The Ming-Dai Việt war (1403–1406) was a military conflict between the Ming Dynasty of China and the Kingdom of Việt Nam in the early 15th century. The war was triggered by the death of King Trịnh Trung Tấn, the king of the Kingdom of Việt Nam, in 1403. The Ming Dynasty, in response to this event, appointed Trịnh Trung Tấn's son, Trịnh Trung Cung, as the new king of the kingdom. The Ming Dynasty also sent an envoy to visit the court of the new king in order to establish diplomatic relations.

The Chosŏn reaction to the Ming-Dai Việt war

On 11 April 1406 the Ming court received notice of Trịnh Trung Cung's death; subsequently, on 23 April 1406, Ming Emperor Yongle ordered General Huang Zhong to invade the kingdom. A Chosŏn tributary mission, led by Seol Mi-su, was at the Ming court on the day that Ming Emperor Yongle ordered the invasion of Dai Việt, at the previous request of Trịnh Trú Binh. The official royal message sent to Chosŏn from Yongle stated that the usurpation by Hō Quỳ Ly and his son was the main reason for the Ming to 'punish' Annam; but Chosŏn knew that Hō Quỳ Ly had previously already been recognized by the Ming as the King of Annam. On 8 April 1407 at the court of Hō, King Taejong used the phrase 'King of Annam' to refer to Hō Quỳ Ly, the ruler of Dai Việt who had been dealing with the Ming Emperor right up until the conflict erupted between the two countries. He said: "The King of Annam had come to inform him respectfully, but the Emperor could not approve of those kinds of behaviors. If our Emperor likes, it is our good work, but if our country was careless in its rites of sodas, surely the Emperor would raise the army to punish."

The turning point for Ming-Đősơng relations

The turning point for Ming-Đősơng relations was the Sông Cầu battle, which took place in 1409. This battle was a decisive victory for the Ming Dynasty, which resulted in the destruction of the Đősơng Army and the capture of the Đősơng capital, Cao Lãnh.

Notes
4. Chosŏn Taegye Sillok, 8:12b.
5. Ming Tażou Shulu, 37:3a.
9.Taegye King of the Kingdom of Chosŏn, c.1392-1398, after overthrowing the Koryŏ Kingdom had never been able to obtain any investiture from the Ming Dynasty.
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