

THE
ETHNIC CHINESE
AS
FILIPINOS
(PART II)

Proceedings of the
national conference on
“The Ethnic Chinese
as Filipinos”

Edited by
Teresita Ang See

CHINESE STUDIES JOURNAL
PUBLISHED BY THE
PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION FOR CHINESE STUDIES (PACS)
VOL 7 1997

Papers presented in a conference organized by PACS in cooperation with the *World News* and the Asian Center University of the Philippines (UP) on “The Ethnic Chinese as Filipinos,” November 10-11, 1995 at the Claro M. Recto Conference Hall of the College of Arts and Letters of UP, Diliman, Quezon City.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1 INTRODUCTION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT
Teresita Ang See
- 3 OPENING REMARKS
Roger Posadas
- 6 HISTORY OF THE BAGUIO CHINESE: INTEGRATION INTO THE
BAGUIO COMMUNITY
Anavic Bagamaspad
- 16 THE DAGUPAN CHINESE
Benito Lim
- 37 THE URBANIZATION OF MALOLOS, BUŁACAN 1762-1872
Jaime B. Veneracion
- 54 CHINESE MESTIZOS AND THE ETHNIC CHINESE IN CAVITE
DURING THE PHILIPPINE REVOLUTION 1896-1902
Isagani R. Medina
- 67 THE ETHNIC CHINESE IN PARACALE 1571-1995
Pio Andrade Jr.
- 73 THE STATUS OF THE CHINESE FILIPINOS IN THE 1950s,
CEBU: AN ANALYSIS OF ARTICLES IN TWO LOCAL NEWSPAPERS
Gyo Miyahara
- 91 THE CHINESE ROLE IN ILONGGO POLITICS
Ephraim C. Areño
- 103 THE LEADING CHINESE-FILIPINO BUSINESS FAMILIES IN
THE POST-MARCOS ERA: A SOCIO-POLITICAL PROFILE
Temario C. Rivera
- 111 THE CHINESE FILIPINOS AS MANILANS
Teresita Ang See
- 122 THE HUA QUIAO'S LONG ROAD TO BEING FILIPINO:
CONFERENCE SYNTHESIS
Evelyn Cullamar and Teresita Ang See

THE ETHNIC CHINESE AS FILIPINOS An Introduction

For the non-Chinese, the ethnic Chinese community in the Philippines appears homogeneous. This is nowhere near the truth. The country's different regions, with their unique history, environment and culture, have given rise to different groups of Chinese at different periods, albeit with a unifying bond—that of their being Filipinos of Chinese origins. The complexity and diversity of the study of ethnic Chinese are highlighted in the ten papers compiled in this book.

Presented in the National Conference on “The Ethnic Chinese as Filipinos” organized by the Philippine Association for Chinese Studies (PACS) on November 10-11, 1995 at the College of Arts and Letters of the University of the Philippines, Diliman, the papers examine the ethnic Chinese in Metro Manila, Luzon and the Visayas. Two papers on Mindanao (Jolo and Tawi-Tawi) were presented at the conference, but the final copies were, unfortunately, not submitted for publication.

The 1995 conference was the second one convened by the PACS on the ethnic Chinese in the provinces and local communities, after a successful roundtable discussion held in 1990, which produced papers on the Chinese in Bicol, Negros and Siasi, aside from papers on Chinese associations and the images of the Chinese Filipinos. These papers were published as volume 2 of the PACS' *Chinese Studies Journal*.

Vice Chancellor Roger Posadas of the University of the Philippines set the tone for the 1995 conference by highlighting the cultural pluralism in Philippine society and the important role the Chinese Filipinos have

played in nationhood. One conclusion clearly emerged from the well-researched papers and the lively and sometimes heated discussions that ensued: The Chinese Filipinos are no longer marginalized like their immigrant ancestors. They (particularly those who live outside Metro Manila) have been well integrated into Philippine society. It is safe to say that the ethnic Chinese in the Philippines are no longer *hua qiaos* or sojourners. It is likewise inappropriate to use the China-centric terms "overseas Chinese" or "Chinese overseas" to refer to them. They are Filipinos, foremost of all, albeit of Chinese origins. While there may still be pockets of stubborn China-oriented or Chinese community-centered Chinese, the greater number—and the more dynamic—are those committed and loyal to the national life of the country of their birth.

Acknowledgment

Commendation goes to the PACS for convening a number of forums like the 1995 conference. Since its inception, it has held 14 conferences where knowledge and experiences are shared and where interested people learn from one another to enhance their awareness and understanding of China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and of the Chinese communities in the Philippines and elsewhere. *World News*, through its publisher Atty. Florencio Mallare, has given invaluable assistance to the PACS. We also thank the University of the Philippines Asian Center, through its dean, Professor Aurora Roxas-Lim, for hosting this particular conference.

This book would not have been possible without the authors who researched and revised their papers in time for publication. We hope that this volume would encourage others to explore further the *Tsinoy's* experiences, particularly outside Metro Manila.

The staff of Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran, particularly Gemma Ubay and Lisa Alcaide, and member Geronimo Sy worked painstakingly in the typing, proofreading and layout of the manuscript. We also give our heartfelt thanks to Kaisa for subsidizing part of the expenses in the production of the book.

TERESITA ANG SEE
PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION FOR CHINESE STUDIES
OCTOBER 1997

OPENING REMARKS

Chancellor Roger Posadas

I am glad that the two day Conference on "The Ethnic Chinese as Filipinos" is being held at the University of the Philippines. This is a very important topic to examine at the time when the Philippine Republic is celebrating its centennial from 1996 to 1998. We, at the University of the Philippines, consider the centennial year as the occasion for reassessing our revolutionary experience and reexamining the subsequent course of our historical development as a people. You will recall that central to the range of grievances which triggered the Philippine revolution of 1896 was the assertion of our Asian identity, our common cause with our Asian brothers and sisters for our dignity and freedom from foreign oppression and domination. Many of our leaders identified with the intellectual ferment of Asian nationalism in the late nineteenth century. And among those who influenced our leaders were the modernizers of China, foremost of whom was Dr. Sun Yat Sen. Part of our centennial celebration therefore is reclaiming our Asian heritage and creating deeper awareness among our people that the 21st century is the Asian century.

Predictions state that it will be a century when Asians will be prosperous. I hope that it will also be the century when Asians have full mastery of modern science and technology utilized for the benefit of Asian peoples possessing distinctive and unique cultural and national characteristics. We

are already witnessing this astonishing development in Japan, Korea and China. Many countries of our Asian region are surging forward, and India will soon loom ahead.

I believe that the direction of our national development will follow this trend—economic prosperity with the rich complexity of Asian identity and heritage even as we modernize our industries and institutions. In this effort, we need to rethink our social paradigms and models which in turn require that we reassess how we analyze our societies. We are also discarding the view that cultural and ethnic homogeneity is essential precondition to economic and social development. The new thinking, on the contrary, rejoices at diversity of ethnic and cultural groups. Ethnic diversity and cultural pluralism have worked well in Asian history. Asian empires were comfortable in dealing with diverse peoples and cultures whether it was Han or Tang China, Mauryan and Gupta India, the Sassanids of Persia, or the Umayyads and Fatimids of West Asia. In their thinking, ethnic diversity and cultural pluralism provided the social milieu conducive to social experimentation, to technical inventions, creating dynamic economies, and thus enriching cultural life. We should also be more creative in using advances of science and technology not as standards perfected in the West, but as tools to serve essential human needs and the requirements of a sustainable environment.

The theme of this conference, “The Ethnic Chinese as Filipinos,” is most appropriate to the national effort of defining the directions of our development in the centennial of the Philippine Revolution. I hope that the papers of this Conference will provide essential information on the role, status and changes in the lives of our citizens who happen to be of Chinese descent. I also hope that the papers will address issues of vital concern to our nation, such as: How can we formulate a national development agenda suitable to all our diverse populations? Is ethnic and cultural identity of a specific group incompatible with social and economic equity for the majority of Filipinos? How can we enlist the support of our diverse ethnic groups, specially those of Chinese descent, who play a significant role in commerce and industry, to our national development program? What kind and level of economic prosperity is achievable and yet minimize social tensions and adverse effects on our environment?

I want to thank the Philippine Association for Chinese Studies, under the leadership of Dr. Ellen H. Palanca; the Chinese language newspaper *World News*, led by Atty. Florencio Mallare, and the Asian Center of the University of the Philippines led by Dean Aurora Roxas-Lim, for organizing this important undertaking. My best wishes for the success of this Conference.