

DEVELOPMENTAL READING OF WRITINGS [B]

This Module seeks to facilitate a more focused reading of at least two of Rizal's writings. At the end, you are expected to:

- 1) grasp the meaning and significance of Rizal's annotation to Antonio de Morga's *Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas*;
- 2) grasp the meaning and significance of Rizal's *Filipinas dentro de cien años*;
- 3) organize a panel discussion to encapsulate the continuity between Rizal's major works; and
- 4) exhibit a sequence of orchestrated images that epitomize Rizal's tripartite view of Philippine history.

Anotación de Sucesos de ls Islas Filipinas (1890)

No other introduction to this work would be at par with Rizal's own dedication of the work. He wrote:

"To the Filipinos":

In the *Noli me tángere* I began the sketch of the present state of our Native Land. The effect that attempt produced pointed out to me, before proceeding to unfold the other successive pictures before your eyes, the **necessity of first making known to you the past** in order that you may be able to judge better the present and to measure the road traversed during three centuries.

Born and reared in the ignorance of our Yesterday, like almost all of you, without voice or authority to speak about what we did not see or studied, I considered it necessary to invoke the testimony of an illustrious Spaniard who governed the destinies of the Philippines in the beginning of her new era and witnessed the last moment of our ancient nationality. **It is then the shadow of the civilization of our ancestors which the author is now evoking before you.** I transmit faithfully to you his words, without changing or mutilating them, adapting them only whenever possible to modern orthography for greater clarity, and altering the somewhat defective punctuation of the original in order to make its perusal easier. The past, the nationality, and merits of De Morga, together with the data and testimonies furnished by his contemporaries, almost all Spaniards, recommend the book to your thoughtful consideration.

If the book succeeds to **awaken your consciousness of our past**, already effaced from your memory, and to rectify what has been falsified and slandered, then I have not worked in vain, and with this as a basis,

however small it may be, we shall be able to study the future.

Access the attached PDF file [8a Historical Events in the Philippines Islands](#). As you read through the text, be mindful to find answers to the following guide questions:

1. In the propaganda scheme, what specific motive did annotating *Sucesos* mean to serve? What did Rizal want to invoke before the readers? What was his measure of the success of this particular work?
2. How did the process of annotation go about? What were the prerequisites met as reflected in Rizal's notes?
3. Give at least three among Morga's points expounded by Rizal through either: a) corroboration with other sources; b) an emphasis on pre-colonial Filipino's rich culture; or c) an amplified pro-Filipino interpretation.
4. Give at least three among Morga's points contradicted or rectified by Rizal on the basis of either: a) Spaniards' blatant ignorance of other cultures; b) shifting the lens to a pro-Filipino perspective in making sense out of facts; or c) comparing with the transformation (i.e., retrogression) brought by the colonial experience.

Filipinas dentro de cien años (1889-1890)

This work came in four installments and was first published in *La Solidaridad* issues between 30 September 1889 – 1 February 1890. Reading this rather lengthy piece would facilitate understanding of Rizal's line of thinking in his triumvirate of magnum opus, namely: *Noli Me Tangere*, *Annotation of Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas*, and *El Filibusterismo*.

Access the attached PDF file [8b The Philippines A Century Hence](#). As you read through the text, be mindful to find answers to the following guide questions:

1. What did Rizal openly propose for Filipinos to determine its most probable destiny?
2. Taking the negative counterpart of the state of the Philippines in the 19thC, how did Rizal envision the Philippines to metamorphose toward being an "ideal nation"?
3. How did Rizal describe the *indios* in the "new era" of succumbing to Spanish colonization? How did he manage to recognize efforts, albeit sporadic—of some who tried to struggle against the workings of this "new era?"
4. How did Rizal essentially declare early on his most preferred destiny for the Philippines?
5. How did Rizal substantiate his dismissal of the option that the Philippines may continue to be a Spanish colony on the basis of either of the following:

- a. The 19th C context
 - b. Ethical nature of (Malayan) Filipinos
 - c. Exposed insincerity and deception of Madre España
 - d. Resilience of Filipinos
6. How did Rizal reiterate that reforms from Spain:
- a. are only ineffectual
 - b. are not sincerely carried out
 - c. do not necessarily serve the interest of the Filipinos
7. Which trope of humanism did Rizal put into fore in order to dismiss claims of impossibility of the revolutionary changes for the Philippine?
8. What were the impossible conditions needed to be met by Madre España if it wanted to keep its ties with the Filipinos?
9. How did the trends of history support Rizal's claim that the Philippines would surely break away from Spain?
10. Confident of the Filipinos' victory, which development in international relations did Rizal give as a warning to inheritors of the country's independence?
11. How did Rizal imagine the country in its stage of "liwanag," after securing its independence from Spain?
12. What were Rizal's parting words for Madre España, closing the loop of seeking the closure we had to have vis-à-vis this fake mother?

Learning Task:

Radio-Drama Script

Group yourselves into 4-6 members. Choose between the two works in this module. Suppose that a radio-drama would be aired as an adaptation of your choice. Write a script for the radio-drama and perform the voice-recording.

ATTACHED READINGS:

Historical Events in the Philippine Islands by Dr. Antonio de Morga. Published in Mexico in 1609 recently brought to light and annotated by Jose Rizal. Manila: Jose Rizal National Centennial Commission, 1962.

The Project Gutenberg EBook of *The Philippines A Century Hence*, by Jose Rizal.