 13 issues of this weekly newspaper.

The long stories published in serials were later collected and printed into individual books. First and foremost are the long stories by author Duyên Anh. Duyên Anh was mostly published for the first time in Southern weekly newspapers and later reprinted by *Tuổi Ngọc* Publishing House with a number of reprints that could reach thousands of publications (Nguyễn Bảo Châu, 2021, pp. 1242–253). Almost all of his long stories published on *Tuổi Ngọc* (based on survey data) were printed into books. *Tuổi Ngọc* Publishing House alone has published most of Duyên Anh-Vũ Mộng Long's stories for many years, such as *T hăng Côn* (*Con The Boy*) published in 1968; *Ngựa chứng sân trường* (*The Horse in the Schoolyard*) published in 1971; *Con Thuý* (*The Thuy*) published in 1972; *Thư tình trên cát* (*Love Letter on Sand*) published in 1973; and *Người con gái ngồi đợi một chuyến tàu về* (*The girl waiting for a train*) published in 1975. Besides, *Tuổi Hoa* Publishing House also printed his long stories, such as *Thằng Khoa* (*The Khoa*, 1972) and *Cám ơn em đã yêu anh* (*Thank You for Loving Me*, 1974). In addition, in 1971, the publishing house Nguyễn Đình Vượng also published Duyên Anh's story *Áo tiểu thư*. In addition to Duyên Anh's long stories being printed, publishers also collected and printed into printed *Từ Kế Tường's* texts in book format. For example, *Đời Mới* Publishing House published the work *Huyền Xưa*. in 1972. The same year, *Vàng Sơn* Publishing House published his story, *Mùa áo vàng* (*The Yellow Shirt Season*). Along with the works of the two writers mentioned above, many other authors' texts were published on *Tuổi Ngọc* in that period. Although readers have enjoyed these works published in newspaper issues, they still enthusiastically read them when they are released in full. This shows that the value of these works to children readers is extremely great and attractive.

Reflection Content

Because *Tuổi Ngọc Weekly's* target audience is teenagers, the content reflected in the literary works published in this weekly magazine is also quite rich. The works focus on reflecting the feelings of friends, family feelings, love for the homeland, children's lives during the war,... Especially the works that express the emotions *The beginning of adolescence and their personal opinions on life issues* are true to the title on each "adolescents" weekly newspaper" issue. This is the difference between this newspaper and other newspapers of the same period written for children. For example, in *Children's Weekly*, literary works are spread across all ages from children to teenagers. However, the difference in *Tuổi Ngọc* is that it focuses on articles that touch the thoughts and feelings of the "just grown up" age group. The emotions of sadness, happiness, anger, blame, and anticipation at the beginning of love; the psychological changes of this stage of adulthood have been reflected quite deeply by many writers. It is those pages that preserve

“the most beautiful years of a person's life” as the founders of this weekly magazine wanted.

First, there is the topic of friendship. Every age group needs to have friendships, but for the age group that “likes apricot³”, friendships have a unique look. The selfishness and greed commonly found in children seem to have vanished. Even at a tender age, they exhibit a level of maturity in their thinking and actions. Ever willing to assist one another, the beauty of the love shared among these children is truly admirable and deserving of respect. Their interactions are marked by sincerity, carefree affection, and a genuine absence of self-interest. That is the clearest proof of the friendship between Hương and Thu in Nhật Tiến's *Quê nhà yêu dấu* (Beloved Homeland). Even though she knew that Hương was a disabled child who had lost a leg, Thu did not discriminate, hate, or avoid her. On the contrary, Thu always loved her and was ready to help. By telling stories to Hương, Thu conveyed positive thoughts to her. Thu was very sympathetic, always loving and ready to help her. Spread positive thoughts to you. Therefore, Thu often tells stories to Hương.

“In her free time, Thu often tells Hương many fairy tales. And in any fairy tale, the ugly, unhappy child with the saddest fate will eventually be helped by the fairy.” (NHAT TIEN, 1970, Chapter 1).

Also in the work *Quê nhà yêu dấu* by Nhật Tiến's, readers also see the respectful friendship between Bằng and Hiếu, who are close friends. One time, Bằng had a bloody head injury. Hiếu did not hesitate to carry his friend home from the temple yard and find medicine to help Bằng escape death.

Writing about the topic of friendship has never ended in children's literature in general and Southern Vietnamese children literature in the period 1954-1975 in particular. In addition to Nhật Tiến's works with the same theme, readers also know the friendship relationships between Con, Vũ, Khoa, Thúy... in Duyên Anh's works of the same name or the friendship between Kim and Quỳnh in *Lứa tuổi thích ô mai* (THE AGE THAT LIKES O MAI).

Mai Thảo's work *Lên mười* (Up to Ten) also shows children's feelings for each other, as kids play with each other with genuine affection. Even though he saw Hậu's father bowing to his father in fear and respect, Tuyển did not see himself as superior to Hậu in any way: “We are equal. As tall as your head. Like the same age. Like in the same class. Right, Hậu?” (MAI THẢO, 1969).

In addition to the theme of friendship, literary works on Tuổi Ngọc also reflect the lives of children during the war. All of the long story works written for children in Tuổi Ngọc newspaper were during the war against America to save the country, so it is understandable it reflected the lives of children during wartime. Children do not know anything about the reason why their teacher had to leave to another place like the character Con in Duyên Anh's *Thằng Côn*. The poor child lived in a situation where the country was in danger, and asked his father questions:

“Dad, did your teacher say our country will be independent?”

Con's father quickly put his hand gently on Con's mouth:

-Don't say that anymore.

Con rolled his eyes:

-Why, dad?

-The secret police will arrest you. Remember, you are not allowed to speak independently to anyone. If you say anything, the secret police will arrest you and put the whole family in jail.” (DUYÊN ANH, 1971, part 9)

3 “likes apricot” meaning refers to the act of thinking about ideas, images, or scenarios in the mind that need not be related to reality. This phrase is often used to describe people who tend to enjoy imagining and daydreaming.

War takes away peace from children's lives and their joy of going to school.

“The war has erased so many peaceful moments of our beloved countryside. The war has also destroyed so many sweet and poetic landscapes that everyone's simple dream is just to live peacefully in that sweetness and poetry. The war has wiped away the innocent and youthful past... The school that used to have four overcrowded classes gradually had only two, then one and now it has stopped operating” (NHẬT TIẾN, 1970, period 1).

CONCLUSION

Tuổi Ngọc Weekly magazine was published in southern urban areas from 1969 to 1975. It is a newspaper with useful, educational, and literary content for children, specifically adolescents. The newspaper has gathered a large number of talented and dedicated authors in the field of children's writing, who have a strong writing power. Their names and works can be found in many newspapers and books published in the same period as Tuổi Ngọc. When mentioning authors of Southern Vietnamese literature in general and specifically children's literature in the Southern urban area in particular, names such as Duyên Anh, Từ Kế Tường, Nhật Tiến, Đinh Tiến Luyện, Hoàng Hải Thủy. Their works in this weekly love magazine have brought readers a wealth of genres and diversity of content, contributing to the development of Vietnamese children's literature in general, and Southern children's literature in the period 1954-1975 in particular.

REFERENCES

- ANH, Duyên; LUYỆN, Đinh Tiến. **Tuần báo Tuổi Ngọc** [Tuổi Ngọc Weekly magazine]. Sài Gòn: Tuổi Ngọc, 1969-1975. Doanh nhân. 2019. Available at: <<https://doanhnhanplus.vn/dinh-tien-luyen-voi-noi-am-anh-ve-mot-loai-chim-be-nho-479974.html>>. 12.9.2019
- NHƠN, Võ Văn. Bối cảnh xã hội-văn hóa và hoạt động nghiên cứu phê bình sáng tác văn học ở miền Nam Việt Nam giai đoạn 1954-1975 [Social-cultural context and critical research activities of literary creation in Southern Vietnam during the period 1954-1975]. **Tạp chí Khoa Học**. Trường Đại học Văn Hiến, v. 5, n. 11, p. 23-29, 2016.
- NHƠN, Võ Văn; CHÂU, Nguyễn Bảo. Văn học tuổi mới lớn ở Việt Nam [Young Adult Literature in Vietnam]. **Tạp chí Khoa học Trường ĐHSP**. TP. HCM, v. 18, n. 7, p. 1242-1253, 2021.
- THUẬN, Bùi. **Đinh Tiến với nỗi ám ảnh về “Một loài chim bé nhỏ”** [Dinh Tien with his obsession with “A little bird”].
- SƠN, Lê Công. **Gặp lại các nhà văn Tuổi Ngọc** [Meet the writers who have written for Tuổi Ngọc]. Thanh niên online. Available at: <<https://thanhnien.vn/gap-lai-nhung-nha-van-tuoi-ngoc-185828748.htm>>. 24.2.2019
- THẢO, Mai. **Chuyến tàu trên sông Hồng** [The ships on the Hồng river]. Sài Gòn: Tuổi Ngọc, 1969.
- TIẾN, Nhật. **Quê nhà dấu yêu**[Beloved homeland]. Sài Gòn: Huyền Trân, 1970.
- THUY, Trần Quân. **Phố báo chí Sài Gòn trước năm 1975** [Saigon press street before 1975]. Tạp chí điện tử Môi trường và Đô thị, 2020. Available at: <<https://www.moitruongvadothi.vn/pho-bao-chi-sai-gon-truoc-nam-1975-a73046.html>>.
- TUẤN, Trương Đình. **Kỷ niệm về Tuổi Ngọc: “Tuần báo của yêu thương”**[Memories of Tuổi Ngọc weekly magazine “The weekly magazine of love”]. Nhạcxưa. Available at: <<https://nhacxua.vn/tuoi-ngoc-tuan-bao-cua-yeu-thuong/>>. 12.9.2018

Submetido em: 12/2023

Aprovado em: 04/2024.