

REVIEWER FOR RIZAL'S LIFE, WORKS, AND WRITINGS (CHAPTER 1)

I. Key Concepts and Learning Objectives

1. **Purpose of Republic Act No. 1425 (Rizal Law):** Understand that RA 1425 mandates the teaching of Jose Rizal's life, works, and writings in all schools in the Philippines to foster nationalism and patriotism among Filipino students.
 2. **Importance of Studying Rizal:** Review how Rizal's works like *Noli Me Tangere* and *El Filibusterismo* shed light on colonial abuses and inspire change, teaching valuable lessons on nationalism, patriotism, and critical thinking.
 3. **Philosophy behind Rizal Law:** Know that the Rizal Law aims to strengthen the national identity of Filipinos by encouraging students to reflect on Rizal's life, philosophy, and works.
 4. **Enactment of the Rizal Law:**
 - o Recognize the roles of **Senator Claro M. Recto** (author) and **Jose P. Laurel** (sponsor).
 - o Understand the conflict between lawmakers and the Catholic Church, which opposed the law, fearing it would cast Catholicism in a negative light.
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II. Important Dates and Figures

1. **Senate Bill No. 438 and House Bill No. 5561:** Understand that these bills were consolidated and approved as RA 1425 in **1956**.
 2. **Date of Approval:** Republic Act No. 1425 was signed into law on **June 12, 1956**, by **President Ramon Magsaysay**.
 3. **Senators in Opposition:** Mariano J. Cuenco, Francisco Rodrigo, and Decoroso Rosales were vocal Catholic senators who opposed the Rizal Law.
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III. Content and Provisions of the Rizal Law (RA 1425)

1. **Content of RA 1425:**
 - o All schools, colleges, and universities must include courses on Rizal's life, works, and writings, especially *Noli Me Tangere* and *El Filibusterismo*.
 - o Schools must keep **unexpurgated copies** of Rizal's works in their libraries.
2. **Sections of the Rizal Law:**
 - o **Section 1:** Mandates the inclusion of Rizal's works in curricula.
 - o **Section 2:** Requires libraries to have adequate copies of unexpurgated editions.

- **Section 3:** Ensures translations of Rizal's works in English, Filipino, and major Philippine dialects.
 - **Section 4:** Maintains that no religious doctrines may be discussed in classrooms as per the Administrative Code.
 - **Section 5:** Allocates funds for the implementation of the law.
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IV. Historical Context of Rizal's Time (19th Century Philippines)

1. **Political Conditions:**

- Spain controlled the Philippines through a corrupt administration, frequent changes in leadership, and limited rights for Filipinos.
- Political gatherings were prohibited, and individuals could be arrested or deported without due process.

2. **Economic Conditions:**

- The **Galleon Trade** connected the Philippines to the global economy, mainly through trade with China and Europe.
- The **opening of the Suez Canal** in 1869 boosted trade and shortened travel between the Philippines and Europe.

3. **Social Conditions:**

- The rise of the **principalia**, an educated Filipino middle class, emerged, and they sought greater involvement in governance and reforms.

4. **The Encomienda System:**

- Land grants, called **encomiendas**, led to abuses of power, forced labor, and high taxes, creating resentment among Filipino peasants.

5. **Technological and Educational Developments:**

- Innovations like the steam engine and the establishment of the Manila Observatory improved scientific knowledge and infrastructure.
 - **Banco Espanol** (now Bank of the Philippine Islands) was the first bank, printing currency and supporting the economy.
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V. Key Takeaways

1. **Significance of Rizal's Novels:** *Noli Me Tangere* and *El Filibusterismo* criticized Spanish colonial abuses and encouraged Filipinos to advocate for reform.
2. **Rizal's Influence:** His life and works inspire Filipino values of **freedom, nationalism, and moral integrity**.
3. **Nationalism and Patriotism:** Studying Rizal's works encourages Filipinos to understand their history, appreciate their identity, and contribute positively to society.

RIZAL'S CHILDHOOD AND FAMILY

I. Overview of Rizal's Family Background

- **Full Name:** José Protacio Rizal Mercado y Alonzo Realonda.
 - **Surname:** The family's original surname was *Mercado*, which was adopted in **1731** by Rizal's great-great-grandfather, Domingo Lamco, who was of full Chinese descent. The second surname, *Rizal*, was added by a Spanish alcalde mayor (provincial governor) in recognition of the family's nobility and for political reasons.
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II. Key Figures in Rizal's Family

1. **Don Francisco Mercado (1818-1898)**
 - **Birthplace:** Born on **May 11, 1818**, in **Biñan, Laguna**.
 - **Education:** Studied Latin and Philosophy at the **College of San Jose** in Manila.
 - **Occupation:** Became a tenant-farmer of the Dominican-owned hacienda in Calamba.
 - **Character:** A hardworking and independent man who was strong in body and spirit. Rizal described him as a "model of fathers."
 - **Death:** Died on **January 5, 1898**, in **Manila** at age 80.
 2. **Doña Teodora Alonso Realonda (1826-1911)**
 - **Birthplace:** Born on **November 8, 1826**, in **Manila**.
 - **Education:** Attended the **College of Santa Rosa** (a renowned girls' school).
 - **Character:** Known for her refined culture, literary talent, business acumen, and stoic strength.
 - **Death:** Died on **August 16, 1911**, in **Manila** at age 85.
 - **Rizal's View:** Rizal admired his mother as a highly cultured woman with knowledge of literature and Spanish.
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III. Rizal's Siblings

1. **Saturnina (1850-1913):**
 - **Nickname:** Neneng.
 - **Spouse:** Married **Manuel T. Hidalgo** of Tanawan, Batangas.
 - **Death:** Died in **1913**.
2. **Paciano (1851-1930):**
 - **Role:** Rizal's older brother, confidant, and second father figure.
 - **Contribution:** Immortalized in Rizal's first novel *Noli Me Tangere* as **Pilosopo Tasio**. He was a general in the Philippine Revolution.
 - **Death:** Died on **April 13, 1930**, aged 79.

3. **Narcisa (1852-1939):**
 - **Pen Name:** Sisa.
 - **Spouse:** Married **Antonio Lopez**, a teacher from Morong.
 - **Death:** Died in **1939**.
4. **Olympia (1855-1887):**
 - **Spouse:** Married **Silvestre Ubaldo** and had three children.
 - **Death:** Died at age 32 in **1887**.
5. **Lucia (1857-1919):**
 - **Spouse:** Married **Mariano Herbosa**, who was later denied Christian burial due to his connection with Rizal.
 - **Death:** Died in **1919**.
6. **Maria (1859-1945):**
 - **Nickname:** Biang.
 - **Spouse:** Married **Daniel Faustino Cruz** of Biñan.
 - **Death:** Died in **1945**.
7. **José (1861-1896):**
 - **Full Name:** José Protacio Rizal Mercado y Alonzo Realonda.
 - **Nickname:** Pepe.
 - **Legacy:** The national hero of the Philippines, known for his intellectual genius, contributions to Filipino nationalism, and works like *Noli Me Tangere* and *El Filibusterismo*.
 - **Personal Life:** Lived with **Josephine Bracken** and had a son named **Francisco**, who died shortly after birth.
 - **Death:** Executed on **December 30, 1896**, in **Bagumbayan** (now Luneta).
8. **Concepción (1862-1865):**
 - **Pen Name:** Concha.
 - **Death:** Died at age 3, marking Rizal's first sorrow in life.
9. **Josefa (1865-1945):**
 - **Pen Name:** Panggoy.
 - **Death:** Died at age 80, unmarried.
10. **Trinidad (1868-1951):**
 - **Pen Name:** Trining.
 - **Death:** Died in **1951**, aged 83, unmarried.
11. **Soledad (1870-1929):**
 - **Pen Name:** Choleng.
 - **Spouse:** Married **Pantaleon Quintero** of Calamba.
 - **Death:** Died in **1929**.

José Rizal's Education and Academic Journey

1. Rizal's Childhood Education

- **Early Education at Home:** Rizal was born in Calamba, Laguna, on June 19, 1861, to a well-to-do family. His mother, Teodora Alonso Realonda, was influential in his early education.
 - **Formal Education in Biñan (1870):** At age 9, Rizal attended school in Biñan under Maestro Justiniano Aquino Cruz, where he learned Spanish, Latin, and basic mathematics. He excelled academically and faced some bullying from classmates due to his superior performance.
 - **Development of Artistic Interests:** While in Biñan, Rizal developed a love for drawing and painting, showcasing his artistic talents.
 - **Experiences of Discrimination:** Rizal encountered early forms of discrimination, which shaped his later views on social justice.
 - **Return to Calamba (1871):** After a year and a half, Rizal returned home and later prepared for further studies in Manila.
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2. Rizal's Education in Manila

Ateneo Municipal de Manila (1872-1877)

- **Enrollment and Achievements:** At 11, Rizal entered Ateneo, a prestigious Jesuit-run institution. He earned a **Bachelor of Arts degree** and received the highest honors (sobresaliente) in all subjects.
- **First Prize in Poetry:** Rizal won several poetry contests, including "Felicitation," when he was only 14 years old.
- **Leadership:** Rizal was often chosen as the "Emperor" of his class, a title given to the top student. He demonstrated excellence in academic subjects and leadership qualities.
- **Extracurricular Activities:** Rizal participated in fine arts, developing skills in drawing, painting, and sculpture. He also excelled in fencing and martial arts.
- **Christian Doctrine:** Rizal excelled in religious studies, deepening his understanding of Christian teachings.
- **Awards and Recognition:** He earned various awards for his exceptional performance in subjects like Latin, Greek, and history.

University of Santo Tomas (1877-1882)

- **Shift to Medicine:** Initially, Rizal studied philosophy and letters at UST but shifted to medicine to help treat his mother's growing blindness.
- **Discrimination and Challenges:** Rizal faced racial discrimination, particularly from Dominican professors, which left him dissatisfied with the academic environment at UST.

- **Literary Achievements:** While at UST, Rizal wrote and won prizes for works like "A La Juventud Filipina" (To the Filipino Youth) and "El Consejo de los Dioses" (The Council of the Gods), both reflecting his growing nationalist sentiments.
 - **Involvement in Student Organizations:** Rizal joined student organizations that advocated for reform, deepening his commitment to social justice and nationalist causes.
 - **Advocacy for Filipino Rights:** Rizal's experiences at UST fueled his desire to fight for the rights and dignity of Filipinos, which later became central themes in his writings.
 - **Leaving UST:** Due to his dissatisfaction and desire for better academic opportunities, Rizal left UST in 1882 to continue his studies at Universidad Central de Madrid in Spain.
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Key Points to Remember:

- **Early Education:** Family and early schooling in Biñan played a pivotal role in shaping Rizal's intellectual development.
- **Ateneo:** Rizal's academic excellence at Ateneo was evident through his high honors and leadership roles, as well as his talent in literature, arts, and physical activities.
- **UST:** Despite facing discrimination, Rizal's time at UST contributed to his growing nationalist ideas and his eventual decision to continue his studies in Europe.
- **Influence of Discrimination:** Experiences of racial prejudice during his education, particularly at UST, greatly influenced his desire for reform and social justice.

Rizal's Early Travels and Undertakings

I. Rizal's Life Abroad

1. Departure for Europe:

- **Reason for Leaving:** Rizal left the University of Santo Tomas (UST) in 1882 due to oppressive conditions and discriminatory practices by Dominican professors.
- **Date of Departure:** May 3, 1882.
- **Route to Europe:** Rizal traveled aboard the steamship *Djemnah*, making several stopovers including Singapore, Colombo, Aden, Marseilles, and Naples. He also crossed the Suez Canal.
- **Arrival in Europe:** He reached Barcelona and eventually went to Madrid, where he enrolled in the Universidad Central de Madrid.

2. Studies in Europe:

- **Madrid:** He enrolled in Medicine and Philosophy & Letters at the Universidad Central de Madrid in 1882.
- **Paris:** In 1885, Rizal worked as an assistant to Dr. Louis de Weckert, a celebrated ophthalmologist.
- **Heidelberg, Germany:** In 1886, he continued his ophthalmology specialization at the University of Heidelberg.
- **Leipzig, Germany:** He attended lectures at the University of Leipzig and met Dr. Adolph B. Meyer.
- **Berlin, Germany:** In 1886, he moved to Berlin, learning other languages and joining scientific communities.

3. First Novel:

- **Noli Me Tangere:** Rizal completed his first novel, *Noli Me Tangere*, in Berlin on February 21, 1887. The novel was printed in 1887 with financial help from his friend, Maximo Viola.

4. Grand European Tour (1887):

- Rizal and Viola traveled across Europe. They visited Dresden, Leitmeritz (Bohemia), Vienna, Prague, Milan, Florence, and Rome, and Rizal met important intellectuals like Professor Blumentritt.
- **In Rome:** He visited significant historical places like the Roman Forum and St. Peter's Church in Vatican City.

5. First Homecoming (1887):

- Rizal returned to the Philippines on August 5, 1887, after a brief stay in Hong Kong. He went back to his family in Calamba and performed an eye surgery for his mother, which restored her sight.

6. Reactions to the Noli Me Tangere:

- **Governor General Emilio Terrero** summoned Rizal to explain the contents of his novel. Rizal was protected by Don Jose Taviel de Andrade, his bodyguard, due to rising tension and opposition from Spanish authorities.
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II. Second Travel Abroad

1. Hong Kong and Japan (1888):

- **Hong Kong:** On February 3, 1888, Rizal visited Hong Kong, where he opened a medical clinic and operated on his mother's eye.
- **Japan:** In March 1888, he visited Japan, where he met Seiko Usui (O-Seisan), who became his tour guide and sweetheart.

2. Journey to the West (1888):

- **United States:** Rizal traveled to Oakland, California, and observed racial inequalities in America. He noted that the freedom symbolized by the Statue of Liberty was not extended to all races.
- **Great Britain:** He arrived in London on May 24, 1888, and stayed with Dr. Antonio Ma. Regidor. He copied and annotated Morga's *Sucesos de Las Islas Filipinas* in the British Museum.

3. In France and Belgium:

- **France (1889):** Rizal stayed with friends like Juan Luna and Paz de Tavera and founded the Kidlát Club for Filipinos in Paris.
- **Belgium (1890):** Rizal lived in a boarding house in Belgium, where he worked on *El Filibusterismo* and contributed to *La Solidaridad* using pen names. He also attempted to seek justice for the agrarian troubles in Calamba.

4. Printing of *El Filibusterismo* (1891):

- **Ghent, Belgium:** Rizal traveled to Ghent to print *El Filibusterismo* more affordably, facing financial difficulties but eventually succeeding in publishing the novel with the help of Valentine Ventura.
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III. Rizal's Return to the Philippines and Subsequent Events

1. Return to Hong Kong (1891):

- In October 1891, Rizal left Europe for Hong Kong, where he reunited with his family. He opened a medical clinic, gaining patrons from various nationalities.

2. Negotiations for Filipino Colony (1892):

- **Sandakan, Malaysia:** Rizal went to Sandakan to negotiate with British authorities for the establishment of a Filipino colony in North Borneo for landless Filipinos, especially those affected by the agrarian trouble in Calamba.

3. Second Homecoming (1892):

- Rizal returned to the Philippines on June 26, 1892, without knowing that the Spanish consul had sent a message to Governor General Despujol about him.
- Rizal founded *La Liga Filipina* on July 3, 1892, aimed at securing reforms for Filipinos, but shortly after, he was arrested and exiled to Dapitan.

4. Exile in Dapitan (1892):

- **Dapitan, Zamboanga del Norte:** Rizal was exiled to Dapitan on July 17, 1892. He spent his time there engaging in community service, agriculture, and continuing his scientific work.

Exam Reviewer: The Bitter-Sweet Life in Dapitan

1. Rizal's Life During Exile

- **Deportation Conditions:** Rizal could have stayed in the parish convent if he had retracted his anti-Catholic views and confessed. Instead, he chose to live in the **Casa Real**, a government residence, where he became friends with Captain Ricardo Carnicero.
- **Lottery Win:** Rizal and Captain Carnicero won Php 6,200 in a lottery (ticket #9736) in 1892. Rizal used his share to buy land in **Talisay**, near Dapitan, where he built several bamboo and nipa houses.

2. Daily Life as an Exile

- **Rizal's Routine:** Rizal followed a structured daily routine:
 - Morning: Attended to plants, animals, and breakfast.
 - Daytime: Treated patients and taught students from 2 PM to 4 or 5 PM.
 - Afternoon: Engaged in farming and horticulture with his pupils.
 - Night: Spent reading and writing.
- **Farming & Horticulture:** Rizal grew fruit trees and domesticated animals, such as rabbits, dogs, and chickens. His school, founded in 1893, expanded from 3 to over 20 pupils during his exile.

3. Rizal and the Jesuits

- **Attempts to Convert Rizal:** The Jesuits offered Rizal to stay in the parish convent under certain conditions, which he refused. However, his relationship with Jesuit priest **Francisco de Paula Sanchez** remained cordial, and they often engaged in intellectual discussions.
- **Correspondence with Father Pablo Pastells:** Despite several attempts to convert him, Rizal remained firm in his beliefs, although he continued attending mass and engaged in scholarly debates on Catholicism.

4. Achievements in Dapitan

- **Community Service:** Rizal made significant contributions to Dapitan:
 - Improved the town's drainage and water system.
 - Created a relief map of Mindanao with his Jesuit friend.
 - Invented a wooden machine for mass brick production and helped build a water dam.
- **Medical Practice:** Rizal treated all patients regardless of social class and offered his services free to the poor. He specialized in ophthalmology but also treated a wide range of diseases, including tuberculosis and leprosy.
- **Agricultural and Economic Contributions:** Rizal helped local abaca farmers and taught them weaving techniques. He also improved local fishing methods

5. Rizal as a Scientist and Philologist

- **Botanical & Zoological Studies:** Rizal studied Dapitan's flora and fauna, providing a taxonomy of various species and sending specimens to European scientists. Three species were named after him: the **Dapitan frog (Rhacophorus Rizali)**, a type of beetle (**Apogonia Rizali**), and a **flying dragon (Draco Rizali)**.
- **Language & Culture:** Rizal studied the Visayan language and local customs, as well as Tagalog grammar and the Malayan language. He shared his findings with European scholars like Dr. Reinhold Rost.

6. Spies and Secret Emissaries

- **Spies in Dapitan:** Rizal was aware that his enemies sent spies to gather evidence against him. One notable spy, **Florencio Nanaman**, was sent by the Recollect friars. Despite being caught, Rizal treated him kindly.
- **Doctor Pio Valenzuela:** In 1896, Valenzuela, sent by **Andres Bonifacio** and the **Katipunan**, secretly visited Rizal to seek his approval for the revolution. Rizal, though sympathizing with the cause, advised against violent rebellion and emphasized the need for support from wealthy Filipinos.

7. Visits from Loved Ones

- **Family Visits:** Rizal's mother, **Doña Teodora**, and sister **Trinidad** visited him in August 1893. Rizal successfully performed cataract surgery on his mother. His other sisters, **Maria** and **Narcisa**, also visited him during his exile.
- **Josephine Bracken:** In 1895, **Josephine Bracken**, an Irish woman and the stepdaughter of one of Rizal's patients, became Rizal's companion. Though they could not marry in the Church due to Rizal's anti-Catholic views, they lived together as common-law partners. In 1896, they had a son who tragically died shortly after birth.

8. Goodbye Dapitan

- **Departure to Cuba:** Rizal received a letter from the Governor-General of the Philippines, allowing him to serve as a volunteer physician in **Cuba**, where a yellow fever epidemic was rampant. He sold his properties and prepared to leave Dapitan.
- **Final Goodbye:** On July 31, 1896, Rizal left Dapitan with Josephine, some of his family, and students. The people of Dapitan bid him farewell with shouts of “**Adios, Dr. Rizal.**”

Key Dates to Remember

- **Rizal's Exile in Dapitan:** 1892-1896
- **Rizal's Lottery Win:** September 1892
- **Rizal's Mother's Visit:** August 1893
- **Rizal's Departure for Cuba:** July 31, 1896

Dapitan to Fort Santiago

1. Departure from Dapitan (July 31, 1896)

- Rizal left Dapitan on the steamer *Espana* and made stops in Dumaguete, Cebu, and Capiz.
- In **Dumaguete**, he visited friends, including former classmates, and treated a Guardia Civil Captain.
- In **Cebu**, Rizal performed surgeries and prescribed treatments for other patients.
- The ship continued on to **Manila**.

2. Attempted Escape and Arrival in Manila

- As Rizal's ship neared **Manila**, the **Katipunan** made an attempt to help him escape. **Emilio Jacinto** and **Guillermo Masankay** tried to rescue him but Rizal refused, determined to fulfill his mission to Cuba.
- On **August 6, 1896**, Rizal arrived in **Manila** but had to wait for the next boat, since the mail boat *Isla de Luzon* had already left for Spain.
- **Governor General Blanco** then requested Rizal be isolated from everyone except his family, so Rizal was transferred to the ship *Castilla*.

3. Discovery of the Katipunan Plot

- On **August 19, 1896**, the **Katipunan's** plot to revolt against Spain was uncovered through **Teodoro Patino's** confession. This led to the **arrest of many Katipuneros**.
- The **Katipunan** led by **Andres Bonifacio** responded by launching attacks on **August 29-30, 1896**, including the assault on the **Guard garrison in Pasig** and the **Spanish soldiers in San Juan**.
- Despite initial successes, reinforcements arrived, and **150 Katipuneros** were killed while over 200 were captured. This prompted **Governor General Blanco** to declare a **state of war**.

4. Rizal's Transfer and Going to Spain

- On **September 2, 1896**, Rizal was transferred to the ship *Isla de Panay* heading for **Spain**.
- On **September 27**, the *Isla de Panay* left **Manila** for **Barcelona**, with stops in **Singapore** and **Port Said** (Egypt). Some Filipinos in **Singapore** urged Rizal to stay in British-controlled territory, but Rizal declined, trusting **Governor Blanco's** assurances.
- During the journey, Rizal was informed that the situation in the Philippines had worsened, with thousands of Filipinos killed or arrested.

5. Arrival in Spain and Further Developments

- **October 3, 1896**, the ship reached **Barcelona**. Rizal was placed under heavy guard and transferred to **Monjuich prison**.

- By **October 6**, the Spanish authorities ordered Rizal's return to **Manila**.
- On **November 3, 1896**, Rizal was detained in **Fort Santiago** in **Manila**.

6. Rizal's Interrogations and Legal Proceedings

- **Colonel Francisco Olive** led the **military interrogations** against Rizal. Rizal's friends, acquaintances, and members of **La Liga** were tortured and forced to testify against him.
- **Documentary evidence** against Rizal included letters, poems, and testimonies. Some pieces of evidence were **Rizal's letters to Marcelo del Pilar** and **Antonio Luna**, a **Masonic document**, and a poem titled "**Kundiman**".
- On **November 26**, Rizal's case was reviewed, and **Captain Rafael Dominguez** was assigned as a special judge advocate.

7. Trial and Defense

- Rizal was allowed to choose a lawyer from a list of **Spanish army officers**. He selected **Lt. Luis Taviel de Andrade**, who was a former bodyguard of his.
- Rizal was accused of being the **main organizer** of the revolution. He defended himself by explaining that **La Liga Filipina** was a **civic organization** and not a revolutionary group.
- Rizal wrote a manifesto on **December 15, 1896**, calling for a peaceful pursuit of freedom through **education and labor**, but the **Spanish authorities** interpreted it as supporting rebellion.

8. The Trial and Sentence

- On **December 26, 1896**, Rizal was tried in a **military court** at **Cuartel de España**. **Prosecuting attorney Enrique de Alcocer** requested the **death penalty** for Rizal, accusing him of inciting the Filipino revolt.
- Rizal was accused of trying to rise from a lower social class and attain powers that were beyond his reach.

Key Dates to Remember:

- **July 31, 1896**: Departure from Dapitan
- **August 6, 1896**: Arrival in Manila
- **August 19, 1896**: Katipunan plot discovered
- **September 2, 1896**: Transfer to *Isla de Panay*
- **September 27, 1896**: Departure for Spain
- **October 6, 1896**: Arrival in Barcelona
- **November 3, 1896**: Detained in Fort Santiago
- **December 26, 1896**: Military trial and death sentence.

Rizal's Last 25 Hours

Key Events on December 29, 1896

1. **7:00 AM – Transfer to Death Cell**

- Rizal was transferred to his death cell or prison cell.
- He was visited by Jesuit priests, including Miguel Saderra Mata and Luis Viza, who brought a medal and wooden statues of the Sacred Heart. Rizal rejected the medal but placed the wooden image on his table.

2. **8:00 AM – Visit by Priest Antonio Rosell**

- Rizal shared his breakfast with Rosell, after Viza left.
- Lt. Andrade, his defense lawyer, visited Rizal, and Rizal thanked him.

3. **9:00 AM – Interview by Santiago Mataix**

- Rizal was interviewed by Santiago Mataix of *El Heraldo de Madrid*.

4. **10:00 AM – Visit by Federico Faura**

- Rizal discussed religion with Faura. The priest advised Rizal to reconcile with the church and marry Josephine canonically. This discussion led to a heated argument.

5. **11:00 AM – Visit by Priests Vilaclara and Balaguer**

- Jesuits continued efforts to convince Rizal to retract his anti-Catholic views. Rizal refused, maintaining his beliefs.

6. **12:00 PM – Alone Time**

- Rizal had lunch, read the Bible, and meditated.
- Jesuit priests reported to the Archbishop that Rizal showed little hope of retracting his stance.

7. **2:00 PM – Further Discussions**

- Estanislao March and Vilaclara returned to Rizal's cell to continue discussions about his retraction.

8. **4:00 PM – Visit by Dona Teodora and Jose's Sister**

- Rizal's mother, Dona Teodora, was not allowed to embrace him.
- He kissed her hand in an emotional gesture.

9. **5:30 PM – Visit by Don Silvino Lopez Tunon**

- Don Silvino Lopez Tunon, Dean of Manila Cathedral, spoke with Rizal. Jesuits Vilaclara and Tunon stayed with Rizal after the conversation.

10. **6:00 PM – Arrival of Josephine Bracken**

- Josephine Bracken arrived at Fort Santiago. Rizal emotionally spoke with her during her visit.

11. **7:00 PM – Faura's Return**

- Faura returned and convinced Rizal to trust him. Rizal purportedly confessed to Faura.

12. **8:00 PM – Last Supper and Personal Reflections**

- Rizal ate his last supper and attended to his personal needs. He expressed forgiveness towards his enemies, including the military judges who sentenced him.

13. 9:00-9:30 PM – Visit by Manila Royal Audencia Fiscal

- Don Gaspar Cesteno had a pleasant conversation with Rizal.

14. 10:00 PM – Retraction Draft Discussions

- Jesuit priests presented Rizal with a retraction draft. Rizal found one version too long and accepted a shorter version, renouncing Freemasonry and anti-Catholic ideas.
- The authenticity of the retraction remains controversial.

15. 4:00 AM – Final Meditation and Letters

- Rizal read *The Imitation of Christ* and wrote letters to his family, including a farewell letter to Paciano. He gave Josephine the book with a personal dedication.

16. 6:30 AM – The Death March to Bagumbayan

- Rizal, dressed in black suit and bowler hat, began his slow walk to Bagumbayan, accompanied by his defense lawyer, two Jesuit priests, and an armed military guard.
- The crowd observed, with some sympathizing and others eager for his death.

17. Execution Preparation

- Filipino soldiers were chosen for the firing squad, with Spanish soldiers standing behind them.
- Rizal refused to kneel and declined a blindfold, requesting to face the firing squad.

18. Rizal's Last Moments

- The military physician checked Rizal's pulse and found it normal. The priest offered him a crucifix, but Rizal silently prepared for death.
- At 7:03 AM, Rizal was shot. He uttered "Consummatum est" ("It is finished") as he fell to the ground.

Important Dates:

- **December 29, 1896** – Rizal's last 25 hours, leading up to his execution.
- **December 30, 1896** – Execution at Bagumbayan at 7:03 AM.

Key Figures Involved:

- **Jesuit Priests:** Miguel Saderra Mata, Luis Viza, Antonio Rosell, Federico Faura, Jose Vilaclara, Vicente Balaguer.
- **Defense Lawyer:** Lt. Luis Taviel de Andrade.
- **Family:** Dona Teodora (mother), Josephine Bracken (common-law wife), and sister Trinidad.
- **Military Officials:** Judge Advocate Captain Rafael Dominguez, Lt. Col. Jose Togores Arjona (military court president), Don Silvino Lopez Tunon (Dean of Manila Cathedral), Don Gaspar Cesteno (Manila Royal Audencia Fiscal).

Key Themes:

- **Rizal's Spiritual Journey:** Discussions with priests, attempts at retraction, and his spiritual preparation.
- **Martyrdom:** Rizal's courage to face death without regret and his defiance against the Spanish colonial authorities.
- **The Execution:** His refusal to kneel, desire to face the firing squad, and final words, "Consummatum est."