

Tragedies in Rizal's Young Life and Early Education

A faded, sepia-toned portrait of José Rizal, the national hero of the Philippines, is visible in the background. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark suit jacket, a white shirt, and a dark tie. His hair is dark and neatly combed.

Objectives:

1. Know and understand Rizal's educational background, tragedies and experiences and how it contributed for him to become a hero.
2. Express critical judgment on the pending questions about the educational background of Rizal.

- 1 What are the tragedies of Rizal's young life?
- 2 Why Doña Teodora was imprisoned?
- 3 How did the three martyr priests executed?
- 4 How did Doña Teodora release from imprisonment?

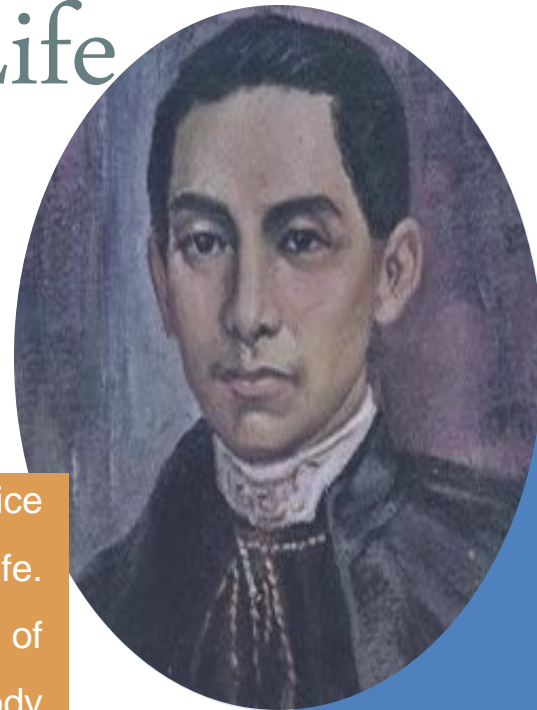
Questions



Tragedies In Rizal's Young Life

It was with a sad heart that Francisco Mercado finally sent Jose off to school in Manila. The boy was now eleven years of age. His brother Paciano was studying in College of San Jose under its famous teacher Fr. Jose Burgos, a noble and courageous Filipino priest. Here Jose Rizal came face to face with another tragedy in his young life. He found Paciano destructed over the execution of the beloved Fr. Jose Burgos, who was convicted of inciting mutiny, an insurrection or uprising against civil, legal, or political authority.

He was making preparations to depart when an injustice occurred and threw a shadow across his happy young life. His mother was thrown into a prison, accused of a crime of which she was so whole incapable of doing that everybody knew it was a pure fabrication. She was charged with conspiracy with her brother, Alberto Realonda, to kill his wife, who had separated from him.



Fr. Jose Burgos



Injustice To Hero's Mother

Before June 1872 – Doña Teodora was suddenly arrested on a malicious charge that she and her brother, Jose Alberto, tried to poison the latter's perfidious wife

Antonio Vivencio del Rosario – Calamba's gobernadorcillo, help arrest Doña Teodora

After arresting Doña Teodora, the sadistic Spanish lieutenant forced her to walk from calamaba to santa cruz, a distance of 50 kilometers

Messrs. Francisco de Marcaida and Manuel Marzan – The most famous lawyers of Manila that defend Doña Teodora



1827
1913

Teodora Alonso

The Imprisonment and Release of Dona Teodora



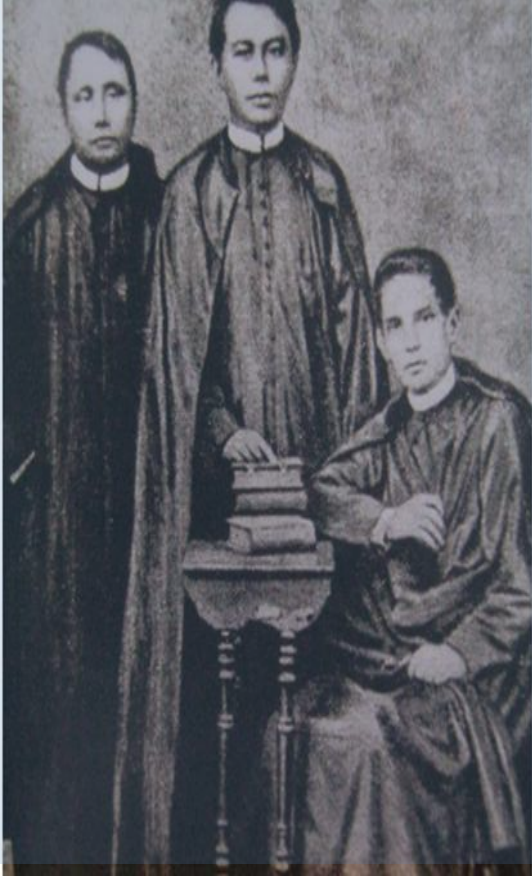
During Jose's two-year stay in Ateneo, his mother was imprisoned in Sta. Cruz. Doña Teodora allegedly conspired with her brother Jose Alberto to poison his wife. Then she was released for a reason that revealed more plainly than ever how little justice existed during that period. The Governor General, Rafael Izquierdo, happened to be visiting Calamba. Some little girls danced for his entertainment. One of them was so pretty and did her steps so charmingly that the Governor General called her to his side and said:

“What present can I give you, charming little dancer?”

“Oh, please, Governor, “she answered,” release
my mother from prison.”

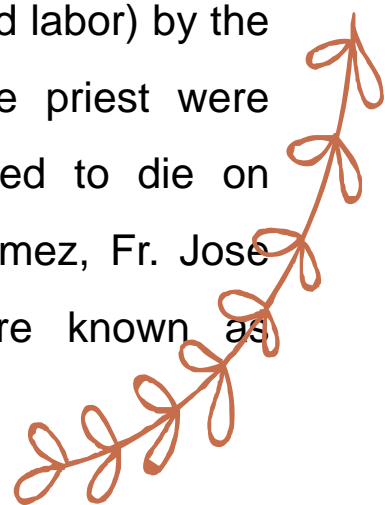
“Who is this little girl’s mother? Set her
free!” cried the Governor General.”

The pretty girl was Jose’s sister, Soledad. Her mother was at
once released and the case was dismissed without a trial.



The of Execution GOMBURZA

On the night of **January 20, 1872**, some 200 Filipino and Spanish mestizo workers and soldiers rose in mutiny in Cavite because of the abolition of their usual privileges including exemption from tribute and polo y servicio (forced labor) by the Governor General Rafael De Izquierdo. Three priest were implicated in the mutiny, tried, and sentenced to die on **February 17, 1872**. They were Fr. Mariano Gomez, Fr. Jose Burgos, and Fr. Jacinto Zamora. They were known as Gomburza.



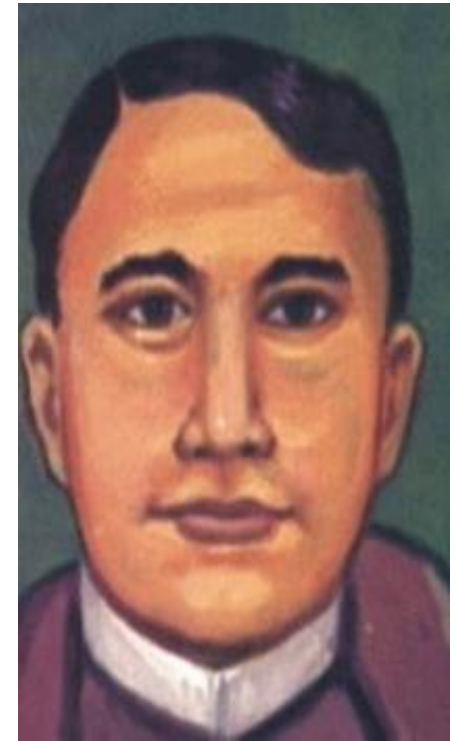
Fr. Jose Burgos

Father Jose Burgos was one of the three Gomburza priests executed by Spanish authorities in the Philippines after being accused of treason. He was born in **Vigan, Ilocos Sur, in 1837**, and was garroted on February 17, 1872, at Fort Santiago in the middle of **Bagumbayan field** (now Luneta Park).



Jacinto Zamora y del Rosario (14 August 1835 - 17 February 1872) was a Filipino secular priest, part of the Gomburza trio who were falsely accused of mutiny by the Spanish colonial authorities in the Philippines in the 19th century. He was placed in a mock trial and summarily executed in Manila along with two other clergymen.

Fr. Jacinto Zamora



Gómez was **born on August 2, 1799** in the suburb of Santa Cruz, Manila. He was a Tornatrás, one born of mixed Chinese and Spanish ancestries. His parents were Francisco Gómez and Martina Guard. After studying in the Colegio de San Juan de Letrán, he took theology in the University of Santo Tomás. He was a student preparing for the priesthood in the Seminary of Manila.

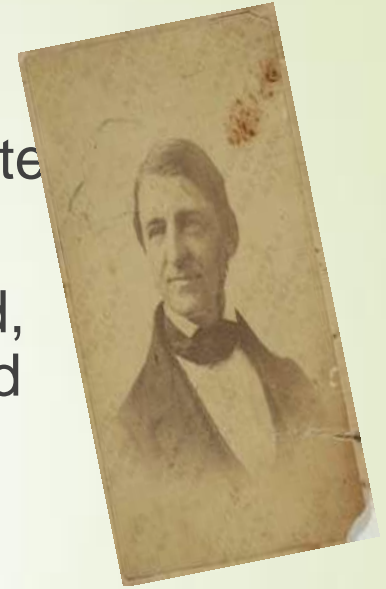
He was also the uncle of ilustrado nationalist and labor leader **Dominador Gomez**.

Fr Mariano Gomez



RIZAL'S EARLY EDUCATION

- As Jose grew older, his parents employed private tutors to give him lessons at home.
- The first was Maestro Celestino and the second, Maestro Lucas Padua. Later, an old man named Leon Monroy, a former classmate of Rizal's father, became the boy's tutor. This old teacher lived at the Rizal home and instructed Jose in Spanish and Latin. Unfortunately, he did not live long. He died five months later.
- After Leon Monroy's death, the hero's parents decided to send their gifted son to a private school in Biñan.



Jose Goes to Biñan

- One Sunday afternoon in June , 1869, Jose, after kissing the hands of his parents and a tearful parting from his sister, left Calamba for Biñan. He was accompanied by Paciano , who acted as his second father.
- They proceeded to their aunt's house, where Jose was to lodge. It was almost night when they arrived, and the moon was about to rise.
- That same night, Jose, with his cousin named Leandro, went sightseeing in the town. Instead of enjoying the sights, Jose became depressed because of homesickness.

"In the moonlight, I remembered my home town, my idolized mother, and my solicitous sisters. Ah, how sweet to me was Calamba, my own town, in spite of the fact that was not as wealthy as Biñan."

First Day in Biñan School

- The next morning (Monday) Paciano brought his younger brother to the school of Maestro Justiniano Aquino Cruz.
- Paciano knew the teacher quite well because he had been a pupil under him before. He introduced Jose to the teacher, after which he departed to return to Calamba. Immediately, Jose was assigned his seat in the class. The teacher asked him:

"Do you know Spanish?"

"A little, sir," replied the Calamba lad.

"Do you know Latin?"

"A little, sir."


First Day in Biñan School

- ▶ The boys in the class, especially Pedro, the teacher's son laughed at Jose's answers. The teacher sharply stopped all noises and begun the lessons of the day.
- ▶ Jose described his teacher in Biñan as follows:

"He was tall, thin, long-necked, with sharp nose and a body slightly bent forward, and he used to wear a sinamay shirt, woven by the skilled hands of the women of Batangas. He knew by the heart the grammars by Nebrija and Gainza. Add to this severity that in my judgement was exaggerated and you have a picture, perhaps vague, that I have made of him, but I remember only this."

First Day in Biñan School

- In academic studies, Jose beat all Biñan boys. He surpassed them all in Spanish, Latin, and other subjects.
- Some of his older classmates were jealous of his intellectual superiority. They wickedly squealed to the teacher whenever Jose had a fight outside the school, and even told lies to discredit him before the teacher's eyes. Consequently the teacher had to punish Jose.



**Rizal's Formative years
in Ateneo and
Scholastic Records**



RIZAL'S FORMATIVE YEARS IN ATENEO AND SCHOLASTIC RECORDS

(1872 – 1877)



NEED TO KNOW

- The Jesuits were considered the best educators of Spain and perhaps of Europe, when they were permitted to return to the Philippines, they had to apply to the City of Manila for financial support. That is why the college which began to function in the year 1865, was called the Ateneo Municipal.
- To enter the Ateneo a candidate was subjected to an entrance examination on Christian Doctrine, reading, writing, grammar and elementary arithmetic.

- **June 10, 1872** - Jose, was sent to Manila to study in Ateneo.

Ateneo de Municipal → **Escuela Pia**

- The Charity School of Manila, founded in 1817 and later became Ateneo de Manila. Before then, the City Government placed it in the supervision of the Spanish Jesuits.

**RIZAL'S
FORMATIVE
YEARS IN
ATENEO**

- **Fr. Magin Fernando (Ferrando)** – refused him from his matriculation because:
 - He is late for registration
 - He appeared to be weak and sickly
- **Manuel Xerez Burgos** (nephew of Father Burgos)
- Jose was the first to use the surname "**Rizal**" because Mercado became under suspicion by the Spanish authorities.
- He boarded in a house outside Intramuros on **Calle Carballo**, district of Santa Cruz.
- **Titay** owner of the house where Rizal boarded to settle the bill owed by Titay by about Php 300.00.

RIZAL'S
FORMATIVE
YEARS IN
ATENEIO

JESUIT SYSTEM OF EDUCATION

- The Jesuitical system of instruction was considered more advanced than of other colleges in that epoch. Its discipline was rigid and its method less mechanical.
- In the first two terms the classes were divided into groups of interns and externs:
 - Roman Empire (Internos)
 - Carthaginian Empire (Externos)

Each empires had its Ranks:

Emperor

Tribune

Decurion

Centurion

Standard Bearer

- **June 1872** – first day of class in Ateneo
- **Fr. Jose Bech** – Rizal's first professor

Extern  **Emperor**

- **A religious picture** – Rizal's first prize for being the brightest pupil in the whole class
- **Santa Isabel College** – where Rizal took his Spanish lessons during recess and paid it for Php 3.00
- **March 1873**, Rizal returned to Calamba for summer vacation. When the summer vacation ended, Rizal returned to Manila for his 2nd year term in Ateneo. He is moved at **Dona Pepay** boarding house.

**RIZAL'S
FIRST YEAR
IN ATENEO**

- He again become a **emperor**.
- He also received excellent grades in all subjects and a gold medal.
- At **March 1874**, he returned to Calamba for his vacation.
- At this point, Dona Teodora was released in the jail after 3 months like what Rizal said.
- **St. Joseph** - Rizal was comparable because of his interpretation about his mother's release.

RIZAL'S
SECOND
YEAR IN
ATENEO

- During the summer vacation in Calamba
- 1st favorite novel of Rizal **"The Count of Monte Cristo"** by **Alexander Dumas**
- **Cesar Cantu's** historical entitled **"Universal History"**
- **"Travels in the Philippines"** by **Dr. Feodor Jagor**, a german scirntist-traveler

TEENAGE
INTEREST IN
READING

THIRD YEAR IN ATENEO

- He only got 1 medal in his Latin subject. **March 1875**, he returned to Calamba

FOURTH YEAR IN ATENEO

- **June 16, 1875** – Rizal became an interno in Ateneo
- **Fr. Francisco Sanchez** – Rizal's favorite teacher
- Rizal won 5 medals and topped in all subjects and on March 1876, he returned to Calamba.
- Rizal became the pride of the Jesuits and he obtained highest grades in all subjects. He received the degree of **Bachelor of Arts** with highest honors.

RIZAL'S
THIRD AND
FOURTH
YEAR IN
ATENEO

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- He was an emperor and campus leader outside
- Secretary of the **Marian Congregation**
- Member of **Academy of Spanish Sciences** and member of the **Academy of Natural Sciences**
- Rizal studied painting at **Agustin Saez** and sculpture under **Romualdo De Jesus**, a filipino sculptor
- Engaged in **gymnastics** and **fencing**

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

SCULPTURAL WORKS IN ATENEO

- **The Virgin May** – he carved an image with Batikuling with his pocket knife
- **Father Leonart** – requested Rizal to carved an image of sacred heart of Jesus

POEMS MADE BY RIZAL IN ATENEO

- **Mi Primera Inspiration** – first poem
- **Through Education Our Motherland Receives Light**
- **To the Child**
- **To the Virgin Mary**

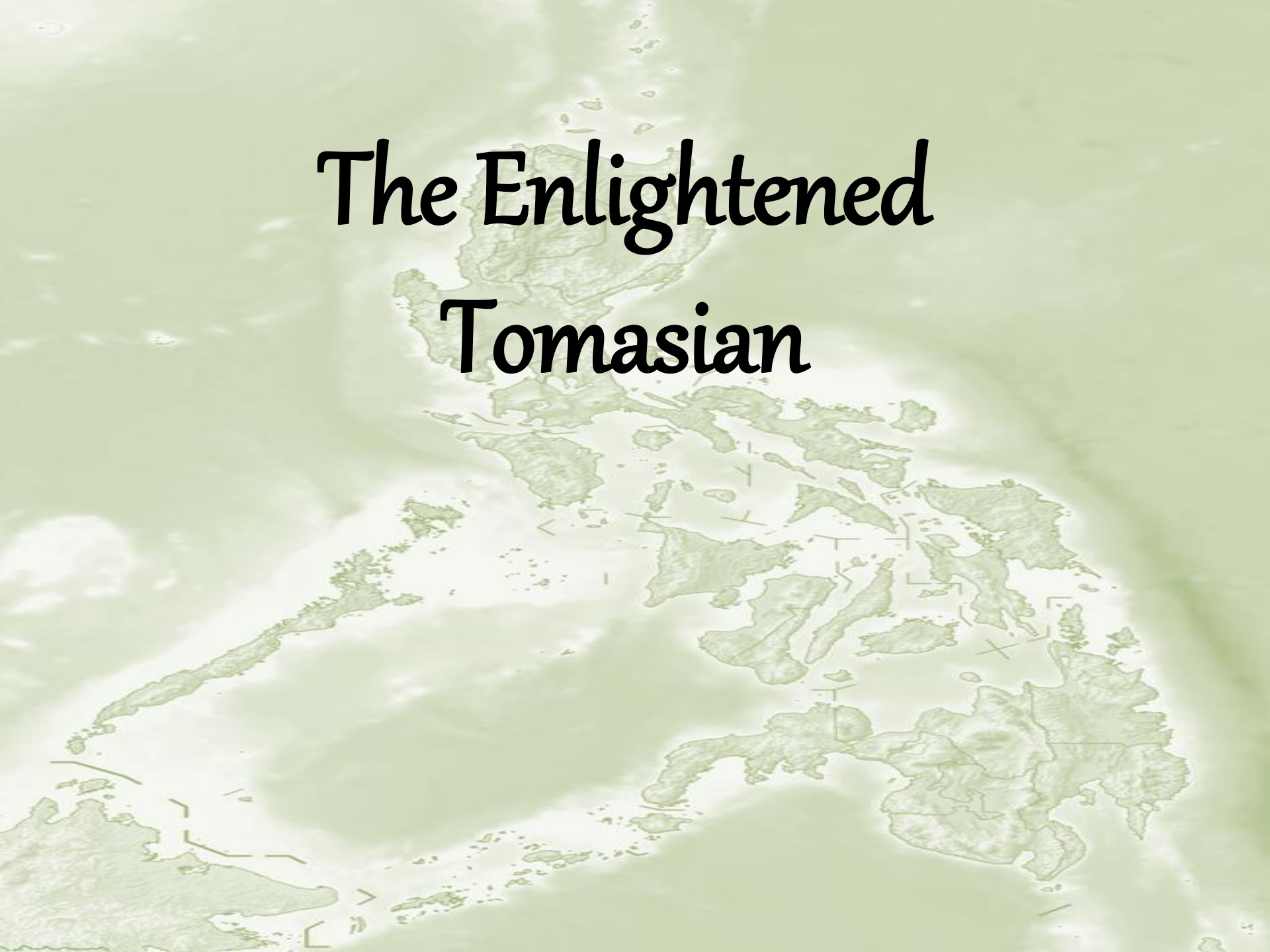
DRAMATIC WORK IN ATENEO

- **San Eustacio, Martir** – he submitted the manuscript to Fr. Sanchez in his last academic year in Ateneo

Table 1. Rizal's Transcript of Record in Retana.

1871-1872	Aritmética - - - - -	Sobresaliente
1872-1873	Latín, primer curso - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Castellano - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Griego - - - - -	Sobresaliente
1873-1874	Latín, segundo curso - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Castellano - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Griego - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Geografía Universal - - - - -	Sobresaliente
1874-1875	Latín, tercer curso - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Castellano - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Griego - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Historia Universal - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Historia de España y Filipinas - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Aritmética y Álgebra - - - - -	Sobresaliente
1875-1876	Retórica y Poética - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Francés - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Geometría y Trigonometría - - - - -	Sobresaliente
1876-1877	Filosofía, primer curso - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Mineralogía y Química - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Filosofía, segundo curso - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Física - - - - -	Sobresaliente
	Botánica y Zoología - - - - -	Sobresaliente
<i>Bachiller en Artes</i> el 14 de Marzo de 1877 - - - - -		<i>Sobresaliente</i>

The Enlightened Tomasian





Mother's Opposition to Higher Education

- ❖ Her reason: *If Rizal gets to learn more, the Spaniards will cut off his head.*
- ❖ In contrary, Paciano and Don Francisco wanted Rizal to pursue College Education
- ❖ *(The Bachelor of Arts degree during Spanish Period was equivalent to a high school diploma today)*

RIZAL ENROLLMENT AT UST

A faded, sepia-toned portrait of Jose Rizal is visible in the background, centered behind the text. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark suit jacket, a white shirt, and a dark tie. His hair is dark and wavy, and he has a slight smile.

- ❖ Philosophy and Letters during his freshman year (1877-1878)
- ❖ Why Philosophy and letters?
 - 1.) Don Francisco liked it
 - 2.) Uncertainty on what course to take up.

RIZAL ENTERS UNIVERSITY

- In **April 1877**, Rizal nearly 16 years of age, enrolled in the UST taking course on **Philosophy and Letters** .
- Consequently, during his first-year term (1877-78) in UST, **he also studied Cosmology, Metaphysics, Theodicy, and History of Philosophy.**
- During the following term (1878-79) **Rizal took up the medical course.** The reason why he chose medicine for a career was to be able to cure his mother's growing blindness.

FINISHES SURVEYING COURSE IN ATENEO (1878)

- During his first term in UST (1877-78), Rizal also studied in Ateneo, taking up vocational course which gave him the title of *perito agrimensor* (expert surveyor).
- Rizal excelled in all subjects in Ateneo, obtaining **gold medals in agriculture and topography**.
- At the age of 17, he passed final examination in surveying course but because he is **below of age**, the title couldn't be granted at that time. The title was then issued to him on **November 25, 1881**.
- Though Thomasian, due to his loyalty, he frequently visited Ateneo.
- Jesuit professors, unlike Dominicans, loved and inspired him to ascend greater knowledge.

Academic Standing

☐ 1877 - 1878 (Philosophy & Letters)

Cosmology & Metaphysics ... Excellent

Theodicy ... Excellent

History of Philosophy ... Excellent

☐ 1878 - 1879 (Medicine) –1st Year

Physics ... Fair

Chemistry ... Excellent

Natural History ... Good

Anatomy I ... Good

Dissection I ... Good



❑ 1879 - 1880 (Medicine) –2nd Year

Anatomy 2	...	Good
Dissection 2	...	Good
Physiology	...	Good
Private Hygiene	...	Good
Public Hygiene	...	Good

❑ 1880 - 1881 (Medicine) –3rd Year

General Pathology	...	Fair
Therapeutics	...	Excellent
Surgery	...	Good

❑ 1881 – 1882 (Medicine) –4th Year

Medical Pathology	...	Very Good
Surgical Pathology		Very Good
Obstetrics		Very Good



Rizal's Grades (1877-1878)

Conversion

Sobresaliente	= 1.00	Excellent
Notable, Aprovechade	= 1.50	Very Good
Bueno	= 2.00	Good
Mediano	= 2.50	Fair
Aprovado	= 3.00	Passed
Suspenso	= 4.00	Conditioned
Reprobado	= 5.00	Failed

Philosophy and Letters

Cosmology & Metaphysics	Sobresaliente
Theodicy	Sobresaliente
History of Philosophy	Sobresaliente

VICTIM OF SPANISH BRUTALITY

When Rizal was a freshman medical at UST, he experienced his first taste of Spanish brutality.

One dark night in **1878**, he was walking in the street and perceived some man passing him, but due to darkness he didn't recognize the man and didn't salute nor say courteous "**Good Evening**". The man turned out to be a **lieutenant of Guardia Civil**, he turned upon Rizal and whipped out his sword, brutally slashing his back.

The wound was painful and lasted 2 weeks. Rizal reported the incident to **General Primo de Rivera**, the Spanish Governor General of the Philippines but nothing came out of his complaint because he was an **Indio** and the abusive lieutenant was a **Spaniard**.

OTHER LITERARY WORKS

- Rizal produced other poems and a zarzuela, entitled **Junto al Pasig** (Beside the Pasig), staged by Atenean on **December 8, 1880** for the annual celebration of the feast day of Immaculate Concepcion, Patroness of Ateneo.
- In the same year (**1880**), he also wrote a sonnet entitled **A Filipinas** for the Society of Sculptors.
- In **December 8, 1879**, he composed a poem entitled **Abd-el-Azis y Mahoma**.
- Later, in **1881**, he composed a poem entitled **Al M.R.P. Pablo Ramon**.

CHAMPION OF FILIPINO STUDENTS

- Rizal was the **champion of the Filipino students** in their frequent fights against arrogant Spanish students, who insultingly call their brown classmates, "**Indio, chongo!**". In retaliation, Filipinos call them "**Kastila, bagus!**". Hostility often exploded in angry street rumbles.
- Rizal participated in street brawls.
- In 1880, he founded a secret society of Filipino students in UST called **Compañerismo** (Comradeship), members were called "**Companions of Jehu**".
- Rizal was the **chief** of the secret society and his cousin from Batangas, Galicano Apacible was the **secretary**.

UNHAPPY DAYS AT THE UST

- Rizal found the atmosphere at UST **suffocating**.
- He was unhappy at the Dominican institution for **3 reasons**:
 1. Dominican professors were hostile to him.
 2. Filipinos were racially discriminated against by the Spaniards.
 3. The method of instruction were obsolete and repressive.
- In his novel, **El Filibusterismo**, he described how Filipino students were humiliated and insulted by Dominican professors and how twisted the method of instruction was
- Rizal failed to win high scholastic honors due to the unfriendly attitude of his professors.

DECISION TO STUDY ABROAD

- After finishing Rizal's fourth year of medical course, he decided to go to **Spain** because he could no longer endure the discrimination and hostility in the UST.
- **Rizal's parents, Leonor, and the Spanish authorities** have no idea of his decision to go abroad to finish his medical studies in Spain.
- He believed that **professors in Spain** were more liberal than of those who're in the UST.

UST AND ATENEO

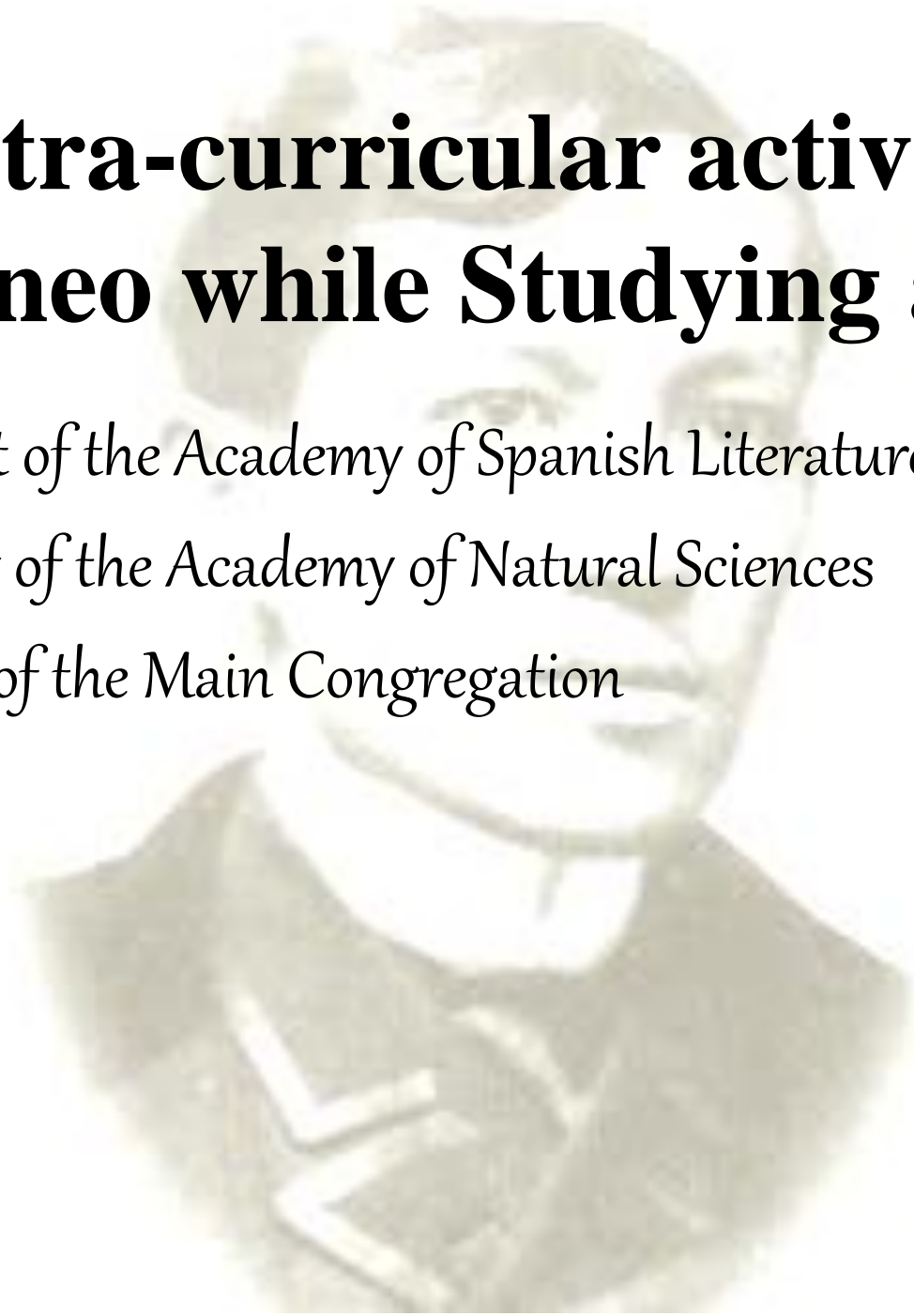
- ❖ UST was under the Dominicans, rival of the Jesuits in education.
- ❖ He remained loyal to Ateneo, participated in extracurricular activities and completed a course in surveying in that same school.

STUDENT ACTIVISM IN UST

- ❖ Rizal displayed his leadership in student activism.
- ❖ Indio/chongo vs kastila/bangus
- ❖ Bitter hostility exist
- ❖ Racial animosity

Extra-curricular activities in Ateneo while Studying at UST:

- ❖ *President of the Academy of Spanish Literature*
- ❖ *Secretary of the Academy of Natural Sciences*
- ❖ *Secretay of the Main Congregation*



Medical Studies at UST



- ❖ *Shifting from PHL and letters to Medicine.*
- ❖ *Why did Rizal Shift to Medical course?*
 - 1.) *Don Pablo Ramon, Ateneo Rector, advised him to choose medicine*
 - 2.) *Rizal wanted to cure his mother's growing blindness*

Reason Why Rizal didn't Enjoyed his Stay at UST

- 1.) *Hostility of Dominican Professors to him*
- 2.) *Racial Discrimination against Filipino students.*
- 3.) *Dissatisfaction with the method of instruction*

Reason Why Rizal Performed Poorly at UST

- ❖ *Medicine is not his vocation*
- ❖ *Discontentment with the system of education*
- ❖ *Distraction of youth*

The universe doesn't give you what you ask for with your thoughts; it gives you what you demand with your actions.

- Steve Maraboli

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