

The two videos present a comprehensive and emotionally resonant account of the last chapters of José Rizal's life. The first video follows Rizal's return to the Philippines, where he established *La Liga Filipina*, a peaceful reformist organization aimed at uniting the country and promoting education, agriculture, and mutual protection. Despite its noble aims, the Spanish authorities saw it as a threat and quickly arrested Rizal. This led to his exile in Dapitan, where instead of falling into despair, he became a farmer, teacher, and doctor. He used his time productively—teaching young boys, promoting scientific farming, creating a water system, and providing free healthcare to the poor.

The second video focuses on Rizal's controversial manifesto, written before his execution. Many interpret his strong words like “absurd” and “criminal” as anti-revolution. However, when read fully and with historical context, it's clear that Rizal wasn't against independence—he simply believed the country wasn't ready for armed conflict. He emphasized education and moral development as prerequisites for true freedom. His final poem, *Mi Último Adiós*, honors those who fight and die for the country, suggesting that in his final moments, Rizal recognized and supported the revolution's ideals—even if he had reservations about its timing and method.

As a computer science student, I'm impressed by how Rizal approached problems like a systems thinker. He didn't just complain about social issues—he designed solutions and implemented them on the ground, even in exile. His practical mindset—grounded in data, education, and direct action—feels very aligned with how we, as future engineers, are trained to approach real-world problems.

Rizal's life teaches us that nation-building isn't only about dramatic gestures or armed struggle. It's about education, preparation, and strategic action. He may have died outside the battlefield, but his intellect, writings, and values armed the Filipino people with something just as powerful: the idea that freedom must be earned not just through sacrifice, but also through wisdom. As students in the tech world, Rizal's story reminds us that even in our own fields, we can contribute to national progress through innovation, service, and integrity.