

Editor's Note (Volume 7, Number 2)

Today is the 128th anniversary of Jose Rizal's execution, a decision made by Spanish authorities to kill the Rizalian idea of using reason to form the indio identity. From the national identity springs nationalism and for Rizal, nationalism transcends sentiment—it was ideological. Therefore nationalism, rooted in national identity that was derived through reason, is the bedrock of democratic and political ideology that ultimately leads to a solid political stance. The five articles and three book reviews of this issue commemorate the Rizalian ideal of national identity while honoring our historical past.

Rovic John F. Eslao's *Recuerdos de Revolucion na Zamboanga: An Analysis of the Public Memorialization of the Philippine Revolution in Zamboanga* examines how the glorious narrative led to memorialization of Gen. Vicente Alvarez as Zamboanga City's legislated revolutionary hero. Eslao's analysis of primary and secondary sources paralleled with his review of public commemoration of Alvarez via monuments, renaming of places, city-organized public activities, and strategic silencing of other significant historical actors asserts the need for a historically accurate memorialization and commemoration efforts from the government and the general public.

Baptist Apocalypticism in the Philippines: Narratives and Theologies (1900-2020s) provides a historical approach to the advent of the Baptist movement in the Philippines. This is a refreshing religious perspective in Filipino historical-theological narratives often dominated by the Catholics. John Paul Arceno revisits the Filipino Baptist identity framed by Francis Samdao as the "Baptist Quadrilateral" and uses this as a springboard to assert the presence of animism and its role in the apocalyptic eschatology of Philippine Baptists.

An interesting take on ethnography as a tool for historical inquiry is Blesselyn P. Selvino's *The Sagada Rice Agricultural Practices and Beliefs, 1950-2020*. The economic shift of Central Sagada, Mountain Province from agriculture to tourism is its economic gain but it came at the expense of losing its cultural heritage.

Another ethnographer examined the festival as a link to the past and an avenue for tourism while continuously evolving with the constant movement of people who revere Tumba as part of their identity and collective memory. *Tumba Festival: A Cultural Platform in Understanding the Intersections Between Identity, Tourism, and Migration Among the Ilocanos* by Jacquelyn B. Lejano used ethnography and hermeneutics to interpret the crossroads of narratives of the social actors of the Tumba Festival: the elders, youth, and migrants of Paoay, Ilocos Norte.

Geline D. Despabiladeras, Emmanuel M. Lasquite, Elisha Jesu A. Atayde, Kenneth A. Olvis, and Nikolee Marie A. Serafico-Reyes' *Exploring Game-Based Learning (GBL) through Learning Management Systems in Teaching Batas Militar (Martial Law) to Elementary Students' Achievement* is the only historical education article for this issue that delves on gamification, the most recent trend in teaching strategy with the advent of ICT integration in the post-pandemic Philippine education. The study reveals the potential of GBL to enhance student engagement and achievement in teaching Araling Panlipunan while offering a dynamic tool to form informed and critically minded citizens.

The first book review for this issue highlights the new historical insight on globalization that Birgit Tremml-Werner brought in her book, *Spain, China, and Japan in Manila, 1571-1644: Local Comparisons and Global Connections*. Veering away from Eurocentric perspectives, Kim P. Cataquian examined Tremml-Werner's Manila system and how it became an avenue for proto-globalization and proto-glocalization of the 16th-century Asian world.

In reviewing *Resettlement of the Huks in the Land of Promise: The Story of the Economic Development Corps in Mindanao, 1950-1970* by Faina C. Abaya-Ulindang, Collen Jean Templa contextualizes the post-war land problem in Mindanao vis-a-vis other historical works contributing to a further analysis of the Mindanao Problem, an overlooked historical issue in contemporary Philippine history. Templa weaves the previous assertions of researchers into the arguments of Abaya-Ulindang that EDCOR was implemented in good faith but its unintended consequences led to a land reform program that was unsustainable and lacks historical hindsight.

Finally, Charles Darwin F. Talavera's review of Fr. John Schumacher, SJ's *Making of a Nation: Essays on Nineteenth-Century Nationalism* underlines the cognitive history of the development of Filipino nationalism. Talavera

highlighted Schumacher's analysis of the different forms of nationalism gleaned from the lens of a Jesuit American and later, a naturalized Filipino who happened to study Philippine revolutionary history.

As 2024 closes, *TALA* opens the gates for narratives from North to South—from Ilocos to Zamboanga—a timely reminder to honor our heritage as we continue shaping the Filipino identity in a globalizing world. *

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