

Readings in Philippine History

PRELIM LECTURE

History- derived from the Greek noun “**historia**”: Learning, Inquiry.

- The past of mankind.
- The sum total of what happened in the past.
- The act of analyzing and writing about the past.
- Chronological record of significant events
- The study of past events.

E.H Carr – an English historian, diplomat, journals, and international relations theorist.

- History is the continuous process of interaction between historian and his facts, unending dialogue between the present and the past.
- History means interpretation
- History is what historian makes

Kasaysayan

- ❖ Saysay -narrative or salaysay
- ❖ Saysay – importance or relevance
- ❖ Zeus Salazar interpretation – **Salaysay na may saysay para sa sinasalaysayang grupo ng tao**

Peter Stearns

- a. History helps us understand people and societies
- b. History helps us understand change and how society we live in came to be
- c. History contributes to moral understanding
- d. History provides identity
- e. Studying history is essential for Good citizenship

History as Reconstruction

- The history is many times **removed** from the events under investigation
- Historians rely on **surviving records**

Historiography – history as an account and as an event.

- The imaginative reconstruction of the past from the data derived by the historical method.

History as an event – What actually happened in the past. It is a series of events that occurred at a given point of time.

History as an account – Historian’s interpretation of what happened in the past.

Teodoro Agoncillo – The father of Filipino nationalist historiography.

- Wrote the conditions of the Philippine past by analyzing the conditions of the masses.

Historical Sources- These are objects from past or testimonies concerning the past in which historians depend in order to create their own depiction of the past.

Anthony Brundage – Tangible remains of the past.

Primary source – Testimony of an eyewitness

- Produced by a contemporary of event it narrates
- A piece of evidence written or created during a period under investigations
- Eyewitness account or firsthand accounts

4 main categories: Written Sources, Images, Artifacts, Oral Testimony.

Examples: Letters, Manuscripts, journals, memoirs, Diaries, Autobiographies, interviews.

Images

Maps – used to indicate locations as well as topography

- reveals how space and geography were being used to emphasize trade routes, travel routes, structural build up, etc.

Sketches and drawings – indicate the conditions of life of the past centuries.

Cartoons – for political expressions or propaganda also indicates the temper of the times.

Paintings – visual representations of based on the artist's expression and interpretation of events and ideas

- useful historical sources when we have to know or understand the context of the period in which they are made.

Carlos Botong Francisco – Katipunan Mural.

Photographs – reflect social conditions of historical realities and everyday life. It also gives is visual ideas of places, historical events as well as people.

Objects and Artifacts

Manunggul jar (710-890 B.C) – recovered at Chamber A of Manunggul cave in Palawan.

- Burial jar with anthropomorphic figures on top of the cover that represents souls sailing to the afterworld in a death boat.
- Declared a National Culture Treasure.

Callao Man (67 000 years old) – Oldest human fossil discovered in the Philippines.

-Discovered in 2007 at the Callao Caves in Penablanca, Cagayan Valley.

Written Sources

Narrative or Literature- chronicles or tracts presented in narrative form. Written to impart a message whose motives for their composition vary widely.

Diplomatic Sources – are understood to be those which document/record an existing legal situation.

Social Documents – are information pertaining to economic, social, political, or judicial significance.

1. Published materials

- Books, Magazines, Journals.
- Travelogue
- Transcription of speech

2. Manuscript – any handwritten or typed record that has not been printed.

- Archival materials
- Memoirs, Diaries

Non-Written Sources

1. Material Evidence – also known as Archeological Evidence.

2. Oral Evidence – told by the tales or sagas of ancient people.

- Oral history
- Artifact
- Ruins
- Fossils
- Artworks
- Video Recordings
- Audio Recordings

Santiago V Alvarez (July 25, 1872- October 30, 1890) – a revolutionary general and a founder and honorary president of the first directorate of the Nacionalista Party.

- **“Kidlat ng apoy” (Lightning of fire)** because of his inflamed bravery and dedication as commander of Cavite’s famous battles
- **“Hero”** of the battle of Dalahican
- The Katipunan and The Revolution

Secondary Sources – Works produced after the event has taken place

- Usually an assessment or a commentary of events, people, or institutions of the past.
- Interprets and analyzes primary sources

- May have pictures, quotes or graphics of primary sources in them

Examples of Secondary Sources

- Books with endnotes and footnotes
- Biographies
- Reprints of Artworks
- A journal/magazines which interprets previous findings
- Conference proceedings
- Literary Criticism
- Book reviews
- Most works incorporating primary sources

Historical Criticism

In order for a source to be used as evidence in history, basic matters about its **form** and **content** must be settled.

External Criticism – Aims at checking the authenticity of primary source

- Requires checking if the paper and ink of the paper of the document belong to the the period being studied.'
- The problem of **authenticity**
- To spot **fabricated**, **forged**, **faked** documents
- To distinguish **hoax** or **misrepresentation**.

TEST OF AUTHENTICITY

- Determine the date of the document to see whether they are **anachronistic**.
- Determine the **author** (handwriting, signature, seal)
- **Anachronistic** style (idiom, orthography, punctuation)
- **Anachronistic reference to events** (too early, too late, too remote)
- **Provenance or custody** (determine its genuineness)
- **Semantics** (determining the meaning of a word or text)
- **Hermeneutics** (Determining **Ambiguities**)

Internal Criticism – checks the reliability of sources

Verisimilar – as close as what really happened from a critical examination of best available sources.

TEST OF CREDIBILITY

- Identification of the author
- Determination of the approximate date
- **Ability** to tell the truth (nearness to the event, competence, of witness, degree of attention)
- **Willingness** to tell the truth (To determine if the author consciously or unconsciously tells falsehoods)

- **Corroboration**
Historical facts – particulars which rest upon the independent testimony of two or more reliable witnesses

3 major components to effective Historical thinking

1. Sensitivity to Multiple Causation
2. Sensitivity to Context
3. Awareness of the interplay of continuity and change in human affairs

Questions to be answered for internal Criticism

1. How close was the author being studied – refers to the physical location of the author of the document
2. When was the account made- a primary source should be closer or contemporary to the period being studied
3. Who was the recipient of the account?
4. Is there bias to be accounted for?
5. Does informed common sense make the account probable? – is it appropriate?
6. Is the account corroborated by other accounts?
 - when was the artifact/document created?
 - what type of PS is it?
 - who created it?
 - why was it written or produced?
 - what is the main point of the author?
 - is there any evidence?
 - was it based on the point view of of the author or is biased?