

DR. JOSE RIZAL'S ANNOTATIONS TO MORGA'S 1609 PHILIPPINE HISTORY

PI100

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*"To foretell the destiny of a nation, it is
necessary to open the books that tell of
her past"*

Jose Rizal

I

**SUCESOS DE LAS ISLAS
FILIPINAS**

SUCESOS DE LAS ISLAS FILIPINAS

also called as **Events In The Philippine Islands**, history of the Philippine islands. **1609** Mexico. written by **Antonio De Morga**. 1493-1603. political, social, economical



GOVERNOR ANTONIO DE MORGHA

spanish conquistador, government official, and historical anthropologist; **author of sucesos de las islas filipinas (events in the philippine islands)**

spaniards controlled the destinies of the philippines and had personal knowledge of our ancient nationality in its last days

spanish lawyer who served as **Lieutenant Governor** in the philippines 1595-1603

rizal writes, **“witnessed the last moments of the ancient Filipino civilization and played part in the coming of the new era”**



SUCESOS DE LAS ISLAS FILIPINAS

Narrative history book, detailed

The book is **eight chapters**

CHAPTER 1 : Magellan and Legazpi's seminal expeditions.

CHAPTER 2 - 7 : Chronological report on gov't administration under Governor-General.

CHAPTER 8 : Philippine Islands, the natives there, their antiquity, custom and gov't.



SUCESOS DE LAS ISLAS FILIPINAS

1. Of the first discoveries of the Eastern islands
2. Of the government of Dr. Francisco de Sande
3. Of the government of don Gonzalo Ronquillo de Peñalosa
4. Of the government of Dr. Santiago de Vera.
5. Of the government of Gomes Perez Dasmariñas.
6. Of the government of don Francisco Tello
7. Of the government of don Pedro de Acuiia
8. An account of the Philippine Islands.



RIZAL'S CHOICE OF MORGA

- 1 the original book was rare
- 2 Morga was a layman not a religious chronicler
- 3 Objective
- 4 Morga was more sympathetic to the indios
- 5 eyewitness and major actor



MORGA ON DEDICATION PAGE

....this small bookis a faithful **narrative**, devoid of any artifice and ornament....regarding the **discovery, conquest and conversion** of the Philippine Islands, together with the various events in which they have taken part...specifically describing their original condition...



II

RIZAL'S ANNOTATION

RIZAL'S ANNOTATION

London noong **ika-25 ng Mayo, 1888**

Ferdinand Blumentritt

pag-aralan at pagbibigay
komento sa sinulat ni Morga
(Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas)

ligtas na lugar ang London para
ipagpatuloy ang pakikipaglaban
niya sa mga Kastila



RIZAL'S ANNOTATION

isa sa mga layuning ibinigay ni Rizal sa paglapat ng anotasyon ay ang **“pukawin ang kamalayan hinggil sa nakaraan”**

Isa pang layunin ay ang paglansag sa ideya ng **inferioridad** ng mga Filipino

Ginamit ang **Filipino** bilang pantukoy sa mga naninirahan sa kapuluan at hindi Indio

counternarrative



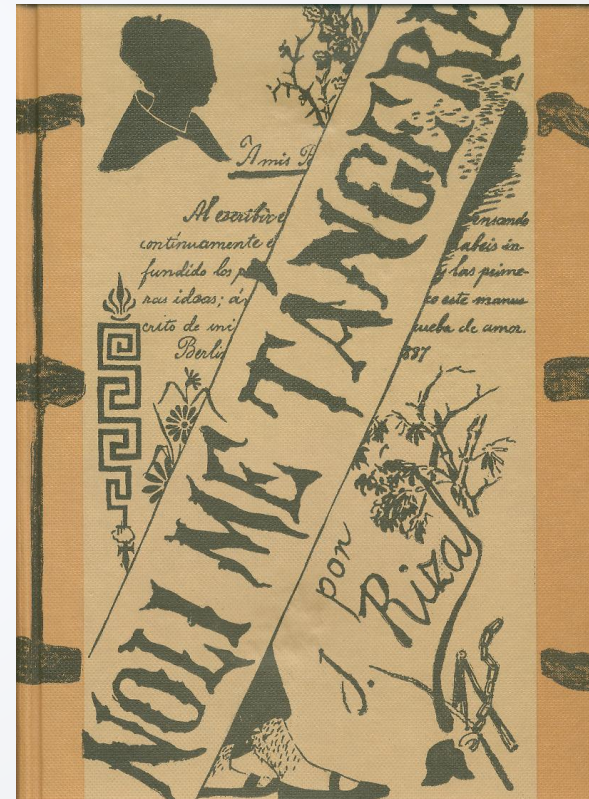
RIZAL'S ANNOTATION

“It is then the shade of our ancestor's civilization which the author will call before you... If the work serves to awaken in you a consciousness of our past, and to blot from your memory or to rectify what has been falsified or is calumny, then I shall not have labored in vain. With this preparation, slight though it be, we can all pass to the study of the future.”



RELATIONS

Rizal had said that while **Noli presents** the spectacle of the present, his essay into Morga **traces the roots** of this sorry drama in the past. It stands connected to his novels and the political and historical articles



RIZAL'S ANNOTATION

Against the Orientalist view of the Philippines

1. Corrects error
2. Exposes the ethnocentric bias and “pious lies”
3. Cites inconsistencies
4. Add clarifications and elaborations
5. Draws critical connections between past and present
6. Invokes more authoritative references
Demonstrate his superior erudition



III

RIZAL'S ANNOTATIONS

CATEGORIES



STRAIGHT FORWARD ANNOTATION
STRONG ANTICLERICAL BIAS

CATEGORIES

STRAIGHT FORWARD ANNOTATION
STRONG ANTICLERICAL BIAS

Annotations:

“It is not the fact that the Filipinos were unprotected before the coming of the Spaniards.”

CATEGORIES

STRAIGHT FORWARD ANNOTATION
STRONG ANTICLERICAL BIAS

Annotations:

“The conversions by the Spaniards were not as general as their historians claim.”

THEMES



LONG HISTORY

HIGH CULTURE

ANCIENT NATIONALITY

CULTURAL LOSS

LONG HISTORY

counters the **colonialist denial of a history** to Filipinos outside the framework of Spanish rule
Rizal argued that Spaniards did not **discover** the Philippines

Annotations:

“The civilization of the Pre-Spanish Filipinos in regard to the duties of life for that age was well advanced, as the Morga history shows in its eighth chapter.”

HIGH CULTURE

answers the colonialist denigration of the integrity and value of native culture.

He argues indios had schools where they learned and write in Tagalog

They knew how to read and write even before the spaniards

Annotations:

“Their prized krises and kampilans for their magnificent temperare worthy of admiration and some of them are richly damascened.- ”

HIGH CULTURE

answers the colonialist denigration of the integrity and value of native culture.

He argues indios had schools where they learned and write in Tagalog

They knew how to read and write even before the spaniards

Annotations:

Earliest spanish days ship were built on islands - evidence of native culture

HIGH CULTURE

answers the colonialist **denigration of the integrity and value of native culture.**

He argues indios had schools where they learned and write in Tagalog

They knew how to read and write even before the spaniards

Annotations:

“Their coats and helmets show their great advancement in this industry”

ANCIENT NATIONALITY

underscores a preexistent identity that colonialism had **violated and erased**

Relation between Spain and Philippines, rizal argues began with a pact between **equals**

Annotations:

“Origin of Malay Filipinos to the island of Sumatra- but missionaries eradicate national remembrances as heathen or idolatrous”

CULTURAL LOSS

Colonialism caused the **degeneration** of Filipino skills in ship building, weaving pottery, metallurgy, and agriculture

Annotations:

“in those times the Philippines exported silk to japan from where the best now comes”

PIOUS LIES

Conversions: not general as they claim

PIOUS LIES

Not for the faith alone

CITES INCOSISTENCIES

Morga's expression that the Spaniards "brought war to the gates of the Filipinos"

CORRECTS ERROR

May 19 Legazpi -> May 20

IV

REACTIONS

REACTIONS

Exaggerate because of
excessive patriotism
Anti-catholic bias

REACTIONS

Rizal maintained mixed feelings for the Morga

REACTIONS

Rizal's Morga has been relegated in the canon, under his **“minor writings”**

- Secondary Source
- Censorship
- Language

Rizal's Morga was not read by the masses, although people heard a great deal about this controversial work.

REACTIONS

Although it wasn't read widely, its significance lies in the fact that **Rizal began the task of writing the first Philippine history from the viewpoint of a Filipino.**

Rizal realized the importance of the past as a tool to understand the present and eventually confront the future.

REACTIONS

Letter to Austrian ethnographer, Ferdinand Blumentritt:

The Philippines would be grateful to you if you will write a complete history of our country, judged from impartial criteria. I believe that you are the only one who can do it. I have the courage for this, but I do not know enough. I have not read as many books about my country and the Spanish libraries are closed to me; furthermore my time is needed for other things and everything I say will always be suspected of having been inspired by a partisan spirit, but you would be read as an impartial judge; you have no selfish interests...you do not have to amend historical truth neither for the sake of Filipinos nor the Spaniards, and you could contemplate the past in cold blood like an outside observer. . . . I think that you are the man best equipped for this task (Episfolario 1938, 5:116).

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Images:

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