

THE ETHNIC CHINESE AS FILIPINOS Part III

EDITED BY
TERESITA ANG SEE

The Ethnic Chinese as Filipinos: Part III

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Philippine Association for Chinese Studies
c/o Ateneo de Manila University
Chinese Studies Program
Katipunan Avenue, Loyola Heights
Quezon City 1108
Philippines
Telephone Nos.: (632) 426-6001 locals 5380 & 5381
Fax No.: (632) 426-6076
E-mail: ritch@pusit.admu.edu.ph

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Teresita Ang See
Editor
Manila, 1999

INTRODUCTION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This national conference is the third of its kind organized by the Philippine Association for Chinese Studies (PACS) in cooperation with other institutions. The first one was held jointly with the De La Salle University in Manila in 1990 and the papers from the conference were published as the Volume 2 of the PACS *Chinese Studies Journal*. The second conference in 1995 was in cooperation with *World News Publications* and the Asian Center of the University of the Philippines. The proceedings were published in 1997 as Volume 7 of the PACS *Journal*. The third conference was organized jointly with the Chinese Studies Program of University of St. La Salle in Bacolod, with Metrobank Foundation as principal sponsor.

We hope that this latest volume of studies will help in better understanding the complexity and diversity of the ethnic Chinese community in the Philippines. Most importantly, we hope that through studies like this, people will realize that Philippine history and society have made their significant impact on the ethnic Chinese community, enough to transform the *sangleys* (early Chinese immigrants) into *Tsinoy*s or *Tsinong Pinoy* — Filipinos of Chinese origin.

This book would not have been possible without the authors who researched and revised their papers in time for publication and the Metrobank Foundation for subsidizing the publication's printing cost.

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Our heartfelt thanks also to *World News* Publications and Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran, which helped underwrite some of the conference expenses. Several groups in Bacolod extended their invaluable assistance to make the conference a success — Negros Kaisa, Buddhist Light International Association-Bacolod Chapter, Negros Occidental Filipino-Chinese Amity Club, Inc., and Bacolod Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc.

To all our benefactors, our sincerest gratitude for supporting the conference and this publication. It will certainly be another invaluable contribution to scholarship on the ethnic Chinese community in the Philippines.

Teresita Ang See
Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran, Inc.

The ethnic Chinese as Filipinos – A summing up
**THE CHINESE IN LOCAL SOCIETIES:
IMPACT AND INFLUENCE**

In more ways than one, the ethnic Chinese all over the country have helped shape the community to which they belong. Undeniably, their economic role remains the most visible. But they have also served effectively as "cultural brokers," bringing with them the complexity of their civilization to simpler societies. In bustling cities, they are credited with having played a big role in the renaissance of culture and education. And in recent years; their spirit of volunteerism has gained renown.

For two days, the manifold facets of the Chinese in Mindanao, Visayas, Luzon and Metro Manila came under scrutiny in "The Ethnic Chinese as Filipinos," a conference held on November 27-28, 1997 at the University of St. La Salle in Bacolod City.

The View from Mindanao

The history of the Chinese settlement in Mindanao dates as far back as the 13th century when the traders established a "Chinatown" in Jolo even before it was Islamized, said Federico Magdalena of Mindanao State University.

It was, in fact, Chinese trade that stimulated the Sulu sultanate.

Discoveries in Butuan of Chinese junks and an extensive collection of Chinese artifacts are evidence of this flourishing trade, Magdalena said.

Fortunately for the Chinese, Islam is not anti-Chinese as it emphasizes broth-