

RIZAL PRE-LIM REVIEWER

Rizal's Family Tree

- **Domingo Lam-co** - Paternal Grandfather/Father of Francisco Mercado
- **Inez de la Rosa** - Paternal Grandmother/Mother of Francisco Mercado
- **Francisco Mercado** - Son of Inez and Domingo
- **Bernarda Monicha/Monica** - Spouse of Francisco Mercado
- **Juan Mercado** - Son of Francisco and Bernarda
- **Cirila Alejandro** - Spouse of Juan Mercado
- **Francisco Mercado Rizal** - Son of Juan and Cirila
- **Teodora Alonso Realonda** - Spouse of Francisco Mercado Rizal
- **Lorenzo Alberto Alonzo** - Father of Teodora
- **Brigida De Quintos** - Mother of Teodora
- **Manuel De Quintos** - Father of Brigida
- **Regina Ursua De Quintos** - Mother of Brigida
- **Eugenio Ursua** - Father of Regina Ursua
- **Benigna Ursua** - Mother of Regina Ursua
- **June 19, 1861** - birthdate of Jose Rizal
- **December 30, 1896** - death of Jose Rizal
- **Calamba, Laguna** - birthplace of Jose Rizal
- Born between 11 to 12mn
- **June 22, 1861** - baptismal of Jose Rizal
- **Father Rufino Collantes** - the one who baptized Jose rizal
- **Father Pedro Casañas** - Godfather of Jose Rizal

Domingo Lam-co

- Ancestor of Jose Rizal
- Full blood Chinese from Amoy (Guangzhou), China
- Chose Mercado as his last name, which means market

Francisco Mercado Rizal

- Born in May 11, 1818
- Studied Latin and Philosophy in Colegio de San Jose in Manila
- Works as a tenant farmer
- Rizal thinks his father is a model of fathers

Teodora Alonso Realonda

- Born in November 9, 1827 in Santa Cruz, Manila
- Studied in Colegio de Santa Rosa
- Died in August 16, 1911

Jose Rizal and his siblings are 11 in number, he falls in 7th.

Saturnina "Neneng"

- Eldest of the siblings
- Married to Manuel Hidalgo of Tanauan, Batangas

Paciano

- Only brother of Jose Rizal
- Studied at San Jose College in Manila
- Became a farmer and later a general of Philippine Revolution

Narcisa "Sisa"

- Third of the siblings
- Married to Antonio Lopez from Morong, Rizal
- A teacher and Musician

Olimpia "Ipiang"

- She died due to childbirth
- She became the wife of Silvestre Ubaldo

Lucia

- She became the wife of Mariano Herbosa, a town mate from Calamba, and nephew of Father Casanas

- Herbosa died of cholera and was denied Christian burial because he was a brother-in-law of Dr. Jose Rizal.

- She was an epileptic and died at the age of 80 as a spinster.

Maria "Biang"

- She became the wife of Daniel Faustino Cruz of Biñan, Laguna.

Trinidad "Trining"

- She was also a spinster.
- She died at the age of 83.
- She inherited much of Rizal's property in Dapitan.

Concepcion "Concha" (1862 - 1865)

- She died at the age of three (3) due to illness.
- Her death was Rizal's first sorrow in life

Soledad "Loleng"

- She was the youngest in the family.
- She became the wife of Pantaleon Quintero also from Calamba, Laguna.

Josefa "Panggoy"

Paciano was the **inspiration** of Rizal while writing *Noli me Tangere* and *El Filibusterismo*, specifically the character Pilosopo Tasio/Tasyo.

The family of Rizal was considered a **Principalia**.

Name Meaning:

- **José:** Named after *St. Joseph, patron saint*
- **Protacio:** From *St. Gervacio y Protacio*, whose feast day is June 19
- **Rizal:** Derived from the Spanish "*ricial*," meaning a green field or pasture (symbolizing growth and life)
- **Mercado:** Spanish for "*market*," adopted by his great-grandfather Domingo Lamco to represent his profession as a merchant
- **Alonso:** His mother's surname, following Spanish customs of using both paternal and maternal family names.
- **Realonda:** His mother's surname adopted due to the 1849 decree to choose new Spanish surnames.
- **Pepe** - Pepe is a nickname for Jose, Giuseppe, Jusepe. In Latin, Saint Joseph's name is always followed by the letters "P.P" for pater putativus (commonly accepted) father of Jesus Christ. In Spanish, the letter "P" is pronounced "peh" giving rise to the nickname Pepe for Jose.

CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCE

Memories of Rizal

- was his happy days in the family garden when he was three years old. Because he was a frail, sickly and undersized child, he was given the most loving care by his parents.
- Another childhood memory was the daily Angelus prayer, by nightfall, his mother gathered all the children at the house to pray the Angelus.
- Rizal also remembered the night-time walk in the town, especially during moonlit nights. The Rizal children were bound together by ties of love and companionship.
- At the age of three, Rizal began to take part in the family prayers.
- When Rizal was five years old, he was able to read haltingly the Spanish family bible.
- One of the memorable anecdotes between the young Jose was when his mother was reading to him a Spanish reader entitled *El Amigo de los Niños* (The Children's Friend). She noticed him not paying attention to her as she was reading the contents of the book in Spanish. Jose instead was attracted to a pair of moths circling the flame of the oil lamp. The smaller moth got so attracted to the flame that it flew too close, its wings got burned and fell into the oil and died. **The Story of the Moth**- made the profoundest impression on Rizal" died a martyr to its illusions"
- At the age of five, Rizal began to make sketches with his pencil and to mould in clay and wax objects which attracted his fancy.

- At the age of eight, Rizal wrote the only one of those early works extant is the poem written in Tagalog titled “Sa Aking mga Kabata” (To my fellow children), which he allegedly wrote at the age of eight.

Important Dates:

June 19, 1861 – Rizal’s Birthday

June 22, 1861 – Christening

September 28, 1862 – the church where he was baptized were burnt

1864 – He learned alphabet

1865 – First real tears, because Concepcion died at the age of three.

1865 – 1869

- **Dona Teodora Alonso (mother)** - taught him to read and write
- **Leon Monroy** – Father’s classmate; Taught him Rudiments of Latin and Spanish.
- **Uncle Manuel Alberto** – Physical development; taught him Arm wrestling
- **Uncle Gregorio** – instilled the mind of Rizal’s love for education. Advised Rizal “work hard and perform every task carefully...”

1869 – Sa aking mga kabata (Love of one’s language), Rizal’s first poem in native language at the age of eight. This poem reveals Rizal’s earliest nationalist sentiment.

Works in focus:

i. Memorias de un estudiante de Manila (1872-1881) - composed of 8 chapters spanning his childhood to his days as a student in Manila; provides a glimpse into his childhood memories growing up in Calamba and his early education.

ii. Sa Aking mga Kabata? - to express his love for his native language and to encourage the youth to embrace and appreciate their own culture and heritage.

iii. Un Recuerdo a Mi Pueblo (1876) - Un Recuerdo A Mi Pueblo or In Memory of My Town by Dr. Jose Rizal is about a poet longing for his town, childhood, and the feeling of being at home. In the poem, it talks about the lifestyle he had in his town. Rizal is kind of reminiscing on his childhood and feeling the sensation he felt as a boy.

iv. A la Juventud Filipina (1879) - is considered “an inspiring poem that states that the Filipino youth are capable of great heights. It urges the Filipino youth to reach their potential by harnessing their skills and talents for the betterment of our countrymen.

RIZAL’S ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP

Segunda Katigbak and Leonor Valenzuela

She was her first love (puppy love). Unfortunately his first love was engaged to be married to a townmate Manuel Luz.

Leonor Valenzuela

Also known as “Orang,” she was Rizal’s neighbor in Intramuros while he was studying at the University of Santo Tomas. He courted her briefly and would send her invisible ink letters (written in water and readable by heating). Their relationship did not last long, and it was more of a youthful crush.

Leonor Rivera

It portrays Maria Clara in *Noli Me Tangere*. A tall girl from Pagsanjan. Rizal's sweetheart for 11 years in a long distance relationship. Rizal send her love notes written in invisible ink, that could only be deciphered over the warmth of the lamp or candle (liwanag at init ng apoy). Unfortunately, Leonor's mother disapproved of her daughter's relationship with Rizal, who was then a known filibustero. She hid from Leonor all letters sent to her sweetheart which result to Leonor believing that Rizal had already forgotten her. ,sadly consented her to marry the Englishman Henry Kipping (her mother's choice). He visited her on the eve of his departure to Spain and bade her a last goodbye.

Consuelo Ortiga

Consuelo Ortiga y Rey, the prettier of Don Pablo Ortigas's daughters, fell in love with him. He dedicated to her *A la Senorita C.O.y R.*, which became one of his best poems.

He probably fell in love with her and apparently asked him for a romantic verses. He suddenly backed out before the relationship turned into a serious romance, because he wanted to remain loyal to Leonor Rivera and did not want to destroy his friendship with Eduardo de Lete who was madly in love with Consuelo.

O Sei San

A Japanese samurai's daughter taught Rizal the Japanese art of painting known as su-mie. If Rizal was a man without a patriotic mission, he would have married this lovely and intelligent woman and lived a stable and happy life with her in Japan because the Spanish legation there offered him a lucrative job.

Gertrude Beckett

While Rizal was in London annotating the *Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas*. Getrude, a blue-eyed and buxom girl was the oldest of the three Beckett daughters. She fell in love with Rizal. But Rizal suddenly left London for Paris to avoid Gertrude, who was seriously in love with him. Before leaving London, he was able to finish the group carving of the Beckett sisters. He gave it to Gertrude as a sign of their brief relationship.

Nellie Boustead

Rizal having lost Leonor Rivera, entertained the thought of courting other ladies. While a guest of the Boustead family at their residence in the resort city of Biarritz, he had befriended the two pretty daughters of his host, Eduardo Boustead. Rizal used to fence with the sisters at the studio of Juan Luna. Antonio Luna, Juan's brother and also a frequent visitor of the Bousteads, courted Nellie but she was deeply infatuated with Rizal.

In a party held by Filipinos in Madrid, a drunken Antonio Luna uttered unsavory remarks against Nellie Boustead. This prompted Rizal to challenge Luna into a duel. Fortunately, Luna apologized to Rizal, thus averting tragedy for the compatriots.

Their love affair unfortunately did not end in marriage. It failed because Rizal refused to be converted to the Protestant faith, as Nellie demanded and Nellie's mother did not like a physician without enough paying clientele to be a son-in-law. The lovers, however, parted as good friends when Rizal left Europe.

Suzanne Jacoby

In 1890, Rizal moved to Brussels because of the high cost of living in Paris. In Brussels, he lived in the boarding house of the two Jacoby sisters. In time, they fell deeply in love with each other. Suzanne cried when Rizal left Brussels and wrote him when he was in Madrid.

Josephine Bracken

Jose Rizal's destined love. In the last days of February 1895, while still in Dapitan, Rizal met an 18-year old petite Irish girl, with bold blue eyes, brown hair and a happy disposition. She was Josephine Bracken, the adopted daughter of George Taufer from Hong Kong, who came to Dapitan to seek Rizal for eye treatment. Rizal was physically attracted to her. His loneliness and boredom must have taken the measure of him and what could be a better diversion than to fall in love again. But the Rizal sisters suspected Josephine as an agent of the friars and they considered her as a threat to Rizal's security.

Rizal asked Josephine to marry him, but she was not yet ready to make a decision due to her responsibility to the blind Taufer. Since Taufer's blindness was untreatable, he left for Hong Kong on March 1895. Josephine stayed with Rizal's family in Manila. Upon her return to Dapitan, Rizal tried to arrange with Father Antonio Obach for their marriage. However, the priest wanted a retraction (mga likha at isinulat nya against sa religion at gobyerno kagaya ng Noli Me Tangere at El Filibusterismo) as a precondition before marrying them. Rizal upon the advice of his family and friends and with Josephine's consent took her as his wife even without the Church blessings. Josephine later gave birth prematurely to a stillborn baby, a result of some incidence, which might have shocked or frightened her.

EDUCATION

Early Education (1860 - 1870)

(1864 - Early Schooling) Jose Rizal's first instructor was his mother named Teodora Alonso Realonda; she taught him to read, pray, and motivated him to compose poetry.

(1865 - Poetry Writing) Even as a child, Rizal began showing a passion for writing and poetry, influenced by his mother and uncle.

(1869 - Binan Laguna) Rizal attended a private school in Binan, Laguna, under Maestro Justiniano Aquino Cruz. He excelled in Latin and Spanish, showing early signs of genius.

Early Works

"Sa Aking mga Kabata" - Written when Rizal was 8 years old, the poem emphasizes the importance of one's language and is attributed to his early advocacy of Filipino identity.

Secondary Education (1872 - 1877)

(1872 - Ateneo Municipal de Manila) At the age of 11, Rizal enrolled in Ateneo Municipal de Manila. Four months after the execution of Gomburza and Dona Teodora is still in prison. His father decided not to send him to the Colegio de San Jose because of the unhappy experience brother Paciano had in the said school. His father wanted to send Rizal to Colegio de San Juan De Letran but later decided to have him enrolled at Ateneo Municipal formerly known as Escuela Pia.

- Rizal's academic triumph at Ateneo can be attributed to three factors, namely, racial pride, monastic discipline and seclusion of boarding school life.
- He extended extraordinary efforts to prove to his Spanish classmates that the Filipino students can compete with them academically.
- The monastic discipline of competition inside the classroom triggered in him the motivation to outdo his classmates.
- Owing to the seclusion of his boarding school life, he was able to devote more time to his studies.
- He became a member of and eventually an officer in the religious confraternities at Ateneo - Sodality of Our Lady; and Apostleship of Prayers.
- He also joined the Academy of Spanish Literature and the Academy of Natural Sciences.
- Rizal took painting lessons under Agustin Saez, and Sculpture lessons under Romualdo de Jesus.
- He also sustained the physical fitness training he started under his Tio Manuel.

(1875) Bachelor of Arts - He graduated with the highest honors at age 16, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree (1877). His excellent performance earned him respect among peers and teachers.

Achievements

- Rizal was an exemplary student, consistently receiving high honors.
- He earned the title of "emperor" in his class, a top honor given to students with excellent performance.

Literary Works

- **Mi Primera Inspiración (1874)** - The first poem he wrote as a student. This was dedicated by Rizal to his mother on the occasion of the latter's natal day.
- **Un Cuadro de Mi Pueblo (1876)** - This poem was his way of paying homage to his birthplace, Calamba.
- **Al Nino Jesus (1875)** - Written by Rizal, during his student days, when he was 14 years old. This poem was his expression of his devotion to Catholicism.
- **Felicitación (1875)** - A poem written by Rizal during his time at Ateneo.

University Education (1877 - 1882)

University of Santo Tomas (1877) - Rizal took up Philosophy and Letters at the University of Santo Tomas (UST) but shifted to Medicine after realizing the need to cure his mother's failing eyesight.

- Rizal studied at UST but became disillusioned with the discrimination faced by Filipino students under the Dominican friars, who favored Spanish students.
- Despite his academic achievements, he found the environment oppressive and repressive, contributing to his later desire for reforms.

- Rizal's completion of the Bachiller en Artes at Ateneo Municipal entitled him for admission to higher studies at a university.
- Although Dona Teodora was opposed to Rizal's pursuit of higher education for fear of what might happen to him due to the martyrdom of Gomburza, Don Francisco decided to send him to UST.
- At first, Rizal was not certain of what course to pursue after graduating with honors at Ateneo. His former Jesuit mentors were suggesting that Rizal should take either priesthood or farming.
- Rizal considered going into literature, law, or medicine.

Literary Works

- **Junto Al Pasig (1880)** - A one-act play staged in Ateneo, reflecting his growing awareness of Spanish oppression.
- **El Consejo de los Dioses (1880)** - A literary contest entry that won first prize, showcasing his intellectual depth.
- **A Filipinas (1880)** - A poem praising the arts in the Philippines.

Education Abroad (1882 - 1885)

Universidad Central de Madrid (1882) - Rizal traveled to Spain and secretly enrolled in the Universidad de Madrid to continue his studies in Medicine and Philosophy and Letters.

- Rizal Immersed himself in the intellectual and liberal environment of Europe, where he became involved in political discussions about the Philippine reforms.
- **(1884) Licentiate in Medicine** - Rizal finished his studies in Licentiate in Medicine in June 1884.
- **(1885) Licentiate in Philosophy and Letters** - He also completed a degree in Philosophy and Letters with high marks.

Literary Works

- **Amor Patrio (1882)** - Rizal's first essay published in Diariong Tagalog under the pseudonym "Laong Laan" expressing his patriotism.
- **Me Piden Versos (1882)** - A poem reflecting his sadness and longing for the Philippines while staying abroad.

Advanced Studies in Europe (1885 - 1887)

(1885) Paris, France - Rizal moved to Paris to further his medical studies, working as an assistant to the famous ophthalmologist Dr. Louis de Wecker.

(1886) Heidelberg, Germany - He continued his studies in ophthalmology at Heidelberg University under Dr. Otto Becker.

- Rizal also visited Wilhelmsfeld, where he stayed with Dr. Karl Ullmer, a Protestant pastor, wrote letters expressing his admiration for German culture.

Literary Works

A Las Flores de Heidelberg (1886) - A poem reflecting his love for the beauty of nature and his yearning for his homeland.

Major Literary Works

Noli Me Tangere (1887) - Rizal completed and published his first novel, (Touch me not), in Berlin. It exposed the abuses of the Spanish colonial government and the friars in the Philippines.

- The novel was instrumental in awakening Filipino nationalism and stirred controversy among the Spanish authorities.
 - Themes: Social injustice, the cruelty of friars, and the need for reforms.
 - Characters: Crisostomo Ibarra, Maria Clara, Padre Damaso.
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Return to the Philippines and Second European Sojourn (1887 - 1991)

(1887) Return to the Philippines - Rizal returned to Calamba and opened a clinic, treating patients including his Mother. His fame from the Noli led to increased surveillance by the Spanish authorities.

(1888) Second trip to Europe - Due to mounting pressures and threats to his life, Rizal left for Europe again. He continued to advocate for reforms through his writings and involvement in the Propaganda Movement.

Literary Works

- **La Visión del Fray Rodriguez (1889)** - A satire against the friar's criticism of Noli.
- **Letter to the Young Women of Malolos (1889)** - An essay praising women of Malolos for their courage to pursue education.
- **Major Literary Works**
- **El Filibusterismo (1891)** - In Ghent, Belgium. This novel is the sequel to Noli Me Tangere and is more political, focusing on revolution and vengeance.
- **Themes:** Oppression, the corrupt colonial system, the plight of the Filipino masses.
- **Characters:** Simoun (formerly Crisostomo Ibarra), Basilio, Padre Florentino.
- **Later Years and Final Works (1891 - 1896)**
- **La Liga Filipina (1892)** - Upon his return to the Philippines, Rizal founded the La Liga Filipina, a civic organization advocating peaceful reforms, education, and national unity.
- **Mi Ultimo Adios (1896)** - Before his execution on December 30, 1896. Rizal wrote his final poem "Mi Ultimo Adios", a moving farewell to his beloved country.