Summary of the drama entitled: "TRAN-KHANH-DU"

Under King Trần Thái Tông's reign, in Thành Long, the capital, there was a very charming beauty named Thủy Hương (Celestial Perfume). Her parents reluctantly promised to give her hand to Kỳ Lạc, son of Trần qui Mai, a very powerful prince.

But Thủy Hương was in love with TRAN-KHANH-DU, a handsome and talented general who had achieved many military feats in the war fought against the Chinese in 1257.

Trần qui Mai, desirous of getting rid of TRAN-KHANH-DU in order to ensure the marriage of his son, asked the king to send the young general to repress the barbarous Bon Man, which mission was carried out successfully. TRAN-KHANH-DU returned victoriously to the Capital. Learning that his lover would be married to Kỳ Lạc within five days, she hastily went to see her. As they were talking, Kỳ Lạc entered. A quarrel between the two rivals resulted in a fight which turned out to be fatal to Kỳ Lạc, killing himself by falling on his own sword.

Trần qui Mai informed of Kỳ Lạc's death, hurried to the scene.

Kỳ Lạc pointed an accusing finger at TRAN-KHANH-DU before breathing his last. KHANH-DU, charged with the murder, forfeited his nobility rights and all his properties and had to take refuge in Mount Chi-Linh where he earned his living as a charcoal burner.

The Mongolians were very glad to hear of KHANH-DU's disgrace, which they eagerly wished to take advantage of. They sent Thăng van Hồ to Mount Chi-Linh to persuade KHANH-DU to go to Mongolia to be made king of the Vietnamese. KHANH-DU vehemently refused the tempting offer, preferring the charcoal burner's miserable life to honor and riches given by the enemy. Thăng van Hồ, failing in his negotiations, returned empty-handed.
Just at this moment, Thi Em Huong, with her lover in Mount Chi Linh, arrived to beg her lover not because of recruitment against the King, for his injust reduction to poverty and dishonor, but to exert his talents for the good of the country. Then, before leaving, she promised to meet him on a future glorious day.

Meanwhile, the Mongolians stationed along the borders of Vietnam lay in wait for a good opportunity to revenge their defeat in 1257. 

The Vietnamese King held meetings in many places to get the people's advice and to look for talented men. At that time, a poem entitled "Charcoal selling" was widely circulated among the people and believed to be written by Prince KHANH DU.

The King, moved by the contents of the poem, invited the disgraced prince to attend the "Boiling them" meeting. In spite of Tran Quy Mai's accusations, the King pardoned KHANH DU, reinstated him to his former position, and entrusted to him the mission of covering the Vandon sea zone.

After Ngoc's death, Thi Em Huong (KHANH DU's lover) foreseeing the retribution of Tran Quy Mai, left her family to devote herself to the service of the country. She organized a phalanx and held secret meetings in Tu Quang pagoda, to harass the enemy stationed in the area. But Trinh Huong, her right-hand man, not contented with his ardent love for her, turned renegade and helped the Chinese capture Thi Em Huong and her patriots while meeting in Tu Quang pagoda to plan the sinking of the supply boats coming from China. This fleet would encounter the resistance of KHANH DU in charge of the Vandon sea zone. O. Ma. Nhi was ordered to escort the supply boats.

The Vietnamese King realizing the importance of the mission of KHANH DU, ordered that he should be provided with ample means...
to destroy the supply boats. Tran-qui-Mai, anxious to revenge KHANH-DU, and aveng to seeing the alleged murder of his son victorious, wished for his defeat, even if this should be disastrous to the nation, and he consequently entrusted to KHANH-DU a weak fleet manned by old soldiers. This inevitably resulted in the Vietnamese naval defeat, to Tran-qui-Mai's delight.

The King, angry on learning the sad news, sent Le phu Tran to arrest KHANH-DU and bring him back to the Court. But Le phu Tran joined KHANH-DU instead. They gathered their men and succeeded in destroying the enemy's fleet.

Thanks to this victory, KHANH-DU was able to save the country and deliver Thien-Hung from the hands of the enemy.