

# philippine studies

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## **The Filipinos in Hawaii: An Annotated Bibliography**

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## Book Reviews

THE FILIPINOS IN HAWAII: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY. By Rubén R. Alcántara with Nancy S. Alconcel, John Berger, Cesar Wycoco. Honolulu: Social Sciences and Linguistics Institute, University of Hawaii, 1977. xii, 152 pages.

Ethnic studies, a relatively new formalized discipline in the American academe, has merited acceptance in many colleges and universities as a natural development resulting from earlier interest and scholarly efforts in the field of immigration history. The very nature of the multi-ethnicity of the American populace has greatly contributed to the emergence of ethnic studies.

While Filipinos form part of the latest group of immigrants to Hawaii and the American mainland, they now constitute the third largest ethnic group in Hawaii, with many thousands more settling down on the American west coast.

It is thus understandable why American scholars engaged in ethnic studies have dedicated their time and efforts to the study of Filipino immigrants. This bibliography should convince the interested scholar that a relatively large corpus of literature is now available for his perusal and further study.

Prepared mainly by Rubén R. Alcántara, a Filipino Ph.D. in American Studies whose dissertation was on the Filipino community in Waialua, this bibliography "provides the scholar with a ready reference to serious studies concerning the Filipino in Hawaii," and is actually "the sixth in the Hawaii series, a research and publication program devoted to the tracing, compilation and evaluation of the existing literature on the various peoples and cultures in these islands."

The project was initiated in 1971, and a preliminary report was published the following year. Further work on the project continued and this present bibliography is the result of these efforts.

Earlier bibliographies on the Filipinos in the whole of the United States (Irene P. Norell, *Literature of the Filipino-American in the United States: a Selective and Annotated Bibliography* [San Francisco, California, 1976] and in Hawaii (*Filipinos in Hawaii: a Bibliography*, [Honolulu, 1974]) containing

60 items and Judith Rubano, *Culture and Behavior in Hawaii: an Annotated Bibliography* [Honolulu, 1971] containing 87 references to Hawaii Filipinos out of 627 items listed) have, however, been published. But to the knowledge of this reviewer, Alcántara's bibliography is the most extensive, listing 630 items.

This bibliography contains items found only in libraries and repositories in Hawaii. Items, which are arranged alphabetically by author and carry brief annotations, refer to various aspects of the Filipino experience in Hawaii; history, sociology, anthropology, government and politics, linguistics and literature, medicine and even psychiatry, among others. The libraries where they are found are indicated in each item. A subject index is provided.

However, as Alcántara himself acknowledges, this bibliography is not as complete as the compilers would have wanted. Excluded, for instance, are items from the oral history project which has been an on-going project in Hawaii for some time now, and which should be a great help in the eventual writing of a social history of the Filipinos in Hawaii. Also excluded are the holdings of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association (HSPA) and of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (ILWU), so important in the retelling of the Hawaii Filipinos' history. Documents of various Filipino organizations and of the various plantation companies have likewise been excluded.

These limitations notwithstanding, this bibliography will remain the standard research aid for studies on the Filipino in Hawaii for some time to come.

*Marcelino A. Foronda, Jr.*

STREETS OF MANILA. By Luning B. Ira and Isagani R. Medina. Quezon City: GCF Books, 1977. 251 pages.

A self-admitted "coffee-table book" is not usually the subject of a journal book review, but *Streets of Manila* is a unique case. The idea to look into the streets of Manila and the history reflected in their names and name-changes, and to illustrate this with pictures old and new, was conceived by the publisher, fiction and feature writer Gilda Cordero-Fernando. The massive historical research that went into the identification of *calles*, *avenidas*, *callejones*, and *esquinitas* with names that sometimes changed three or four times (Spanish decree to American law to city ordinance) was done by Professor Isagani R. Medina of the University of the Philippines, Department of History. The organization of this mass of data, and the expression of it in warmly lucid prose was done by Luning B. Ira. The painstaking research into old books and periodicals to unearth the old photographs (the Pasig waterway in 1863; Escolta at different points from 1895