

EDITOR'S NOTE

To my fellow enthusiasts of History! After a long and tedious preparation by the entire editorial team, it is my pride and honor to present to you the very first issue of TALA: An online journal of History, and will showcase articles that would elevate more of your interest in the study of History of the country.

The journey was never easy. On 17 March 2018, a group of young historians decided to come up with an online journal in history, and the objective is to make it available to all aspiring scholars of the discipline for free and accessible with the use of the world wide web. Inspired to establish an online journal that is free for all that provides an avenue for the publication of academic research in history that encourages professionalism in writing history, and promote the culture of research, the entire team, at last, made it possible. Another concern of the editorial team is to raise the value of historical study in the 21st-century meeting all the challenges of historical revisionism and distortion, and with this, the team decided to adopt the name for the journal.

The term TALA, in the case of this journal, can be derived into two definitions. First, it is a Filipino term which refers to the list of records in history that gives primary information about the past events that shaped and built the nation and the world today. Being faithful to the documents (facts) in history is the first thing to consider in avoiding biases, since an overstretched treatment of documents will lead to historical revisionism and distortion. TALA is also the Filipino term for a bright star, that gives light and guides the path through the darkness. History is considered as the mother of the human and social sciences since it serves as the light to other disciplines of which complexities may be understood through historical research or inquiry. In connecting these two definitions, TALA is figuratively purposed to give light to the perspective of History as a discipline and stands as a tool for education, which serves as the light to understand the present by considering the past as its moving force in solving recent problems and issues of the local and global society. Hence, the title itself is perfectly fit to the objectives of this journal.

TALA envisions itself to sustain and pioneer an open access journal in history in the Philippines. By providing an accessible journal that is free for all, it is also envisions to uplift the essence of historical research in the plight of the emerging technological advancement. Its mission is to introduce an open access journal in the Philippine historical study and to take advantage the use of the internet as a vehicle for the realization of the importance of historical studies in the growth and development of humanity.

On this first issue, TALA offers you nine (9) articles that are mainly divided into three categories. The first section is allotted for professional history articles. Five (5) researches are authored by professional practitioners of history and will showcase different topics that shaped the history of the Philippines. Emmanuel Jeric Albela's *The Economic Programs of Philippine Third Republic (1946-1972)* discusses the various economic programs from the administration of President Manuel Roxas up to the first two terms of President Ferdinand Marcos. It will bring us the idea of how these commercial programs helped the devastated Philippine economy, from the ruins of war to one of the progressive economies in Asia during that time. It will lead us to look back on the strategies of the presidents of the country's third republic in salvaging the economy from a severe decline after the war. Miguel Antonio Jimenez's *Views on the Philippine Economy through the Nationalist Lens (1945-1992)* discusses the struggle of the Filipino people in attaining a genuinely independent and industrialized country. The nationalists revealed that the tribulations we are currently facing stemmed from American interventionism that turned the Philippines into an agro-service economy, hindering it of becoming an industrialized nation. Augusto De Viana's *From Pride to Humiliation and Eventual Redemption: The Expulsion of Japanese Properties in the Manila Area, 1945-1947* tells the story of the expulsion of Japanese properties in the City of Manila after the Second World War. In this article, De Viana discusses the grew in the number of Japanese residents in Manila that made the city the second largest Japanese population next to Davao City before the Second World War. Although at first, their presence in the country is for economic purposes, such eventually alarmed the Philippine government. The article will further discuss the condition of these Japanese in the country after the Second World War, and with their expulsion, it changed the cultural and commercial make-up of the city of Manila forever. Archie Resos' *Diplomatic Relations Between the Republic of the Philippines and the People's Republic of China During the Administration of Ferdinand E. Marcos: 1975-1986* discusses the milestone of President Marcos in Philippine foreign policy. Here, he pointed out that President Marcos Administration was the first to attempt to establish diplomatic ties with socialist countries. Unique as it may seem because from President Roxas to President Macapagal, the Philippines concentrated its

foreign policy was always on pro-American and anti-Communist. Jejomar Palma's *Ina ng Buhay Parish: 32 Years of Faith and Formation* traces the roots of the Ina ng Buhay Parish in Novaliches, Quezon City. Despite being under different administrations with different styles of leadership and spirituality, these contributed to the continuous development of the parish and growth of the parishioner's faith.

The next section is dedicated to undergraduate historical research. Two (2) articles were carefully chosen by the editorial team coming from the selected students who are taking Bachelor of Arts in History. Mark Clayton Dela Piedra's *A Filipino Tradition: The Role of Fireworks and Firecrackers in the Philippine Culture* focuses on the practice of using fireworks in the Philippines especially during fiestas, festivals, and festivities. It also presents the process of how Chinese culture, through fireworks, was integrated into the Filipino culture. Ezra Samarista's *Composing Ideals: The Incorporation of the Ideals of the Philippine Revolution to the Musical Composition of Julio Nakpil* discusses how Julio Nakpil, a known revolutionary and composer in the late 19th century, fused liberalism and the ideals and beliefs of the Katipunan into his compositions.

The last section is dedicated to book reviews. In this issue, TALA offers two (2) book reviews categorized as Reference book review, that presents new materials for further research in history and the Textbook review that will provide a gateway to improve pedagogy in history. Melanie Magpantay's *A Faithful Account of the Philippines' Fateful Years* discusses the style of writing of Teodoro Agoncillo and the highlights of each chapter of his book. The two volumes of Agoncillo's *Fateful Years* is considered one of the best references we have today in bringing us back to the stories of the Filipinos during the darkest moment of their lives under the Japanese rule in the country from 1941 to 1945. Magpantay's discussion on the book's contribution in the study of Philippine history especially at the time when the country faced the horrors of Second World War, will lead the young historians to research more on the other experiences of the Filipinos at that time. Eric Portera's *Looking to the Future by Looking at the Past: A review on Pagtanaw at Pag-unawa* reviews the textbook authored by Dexter John Ramos for the study of world history in junior high school level. Here, Portera emphasized the author's balanced narration of the world events to meet the challenges of today's globalization. He also tackled the effective use of primary and secondary sources in this textbook that made this material as a good source for junior high school students to have a greater perspective and use of studying world history.

With these set of articles in this very first issue of TALA, I hope that you will find them helpful in your recent and future researches as well as broaden your knowledge in the discipline of history. This start means a lot to all of us and will fulfill our promise to bring you more articles on the next issues of the journal. Again, my sincere and utmost thanks to the support of the entire editorial team of TALA.

And to our dear readers, may this be the beginning of your constant and avid reading of TALA, and more hopefully, of your future research collaborations with us.

Maraming Salamat at Mabuhay tayong lahat!

The Editor-in-Chief