#### Literature under Spain

The Spaniards brought their language and culture, established a class system that was based on race, and imposed Roman Catholicism on the Filipino people.

The natives, called *indios*, were not all taught the Spanish language.

Religious lyrics written by bilingual ladino poets versed in both Spanish and Tagalog were included in catechism to teach the Filipino elite Spanish—like the dalit appended to novenas.



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## Literature under Spain

Doctrina Christiana was the first book printed in the Philippines in 1593.

Poet-translator Gaspar Aquino de Belen wrote devotional poetry in the form of the *Pasyon*.

The colonizers introduced the theater: the *komedya* (*moro-moro*), the *sinakulo*, and the *sarswela*.



History of Philippine Literature: Spanish Colonial Period Slide

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### Literature under Spain

Literature under the Spaniards may be classified as *religious* or *secular* prose and poetry.

Notable secular poets were Jose Corazon de Jesus (Huseng Sisiw), Francisco Balagtas (Baltazar), Leona Florentino, Jacinto Kawili, Isabelo de los Reyes, and Rafael Gandioco.

A popular type of secular poetry is the **metrical romance**, like the *awit* 

(Balagtas's Florante at Laura) and the korido (Jose de la Cruz's Ibong Adarna) in Tagalog.



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# Literature under Spain

Filipino intellectuals (*ilustrados*) educated in Europe began writing about their colonization.

Reformers like Jose Rizal (Dimasalang, Laong Laan), Marcelo H. del Pilar (Plaridel), Mariano Ponce (Tikbalang, Kalipulo) wrote for *La Solidaridad;* while the revolutionaries Andres Bonifacio (Maypagasa) and Emilio Jacinto (Dimasilaw) wrote for *Kalayaan*.





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\*Property of ST Page 4 of 5

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## Literature under Spain

Leading to the formation of the Propaganda Movement and the Katipunan, culminating in the Philippine Revolution of 1896

Notable prose works include Rizal's political novels, *Noli Me Tangere* and *El Filibusterismo*, and Pedro Paterno's *Ninay*—considered as the first Filipino novel.



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