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On Sino-Philippine Relations: The Chinese in the Philippines

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tinct literary genre. It should please both layman and scholar. Perhaps, it remains for the perceptive reader to discover the great wealth of the epic tradition.

MARIA TERESA COLAYCO

ON SINO-PHILIPPINE RELATIONS

THE CHINESE IN THE PHILIPPINES. Volume I: 1570-1770.

Edited by Alfonso Felix, Jr. Manila: Solidaridad Publishing House, 1966. viii, 287 pp. Maps. Illustrations.

This volume, number IX in the series published by the Historical Conservation Society, is a symposium on the subject, divided into four parts. The first part, entitled "How We Stand", presents the views of the editor, at least as of the writing, on the contemporary issues of Chinese assimilation and "loyalty", together with an explanation of how the present volume relates to those problems.

The second section, the bulk of the book, is called "Historical Background". Here we find five miscellaneous contributions, mostly about what is already the best-known aspect of Chinese life in the Philippines: the Manila Parian of the 16th-18th centuries. Once again we tread familiar ground, courtesy of Blair and Robertson. However, Father Alberto Santamaria provides some relief by interjecting new material from the Dominican Archives in his long article on the Parian. Dean Cesar Majul's account of "Chinese Relationships with the Sultanate of Sulu" furnishes new (to me, at least) information on this fascinating and slightly examined topic, but is ultimately unsatisfying because the author fails so often to record his sources.

Part III, "Special Aspects of the Report", differs from Part II by emphasizing economic or social features of the general subject. Thus, Director Serafin Quiason discusses the "Sampan Trade"; Lourdes Diaz-Trachuelo, on "The Role of the Chinese in the Philippine Domestic Economy," presents much new information from Spanish Archives, and clearly the most original study in this collection (although her conclusion that Chinese commercial operations "affected even the most remote towns" is not supported by her evidence); Professor Ricardo Zarco hypothesizes about Chinese family structure before 1770; and Aurora Roxas-Lim contributes an anomalous piece on Chinese pottery and Philippine pre-history.

In the final section, Chinese scholars have their way, through a translation of the Ming Annals and some miscellaneous studies by Liu Chi Tien, a veteran educator and leading local historian of the Philippine Chinese.

The purposes of a volume like this are clearly both scholarly and opinion-molding, and it must be judged accordingly. On a scholarly level, Diaz-Trechuelo's article excepted, there is not much new. Symposia usually lack cohesiveness, but this one particularly so. It reflects accurately the state of scholarship in the Philippines on this subject. It is a depressing commentary on Sino-Philippine relations after all these centuries (and on the hopes of the editor for "more understanding") that none of the Filipino contributors reads Chinese. Chinese scholars must be dug up—not just to give "the Chinese viewpoint", but to present the Chinese sources. Language-learning is one of the first steps toward empathy and without it all the goodwill in the world accomplishes little. Where the Chinese are concerned, Filipinos, alas, have never been willing to take that first step.

Pro-Chinese opinions—or even open-minded views on the Chinese—are notoriously hard to maintain for long in public print in Manila, the more so for someone as mercurial as Attorney Felix. He promises a second volume to bring the story up to date. If such a volume appears let us hope the scholarly efforts of the Chinese and Filipino contributors are integrated, not arranged in parallel columns. Perhaps an American reviewer can best spot "tokenism" because Americans so regularly practice it in their minority relations. In any case, "tokenism", whether in books or in social relations, is no substitute for integration.

EDGAR WICKBERG

ON THE SPECIAL FILIPINO-AMERICAN RELATIONSHIPS

PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN RELATIONS. Frank H. Golay, editor.
Manila: Solidaridad Publishing House, 1966. 209 pp.

Philippine nationalism, though not a recent phenomenon, certainly erupted into more vigorous activity in the 1950's and the early 1960's. Two important developments in the country seem to account for this: the first is the people's intense and sometimes highly emotional search for a national identity, and the second, the emergence of a new generation of political leaders whose backgrounds are different from that of the statesmen of the past. Filipino preoccupation with a national identity may partly be explained by the desire of the new political leadership that the Philippines establish closer relationships with other countries in Asia. These leaders seem to feel that this objective could be most effectively achieved were the Philippines to demonstrate clearly