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## **Cedulario De Manila**

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these two books, and by two subsequent articles to be published in the forthcoming series on "The Filipino Heritage", Schumacher has established himself as *the* authority on this period of Philippine history. He combines three things which are not often found together: a) meticulous accuracy of detail; b) a broad historic vision that allows him to see the unity of a vast conglomeration of facts and events. Finally, c) he writes with splendid clarity.

Beyond that, no praise can be greater.

Miguel A. Bernad

**CEDULARIO DE MANILA:** A collection of laws emanating from Spain which governed the City of Manila 1574–1832. (National Archives Publication No. D-2). Edited by Nicholas Cushner, S.J., Helen Tubangui and Domingo Abella. Manila: National Archives, 1971. 271 pages and 46 plates.

This volume contains a facsimile of the book *Cedulario de la insigne, muy noble y siempre leal ciudad de Manila, capital de estas islas Filipinas, destinado al uso de los señores regidores que componen su exmo. Ayuntamiento*. Manila: D. Jose Maria Dayot, 1836. 233, 23 p. The 233 pages contain the full text of 109 royal decrees arranged chronologically, while the 23 pages comprising the index provide abstracts of the decrees. Unfortunately, page numbers have not been provided for the rest of the book.

In addition to the Introduction and notes, the editors provide several appendices. A list of Governors-General during the Spanish Regime (1565–1898). Episcopal succession in the See of Manila (1579–1903). Color plates of the 1596 and 1826 coat-of-arms of Manila. Plates of the pre-1836 Cathedral, pre-1836 Government buildings and 1671 and 1724 maps of Manila. Finally and most importantly, 38 plates of people, the *raison d'être* of laws. Six are drawings by Nicolas de la Cruz Bagay, 29 are by Damian Domingo and three are unidentified.

The *cedulario* of 1836 reprinted here contains those laws which were of particular interest to the *Ayuntamiento* (city government) of Manila. (*Ayuntamiento* and *cabildo* are synonymous). Some decrees specify the rights of individuals that must not be violated by the *cabildo*. E.g. Court transcripts are to be given to those involved who request them (p. 12). Individuals should have their cases heard even if they cannot pay for court expenses (p. 217). Retired officials are not to be forced to render government service (p. 222). Other decrees safeguard the city government from the Governor-General and from the Audiencia. And of course, still others state the duties of citizens. To keep the city streets lighted and sanitary, the city may tax property owners one and a half *reales* annually for every *vara* of frontage (p. 214).

Much research has been done on the Audiencia, but there is no study of the Manila *cabildo*. The *actas* (minutes) of the Manila *cabildo*'s meetings for the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries are preserved in the National Archives. This *cedulario* may stimulate someone to this neglected area of Filipino life.

It may be worthwhile quoting the abstract of the second royal decree in the collection.

*Cedula de 21. de Junio de 1574. por  
la qual manda S. M. que esta Ciudad se  
titule insigne M.N. y S.L.C. de Manila.*

Apparently it is not only present day Filipinos who delight in abbreviations. *M. N.* and *S. L. C.* surely could not mean anything but *muy noble* and *siempre leal ciudad*. *Muy noble* does not appear in the text of the decree. Another interesting item is the variant *Yo el Rei* in the text for *Yo el Rey*. The latter is incorporated in the Seal of the Bureau of Records Management (National Archives) of the Philippines.

The editors provide compelling reasons for reprinting the *cedulario*. The scarcity of the printed version. The almost total absence of any other collection of laws for the Philippines. This small collection of laws provides an epitome of social and civic legislation. While there is disparity between the law and its observance, the legislation provides a touchstone for judging the basic attitudes of the lawmakers. But more important than the study of these laws, taken with the complete corpus of Philippine colonial legislation,

is the determination of if and how these laws were fulfilled and the degree of their impact on Philippine society. Spanish legislation was a key factor in the destruction or transformation of pre-hispanic Philippine society. If for no other reason it is worthy of meticulous investigation.

V. L. Badillo

**MAKABAGONG BALARILA NG WIKANG TAGALOG.** By Teodoro A. Llamzon, S.J., Fe Laura del Rosario and Marinella Sanchez. Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila University Press, 1974. xii, 133 pages. ₱14.00 paper.

This book is an effort to bring Lope K. Santos' *Balarila* up to date. *Balarila* was written in 1939, and is still the basis of textbooks on Tagalog Structure in our Philippine schools, both private and public. As the authors themselves state in the "Pambungad" (Introduction), the **MAKABAGONG BALARILA** (henceforth **MB**) builds on the work of past grammarians and attempts to modernize them. It does not demolish the results of previous efforts to describe the complexities of the National Language. In fact, the