Philippine Studies, Chinese Studies and Chinese in the Philippines Studies: Synergy and Synchronicity

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By Teresita Ang See 洪玉華

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Founding President, Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran Inc. (菲律濱華裔青年聯合會)
Philippine Association for Chinese Studies (中華研究學會)
International Society for the Study of Chinese Overseas (世界海外華人研究學會)



International Conference on The State of Scholarship on the Chinese in the Philippines: Problems, Perspectives, and Possibilities

Miriam College, Quezon City PH 10-11 January 2020

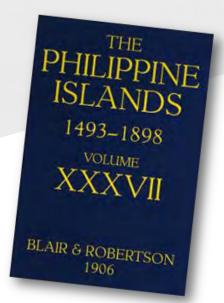




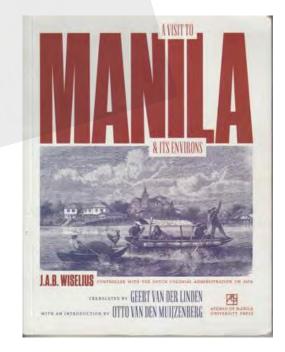
Conclusion

Research materials and studies in general on the ethnic Chinese or the present-day Chinese Filipinos are important part of Philippine Studies. They enhance understanding and provide new knowledge and enlightenment on hitherto unknown and unexplored areas in various disciplines of Philippine Studies.













Significance of Chinese Sources

 Chinese Studies and the Study of the Chinese in the Philippines inevitably leads to Philippine Studies and vice-versa

- ❖ Dong Xi Yang Kao 《東西洋考》
- ❖ Zu Fan Zhi 《諸蕃志》
- ❖ Dao I Zhi Lue 《島夷志略》
- ❖ Xun Feng Xiang Song 《順風相送》
- ❖ Selden Map 《東西洋航海圖》 1588-2008
- ❖ 《指南正法》、還有《名山藏》、 《罪惟錄》、《天下郡國利病書》
- Study of Chinese Filipinos = study of national society & vice-versa





TOPIC OUTLINE: broad categories

- 1. Philippine sources: references on the Chinese in the Philippines
- 2. Chinese sources: references on the Philippines and the Chinese in the Philippines
- 3. Studies on the Chinese in the Philippines: references on the Philippines
- 4. New narratives on Philippines-China relations
- 5. Conclusion



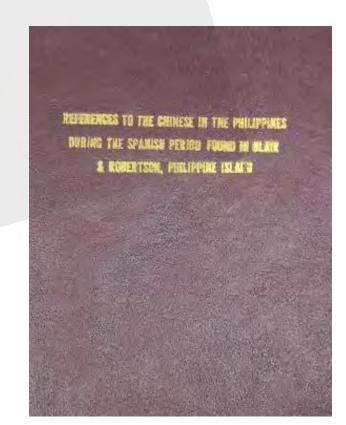
1. PHILIPPINE SOURCES References on the Chinese in the Philippines

Reference to the Chinese in the Philippines during the Spanish period found in Blair & Robertson's The Philippine Island

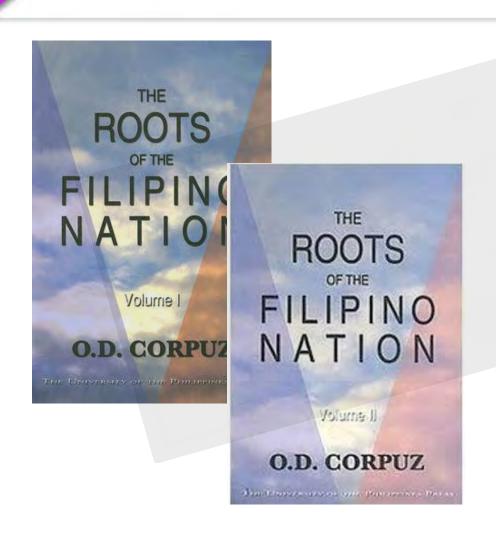
By Dr. Wu Ching Hong Index – Chinese (339)

Examples

- The original n. 22: Sangley derived from hiang (xiang) and ley, meaning a traveling merchant; appellation of Chinese traders in the Philippines.
- D.F. Navarrete's account: "Two hundred Chinese carpenters were in the Philippines; two hundred Chinese and mestizo barbers live on the Spaniards."



References on the Chinese in the Philippines



The Roots of the Filipino Nations

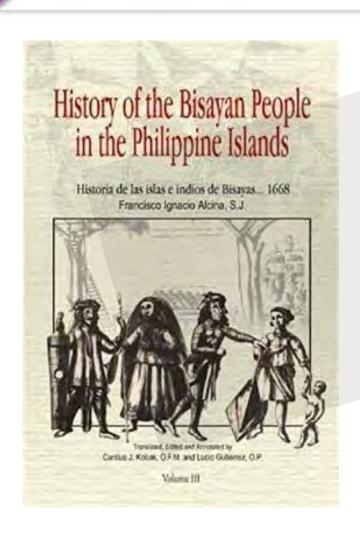
O.D. Corpus, vols. 1 & 2.

Index – Chinese (34)

Examples:

- Early documents, mention of the Chinese
- Mestizos de Sangley
- Chinese of the third class (Artisan)
- Chinese business quarter

References on the Chinese in the Philippines



History of the Bisayan People in the Philippine Islands Ignacio Francisco Alcina, SJ

vols. 1 & 2 - Index (6)

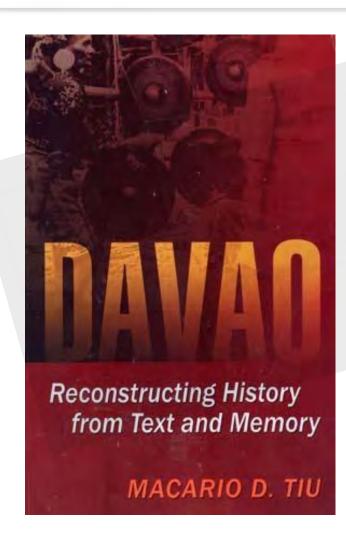
Examples: Chinos; Chinese in olden times

vol 3 - Index - Chinese (4)

Examples: sampans of the Chinese;

invasion of the Chinese

References on the Chinese in the Philippines



Davao: Reconstructing History from Text and Memory

By Macario D. Tiu

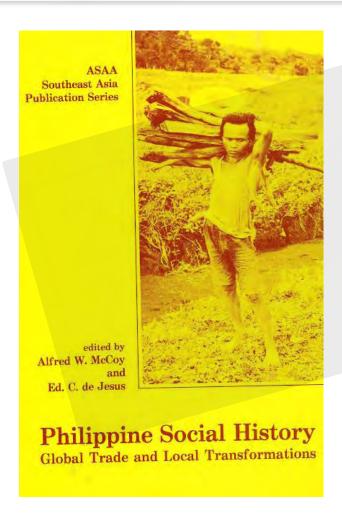
Index - Chinese (15)

Examples: Chinese – Tagalog mestizo

Mestizo Sangley

Chinese Settlers

References on the Chinese in the Philippines



Philippine Social History: Global trade and local transformation

Ed. C. De McCoy (editors) Alfred W. & Jesus

Index - Chinese (82)

Examples

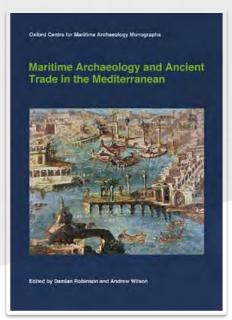
- Chinese Mestizos
- Chinese Immigration
- Expulsion of Chinese in the Philippines

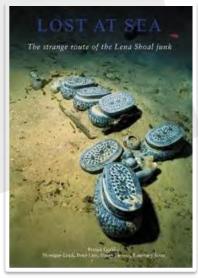
1. PHILIPPINE SOURCES References on the Chinese in the Philippines

Spanish Occupation

- Maritime trade and shipwrecks: Maritime Archaeology and Ancient Trade in the Mediterranean, Treasures of the San Diego, Pandanan, Lost at Sea: The Strange Route of the Lena Shoal Junk
- Ceramics/ artefacts found in the Philippines: Zhangzhou Ware found in the Philippines: Swatow Export Ceramics from Fujian 16th to 17th century, 2007; Chinese and Vietnamese Blue and White Wares found in the Philippines

These titles throw more light on the early trade between China and the Philippines.





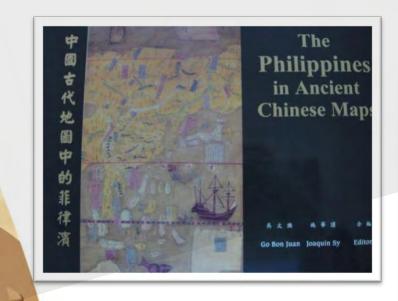


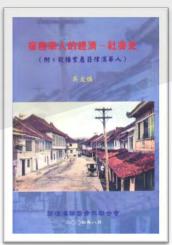
References on the Chinese in the Philippines



- Journal of History
- Manila Studies Journal
- Philippine Studies Journal,
- Asian Studies Journal
- = sources of information on the Chinese in the Philippines

References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines

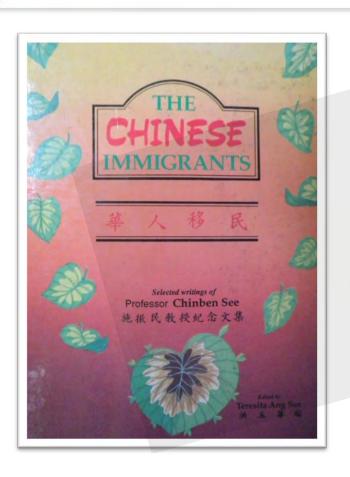




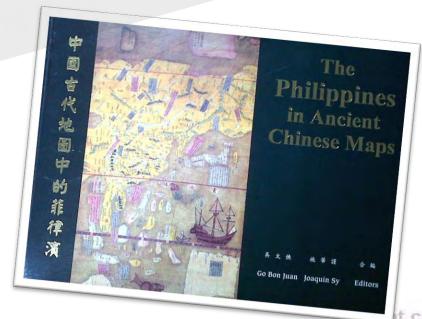




References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines



- Zhu Fan Zhi (諸蕃志 Records of Various Barbarians), Chao Ju Kua,1225.
- Dao-Yi Zhi-Lue (島夷志略 Tales of the Barbarian Isles), Wang Ta Yuan, 1345.
- Dong Xi Yang Kao (An Examination of the East-West Ocean), 1617.
- The Philippines in Ancient Chinese Maps (中國古代地圖中的菲律濱), Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran, 2000.
- "Butuan first mission to China," 1003.
- Ming Annals: "Sultan of Sulu tribute mission to Beijing," 1417.





References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines

248 of Sung Annals mentioned Ma-i (sup Mindoro) in year 982.

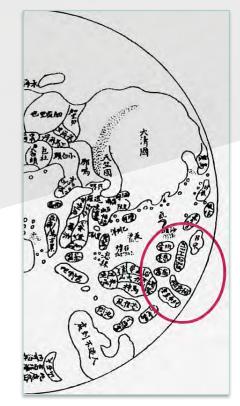
全列轉卷二百四十八中關於摩逸於太平與 三(公元九八二年)載寶貨至廣州的記載。



Ancient Chinese Records

The depth and breadth of relations between the Chinese and the early Filipinos were described in the ancient Chinese records – dynastic annals, travel accounts, customs records and maps that invariably mentioned Ma'I, Luzon, Mindanao, Pangasinan, Sulu, Mindoro, Cebu, Butuan, Maguindanao and other such bigger islands.

Complete Map of the Four Seas (四海總圖) includes Philippine islands like Luzon, Panay, Ogtong/ Oton, Cebu and others.





Vol 248 of Song Annals mentioned Ma-i (supposedly Ba'i, Laguna) people who brought valuable merchandise to Guangzhou **in year 982.**



References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines

Ancient Chinese Records that Mentioned Islands in PH

	No. of Books	Entries
Sung and Yuan Dynasties	12	40
Ming Dynasty (about Luzon, etc. (about Sulu	(20) (19)	(103) (45)
Qing Dynasty (about Luzon, etc. (about Sulu	58 (44) (14)	203 (139) (64)
Ming, Qing Dynasties (about maritime route	es) 3	3
Total No. of Books/ entries	82	394

Ming:

Sulu mentioned in ½ of entries

Qing: Sulu in 1/3 of entries



Kaisa's Chinben See
Memorial Library has
gathered other invaluable
materials significant for
serious researchers

Qing Dynasty Archives Collection Pertaining to Southeast Asian Countries, vol. II (Philippines)



References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines



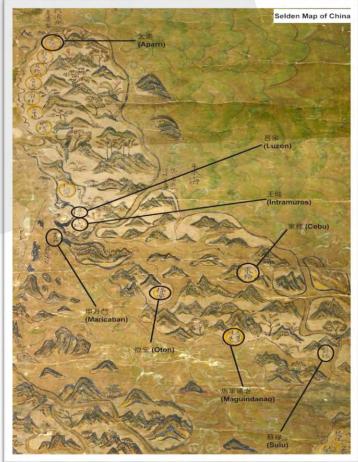
This volume of Qing archival documents pertaining to the Philippines is one of the significant output of Kaisa's research. Most documents are on the Philippines, some relate to Philippines-China relations and the Chinese community in the Philippines.



References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines

Maps, Dynastic
Records: Sources of
pre-Hispanic
Philippines-China
relations





The Philippines as represented in the Selden Map of China.



References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines

Chu Fan Chih 《諸蕃志》pp. 87-91



 All live in small islands and ply back and forth in small boats. Their costumes and food and drink are similar to those of the people of Po-ni (Borneo). It yields raw aromatics, lakawood, yellow wax, soft tortoise shells. In bartering, the Chinese traders use white porcelain, wine, rice, tea, salt, white taffeta and trade gold. [The word "all" refer to people in Sitankay, Jolo, Tausug, Bud Lima, Tandu, Bajao]



References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines

Tao I Chi Lio 《島夷志略》 p.118



The country yielded pearls, batik, cotton cloths, soft tortoise shells, various kinds of camphor, nutmegs, peppers, lakawoods, sapanwoods, yellow wax, parrots and pear-shells. The pearls of Sulu were best kind ever seen. Their shape was round, and the colour, bluish white. Some of them were as big as one inch diameter. In general, their prices were very high, Chinese used them for ornaments. Their colour never faded and so they were considered the most precious among all pearls.

Sulu in the Chinese Accounts of 1368-1618



References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines



東王母遣王叔叭都加蘇里來朝, 貢大珠一, 共重七兩有奇1421 A giant 7.8-ounce Sulu pearl (七兩), precious gift of the sultan Paduka Suli, Dumahan's uncle

- Xia Xi Yang (Voyage to the Western Ocean), a Ming drama
- Xi Yang Chao-gung dian-lu (Record of Tribute Missions from the Western Ocean), by Huang Xin-zeng (1520)



References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines

則貯甕中以葬其俗惡淫奸者論死華人與女通 **酋蓄繡女數百人**

Dynastic Annals

Vol. 323 of the Ming Annals recounts the Borneo and Sulu tribute missions to China. Vol. 325 recorded the drama of the Sultan of Sulu who died in Shandong

References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines

《清實錄》卷四七六:

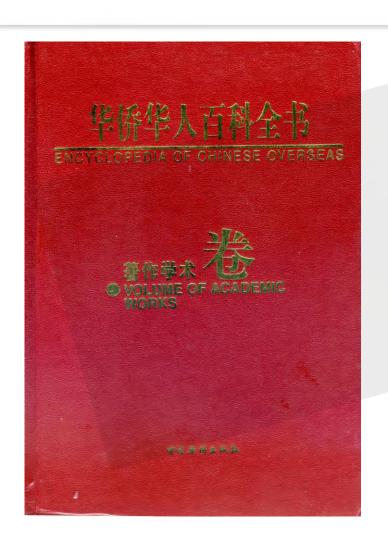
「乾隆十九年(一七五四年),甲戌。十一月,戊寅。 蘇祿國王蘇老丹縣喊味麻安柔律磷,遣官表進方物,並請入附版圖。」 據偽滿庫籍整理處編印的《國朝史料零拾》卷一,四十八一四十九 頁,蘇祿國王的這一表文全文如下:《蘇祿國王乞隸版圖表(譯意)》 蘇祿國臣蘇老丹縣喊味麻安柔律嘴為謹陳披赤翰誠仰祈睿鋻事。

切 (竊) 臣僻處海隅,遠隔神京。望聖明如日月,末由景仰,思膏澤若雨霧,實切瞻依。念臣先祖父竭厥誠於雍正四年、乾隆五年,幸邀天龍,敕許入貢,頒賜龍珍,榮及孫子。迨臣嗣位,旦夕惕勵,思繼先志,以永圖祚而貽後世。沾聖德之流馨,時深愛載;沐天思之復載,日切尊親。恪遵常典,恭敬入貢。繕修小國微芹,只充溪沼之毛;竭盡海外精誠,恐干鹵莽之愆。惟是焚香北拜,敬遣親臣萬查喇,齎奉表章國土物件,伏望鋻臣赤心,俯容不腆;更念臣以區區叢土,介於強鄰,庸才駕劣,末制頑悍。仰冀皇帝陛下大德敦化,中外咸懷保赤,鴻思遠播,夷狄盡欲子來。臣願以疆土人丁戶口編入中國圖籍,聽任指揮,庶泰山可壓丘垤,鳳凰必驚燕雀,則三寶顏、千絲仔等聞風遠避,臣得衽席攸安,仰德庇於化日之餘。倘蒙釣旨喜納,恭候綸音天降,臣來年編籍晉土,即為中國黎元。伏懇矜臣部落荒陬,實表遠人之慕化,委質事君,竊比葵藿之傾心。乞施懷柔至意,不勝受恩感激。臣誠惶誠恐頓首稽首,謹拜表以聞。伏乞睿鋻施行,臣不勝待命之至。

乾隆十八年七月 蘇祿國臣蘇老丹嘛喊味麻安柔律嘴 跪奏

A copy of Qing Emperor Qian Long's reply letter (top) to Sulu Sultan Mohammed Alimuddin request (left).

References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines



Encyclopedia on Chinese Overseas ed. Zhou Nanjing, et.al

- Zhou Nanjing and others, all of them returned overseas Chinese from Southeast Asia, completed the 12-volume Encyclopedia of Overseas Chinese published by Peking University, through the assistance of Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran.
- Kaisa provided the data on the Chinese in the Philippines,
 Kaisa also sourced the entire funding of the project from Chinese-Filipino philanthropist Angelo King.



References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines



Provincial Gazettes: Chaozhou Zhi (潮州志) provincial gazette of Chaozhou)

Who was Limahong (林鳳)?

- an "invader" intent at conquest?
- a pirate, an adventurist, an outlaw?
- a "rebel pirate" who dared defy the Ming Dynasty emperors and escape the dragnets of the provincial prefects of both Guangdong and Fujian?
- A folk hero seeking refuge in the Philippines?



References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines

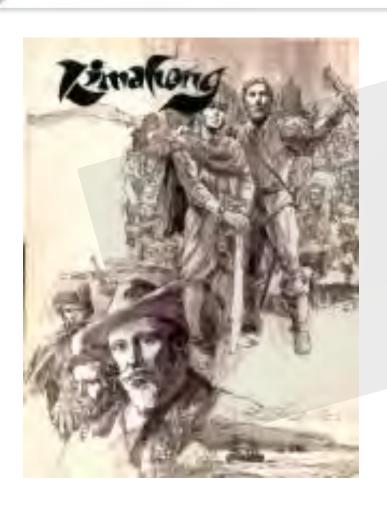
Outlawed by the Chinese emperor, Limahong sailed to the Philippines with 62 junks, bringing with him not just his men but also women, children, plants and domestic animals, as well as other treasures like exotic furniture, fine porcelain like dinner wares and expensive jewelry.



- He had 3,000 well organized men.
- He had cannons.
- Manila was unprepared and was caught by surprise.



References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines



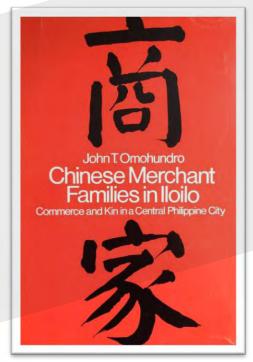
- If Limahong was bent at wresting control from the Spaniards, would he have allowed only Sioco and his 400 men to enter the city when he had 4,000 soldiers in all?
- With Salcedo in Vigan and Manila lightly defended, Limahong could also have Bombarded Intramuros and lay it to waste.

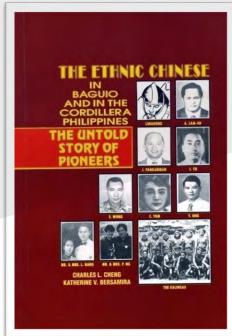
Limahong refused to use his superior fire power. His men were well trained, but he retreated. Could it be because **he did**

not want to destroy Manila or quarrel with the Spaniards, but he wanted the Spaniards to give him and his men **refuge?**

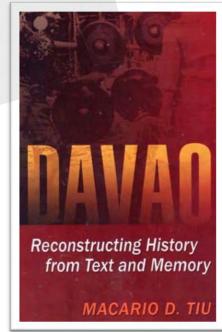
3. STUDIES ON THE CHINESE IN THE PHILIPPINES: References on

the Philippines

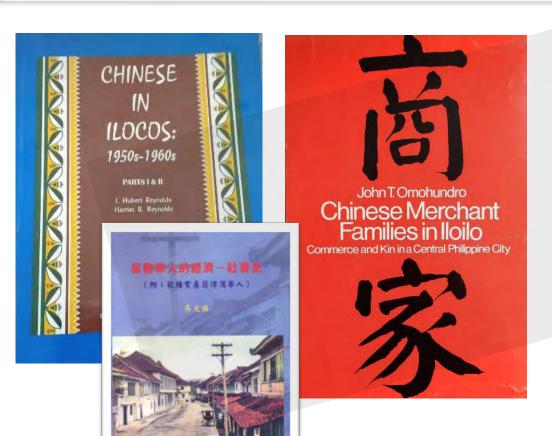








References on the Philippines & Chinese in the Philippines

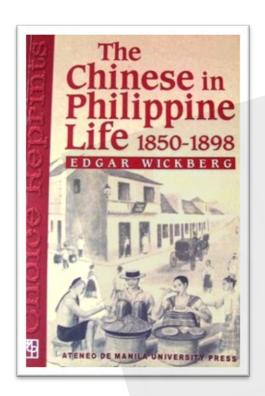


- Study of Chinese Filipinos/Chinese in the Philippines = study of national society
 - Chinese in the Philippines: A Bibliography
 - The Ethnic Chinese in the Philippines Bibliographic Essay
- Chinese in Ilocos, Chinese in Mindanao,
 Chinese in Manila, Cebu, Iloilo, Negros
 - glimpses of Philippine society

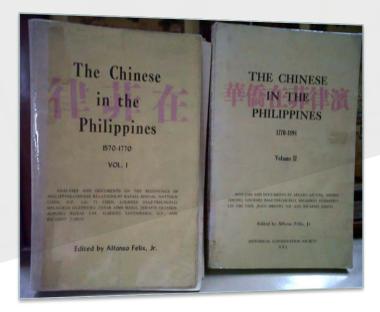


3. STUDIES ON THE CHINESE IN THE PHILIPPINES:

References on the Philippines



Best references on early Spanish occupation of the Philippines:



- Chen Ching-ho's 16th century Chinese in the Philippines
- Alfonso Felix Jr. 's *The Chinese in the Philippines*, 1570-1770
- Edgar Wickberg's The Chinese in Philippine Life
- Wu Ching Hong' Reference to the Chinese in the Philippines during the Spanish period found in Blair & Robertson, Philippine Island
- Wang Te-Ming's *Sino-Filipino historico-cultural relations*



References on the Philippines

Regalado Trota Jose's 25-page article on materials on the Chinese in the Philippines at the UST archives is a rich source of information on early Chinese in the Spanish occupation.



Regalado Trota-Jose shows the Vocabulario de la Lengua Chio Chiu (A Lexicon of the Changzhou Language), a 17th-century dictionary, which was discovered by Fabio Yu-Chung Lee, a professor from National Tsing-Hua University (NTHU) in Taiwan and José Luis Caño Ortigosa, a professor from Universidad de Sevilla in Spain, during their research at the UST Archives.



3. STUDIES ON THE CHINESE IN THE PHILIPPINES:

References on the Philippines

Spanish Occupation

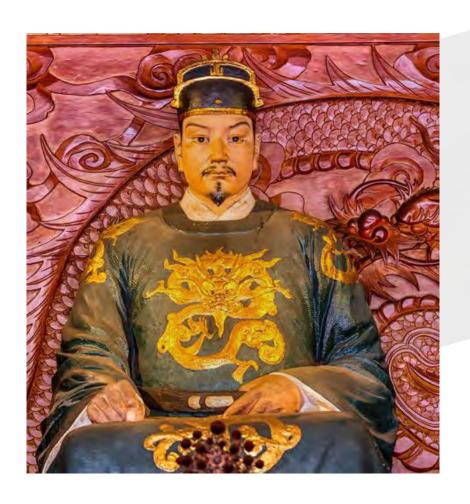


Documentary sources on the study of ethnic Chinese

- ➤ Joint research project between the Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica of Taiwan and Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran and the National Historical Institute in the Philippines from 1992 to 1994.
- Microfilm of national archives materials on the Chinese
- Database of tombstones from Aparri to Jolo
- Data from revolutionary records pertaining to Chinese in Philippine Revolution
- Decisions of Department of Justice and Supreme Court pertaining to Chinese in Philippines



References on the Philippines



China, Spain and the Philippines – KOXINGA (郑成功)

- Philippine history could have been completely different had Koxinga succeeded in attacking the Spaniards.
- **Zheng Chenggong (Koxinga)** strength & wealth highly dependent on Chinese merchants. He gave importance to the protection of overseas merchants and their interests.



References on the Philippines



- Koxinga's reason for conquering Taiwan from the Dutch was because of the Dutch abusing the natives, confiscating their merchant vessels.
 They were no better than pirate thieves.
- His envoy, Liseng, represented Koxinga to go to Manila.
 - He personally experienced the massacre of the Chinese. He mentioned a merchant ship captain who cried telling Koxinga about the massacre of Manila Chinese.



3. STUDIES ON THE CHINESE IN THE PHILIPPINES:

References on the Philippines



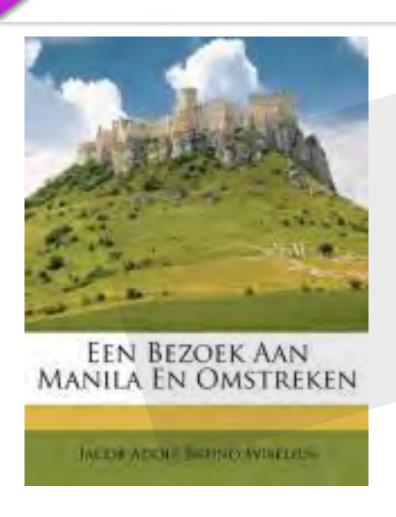
- Koxinga was so enraged and immediately asked soldiers to prepare for war and attack Manila.
- However, he got sick and died at age 39.

Koxinga's threat and rumors of his threat to attack Manila as a reprisal for Spanish massacre led to the third massacre of the Chinese...



3. STUDIES ON THE CHINESE IN THE PHILIPPINES:

References on the Philippines



Een bezoek aan Manila en omstreken Jacob Adolf Bruno Wiselius, 1876

 A Visit to Manila and Its Environs, English translation of Dutch book Een bezoek aan Manila en omstreken, published by Ateneo de Manila University Press in 2016:

"Accounts from non-Spanish sources that focus on the way the Philippines was ruled in the final decades of the Spanish colonial era are rare. This travelogue is a valuable addition to our knowledge of that period."

Wiselius' travelogue has a whole section on the Chinese despite the fact that it was a rather thin book of less than 100 pages.

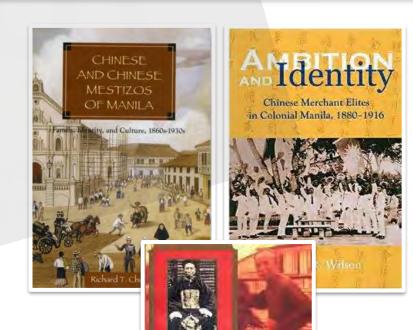
Despite the continuous migration of Chinese men to Manila, there are very few Chinese women = marriages with Chinese mestizos and native women.



References on the Philippines

Modern and Contemporary Studies

- American Occupation
 - Andrew Wilson's Ambition and Identity (1998) on China and the Chinese in the colonial Philippines
 - Richard Chu's *Chinese mestizos and Chinese Merchants of Binondo* (2003, 2010, 2012)
 - Wong Kwok Chu's *The Chinese in the Philippine Economy, 1898-1941* (1999)





References on the Philippines

Modern/Contemporary Studies

> Biographies

- Washington Sycip
- Alfonso Yuchengco
- John Gokongwei
- · Lucio Tan
- Henry Sy
- Ongpin Family
- · Cojuangco Family: *Tide of Time*
- · Lichauco *Under the Banyan Tree*
- · Who's Who in the Tsinoy community



by Jose Y. Dalisay, Jr.

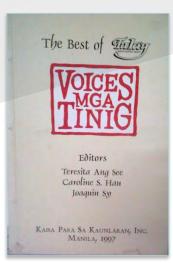


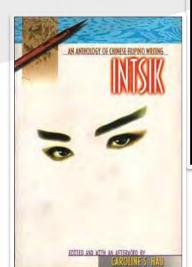
References on the Philippines

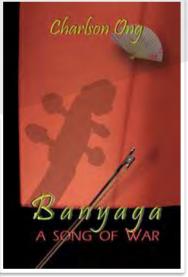
Modern/Contemporary Studies

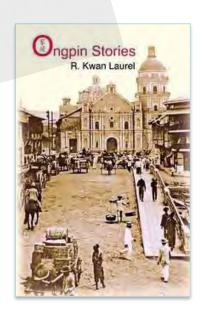
Literature: novels, essays, short stories, poetry, translations

- CharlsonOng
- Caroline Hau
- Robby Kwan Laurel
- Shirley Lua
- Joaquin Sy











References on the Philippines

Tulay Fortnightly (桥). The masthead of Tulay, a fortnighly Chinese-Filipino digest, bears the following words: "A bridge of understanding between two cultures; a bridge of tolerance between two ages."

Integration (融合) is the Chinese-language counterpart of Tulay. It is a weekly supplement published in the Chinese-language daily, World News.





4. NEW NARRATIVES on the Philippines and Philippines-**China Relations** Philippine Studies from Chinese sources and Chinese-Filipino narratives

- - Aside from Marco Polo's accounts, a great part of European knowledge about the great China Empire came from Philippine sources, e.g. Padre Rada, Mendoza's accounts
- New research and findings on various topics on the Chinese Filipinos and PH-CN relations.
- Pre-Hispanic Philippines mostly from documents in Blair and Robertson, but more can be harvested from Chinese sources as well as studies on ethnic Chinese communities in all parts of the Philippines.



"The Chinese take to their great and true wealth not gold nor silver, nor silk, but books, wisdoms, virtues and just government."

- Father Miguel de Benavidez 1595





Western industrialization = direct consequence of maritime trade expansion. Without this maritime trade: no rapid change in Europe; no western colonial advantage that happened; no contractual relationship between western colonization and maritime trade that started out of Fujian. In short, one reason for colonization of the Philippines triggered by China maritime trade, spices, silk...



The Philippines in China's Maritime Trade: Impact on the West

"The Castilian fascination with China, the Cathay of Marco Polo that sparked Columbus's imagination, played the propulsive role in pushing the borders of the Spanish empire to the western end of the Pacific, which the Spanish reached by the 1570s."





- Spain got its great idea of being an imperial power from Fujian vis-a-vis the Chinese traders in Luzon.
- When Spain arrived in Luzon, they found out that it is an important base for Fujian merchants to conduct their trade.
 - "Chinese merchants bring silk and brocade..."





It is China, not the Philippines per se, that Spain wants.

Legaspi wrote to his Spanish King:

"If you want the source of the spices in Moluccas, then Cebu can be an important base and if His Excellency minds the China trade, then we have to choose Luzon as our base."



Route of the Spanish expeditions in the Philippines.



Juan Gonzales de Mendoza's (1545-1618) *History of the Chinese Empire* published in 1585 used as resource materials the works of Domingo de Salazar and reports on the *sangleys*; books brought by Padre Martin de Rada to Manila to complete his work.



"History of the Great Kingdom of China" Fray Juan González de Mendoza (1585) Rome

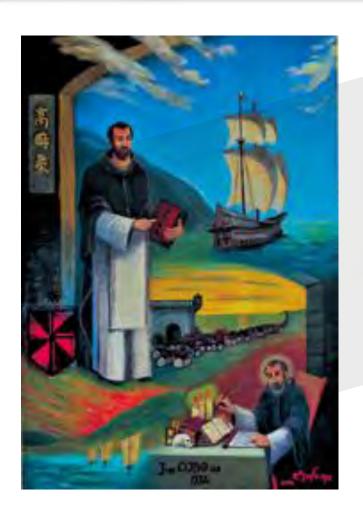
Philippines: Source of European Knowledge about China

Next to Marco Polo's reports, Mendoza's is the most important work about China introduced to the west. Translated into Latin, Italian, English, French, German, Portuguese, Dutch = an unprecedented 46 editions.



Martin de Rada, OSA, a pioneer at Panay, and his voyage to China.

- Padre Martin de Rada visited Fujian 1574, to seek trade, evangelize, and proselytize. He wrote a journal about his experience and published it as Rada's visit/mission to Fujian.
- Rada brought a lot of books from Fujian -- classics, dictionaries, geography -- back to the Philippines.
 - Books were translated to Spanish; Rada used them as materials for his mission to Fujian.
- These books were brought to Intramuros and translated to Spanish by long-term Fujianese residents there. These would be the materials also used by Mendoza in his own works.



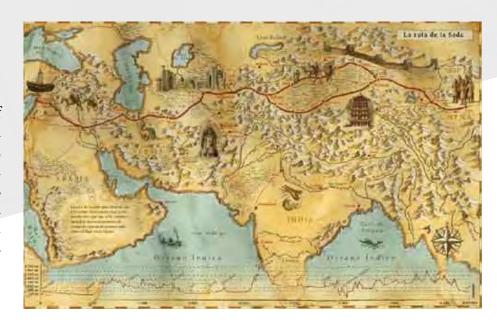
In spite of humble social background, many Manila Chinese were literate. Father Cobo observed that, although they were "the scum of the earth, in a thousand, there will be 10 who do not know quite a lot of characters, while in the villages of workers in Castile, out of a thousand, there are hardly 10 who know letters."

• Cobo also described Chinese booksellers and bookbinders in Manila, he used a number of books in the Parian for his Chinese language studies: dramas (featuring romantic and historical topics), historical digests, route books for merchants, geographical gazeteers, descriptions of foreign countries and *flores doctorum* (collections of moral sayings).



The silk and silver route tied China to Mexico and to the rest of the world through Manila – Philippines connected China's maritime silk road to Europe – crucial to ancient OBOR.

The Silk Road was a network of trade routes between Asia and Europe that stretched from Xi'an, China, Antioch in Syria and Constantinople (now Istanbul, Turkey), to the gates of Europe and reaching the Spanish kingdoms in the fifteenth century.





V?a de la Plata map. The Silver route. Camino De Santiago or The Way of St.James in Spain. Ancient pilgrimage path from south of Spain to the Santiago de Compostella.



The relation between the Chinese empire and Mexico through the galleon trade that sailed the Pacific.

Going out of Yue Gang of Zhangzhou, the route passed by Manila, traverse the Pacific to Mexico.



A map by Father Mariano Cuevas shows the routes from Acapulco to Manila.



Time spent in the Manila Chinese parishes gave Dominicans first-hand experience of Chinese customs and attitudes to life and religion, as well as working knowledge of the Minnanese dialects. More important, it gave them access to network of people and commerce between Manila and Fujian.



Evangelization and the spread of Christianity played a critical role in the Spanish colonization of the Philippines -- a fact related to China.



Christianity: The Philippines and China

Bishop Domingo Salazar suggested to King Philip: "What a glory to God it would be if we could convert a million barbarian souls in Cathay."



Bishop Domingo de Salazar

Unable to discover spices and gold in the islands, Spanish authorities considered abandoning the colony; not interested in 7100 islands.

But the priests' persuasion that the Philippines could be used as a stepping stone to propagate Christianity in China convinced the King to maintain the colony.



Portrait of Philip II of Spain 1527-1598



Philippines played a great role converting Chinese souls in China.

- First Bishop of China, Luo Wenzao (羅文藻 1615-1691), or Gregorio Lopez, was ordained as a priest in Manila and a product of the oldest university in Asia, the University of Santo Tomas.
 - He was not only the first bishop in China, but the only bishop until early 20th C.
 - In August 1649, he traveled to Xiamen to bring to Fu'an a new group of Dominicans who arrived from Manila, including Francisco Varo, who compiled the **Chinese-Spanish** dictionary.

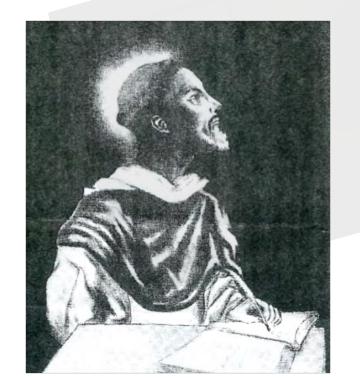




- In the spring of 1652, **Luo Wenzao** returned to Manila for the third time to continue his theological studies at UST.
- On July 4, 1654, he was ordained by the Archbishop of Manila, Miguel de Poblete, and was assigned to China.
- His life was an enlightening story of persecution, sacrifice and suffering which reflected the success of efforts at evangelization when Chinese-Christian converts hid and protected him at extreme danger to their own lives.
- His story shows how closely linked China and the Philippines were in the spread of Christianity.
- He died in Nanjing on Feb. 27, 1691.



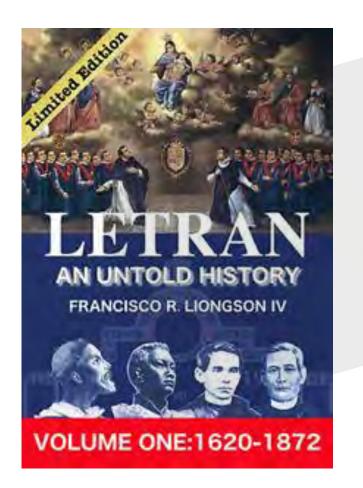
In March [1754], a cruel persecution started against the Catholic religion in Fozan. Fr. Juan Feng Shiming was imprisoned and sent to perpetual exile in the province of Jiangxi (江西).



Story of Martyrdom

- Fr. Juan Feng Shiming left with an iron chain around his neck, handcuffs and shackles on his feet, escorted by two soldiers and three Christians who wished to accompany him.
- He appeared before 36 tribunes, in chains and shackles, suffering from hunger, thirst and vagaries of extreme weather changes throughout the great distance, without any rest or sleep.
- He arrived in June 1755 at his cramped cell.





- The untold difficulties and sufferings did not, however, break
 his apostolic dedication. Loyal witnesses who accompanied
 him were touched by his robust display of joy and
 contentment declaring his willingness to suffer in the home of
 Jesus Christ.
- With his eyes transfixed on a rustic crucifix hanging on his prison cell wall, Juan Feng Shiming succumbed on July 1, 1755 to an acute fever exacerbated by fatigue and the debilitating physical stress of the long journey.

Hitherto untold history of Letran, untold story of Catholic history in China, as well as its close relation with the Philippines.









Chinben See Memorial Library's latest acquisition:

30,000 ++ pages of materials on the Philippines ca. 1901-1948 – all in Chinese – from Peking University







Preview of information mined

Most of them were not used previously, not cited by others.

- 1934 inaugural issue of Huaqiao Monthly (Hwa Chiao Jueh Kan) published by The Oversea Chinese Association in Bandoeng, Java
- 1948 The Chinese Week(ly) of British Guiana

New valuable information about the ethnic Chinese, hitherto never revealed.

- Opium addiction and how a task force was formed to address the problem. The list included the ages and occupation of the addicts.
- Some of the occupations were not previously known to be held by the Chinese.
- 1933 fortnightly inaugural issue of Huaqiao Journal has detailed information on how the Nanyang Chinese, Malaysia, Singapore, etc. were helping in China's war efforts.

Conclusion

Research materials and studies or literature in general on the ethnic Chinese or the present-day Chinese Filipinos are important part of Philippine Studies. They enhance understanding and provide new knowledge and enlightenment on hitherto unknown and unexplored areas in various disciplines of Philippine Studies.



