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Making Moros: Imperial Historicism and American Military Rule in the Philippines' Muslim South by Michael C. Hawkins

Book Notes

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both fronts and includes other important actors, such as nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and even other nation-states like Japan, which has given assistance to the peace-building process. Other important issues that are raised in the book are the integration of combatants, promotion of human rights, and even debates within the ranks of the government or among the insurgent groups themselves.

MICHAEL C. HAWKINS

Making Moros: Imperial Historicism and American Military Rule in the Philippines' Muslim South

DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2012. 185 pages.

Michael C. Hawkins, who is assistant professor of Asian history at Creighton University in Nebraska, probes the connections between US colonialism and the image of the Moro in *Making Moros: Imperial Historicism and American Military Rule in the Philippines' Muslim South*. Hawkins tackles the Americans' perceptions of the Moro as well as the Moro warrior's self-perception and argues that simplistic ideas about race are inadequate in explaining American perceptions of the Moro during this period; the then burgeoning discipline of ethnology and American colonial engineering were highly influential in this regard, contingent as they were on developing notions of time, history, and evolution. However, Hawkins also looks at the other side of the colonial divide by pointing to the high degree of collaboration between Moros and the American colonial state, a process that contributed to the development of a modern Moro subjectivity. The book has four chapters, aside from the introduction and the conclusion. Chapter 1 analyzes the processes involved in categorizing Filipino Muslims using modern "scientific" tools in the social sciences, especially ethnology. The second chapter looks at the different aspects of Moro culture, such as its rich Islamic heritage in the arts and literature, which posed problems for the American colonial project, especially in its attempt to depict Moros as uncivilized. The issue of slavery among the Moros forms an integral part of this section. Chapter 3 deals with the impact of capitalism. Americans believed that capitalism could hasten the process of civilizing Moros through their participation in profitable business endeavors. The impact

of capitalism was intense, and for many Americans the result was not all positive, leading them to experience colonial guilt. This colonial guilt vis-à-vis the project of modernity is the theme of chapter 4. The book ends with an epilogue entitled “The American Military Period in Historical Memory,” which talks about the author’s personal reflections about the impact of American colonialism on the identity politics in the country, in terms of the dichotomy that separates Moros from “real Filipinos” (140).

FERDINAND C. LLANES, ED.

Tibak Rising: Activism in the Days of Martial Law

Pasig City: Anvil, 2012. 240 pages.

The word *tibak* is a slang term taken from the syllables of *aktibista* (activist) that became popular among the youth during the martial law period of the 1970s and early 1980s. Ferdinand C. Llanes’s edited collection of short essays is an anthology of different *tibak* stories from the *tibak* themselves or people who were close to them. In his introduction, Llanes describes the book as an articulation of the “memory of a generation,” most especially college and university students in the University of the Philippines (UP) in Diliman and the university belt in Manila who became radicalized by Pres. Ferdinand Marcos’s authoritarian regime and its repressive response to youth-led demonstrations as seen in the First Quarter Storm and the establishment of the Diliman Commune. The book features more than forty essays that are divided into important themes evoking collective memories of picket lines, being imprisoned, and lasting friendships. Most of the essays are reminiscences of how one became an activist, such as Judy Taguiwalo’s “Babaeng ‘Makibaka’ sa Likod ng Rehas.” Others are anecdotes of specific episodes, such as Behn Cervantes’s “Lino Brocka and the 1985 Arrest.” The emergence of the anti-Marcos underground movement led by the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its popularity among the youth activists are prominent themes, if not the thread that holds all the pieces together. Nonetheless, the book also features essays about controversies and conflict within the underground movement, as exemplified by Joel Saracho’s “Si Beck, Batang I-T,” which recounts a dark episode in the history of the communist struggle, the anti-infiltration campaigns.