



LIFE AND WORKS OF RIZAL

PROF. JADE NANIONG



JOSE RIZAL AND PHILIPPINE NATIONALISM: UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF RIZAL IN FILIPINO HISTORY



Motivational Activity

Answer the following questions:

1. What are the qualities of being a hero?
2. How similar is the term hero to the word bayani?
3. How did Dr. Jose Rizal become the country's national hero?
4. Describe modern day heroes in today's present generation.



Overview

Integrating Jose Rizal's life story and works are very essential and should be part of the education of all Filipinos. He had dedicated his life fighting for the rights of every Filipino from the Spanish tyranny and oppression during the 19th century. Today, many of us think that if we hear the word "Rizal", we associate it with the concept of bayani. Jose Rizal is remembered not only as a bayani, for even some groups of people recall him as the real messiah. But the most certain of all, he serves as an evident model and inspiration to many Filipinos, here and across the globe.

Jose Rizal's great dedication to life-inspired writings, his idealism, and aspirations sufficed as guide and influence to love and serve the country. These are the concrete concepts of Rizal's pag-ibig sa tinubuang lupa, as voiced in his incredible writings. As an educated man, Jose Rizal had been very serious to academic excellence, philosophy, and even scientific inquiry. As a son and a brother, he manifested respect, love, kindness, and loyalty to his parents, siblings and to his confidantes. But Jose Rizal is not only a person who valued education and family. He elevated a great sense of love for the Filipino people and for the homeland, Philippines, a character that enlists Jose Rizal as a person worthy to be emulated



Outlining Jose Rizal as a Bayani

In the late 19th century, more Filipinos from Luzon were compelled to revolt against the colonizers and fought for their liberation. Movements were certain like the Katipunan of Andres Bonifacio to fight the Spanish forces and regain every right that was taken from them. There is a need of a leader of hero-leaders to at least, unite and influence other Filipinos to join their campaign for reforms and obtain the freedom that they were longing since then. Many Filipinos at that time became the source of inspiration and one of them was Dr. Jose Rizal. This part will discuss the concept of what is a hero and what is a bayani.

There are a lot of discussions concerning Jose Rizal as a hero and of course, as a bayani. The term hero is defined as a person noted for his or her courageous acts or nobility of character. The word originated from Latin, old French, and Greek from a coined term which meant demi-god, a defender and a or a person who exhibits great bravery. Due to his countless sacrifices and his writings, had awakened and unified the Filipinos to stand against Spain. As a hero, Jose Rizal was honored for guiding the Filipinos to their consciousness in regaining the country from the effects of colonial assault.



In an article published by inquirer. net, Ambeth Ocampo presented that the word bayani is more than and is richer than a than the word “hero”, Quoted from Vic Santos’ Vicassan Dictionary (1978), the word bayani has the same meaning with the term hero but with several distinctions. “A hero, patriot (taong makabayan), cooperative endeavor, mutual aid... to be victorious, to prevail (mamayani)...” (Ocampo, 2016). On the other hand, Zeus Salazar had collected various definitions from local ethnolinguistic communities, of which the word bayani has similar concepts. “Related to the Austronesian word “wani”, meaning helping and being compassionate with others, hence, “kawani” as of government workers. The Visayan word “bagani” or fearless warrior; and the word “bayani” may mean “someone who gives service to the bayan without expecting anything in return. (Chua, 2018)

Hero as a term can best be defined as a person who possesses a great courage, strength and moreover, a demi-god. The term “bayani,” in its cultural context, is a person who did exemplary acts for his community, in Filipino context, bayan. Jose Rizal’s love for the Philippines qualified him to be called as bayani. He defended and even showcased his great concern towards his countrymen through his valuable writings, not for oneself but for the good of others. Through education, Jose Rizal envisioned a country free from any oppression and thus, would help Filipinos to love the country more, promote the progress and be the great leaders in nation-building. Chua concluded that a hero and a bayani may be different in an academic sense. He believed that heroes or our national heroes are special in terms of their immense contributions to nation-building, and thus, he reminded us, that in our own special way, we can also be bayani in our own ways (Chua, 2018)



Classification of A Hero

Throughout our history, there are different kinds of heroes. They are identified and classified in every period. Here are some classifications that formed a hero, based from their manifested gallantry, principles and heroism.

1. Pre-colonial Heroes

Oral traditions had provided us information about these heroes or bayani who had manifested their skills with mythical abilities and enormous strength. Their characters are presented as somewhat full of mystery, mystical, or having a nature of supernatural ability. According to Scott (1988), heroes are classified as epic hero and mythical hero. Epic heroes are characterized as saviors of their communities and the scourge of enemy tribes. On the other hand, a mythical hero represents the culture and the values of a specific period of time. This type of hero is mythical in nature.

2. Colonial Heroes

With the atrocities experienced in the country, colonial heroes are the first who carried out organized revolts against the colonizers. For more than centuries, Filipinos had suffered much particularly in relation to religious, economic, educational and political freedoms. These factors contributed to their long struggle.



Hence, they waged war against Spain. These colonial heroes are named as native heroes and revolutionary heroes. First, native heroes are the people who first manifested resistance from the integration of the Spanish colonial rule. They were motivated by their preference to keep their old-ways like beliefs, lands and even freedom. Hence, they refused to embrace and integrate Hispanic cultures during the first phase of Spanish colonization.

3. **Revolutionary heroes** were fully realized at the height of the nineteenth century of Spanish Colonization. These heroes led the revolts against the colonial regime to have a plenary liberation from the hands of the colonizers. These heroes were fully driven by their belief that Filipinos could now run and govern the country. The last years of the nineteenth century defined their cries for a national revolution, the spring of the Filipino revolutionaries. Furthermore, revolutionary heroes are classified as:

a. Known heroes- or also known as popular heroes who had done remarkable contributions against Spain. This type of hero is known for great leadership skills, courage and unwavering will

b. Unknown heroes - or also known as unsung heroes who contributed significantly at certain stages of the revolution but remained unrecognized due to political and academic reasons. Included in this group are the leaders of the millenarian groups and the upland insurrectionists.



c. Martyrs- These heroes are clearly defined as people who courageously faced brutal punishment and died untimely for their great spirit and beliefs from the hands of the enemies. Like Jose Rizal , heroes or martyrs like him faced excruciating fate just like the martyred GomBurZa priests. (Maranan, 2015)

4. Post-colonial Heroes

These types of heroes are also known as post-war heroes. They possess heroic qualities and are honored even after the colonial period. These heroes are categorized as political heroes. A political hero is a person who has a political ideology. They are critics of the status quo of a political system. With that, they are often regarded as state enemies, and in the long run, become victims of state and political violence. Political heroes can be further classified into:

a. Idealistic hero- This hero is an advocate of the idealism principle. This person believes in peaceful means of effecting changes and reforms in the society. Their intellectual prowess is used to voice-out possible solutions for existing problems rather than solving out through violent means.

b. Realistic hero - This hero prefers fast and practical answers to resolve any existing social and political problems in the country. For a “realist”, real plans must be carried out immediately to obtain certain results. They believe in radical methos and reject moderate and centrist stances.



5. Modern Day Heroes

Modern day heroes are classified as heroes or bayani in the new era. They emerged because of the changes brought by the changing views of political, social, and economic life in a post-colonial set-up. They are heroes of this age of global harmony and freedom (Maranan, 2015). These contemporary heroes can be further classified into:

- a. Athletes - They are acknowledged greatly because of their victories in the field of sports. They are even looked up to by many as role models and promoters of good health and sportsmanship. One of the best examples of a role model in sports, particularly in the field of boxing is now serving as senator of the Philippines, Emmanuel “Manny” Pacquiao
- b. Artists - These are artists who excelled in their respective artistic crafts that are honored in our very own country and in the globe. Just like Juan Luna and Felix Ressurecion-Hidalgo, they had exemplary showcased their masterpieces that were awarded and recognized abroad. They can be singers, painters, actors, and tv personalities, writers or novelists and etc.
- c. Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) - They sacrifice so much for their families. Due to their ardent spirit and zealous love for their families, they earned the title as and mga makabagong bayani ng ating henerasyon. (Maranan, 2015)



campaign for Jose Rizal was composed of well-known Americans and Filipinos. Aside from William Howard Taft, who acted as the chairman, the committee was composed of Dean Conant Worcester, Luke E. Wright, Henry Clay Ide and Bernard Moses. The Filipino representatives were Trinidad H. Pardo de Tavera, Benito Legarda and Jose Luzuriaga (Maranan, 2015).

On June 11 of the ensuing year the Philippine commission approved Act no. 137, which organized the “politico-military district of Morong” into the “Province of Rizal”. This was the 1st official step taken by the Taft commission to honor our greatest hero and martyr. Furthermore, the Taft commission chose Rizal out of several great Filipinos as the No. 1 hero of his people, still we can say that what the commission did was merely to confirm a sort of *fait accompli*, and that was that Jose Rizal had already been acclaimed by his countrymen and the scientific world as the foremost hero and martyr of the land of his birth. (de Ocampo, 1961)

In the issue on national hero, according to some who are asserting for a more action-oriented persona, Andres Bonifacio must be the one to be acknowledged as the genuine national hero. Bonifacio is qualified due to the fact that he led the memorable revolution that commenced the Filipinos’ thirst for freedom. Jose Rizal was a peace advocate; thus, violence and armed resistance will only serve as a last resort. What he really considered are reforms for the government and equality to all citizens, that can be achieved peacefully and not through violent means. For the people who acknowledged Rizal, he is an exemplary person who is worthy of the people’s respect and admiration. However, many are still questioning the



legality of his status as our national hero. Until today, issues have been thrown to discredit Jose Rizal. On the other hand, Rizal's advocates continued to promote his legacy. He worked hard for his aspirations and principles that reflect the universal passion of the Filipinos.

Esteban De Ocampo's article entitled "Who Made Rizal Our Foremost National Hero and Why", exposed the dignity of why Jose Rizal is our national hero. He presented distinctive information that will clarify Jose Rizal's stand as to many became so opposed to it. Ocampo believed that "a hero is a prominent or central personage taking admirable part in any remarkable action or event." He also added that a hero is "a person distinguished by valor or enterprise in danger and "a man honored after death by public worship, because of exceptional service to mankind." During Jose Rizal's years of education and experience abroad, he was an active figure who participated in the Propaganda Movement (1882-1896). It was the aim of the propagandists to make the Philippines be acknowledged as a province of Spain and most especially, to create reforms in the Philippines. So true, that Jose Rizal had contributed ideas for the nationhood building. His writings, like the *Noli Me Tangere* (1887-Berlin) and later on, the *El Filibusterismo* (1891-Belgium) had inspired more Filipino freedom advocates during his time. The book had triggered most of the friars and even threatened Filipinos for reading and owning one. Thus, it paved the way to create the Noli-Fili Bill, known today as the Republic Act 1425 or the Rizal Law.

De Ocampo believed that with no hesitations, Jose Rizal had immensely formed the spirit of the oppressed Filipinos to regain their freedom. Aside from being known as the national hero of the Philippines, Jose Rizal



was tagged as the First Filipino, the Pride of the Malayan Race, the greatest Malayan, among others. His undying efforts for the Philippines resulted to requiring all schools and universities, both private and public to include in the curricula the life and his works, the *Noli Me Tangere* and *El Filibusterismo*, to inculcate in the people and in the students his ideals of liberation and nationalism.

For the second and third definition given by de Ocampo, Jose Rizal, known for his pursuits for freedom and nationalism, was courageous in dealing and facing the attacks of the Spaniards. He was not even attacked personally, but even his family and his works were mocked by the Spaniards so harshly. Jose Rizal had been a person whom the friars during that time termed as “idiot”, *sin verguenza*, *filibustero*” and so on. Pepe, as he was fondly called by his family, had witnessed the, maltreatments of the guardia civil to them, especially during his childhood days. For the Spaniards, most Filipinos during their century-colonization was addressed as *indios* or *yndios*. By that time when he was abroad, Jose Rizal had observed and even experienced the discrimination towards Filipinos. In his travels to the American soil, he even saw the indifference of the white Americans to the black Americans. With the bravery of heart, Jose Rizal never turned his face away from those who needed him. He aimed high for his fellowmen, inspiring them and he even faced the death sentence. He was shot to death by a firing squad at Bagumbayan (now Luneta Park) on December 30, 1896.

Even before the outbreak of the revolution against Spain in 1896, many had known and cited Jose Rizal’s works and his leadership. So, true that during their stay in Barcelona, Jose Rizal had been elected as an honorary president of the *La Solidaridad*, Chief of the *Indios Bravos* in Paris France, and chosen as



responsible or chief of the Assosacion Circulo Hispano-Filipino in 1891, and the el fundador of the La Liga Filipina in 1892 established in the Philippines. History tells us that the revolutionary society known as Katipunan likewise acknowledged Rizal's leadership and greatness by making him its honorary President and by using his family name Rizal as the password for the 3rd-degree members.

A year after Rizal's execution, Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo and the other revolutionary chiefs exiled to Hong Kong held a commemorative program there on 29th of December 1897 on the occasion of the 1st anniversary of the hero's execution and martyrdom. As de facto president of the revolutionary government, he made and proclaimed the National Heroes Day and a national recognition of Jose Rizal's death (Maranan, 2015). Ocampo also added that Rizal was not only a great hero, but the greatest among the Filipinos. As a matter of fact, the Austrian savant Prof. Blumentritt judged him as "the most prominent man of his own people" and "the greatest man the Malayan race has produced". We have also shown during his lifetime that Rizal was already acclaimed by both Filipinos and foreigners as the foremost leader of his people and that this admiration for him has increased with the passing of time since his dramatic death.

De Ocampo answered the question who made Rizal the foremost hero of the Philippines. He asserted that no single person or groups of persons were responsible for making the greatest Malayan the No. 1 hero of the Filipino people. Rizal himself, the Filipinos and those foreigners who acknowledged him contributed to make him the greatest hero of the people. No amount of adulation and canonization by both Filipinos and foreigners could convert Rizal into a great hero if he did not possess in himself the excellent qualities and merits. (Ocampo, 1961)



On Bayani and Kabayanihan: Views and Definitions

History taught us that **bayani** is a person who had an exemplary act and thus contributed so much for the **community or by extension, the country**. Many of our very own heroes or bayani offered themselves in service for the good of all the Filipino people. Jose Rizal, Marcelo H. del Pilar and Graciano Lopez-Jaena showcased their principles and ideals in enlightening the Filipinos through their writings, books, novels, and publications. Juan Luna qualified himself in manifesting the relevance of art in the lives of the Filipinos from the oppression of Spain. Andres Bonifacio, Melchora Aquino and Emilio Aguinaldo were genuine in their fight for liberation by means of a revolution against the hands of the tyrants.



Ang Salitang Bayani sa Pilipinas

Ang salitang '**bayani**' ay isang Austronesian salita na dinala ng ating mga katutubo sa ating bayan. Ang mga bayani ay ang mga mandirigma kung saan sila ay nanguna sa pagtatanggol ng pamayanan laban sa mga kinakaharap na mga kaaway at mga panganib. Ang ilan sa mga diribatibo ng salitang bayani ay bajani, majani, bagabnim bahani.

Sa kultura nating mga Pilipino ang pagiging bayani ay nasusukat sa katapangan at sa bilang ng napapatay na kaaway. May iba-iba itong antas. Ang mga antas na ito ay kinikilala bilang (1) **Maniklad**, ang pinakamababang uri ng bayani na nakapatay ng isa o dalawang kaaway, karaniwang siya ay nakasuot ng putong na pula at dila. (2) **Hanagan** naman kung tawagin ang nasa ikalawang antas, siya ay sumasailalim sa riktawal na kung saan ay dapat siyang sapian ni Tagbusaw, ang diyos ng pakikidigma at kainin ang atay at puso ng mga kaaway. Karaniwang nagsusuot ang mga ito ng pulang putong. (3) **Kinaboan** naman kung tawagin ang makakapatay ng dalawampu hanggang dalawamput pito at karaniwang nakasuot ng pulang pantalon. (4) **Luto** naman kung tawagin ang makakapatay ng limampu hanggang 100 na kaaway at karaniwang nagsusuot ng pulang jacket. (5) **Lunugum** naman ang pinakapaborito ng diyos na si Tagbusaw dahil dito maipakikita niya ang kanyang kaaway sa sarili nitong tahanan. Itim ang karaniwang suot ng mga ito.

Ayon naman kay **Dr. Zeus Salazar** ang mga bayani ay mga taong naglalakbay at bumabalik sa bayan. Isa rin



sa kanyang ipinahiwatig na ang pagkakaiba nang bayani sa salitang “heroes”. Sinabi niyang **ang mga bayani ay lumalaban ng may kooperasyon at ang mga “heroes” (western concept) ay lumalaban mag-isa**. Ang bayani ay hindi kailangang mamatay upang maging bayani, kailangan niya lang gumawa ng magagandang impluwensya at mga gawain sa bayan upang tawaging bayani. May iba’t-iba ring ibig sabihin ang bayani ayon sa gamit. Maaaring ang bayani ay ang pagiging bayani sa panahon ngayon ay mahirap makamtam ngunit lahat tayo ay mgay pagkakataon upang maging bayani sa ating komunidad.

Source: Nolasco, R. (1997) Ang Pinagmulan ng Salitang Bayani, <https://doku.pub/documents/salitang-bayani-g0r99kk2oe0k>

Depending on the context, the word bayani has different definitions from time to time. In today’s present context the term bayani can best be ascribed to the OFW’s or the Overseas Filipino Workers, who sacrifice themselves away from their families. Our kababayan who work overseas had contributed much in the global world, helping our country’s economic stability and promote our Filipino culture. OFW’s or our kababayans are now known as mga bagong bayani because of their strength in pursuing work abroad to be employed and so as to provide for the needs of their families here in the Philippines. Their willingness and sacrifices are form of swashbuckling to foreign lands, whose culture and language are so much different from ours.

Their bravery fuel their motivation to work for their families and for the country. A modern bayani can be anyone who sacrifices even the littlest of things for the benefit of others. Presently, a good example for a



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modern bayani is Efren Peñaflorida. Peñaflorida sacrificed his time and effort just to teach out of school youths in a simple pushcart classroom. He may not have died for the country, but he responded to the needs of others through education (Jacinto, n.d).

The terms bayani and kabayanihan are changing and evolving. Like our heroes, Dr. Jose Rizal, Andres Bonifacio, Antonio Luna, their kabayanihan or heroism had enriched the country with their utmost love and concern. The story of how we became Filipinos and the long travels to becoming one nation through our readings of the life and works of our heroes, especially in Dr. Jose Rizal's life, serve as our inspiration and pride for us to move towards the future. The lessons of the past will help us to plan for a better future to enable ourselves to help our countrymen and to be the good citizens of the Philippines for more generations to come.



Summary

Dr. Jose Rizal had gained a life-long award to himself. His zealousness and fervor love for the country and for his fellow countrymen earned him the award as our national hero. Jose Rizal's heroism presents a highly important lesson that teaches us to be devoted to our family, considered as a highly-honored value not only in his time but also in today's present time, something important that our hero valued in the wholeness of Filipino character. His various experiences from his childhood days and his adventures abroad, awakened him that there must be something to be done for his beloved "Pearl of the Orient Seas". By his pen, he boldly expressed the might of his fellowmen. This heroism or kabayanihan of Jose Rizal made him as our very own bayani, the very first Filipino, who had invited the countrymen to stand and "umasa sa sariling lakas" (Filipinas), to promote to the rest of the world the rich jewels of our Filipino culture and heritage.



Activity 1: Kabayanihan ni Bayani

Group the students in the class. Search for Philippine epics and mythology. Make them read and reflect on the epic that they selected. Students will reflect on the following guide questions and present their reflections to the class creatively.

Guide Questions:

1. Discuss the kabayanihan of the protagonist presented in the story
2. What are the characteristics/traits that marked the protagonist as a true hero?



Activity 2: Making Jose Rizal as our Leader

What if Jose Rizal were still alive today and would decide to run for the presidency? What do you think will be his answers on the issues that our country faces today? What will be his platforms for presidency? Present your ideas to the class.

Issues:

- a. Poverty
- b. Abortion
- c. COVID-19
- d. RH Bill
- e. Corruption



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Week 1



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Rizal Without the Overcoat

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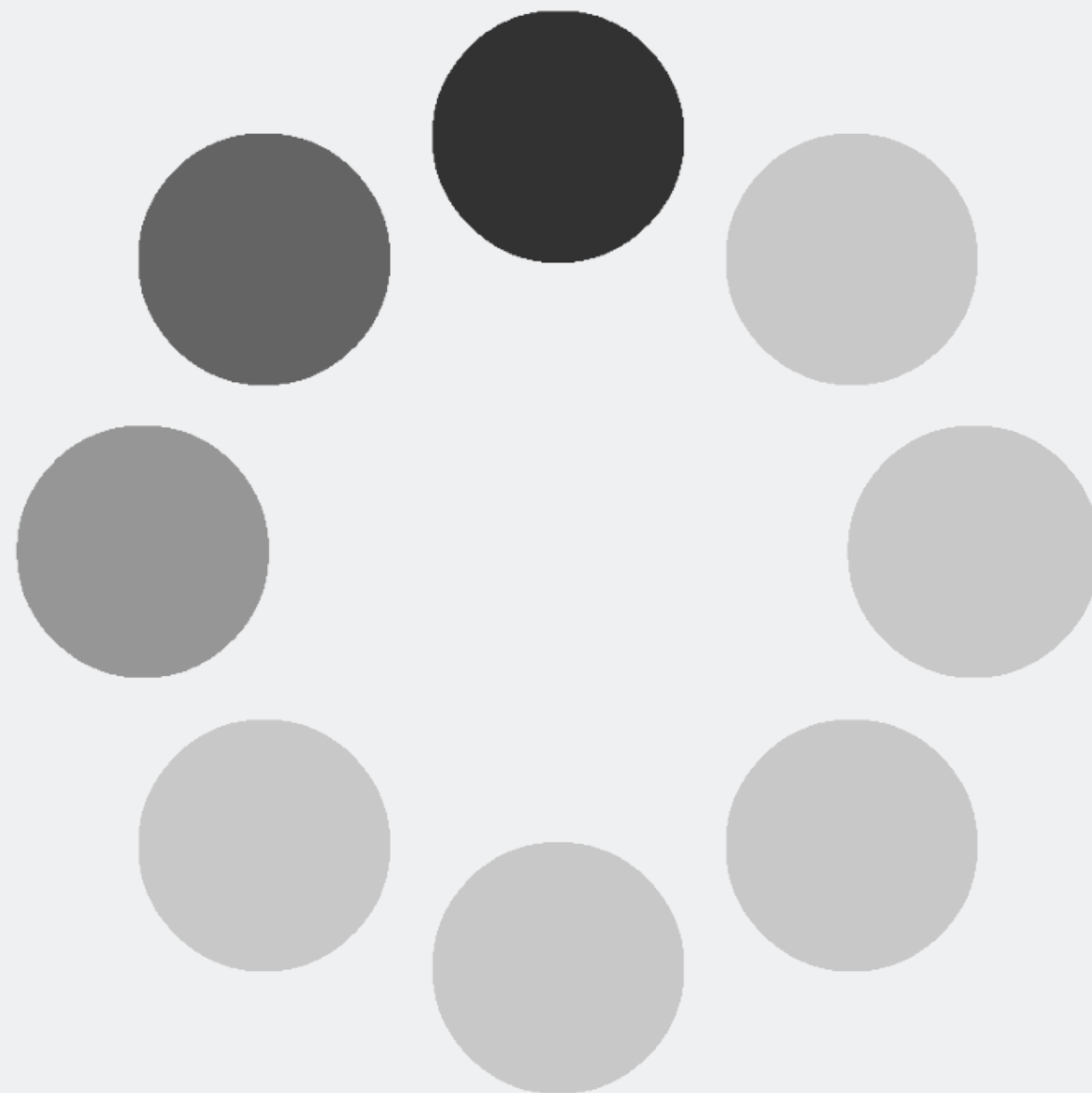


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Week 2



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LIFE AND WORKS OF RIZAL

PROF. JADE NANIONG



JOSE RIZAL AND PHILIPPINE NATIONALISM:



Motivational Activity

Answer the following questions:

1. Why do we need to have and understand symbol?
2. Based on your previous Sibika at Kultura lessons, what are the different symbols that represent the Filipino people.
3. What makes Jose Rizal a Filipino symbol?
4. If you are to choose a particular object or thing that suits and represents you, what would it be? Explain.



Overview

A symbol is an important thing for a country to have. A symbol is an object, word, or action that stands for something else with no natural relationship that is culturally defined. In a culture, a symbol is highlighted to be a word, object, imagery, or those that can be having a complex association of various meanings and can be perceived with a concrete meaning which it symbolized.

Symbols are the basis of culture. Every country around the globe has symbols that create a particular representation and make them unique among other nations. Thus, symbols give life concepts that make a nation strong and connect its people to have one identity. Jose Rizal has greatly become a national symbol for the Philippines and for the Filipino people. His ideals and values that are encapsulated in his writings are the true symbols of his personhood that elevates him to become our unifying symbol and as a hero.



National Symbols of the Philippines

in the Philippines, the House of Congress issues House Bill No. 3926 authored by Hon. Rene L. Relampagos and with the help of the Department of Education (DepEd), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), National Commission for the Culture and Arts (NCCA), and the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP). This bill serves as the basis of the declaration of the national symbols. Based on this bill, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts identified the **“official” and “unofficial” symbols in the Philippines.**

The following are the recognized official national symbols in the country according to the National Commission for the Culture and the Arts:

National Flag - The flag of the Philippines shall be blue, white, and red with an eight-rayed golden yellow sun and three five-pointed stars.

National Anthem - Lupang Hinirang is the official title of the national anthem. This anthem will always be sung in the national language within or without the country.



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National Tree- The Narra tree is identified as the national tree of the Philippines. This tree represents resilience. The wood of the tree is the favorite timber for manufacture of fine furniture, cabinet, and other instruments. Thus, its parts also can be used for medicinal and aesthetic purposes.

National Flower- Sampaguita or known as the Arabian Jasmine is a white, star-shaped blossom which has a sweet fragrance. It is also best known for its medicinal properties. Sampaguita is used as corsages or garlands

National Bird - The Philippine Eagle that can be found in rainforests in the Davao region is considered to be the largest, strongest, and most powerful eagle in the world.

National Gem - It is known as the South Sea Pearl and is considered as the oldest valued gem in the Philippines. The Philippines is symbolically known as the “Pearl of the Orient Seas”

National Sport - It is considered as one of the oldest forms of martial arts in the Philippines, Arnis or Arnis de Mano. Arnis has multiple names across the Philippines such as Eskrima, Kali and Garrote. It's a Filipino martial art that usually involves one or two sticks used to strike, thrust, and parry for defense and offense (Philippine Congress, H.B No. 3926, 2014)



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The House of Congress had pushed for other national symbols to be recognized. Other symbols are noted as unofficial or ‘colorums’ or symbols that have no legal basis. These are the following symbols that are unofficial yet traditionally accepted by many as symbols of our identity as Filipinos:

National Leaf - The Anahaw leaf is a large type of leaf with a round fan-shaped that is glossy and in green color. It is considered a strong leaf weathering high heat from the sun as well as brutal rain and wind. It is commonly used as a fan, roof for the nipa huts, and wrapping for food.

National Fruit - An aromatic, delicious, and nutritious fruit, the Mango is considered to be the national fruit of the Philippines. It has a lot of varieties like the mango kalabaw, mango piko, mango Indian, magi paho, and mango supsupin.

National House - The known bahay-kubo or nipa hut shall be recognized as the national house. It is best known for Filipinos as a cozy house or a shelter that is made from bamboo and palm leaves or even with anahaw leaves as roof.

National Animal - The Carabao or Water Buffalo or best known as kalabaw is a gentle but hard-working type of mammal. These animals are largely used by farmers to pull plows in the rice fields or transportation carts for others. It represents the strength and laboriousness of the Filipino people.



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National Fish - The Milk fish or bangus is widely popular in the Philippines and in Asia. It is a type of fish that is flexible and capable of adapting to where they are raised. It is a popular table fare among Filipinos and is prepared and cooked in various ways.

National Food - The Filipinos' fondness of Adobo had earned the title as the unofficial national food of the Philippines. Although the name was taken from the Spanish, the cooking method is as old in the archipelago.

National Dance - According to House Bill No. 3926, carinosa is a Philippine folk dance with Hispanic origins. The term is adopted from the Spanish language which means affectionate, a characteristic of most Filipina women. It is a courtship dance that portrays acts of flirtation between a man and a woman.

House Bill No. 1926 also promotes other symbols like the City of Manila (as the National Capital), the Malacanan Palace (as the National Seat of the Government), Filipino (as the National Language of the Philippines), Bayan Ko (as the National Song), "Maka-Diyos, Maka-tao, Maka-kalikasan, at Maka-bansa (For God, People, Nature and Country)" (as the National Motto), the National Coat-of-Arms and the National Seal of the Republika ng Pilipinas. the Philippine Peso (as the national Currency), the Barong Tagalog for the male and the baro't saya for the female (as the national costumes), the bakya (as the National Slippers), and the Philippine Jeepney (as the National Vehicle). It is the aim of this bill to integrate and promote patriotism and nationalism that these symbols represent in the development of history and identity as Filipinos and as one nation (Philippine Congress, H.B No. 3926, 2014).



Criteria for National Heroes: EO No. 75 1993

There are no laws nor executive orders on proclamation of any personalities as heroes in our nation. It was then in 1993, when President Fidel V. Ramos issued Executive Order No. 75, which created the National Heroes Committee. The aim of the commission was to study, evaluate and recommend Filipino national personages or bayani in due recognition of their sterling character and remarkable achievements for the country (NCAA).

The technical Committee of the National Heroes Committee held a series of meetings on June 3, 1993; August 19, 1993; September 12, 1994, and November 15, 1995, defining, discussing and deliberating upon the merits of the various definitions and criteria of a hero. The Committee adopted the following criteria as basis for historical researchers in determining who among the great Filipinos will be officially proclaimed as national heroes:

1. Heroes are those who have a concept of nation and thereafter aspire and struggle for the nation's freedom.
2. Heroes are those who define and contribute to a system or life of freedom and order for a nation.
3. Heroes are those who contribute to the quality of life and destiny of a nation.



Additional criteria for heroes were added and adopted by the Technical Committee of the National Heroes Committee on November 15, 1995:

1. Heroes are part of the people's expression.
2. Heroes think of the future, especially of the future generations.
3. The choice of heroes involves the entire process that made a particular person a hero.

Galang (2012) in an article concerning the selection process of national heroes in the Philippines shared a new set of criteria:

Not yet included

First is the extent of a person's sacrifices for the welfare of the country. Second, the motive and methods employed in the attainment of the ideal (was his ideal purely for the welfare of the country and without any taint or self-interested motives, most of all the method of attainment should be morally valid). The third is the moral character of the person concerned (the person should not have any immorality issue that affected his ideal). The fourth is the influence of the person concerned on his age and or the succeeding age. Fifth is that heroes are those who have a concept of nation and thereafter aspire and struggle for the nation's freedom (they must have desired the country's freedom in any situation especially when there's a threat of invasion in any form). Sixth is that heroes are those who define and contribute to a system of life of freedom and order for a nation (one who helps in the orderliness and betterment of the country). Seventh is, heroes are those who contribute to the quality of life and destiny of a nation. Eighth, a hero is part of the people's



expression (the citizen must have recognized and acknowledged the person as a hero). Ninth, a hero thinks of the future generations must be seen in his decisions and ideals). lastly, the choice of a hero involves not only the recounting of an episode or events in history, but of the entire process that made this particular person a hero (NCPH.gov.ph).

In the later years, the Commission studied various recommendations and evaluated based on the criteria that the technical committee set. After further deliberation, the following personalities were recommended to be our National Heroes:

1. Dr. Jose Rizal
2. Gat Andres Bonifacio
3. Pres. Emilio Aguinaldo
4. Apolinario Mabini
5. Marcelo H. del Pilar
6. Sultan Dipatuan Kudarat
7. Juan Luna
8. Melchora “Tandang Sora” Aquino
9. Gabriela Silang



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Even until now, the technical committee has never acted on the following recommendations probably because this might trigger a flood of requests for proclamations. Another possibility is that the proclamations can trigger bitter debates involving historical controversies about the heroes (NCCA, 2015).

Truly, no official declaration had concretized Jose Rizal to be our national hero. But his legacies continue to inspire more people to stand for the truth. Abroad, Jose Rizal was immortalized by other nations because of his great desire to resolve the problems that caused the Filipinos' misery. Here in the Philippines, Jose Rizal's name is widely known in everything. His name is used for brands like names of streets, avenues, brands of different products and so on. This only signifies that Jose Rizal's popularity had influenced the lives of people because of what he did in promoting our culture and heritage to the rest of the world. Again, his ideas brought an important sense of identity for the country. Even until his death, he sacrificed himself and defended his beliefs. For the historian Leon Ma. Guerrero, Jose Rizal is the First Filipino. It was because he was the first to call the Philippines his fatherland (Garcia, De Viana, and Cruz, 2015). He was truly an acclaimed martyr. In his life, Jose Rizal has been the symbol of the sacrifices of the Filipinos for freedom and liberation, and with that, qualifies him as our national symbol and by extension, our national hero.



Jose Rizal: National Hero & Symbol

The preceding paragraphs cited national symbols, both official and unofficial. As of the moment, Dr. Jose Rizal is included as one of the unofficial national symbols. But for many Filipinos, his life and writings raised him to the qualifications of being our hero and as part of our national symbols. Jose Rizal's life and times are important and reflective of the history of our land and people. It was his dream that there must be unity among Filipinos, between the Filipinos and the Philippines (Dumol and Camposano, 2018). He may not be yet as an official symbol but his name and teachings will perpetually shape our nation's identity.

A known historian, Teodoro Agoncillo wrote that Jose Rizal is acceptable as a national hero because he is the symbol of assimilation. The American policy is for the Philippines to observe assimilation. Jose Rizal did not favor achieving peace through armed means. Another is Renato Constantino who mentioned that there are following reasons for Jose Rizal to be a national hero. First, Jose Rizal already passed away at that time the Americans began their occupation or aggression in the Philippines. Another is there was no single word of embarrassment or any anti-American quotation that could ever be attributed to Jose Rizal. Lastly, Jose Rizal's martyrdom already made him the symbol of Spanish oppression. These only prove Jose Rizal's worthiness to be called or addressed as our national hero (Garcia, De Viana, and Cruz, 2015).



Despite the lack of official declaration choosing and recognizing Dr. Jose Rizal as our national hero Dr. Jose Rizal who is acclaimed a great Filipino, who had served his countrymen undoubtedly and wholeheartedly. Our lessons in history tell us how genuine Jose Rizal was as a man and of course as a hero. Like Andres Bonifacio, Jose Rizal is not explicitly proclaimed as a national hero. Understanding the context of the situation of the Filipinos and the Philippines during the Spanish colonization is one of the best keys to explain Jose Rizal's importance to our nation. The events that led to the rise of nationalism are the key factors as well that made our heroes, especially Jose Rizal, to come-up with ideas to end colonialism that gravely affected many Filipinos during the 19th century. Our heroes had harnessed their skills and talents to show to the Spaniards, that we Filipinos were deserving of the gifts of liberation.

Dr. Jose Rizal and his fellow propagandists had written numerous realizations on how Spain managed the Philippines. Jose Rizal wrote two novels, the *Noli Me Tangere* and the *El Filibusterismo*. Then, Rizal wrote essays for ideas, such as "On the Indolence of the Filipino" and "The Philippines Within a Century" and printed an annotated edition of Antonio de Morga's *Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas* (Events in the Philippine Islands) to emphasize what Morga, a Spaniard, wrote and observed: That we do have our own culture, our own way of government, our commerce with our neighbors. That there was a time when we stood on our own. That we have a maritime culture-a common identity of our own (Chua, 2018).

Through unofficially as our hero, Jose Rizal made his part in providing a nationalistic spirit that Filipinos deserved. Jose Rizal thought of only one thing, his fatherland and its people. In one of his letters compiled by



historian Ambeth Ocampo, Jose Rizal mentioned: “I have always loved my poor country and I am sure that I shall love her until my last moment. Perhaps some people will be unjust to me; well, my future, my life, my joys, everything. I have sacrificed for love of her. Whatever my fate may be, I shall die blessing my country and wishing her the dawn of her redemption (Ocampo, 2016). Andres Bonifacio is maybe one of the Filipinos that recognized Jose Rizal as an inspiration and a guiding force of the revolution. It really is a solid evidence that Jose Rizal is a hero, a bayani recognized by his fellow Filipino (Maranan, 2015).

Jose Rizal’s heroism is always commemorated every 30th of December. This memorial was started by Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo. He issued a decree on December 20, 1898 announcing the date December 30, not only as the date of his death but also as “national day of mourning.” Aguinaldo issues a directive that all national flags shall be hoisted at half-mast from 12:00 noon on December 29 and all offices of the government shall be closed the whole day on December 30 as a sign of mourning. This decree appeared in the government organ, El Heraldo de la Revolucion issued on December 25, 1898 in two languages, Tagalog and Spanish. With this, the first ever celebration of Rizal Day in the Philippines was held in Manila on December 30, 1898 by the Club Filipino which coincided with the unveiling of the Rizal monument in the town of Daet in Camarines Norte. The monument was the first ever erected in honor of Rizal. They inscribed the words A Jose Rizal (to Jose Rizal), Noli Me Tangere, and El Filibusterismo. Later, a monument in Luneta Park was erected during the American period. There are already a lot of monuments that served as symbols of the people’s great admiration to Jose Rizal (Garcia, De Viana, and Cruz, 2015). On February 1, 1902, the Philippine Commission enacted Act No. 345, which set December 30 of each year as Rizal Day, and made it



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one of the ten official holidays of the Philippines.

There are further directives from the government issued with regard to the commemoration of Jose Rizal's day. December 30 as national holiday continued as statutes were enacted by succeeding presidents. Republic Act No. 229 was enacted by President Elpidio Quirino on June 9, 1948 to create a committee to take charge of the proper celebration of Rizal Day in every municipality and chartered city. On November 8, 2002, Pres. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo enacted Administrative Order No. 44 directing the chairman of the National Historical Institute to spearhead the observance of the 106th anniversary of the martyrdom of Dr. Jose Rizal on December 30, 2002 (NHCP, 2012).

But then again, despite the lack of a formal declaration, Jose Rizal's life and heroism will forever be part of our lives as citizens. Our history saluted Jose Rizal and our other heroes and instilled their legacies for the next generations. Jose Rizal formed the minds and hearts of the people through his award-winning writings. In an article published online, historian and expert to the life of Jose Rizal, Michael "Xiao" Chua (2018) mentioned and concluded that:

Therefore, Rizal is the national hero because he contributed greatly in the creation of a new idea to replace the old idea- a national sentiment among Filipinos: that we have one misfortune and one identity of our own. And that we can be, as stated in the aims of his "La Liga Filipina," an archipelago united into "one, compact, vigorous and homogenous body" where the people protect and defend each other. educate each other about agriculture and commerce, and from among themselves, implement reform. He helped us imagine a Filipino nation.



Jose Rizal's Life Values: His Perpetual Legacy

On December 30, 1896, our great Jose Rizal was sentenced to death by a firing squad at Bagumbayan (now Luneta Park). Died at the age of 35, Jose Rizal's legacies are perpetuated deeply in our minds and hearts today. The wealthiness of his teachings and the sincerity of his experiences had made his greatness. The credibility of his concepts and inspiring directives for the Filipinos to stand for their rights is his utmost offering to humanity. Throughout his life, Jose Rizal showcased virtues and values of being a Filipino.

- **Love of God**, Jose Rizal was born and raised as a Catholic. During his childhood years, his mother Dona Teodora, taught him basic prayers in Latin. The Mercado family was a devout catholic. When he left for his studies abroad. Rizal assured his mother of his trust in God. When his sister Olympia died after childbirth, Jose Rizal remarked that they put and rest everything in the will of God.
- **Nationalism and Patriotism**, Jose Rizal's great works taught the Filipinos how to attain the freedom and independence that they have longed for so many years. Due to his great admiration for the country, his ideas and philosophies encouraged so many others to always show and manifest their desire for a sustainable nation-building.



- **Courage**, Jose Rizal was very courageous in expressing his love for the country, a valuable act that is relevant today. His moral courage to do only what is best for the Filipinos and securing the welfare of the citizens in order to keep their trust and love for the nation. Worth emulating, especially for our leaders today. Jose Rizal's decision to return to the Philippines and continue the fight in seeking for reforms for the country demonstrated his will power. It was an admirable value considering that he could live longer and do the things that he really wanted the most abroad. He had the ability to control and restrain himself.
- **Honesty**, integrity is the uprightness or a state of being of sound moral principle. Jose Rizal was honest to himself, especially in dedicating himself in the service of his fellowmen. He was honest to the extent that he never tolerated such unrightful actions that would cause danger to the integrity of other Filipinos who were longing for independence.
- **Noble Conduct**, Jose Rizal possessed a noble character. This purity of thoughts and clean behavior enabled Rizal to have clean conscience and upright thinking. Jose Rizal reminded all mothers to awaken the mind of a child and form in him/her desirable trait and idea.
- **Love of Fellowmen**, Jose Rizal had taught us to always consider the welfare of others as he said: let us not be hasty in our judgment but let us think well for our fellowmen. He reminded everyone who have lost the spirit of helping others.
- **Self-Sacrifice**, Jose Rizal is valued because of his self-denial. This means he gave up his own desire for a better reason or cause. He offered great effort to secure the welfare of the country and of his fellowmen. Self-denial implies self-sacrifice, love, and humility



- **Fortitude or Perseverance**, Jose Rizal practiced fortitude particularly in serving the country. It means he conditioned the strength of his mind in enduring or meeting pain. Fortitude in any undertaking requires faith and hope.
- **Love of Parents**, Jose Rizal always admired his parents. He is so fond of his father. even recalling him as "model of all fathers," and his mother being so devout and diligent. She is also regarded by Jose Rizal as a remarkable woman. His concern over their sacrifices and his thoughtfulness are worth emulating.
- **Charity**, Jose Rizal's sacrifices were done because of charity. It is the greatest of all virtues because it inclines everyone to love God above all things for His own sake, and our neighbors, for the sake of God. Charity is a value that entails self-giving, sharing what you have for others.
- **Love of Country**, Jose Rizal was so focused on dedicating himself to his fatherland. His sacrifices are his greatest manifestations of the fullness of his pag-ibig sa tinubuang lupa.
- **Devotion to Truth**, Jose Rizal never stopped in searching for truth when he was still alive. Admired by many because of this value, he continued to seek for what is right and looked for solutions for the country's enduring problems. This value is what our leaders today should have.
- **Serenity**, A man is serene if he has an unruffled mind. Serenity of spirit stems from a strong personal discipline. Rizal related a conversation between a school teacher and Crisostomo Ibarra to know the problems of learning and teaching. When asked by Ibarra about his problems, the teacher spoke against corporal punishment inflicted on the pupils. Rizal's regard for tranquility of spirit, physical and moral repose and willingness is never timelier than today



- **Self-Direction**, It is a person 's readiness to think of conduct and ability to carry out his own responsibility. One's initiative is a must for a society to progress. Jose Rizal never turned down himself to help our country. He proved himself in his initiatives to help his fellowmen to learn and educate themselves, especially on how to stand and be conscious of what was happening in our country.
- **Self-Control**, This value or lesson is needed by everyone. The will acts only in seeking what is good. This is the reason why we must take great care in presenting only good ideas to the will. Jose Rizal showed much self-control in his lifetime. Two important examples are worth recalling. During his study days in Madrid, he manifested self-control. Once he visited the house of the Paterno brothers (Antonio, Maximo and Pedro). They showed him their house, and Rizal was thankful for their hospitality. When Pedro proposed that Rizal exhibit the pictures he had, he refused.
- **Courtesy and Politeness**, Politeness and courtesy are virtues that give harmony and charm in our daily life. Courtesy is graceful and considerate behavior toward others. It demands attention, politeness and refinement. Politeness is a quality of being well-bred. Jose Rizal possessed these values as he has manifested them during his education years.
- **Gratitude**, Jose Rizal was thankful during his lifetime. He was grateful to his family, friend, and comrades for the time shared. Gratitude is the value for all the blessings received from God.
- **Love for Justice**, Justice is the moral habit by which a man gives to another what he is due. A man with a good conscience finds joy in being just. In Jose Rizal's time, he sought for justice particularly for his family and for his countrymen.



Activity 3: National Symbol

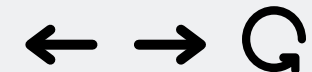
Answer the following questions briefly.

1. Why do you think are there official and unofficial lists of Philippine national symbols?
2. Why do you think there is no formal proclamation for Jose Rizal to be recognized as our national hero?
3. Explain the criteria set by the National Heroes Committee:
 - a. Heroes are those who have a concept of nation and thereafter aspire and struggle for the nation's freedom.
 - b. Heroes are those who define and contribute to a system or life of freedom and order for a nation.
 - c. Heroes are those who contribute to the quality of life and destiny of a nation.
4. From the following lived values of Dr. Jose Rizal, choose two that you think are the most significant values that describe his heroism and explain.
5. What do you think did Prof. Xiao Chua mean when he mentioned that Filipinos had one misfortune and one identity of their own?

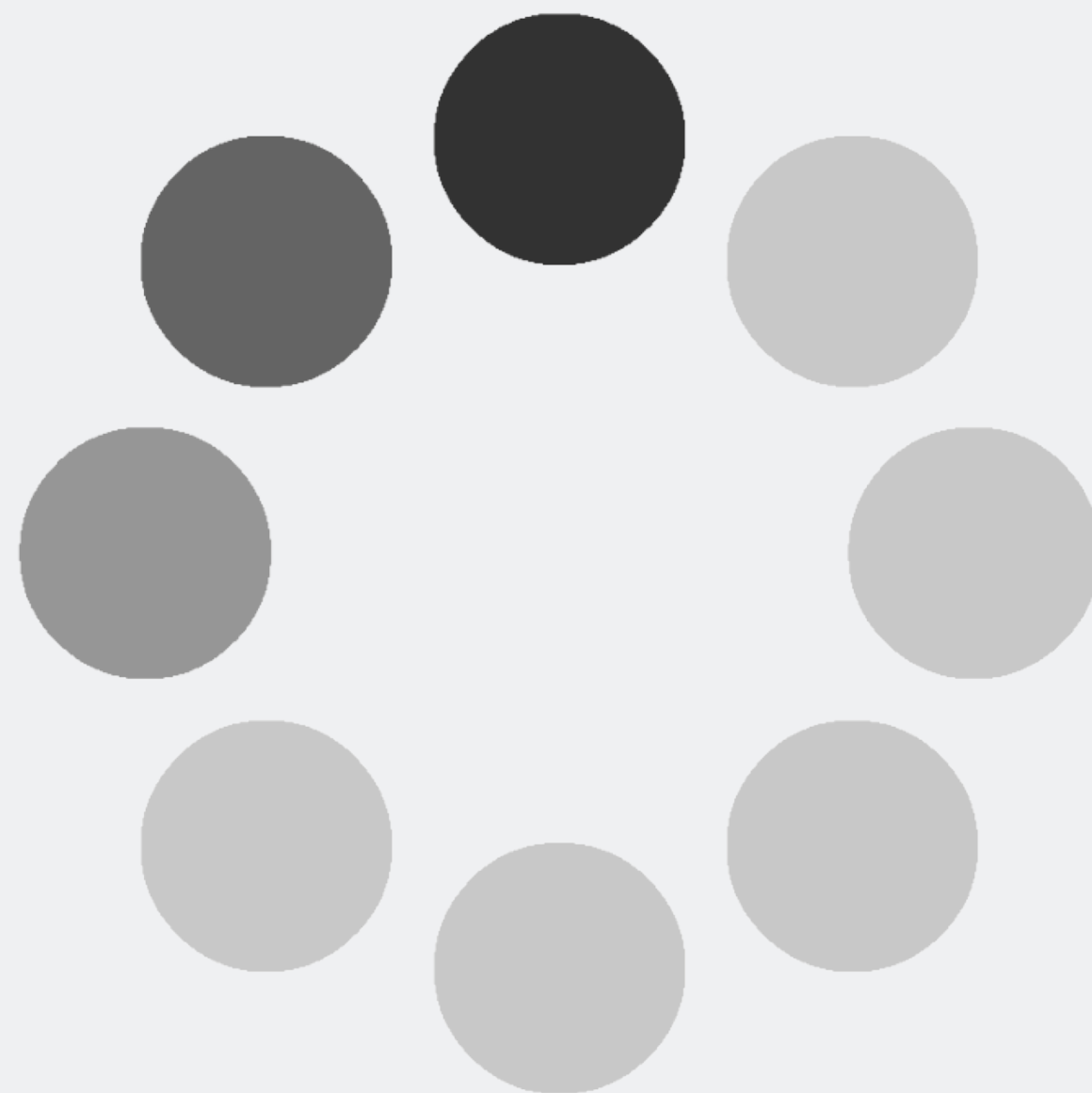


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Week 2



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LIFE AND WORKS OF RIZAL

PROF. JADE NANIONG



THE POWER OF THE PEN: DR. JOSE RIZAL'S LITERARY LEGACY



Motivational Activity

Answer the following questions:

1. How did the socio-political climate of the Philippines during the Spanish colonial period influence the creation and content of Rizal's literary work?
2. What are the main themes covered in Rizal's literary work? What do these themes speak about the political and social context of that era?
3. What is the central message or argument that Rizal is trying to put across in Rizal's literary work? How does he use literary devices to bring that message home?
4. How did Rizal's literary work contribute to the rise of Philippine nationalism and the eventual revolution against Spanish colonial rule? What specific impact did it have on the Filipino people?



Complete Works of Jose Rizal

Jose Rizal was a polymath who excelled in different fields. The following is a list of known works (novels, essays, poems, plays, sculptures, and paintings) by Rizal.

Novels and Essays

- Noli Me Tángere, novel, 1887
- El Filibusterismo, (novel, 1891), sequel to Noli Me Tángere
- Alin Mang Lahi (“Whate’er the Race”), a Kundiman attributed to Dr. Jose Rizal
- The Friars and the Filipinos (Unfinished)
- Toast to Juan Luna and Felix Hidalgo (Speech, 1884), given at Restaurante Ingles, Madrid
- The Diaries of José Rizal
- Rizal’s Letters is a compendium of Dr. Jose Rizal’s letters to his family members, Blumentritt, Fr. Pablo Pastells and other reformers
- “Come se gobiernan las Filipinas” (Governing the Philippine islands)



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- Filipinas dentro de cien años essay, 1889–90 (The Philippines a Century Hence)
- La Indolencia de los Filipinos, essay, 1890 (The indolence of Filipinos)[51]
- Makamisa unfinished novel
- Sa Mga Kababaihang Taga Malolos, essay, 1889, To the Young Women of Malolos
- Annotations to Antonio de Moragas, Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas (essay, 1889, Events in the Philippine Islands)

Poetry

- A La Juventud Filipina (English translation: To The Philippine Youth)
- El Canto Del Viajero (English translation: Song of the Wanderer)
- Briayle Crismarl
- Canto de María Clara (English translation: Song of Maria Clara)
- Himno Al Trabajo (Dalit sa Paggawa)
- Felicitación [Felicitation (English Translation)]
- Kundiman (Tagalog) [Kundiman (English Translation)]
- Me Piden Versos (English translation: They Ask Me for Verses!)
- Mi Primera Inspiracion



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- Mi Retiro (English translation: My Retreat)
- Mi Ultimo Adiós (English translation: My Last Farewell)
- Por La Educación (Recibe Lustre La Patria) (English translation: Education Gives Luster to Motherland)
- Sa Sanggol na si Jesus (English translation: Child Jesus)
- A Mi Musa (English translation: To My Muse)
- Un Recuerdo A Mi Pueblo (English translation: Memories of My Town)
- A Man in Dapitan

Plays

- El Consejo de los Dioses (The Council of Gods)
- Junto Al Pasig (Along the Pasig)
- San Euistaquio, Mártir (Saint Eustache, the Martyr)

Sculptures

- The Triumph of Science over Death



Paintings

- Saturnina Rizal in oil now being displayed in Rizal Shrine in Fort Santiago
- Dapitan church curtains in oil made in Dapitan in 1984.
- An oil painting on a pair of mother-of-pearl shells painted in Dapitan and given as a token to Doña Leonor Valenzuela and later passed on to Doña Margarita Valenzuela
- Water color painting of the Spanish coat of arms done during San Rafael fiesta in Calamba in 1867
- Allegory on a pair of porcelain bases of the new year celebration in oil painted in Berlin in 1886
- Crayon painting of Christ crucified done in 1875
- Crayon painting of Immaculate Conception made in Manila, 1974
- Crayon painting of Portrait of Morayta made in Barcelona, 1885



Group Presentation:

Instruction:

The class will be divided into 13 Groups, each group of 3-4 students will be responsible for one of the Rizal works listed above. To effectively present your group's assigned Rizal work, create a 10-minute presentation that includes a brief introduction to Rizal and the historical context of the work. Deep dive into the historical context, main themes, central message, importance in the struggle for independence and relevance to contemporary issues. Use visual aids like manila paper or cartolina to illustrate key points. Remember to practice your presentation to ensure smooth delivery and effective time management.

Group 1 - Memorias de un estudiante de Manila (1872-1881)

Group 2 - Sa Aking mga Kabata?

Group 3 - Un Recuerdo a Mi Pueblo (1876)

Group 4 - A la Juventud Filipina (1879)

Group 5 - Por la educación recibe lustre la Patria (1876)

Group 6 - La alianza intima entre la religion y la Buena Educación (1876)

Group 7 - El Amor Patrio (1882)

Group 8 - Homenaje a Luna y Hidalgo (1884)



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Group 9 - Constitución de La Liga Filipina (1892)

Group 10 - Sa Mga Kababayang Dalaga sa Malolos (1889)

Group 11 - Sobre la Indolencia de los Filipinos (1890)

Group 12 - Chapter 8 of Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas por el Dr. Antonio de Morga nuevamente sacada a luz y anotada po Jose Rizal (1890)

Group 13 - Filipinas dentro de cien años (1889-1890)



Group Assignment:

1 NAVALE FERNANDEZ HERRERA NIFAS RAMOS	2 DIZON CORCINO CAPISTRANO SANTOS SAÑO	3 VELASQUEZ DELA PEÑA ARELLANO MARASIGAN GARCIA	4 CAROLINO SENARIS MAMALES TORRES LINAO	5 SEGOVIA NACARIO CAMU AGULLO MARGALLO
6 MARAYA SYPIO ICARO MONTER	7 MANZANERO MARINDUQUE VILLARUZ ENRIQUEZ	8 TAGALOGON OLAER CALULANG GABAON	9 AGUILAR SICIO MAXIMO LLOSA	10 CRUZ SUNGA FORMANES HIPULAN
11 JUAN TENORIO TUPAS CANLAS	12 MANANSALA GARCHITORENA REYES BRILLO	13 TORRES OLOROSO MOYA BARRIOS		



Criteria	Exemplary (10 pts)	Proficient (8 pts)	Satisfactory (6 pts)	Needs Improvement (4 pts)
Content Knowledge	Thorough understanding of the work and context; insightful analysis of themes and messages.	Good understanding with minor gaps; analysis is clear but lacks depth.	Basic understanding; some themes identified but analysis is superficial.	Limited understanding; themes are unclear or missing.
Structure & Organization	Presentation is well-organized; flows logically with clear transitions.	Mostly organized; minor issues with flow or clarity.	Some organization; transitions may be unclear.	Poorly organized; difficult to follow.
Visual Aids	Effective and creative use of visual aids that enhance understanding.	Good use of visual aids; mostly relevant and clear.	Some visual aids used, but they may not enhance understanding.	Minimal use of visual aids; unclear or irrelevant.
Delivery	Confident, engaging delivery; excellent eye contact and body language.	Clear delivery; good eye contact but could be more engaging.	Delivery is adequate; some eye contact; lacks engagement.	Poor delivery; little eye contact; hard to follow.
Time Management	Presentation perfectly fits within the time limit.	Slightly over or under time; manageable.	Noticeably over or under time; affects clarity.	Major time management issues; presentation feels rushed or dragged.

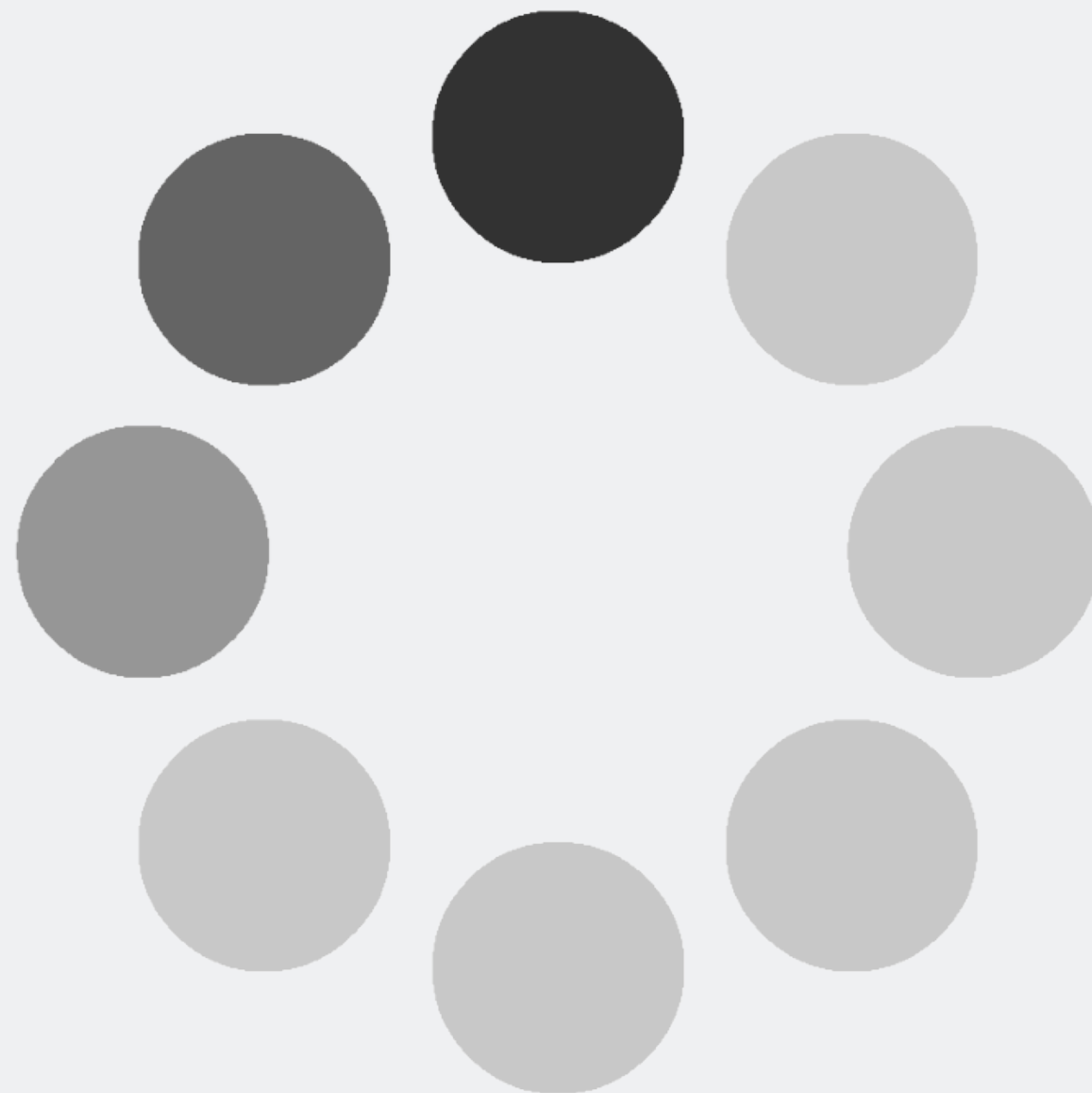


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Week 3



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