

Chapter 13

RIZAL'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES (1888)

- **April 28, 1888**- the steamer Belgic, with Rizal on board, docked at San Francisco on Saturday morning
- **May 4, 1888**- Friday afternoon, the day Rizal was permitted to go ashore
- **PALACE HOTEL**- Rizal registered here which was then considered a first-class hotel in the city
- Rizal stayed in San Francisco for two days—May 4 to 6, 1888
- **May 6, 1888**-Sunday, 4:30PM, Rizal left San Francisco for OAKLAND
- **May 13, 1888**-Sunday morning, Rizal reached New York, thus ending his trip across the American continent
- Rizal stayed three days in this city, which he called the “**big town.**”
- **May 16, 1888**- Rizal left New York for Liverpool on board the **City of Rome**. According to Rizal, this steamer was “**the second largest ship in the world, the largest being the Great Eastern**”
- Rizal had good and bad impressions of the United States. The good impressions were (1) *the material progress of the country as shown in the great cities, huge farms, flourishing industries and busy factories* (2) *the drive and energy of the American people* (3) *the natural beauty of the land* (4) *the high standard of living* (5) *the opportunities for better life offered to poor immigrants*
- One bad impression Rizal had of America was the lack of racial equality: “**America is the land par excellence of freedom but only for the whites**”

Chapter 14

RIZAL IN LONDON (1888-1889)

-After visiting the United States, Rizal lived in London from May, 1888 to March, 1889 for three reasons: (1) *to improve his knowledge of the English language* (2) *to study and annotate Morga's Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas, a rare copy of which he heard to be available in the British Museum* (3) *London was a safe place for him to carry on his fight against Spanish tyranny*

TRIP ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

- The trans-Atlantic voyage of Rizal from New York to Liverpool was a pleasant one.
- Rizal entertained the American and European passengers with his marvelous skills with the yo-yo as an offensive weapon.
- Yoyo-is a small wooden disc attached to a string from the finger.
- **May 24, 1888**-Rizal arrived at Liverpool, England
- **ADELPHI HOTEL**-Rizal spend the night here while staying for one day in this port city
- According to Rizal, “**Liverpool is a big and beautiful city and its celebrated port is worthy of its great fame. The entrance is magnificent and the customhouse is quite good.**”

LIFE IN LONDON

- **May 25, 1888**- a day after docking at Liverpool, Rizal went to LONDON

- Rizal stayed as guest at the home of **DR. ANTONIO MA. REGIDOR**, an exile of 1872 and a practicing lawyer in London. By the end of May, Rizal found a modest boarding place at No. 37 Chalcot Crescent, Primrose Hill
- **DR. REINHOLD ROZT**- librarian of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and an authority on Malayan languages and customs

-He was impressed by Rizal's learning and character and he gladly recommended him to the authorities of the British Museum. He called Rizal "**a pearl of a man**" (*una perla de hombre*)

- Both good and bad news from home reached Rizal in London. Of the bad news, were the *injustices committed by the Spanish authorities on the Filipino people and the Rizal Family*
- The greatest achievement of Rizal in London was **the annotating of Morga's book, Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas (Historical Events of the Philippine Islands)**, which was published in Mexico, 1609.
- **September 1888**- Rizal visited Paris for a week in order to search for more historical materials in the Bibliotheque Nationale
- Rizal was entertained in this gay French metropolis by Juan Luna and his wife (Pas Pardo de Tavera), who proudly showed him their little son Andres (nickname Luling)
- **December 11, 1888**-Rizal went to Spain, visiting Madrid and Barcelona
- Rizal met, for the first time, Marcelo H. del Pilar and Mariano Ponce, two titans of the Propaganda Movement
- **December 24, 1888**-Rizal returned to London and spent Christmas and New Year's Day with the Becketts
- Rizal sent as Christmas gift to Blumentritt a bust of Emperador Augustus and a bust of Julius Caesar to another friend, Dr. Carlos Czepelak (Polish scholar)
- **The Life and Adventures of Valentine Vox, the Ventriloquist**-a Christmas gift from Rizal's landlady, Mrs Beckett

RIZAL BECOMES LEADER OF FILIPINOS IN EUROPE

- **ASOCIACION LA SOLIDARIDAD (SOLIDARIDAD ASSOCIATION)**- a patriotic society, which cooperate in the crusade for reforms, was inaugurated on December 31, 1888, with the following officers: Galicano Apacible (president); Graciano Lopez Jaena (vice-president); Manuel Santa Maria (secretary); Mariano Ponce (treasurer) and Jose Ma. Panganiban (accountant)
- By unanimous vote of all members, Rizal was chosen honorary president
- **January 28, 1889**- Rizal wrote a letter addressed to the members of the Asociacion La Solidaridad

RIZAL AND THE LA SOLIDARIDAD NEWSPAPER

- **February 15, 1889**- GRACIANO LOPEZ JAENA founded the patriotic newspaper called La Solidaridad in Barcelona
- **La Solidaridad**-fortnightly periodical which served as the organ of the Propaganda Movement
- Its aims were as follows: (1) *to work peacefully for political and social reforms* (2) *to portray the deplorable conditions of the Philippines so that Spain may remedy them* (3) *to oppose the evil forces of reaction and medievalism* (4) *to advocate liberal ideas and progress* (5) *to champion the legitimate aspirations of the Filipino people to life, democracy and happiness*

- **Los Agricultores Filipinos (The Filipino Farmers)**- Rizal's first article which appeared in La Solidaridad which is published on March 25, 1889, six days after he left London for Paris

ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN LA SOLIDARIDAD

-Rizal wrote articles for La Solidaridad in defense of his oppressed people and to point out the evils of Spanish rule in the Philippines

1. "A La Defensa" (To La Defensa), April 30, 1889- this was a reply to an anti-Filipino writing of a Spanish author Patricio de la Escosura which was published by La Defensa on March 30, 1889

2. "La Verdad Para Todos" (The Truth For All), May 31, 1889- Rizal's defense against the Spanish charges that the native local officials were ignorant and depraved

3. "Vicente Barrantes' Teatro Tagalo", June 15, 1889- in this article, Rizal exposes Barrantes' ignorance on the Tagalog theatrical art

4. "Una Profanacion" (A Profanation), July 31, 1889- a bitter attack against the friars for denying Christian burial to Mariano Herbosa in Calamba because he was a brother-in-law of Rizal. Herbosa, husband of Lucia died of cholera on May 23, 1889

5. "Verdades Nuevas" (New Truths), July 31, 1889- a reply to Vicente Belloc Sanchez' letter published in La Patria, Madrid newspaper, on July 4, 1889, which asserted that the granting of reforms in the Philippines would ruin the "peaceful and maternal rule" of the friars

6. "Crueldad" (Cruelty), August 15, 1889- a brilliant defense of Blumentritt from the scurrilous attack of his enemies

7. "Diferencias" (Differences), September 15, 1889- a reply to a biased article entitled "Old Truths" published in La Patria on August 14, 1889, which ridiculed those Filipinos who asked for reforms

8. "Inconsecuencias" (Inconsequences), November 30, 1889- a defense of Antonio Luna against the attack of Pablo Mir Deas in the Barcelona newspaper El Pueblo Soberano

9. "Llanto y Risas" (Tears and Laughter), November 30, 1889- a denunciation of Spanish racial prejudice against brown Filipinos

10. "Ingratitudes" (Ingratitude), January 15, 1890- a reply to Governor General Valeriano Weyler who, while visiting Calamba, told the people that they "should not allow themselves to be deceived by the vain promises of their ungrateful sons."

- Simultaneous with Rizal retirement from the Propaganda Movement, Rizal ceased writing articles for La Solidaridad
- **August 7, 1891**- M.H. del Pilar wrote to Rizal begging forgiveness for any resentment and requesting Rizal to resume writing for the La Solidaridad
- Rizal stopped writing for La Solidaridad, it was because of several reasons: (1) Rizal need to work on his book (2) He wanted other Filipinos to work also (3) Rizal considered it very important to the party that there be unity in the work (4) Marcelo H. del Pilar is already at the top and Rizal also have his own ideas, it is better to leave del Pilar alone to direct the policy

WRITINGS IN LONDON

- While busy in research studies at the British Museum, Rizal received news on Fray Rodriguez' unabated attack on his Noli
- **La Vision del Fray Rodriguez (The Vision of Fray Rodriguez)**-pamphlet wrote by Rizal which published in Barcelona under his nom-de-plume **Dimas Alang** in order to defense his novel

-In *La Vision del Fray Rodriguez*, Rizal demonstrated two things: (1) *his profound knowledge of religion* (2) *his biting satire*

- **Letter to the Young Women of Malolos**- a famous letter wrote by Rizal on February 22, 1889 in Tagalog
- this letter is to praise the young ladies of Malolos for their courage to establish a school where they could learn Spanish, despite the opposition of Fr. Felipe Garcia, a Spanish parish priest of Malolos
 - The main points of this letter were: (1) *a Filipino mother should teach her children love of God, fatherland, and mankind* (2) *the Filipino mother should be glad, like the Spartan mother, to offer her sons in the defense of the fatherland* (3) *a Filipino woman should know how to preserve her dignity and honor* (4) *a Filipino woman should educate herself, aside from retaining her good racial virtues* (5) *Faith is not merely reciting long prayers and wearing religious pictures, but rather it is living the real Christian way, with good morals and good manners*
- **Dr Reinhold Rost**, editor of Trubner's Record, a journal devoted to Asian studies, request Rizal to contribute some articles. In response to his request, the latter prepared two articles—(1) *Specimens of Tagal Folklore*, which published in the journal in May, 1889 (2) *Two Eastern Fables*, published in June, 1889
- **March 19, 1889**- Rizal bade goodbye to the kind Beckett Family and left London for Paris

Chapter 15

RIZAL'S SECOND SOJOURN IN PARIS AND THE UNIVERSAL EXPOSITION IN 1889

-In March, 1889, it was extremely difficult for a visitor to find living quarters in Paris

- **Valentin Ventura**- a friend of Rizal where he lived—No. 45 Rue Maubeuge, where he polished his annotated edition of Morga's book
- Rizal used most of his time in the reading room of the Bibliotheque Nationale (National Library) checking up his historical annotations on Morga's book
- Rizal was a good friend of the three Pardo de Taveras—Dr. Trinidad H. Pardo de Tavera, a physician by vocation and philologist by avocation, Dr. Felix Pardo de Tavera, also physician by vocation and an artist and sculptor by avocation, and Paz Pardo de Tavera, wife of Juan Luna
- **June 24, 1889**- a baby girl was born to Juan Luna and Paz Pardo de Tavera, she was their second child
- Her baptismal godfather was Rizal, who chose her name "Maria de la Paz, Blanca, Laureana, Hermenegilda Juana Luna y Pardo de Tavera"
- **May 6, 1889**- opening of Universal Exposition of Paris
- The greatest attraction of this exposition was the Eiffel Tower, 984 feet high, which was built by Alexander Eiffel, celebrated French engineer

KIDLAT CLUB

- **March 19, 1889**-the same day when he arrived in Paris from London, Rizal organized his paisanos (compatriots) into a society called Kidlat Club

- **Kidlat Club**-purely a social society of a temporary nature
-founded by Rizal simply to bring together young Filipinos in the French capital so that they could enjoy their sojourn in the city during the duration of the Universal Exposition

INDIOS BRAVOS

- Rizal was enchanted by the dignified and proud bearing of the American Indians in a Buffalo Bull show
- **Indios Bravos (Brave Indians)**- replaced the ephemeral Kidlat Club
-its members pledged to excel in intellectual and physical prowess in order to win the admiration of the foreigners
-practised with great enthusiasm the use of the sword and pistol and Rizal taught them judo, an Asian art of self-defense, that he learned in Japan

R.D.L.M SOCIETY

- **Sociedad R.D.L.M. (R.D.L.M Society)**- a mysterious society founded by Rizal in Paris during the Universal Exposition of 1889
- -its existence and role in the crusade reforms are really enigmatic
- -Of numerous letters written by Rizal and his fellow propagandists, only two mentioned this secret society, as follows (1) *Rizal's Letter to Jose Maria Basa, Paris, September 21, 1889* (2) *Rizal's Letter to Marcelo H. del Pilar, Paris, November 4, 1889*
- According to Dr. Leoncio Lopez- Rizal, grandnephew of the hero, the society has a symbol or countersign represented by a circle divided into three parts by two semi-circles having in the center the interlocked letters I and B meaning Indios Bravos and the letter R.D.L.M. placed outside an upper, lower, left and right sides of the circle
- The letters R.D.L.M. are believed to be the initials of the society's secret name Redencion de los Malayos (Redemption of the Malays)—Redemption of the Malay Race
- It was patterned after Freemasonry. It had various degrees of membership, **“with the members not knowing each other.”**
- The aim of the secret society, as stated by Rizal, was *“the propagation of all useful knowledge—scientific, artistic, and literary, etc.—in the Philippines*. Evidently, there was another aim that is, the redemption of the Malay race
- It must be noted that Rizal was inspired by a famous book entitled *Max Havelaar* (1860) written by Multatuli (pseudonym of E.D. Dekker, Dutch author)

ANNOTATED EDITION OF MORGA PUBLISHED

- Rizal's outstanding achievement in Paris was the publication in 1890 of his annotated edition of Morga's *Sucesos*, which he wrote in the British Museum. It was printed by Garnier Freres. The prologue was written by Professor Blumentritt upon the request of Rizal
- Rizal dedicated his new edition of Morga to the Filipino people so that they would know of their glorious past
- The title page of Rizal's annotated edition of Morga reads: “Paris, Liberia de Garnier Hermanos, 1890”

- **The Philippines Within a Century**-article written by Rizal which he expressed his views on the Spanish colonization in the Philippines and predicted with amazing accuracy the tragic end of Spain's sovereignty in Asia
 - **The Indolence of the Filipinos**- other essay of Rizal is also a prestigious work of historical scholarship. It is an able defense of the alleged indolence of the Filipinos
 - -Rizal made a critical study of the causes why his people did not work hard during the Spanish regime. His main thesis was that the Filipinos are not by nature indolent
 - **International Association of Filipinologists**-association proposed by Rizal to establish taking advantage of world attention which was then focused at the Universal Exposition in 1889 in Paris and have its inaugural convention in the French capital
 - **Project for Filipino College in Hong Kong**- another magnificent project of Rizal in Paris which also fizzled out was his plan to establish a modern college in Hong Kong
 - **Por Telefono**-another satirical work as a reply to another slanderer, **Fr. Salvador Font**, who masterminded the banning of his *Noli*, in the fall of 1889
- it was published in booklet form in Barcelona, 1889, this satirical pamphlet under the authorship of "**Dimas Alang**" is a witty satire which ridicules Father Font
- Shortly after New Year, Rizal made a brief visit to London. It may be due to two reasons: (1) *to check up his annotated edition of Morga's Sucesos with the original copy in the British Museum* (2) *to see Gertrude Beckett for the last time*

Chapter 16

IN BELGIAN BRUSSELS (1890)

-January 28, 1890- Rizal left Paris for Brussels, capital of Belgium

-Two reasons impelled Rizal to leave Paris, namely (1) *the cost of living in Paris was very high because of the Universal Exposition* (2) *the gay social life of the city hampered his literary works, especially the writing of his second novel, El Filibusterismo*

LIFE IN BRUSSELS

- Rizal was accompanied by Jose Albert when he moved to Brussels. They lived in a modest boarding house on 38 Rue Philippe Champagne, which was run by two Jacoby sisters (Suzanne and Marie). Later Albert, left the city and was replaced by Jose Alejandro, an engineering student
- Rizal was the first to advocate the Filipinization of its orthography
- **Sobre la Nueva Ortografia de la Lengua Tagala (The New Orthography of the Tagalog Language)**- was published in *La Solidaridad* on April 15, 1890

-in this article, he laid down the rules of the new Tagalog orthography and with modesty and sincerity, he gave credit for the adoption of this new orthography to Dr. Trinidad H. Pardo de Tavera, author of the celebrated work *El Sanscrito en la Lengua Tagala* (Sanskrit in the tagalog Language) which was published in Paris, 1884

** "I put this on record," wrote Rizal, "so that when the history of this orthography is traced, which is already being adopted by the enlightened Tagalists, that what is Caesar's be given to Caesar. This innovation is due solely to Dr. Pardo de Tavera's studies on Tagalismo. I was one of its zealous propagandists."**

- Letters from home which Rizal received in Brussels worried him. *(1) the Calamba agrarian trouble was getting worse (2) the Dominican Order filed a suit in court to dispossess the Rizal family of their lands in Calamba*
- In his moment of despair, Rizal had bad dreams during the nights in Brussels when he was restless because he was always thinking of his unhappy family in Calamba
- Rizal feared that he would not live long. He was not afraid to die, but he wanted to finish his second novel before he went to his grave.
- In the face of the sufferings which afflicted his family, Rizal planned to go home. He could not stay in Brussels writing a book while his parents, relatives, and friends in the distant Philippines were persecuted
- **July 29, 1890-** another letter to Ponce written at Brussels by Rizal, he announced that he was leaving Brussels at the beginning of the following month and would arrive in Madrid about the 3rd or 4th (August)
- **“To my Muse” (A Mi...)-** 1890, Rizal wrote this pathetic poem, it was against a background of mental anguish in Brussels, during those sad days when he was worried by family disasters