## **Reflection Paper Life and Works of Rizal**

Reflection about the movie "Ganito Kami Noon, Paano Kayo Ngayon"

#### A. Introduction

"Ganito Kami Noon, Paano Kayo Ngayon?" Is a classic Filipino movie that tells the story about a young boy named "Kiko" growing up during the early 1900s in the Philippines during the American colonization. It depicts the social and political issues of the time, including the struggle for independence and the exploitation of the Filipino people by the Americans. Kiko witnesses the firsthand of injustices and abuse from the Americans and it became a symbol of resistance of resistance and hope.

## I. Brief summary of the movie

The Movie's story is all about the Philippines during the American colonization, it sets in early 1900s it tells how the Filipinos struggle to gain independence and experiencing exploitation of the Filipino people by the Americans. The film also explores themes of identity, heritage and cultural pride. Kiko who is a mixed race, struggles with his identity and his place in society. Kiko torn between his Filipino roots and the American culture around his surroundings. He learns to embrace his heritage and became a symbol of hope and resistance to his fellow Filipino.

#### II. Personal connection to the movie

It connects to our modern people to this days because, some of the people are still struggle what are there real identity to the society because some people like this culture and appreciate it some of them are not, so it can confuse us but as long as we are Filipino, we need to embrace our own culture and be proud of it so we can share it to other people what are the cultures and traditions of Filipinos.

### III. Thesis statement

"Ganito Kami Noon, Paano Kayo Ngayon" is a powerful portrayal about the sacrifices of our Filipino people during the period of American colonization it highlights the theme of our identity, heritage and cultural pride seen through the eyes of a young boy called "Kiko".

## I. Social and political issues depicted in the movie

The movie explores American colonialism and its associated economic and political exploitation of the Philippines, frequently at the expense of the rights and welfare of the Filipino people.

Independence struggle: The film emphasizes the Filipino people's longing for independence and their battle to achieve it among the harsh conditions of colonization.

Social class and inequality: The film depicts the pronounced social and economic gap that existed in the Philippines in the early 1900s between the wealthy and the less fortunate.

Corruption and abuse of power: The movie shows the corrupt actions of some Filipino officials and their abuse of authority, which worsens the issues that the average person has to deal with. In the movie, the significance of cultural identity and pride is explored.

## II. Reflection on the struggles and the sacrifices of our ancestors

This movie is a powerful reminder of the struggles and sacrifices by our Filipino people they endure during the period of American colonization in the Philippines. It shows that how the Filipinos fought for our freedom and independence, despite the numerous obstacles and challenges they faced.

I was struck by the bravery and having a resilience by our Filipino people during this time. Despite having and facing poverty, depression and limited resources on our daily life instead of giving up, they continued to fight for the sake of our rights and dignity. Kiko symbolizes the hope and resilience of the Filipino people and it serves as a inspiration to us modern Filipinos today.

The highlights of this movie is the importance for knowing and remembering our history, particularly the struggles and sacrifices of our ancestors. It is only by understanding our past that we can appreciate our present and work towards to a better future. Through this movie, I was able to gain deeper understanding the challenges faced by our people and the strength that they embodied.

# III. The themes of identity, heritage and cultural pride about Ganito Kami Noon, Paano Kayo Ngayon?

1. The film show the importance of cultural heritage and pride of the Philippines was a colonized country, and the movie highlights how Filipinos were forced to adapt

foreign influences and lifestyle. However, the movie also emphasizes the value of preserving our culture despite the influence of Americans.

- 2. The movie also highlights how a person can be influenced by one's social and economic status of the people. Kiko, who is poor and uneducated, is often looked down upon by the people in the movie. However, as he became educated and gains a better understanding of his heritage, he starts to become more confident in his identity and becomes a leader in the fight for Filipino independence.
- 3. The movie also depicts how cultural pride can unify us in the times of struggle. The characters in the movie are from different social classes and backgrounds, but they come together to fight for the sake of independence and preservation of our culture.

## IV. Personal experiences on this movie

When it comes to Filipino pride and culture preservation, I can see modern filipinos competing on the international sport scene like Basketball and Racing example of that is Gilas Pilipinas and Bianca Bustamante. Bianca became the first Filipinadriver who will compete in Formula W Series but this series is now defunct for a while due to financial issues, She is currently competing in Formula 4 United Arab Emirates with Prema F4 Team. The Filipinos show support and unite to support these people and these athletes will never forget and proud to represent our country and heritage.

## **C.** Conclusion

### I. Recap of Main Points

- ◆ The film is set during the early 1900s in the Philippines, during American colonization.
- ◆ The story follows the life of Kiko, a young boy from the countryside who travels to Manila in search of a better life.
- ◆ The movie explores various social and political issues, such as American colonization, struggle for independence, social class and inequality, corruption and abuse of power, and cultural identity and pride.
- ◆ The film show the resilience and bravery of the Filipinos during this period of history, as they fought for our freedom and independence against the numerous obstacles and challenges.
- ◆ The themes of identity, heritage, and cultural pride are also explored in the movie, emphasizing the importance of embracing our culture and resisting cultural assimilation in the face of oppression.

## II. Final Thoughts and Insights

The film serves a powerful reminder of the struggles and sacrifices of our ancestors in the fight of our independence and cultural preservation. It shows the resilience and bravery of our Filipino people in the face of adversity, and emphasizes the importance of continuing to fight for our rights and dignity as a nation.