

A PHILOSOPHICAL ANALYSIS OF PHILIPPINE POPULAR VALUES

---

A Thesis  
Presented to  
the Faculty of the Graduate School  
University of San Carlos

---

In Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirements for the Degree  
Master of Arts in Philosophy

---

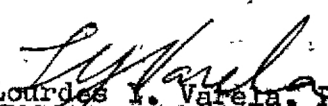
by  
Venancio Berso Ardales

October 1974


146090 c.1  
UNIVERSITY OF SAN CARLOS  
LIBRARY

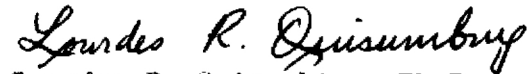
OCT 3 1974

This certifies that Venancio B. Ardales, took  
the written comprehensive examination for the degree  
of Master of Arts in Philosophy on July 31, 1974 and  
obtained this grade: Passed.

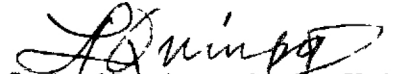
  
Lourdes I. Varela, Ph.D.  
Dean, Graduate School

The Thesis attached hereto entitled: "A PHILOSOPHICAL ANALYSIS OF PHILIPPINE POPULAR VALUES" prepared and submitted by Mr. Venancio Berso Ardalos in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Philosophy, is hereby accepted.

  
Juan C. Lamela, CM, Ph.D.  
Adviser

  
Lourdes R. Quisumbing, Ph.D.  
Censor

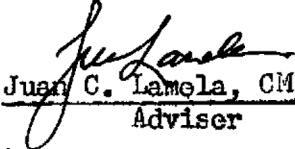
  
Gregorio Cabatingan, SVD, M.A.  
Censor

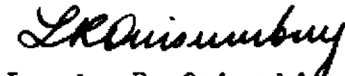
  
Ledenio A. Quinsao, M.A.  
Censor


  
Lourdes Y. Varela, Ph.D.  
Dean


APPROVAL SHEET

IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Philosophy, this thesis entitled " A PHILOSOPHICAL ANALYSIS OF PHILIPPINE POPULAR VALUES" has been prepared and submitted by Mr. Venancio Berso Ardales. The members of the committee assigned to Mr. Ardales have reviewed and accepted the thesis and hereby recommend him for the Oral Examination:

  
Juan C. Lamela, CM, Ph.D.  
Adviser

  
Lourdes R. Quisumbing, Ph.D.  
Censor

  
Gregorio Cabatingan, SVD, M.A.  
Censor


  
Ledenila A. Quimpo, M.A.  
Censor


ACCEPTED as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Philosophy.


  
Lourdes Y. Varela, Ph.D.

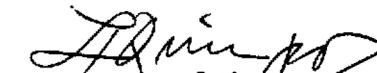
APPROVED by the Tribunal at the Oral Examination with this grade: Passed

  
Lourdes Y. Varela, Ph.D.  
Chairman

  
Juan C. Lamela, CM, Ph.D.  
Member

  
Lourdes R. Quisumbing, Ph.D.  
Member

  
Gregorio Cabatingan, SVD, M.A.  
Member

  
Ledenila A. Quimpo, M.A.  
Member

  
Carolina J. Ponce  
Representative, Bureau of Private Schools

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With profound gratitude the author wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness to a number of friends and institutions without whose invaluable assistance, insight, patience and support this thesis would not have been possible.

No one could have had a better adviser than Father Juan C. Lavela, for whom the author has only the highest regard, and whose wisdom, persistence and guidance challenged the author to do his best. He promptly returns the corrected drafts of the work in a day or two and from time to time gives me a "where's-your-next-chapter" reminder. To the censors goes also my appreciations for their contributions to the realization of this thesis.

There is Dr. Gertrudes Ang, former Dean of the Graduate School, whose humanness in her dealings with people, and whose concern for the completion of this work inspired the writer to keep on inspite of the many odds.

The author also mentions Dr. Elna S. Herradura, in-charge of the Central Philippine University Faculty Development Program, for prodding the writer in her subtle way to finish the work as early as possible. Worthy of mention is Dr. Agustin A. Pulido, CPU President, who indirectly helped facilitate the funding of the author's program.

Credit is due Dean Irene L. Ortigas and Prof. Quintin B. Franco of CPU for their encouragements, and Prof. Elora G. Jordan, also of CPU, who helped much in the editing of this work. She

belongs to that rare kind of people who are generous of their time to those who need their precious help.

To a good friend, Mr. Federico Billiones, Jr., goes the writer's deep gratitude. He had generously and cheerfully facilitated the mailing of the drafts to the adviser and back to the writer.

The writer also wishes to thank his sister, Virginia, who assumed most of the author's responsibility to their family so that he can give needed concentration to the work.

Words would never be enough to thank Miss Erlina S. Supeña who was always generous with words of comfort and encouragement when difficulties seemed insurmountable; always ready to extend a helping hand when problems seemed overwhelming.

To the many friends, too numerous to mention, goes my deep appreciation for their contributions to the realization of this work.

For financial assistance, the author gratefully acknowledges the following agencies:

Commission for the Advancement of Christian Higher  
Education in Asia (CACHEA)

Fund for Assistance to Private Education (FAPE)

Central Philippine University Faculty Development Program

Finally, my overflowing gratitude to the Transcendent for His infinite wisdom, love, and courage, without which the finite writer will not be what he is nor could have accomplished a herculean task such as this.

Venancio B. Ardales

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS . . . . .	iv
CHAPTER	
I. THE FILIPINO SOCIAL STRUCTURE . . . . .	1
Meaning and Importance of the Study of	
Social Structure . . . . .	2
Meaning and Importance of Kinship System . . . . .	3
The Filipino Kinship System . . . . .	4
II. PHILIPPINE POPULAR VALUES . . . . .	13
The Importance and Meaning of Values . . . . .	13
Philippine Popular Values . . . . .	16
<u>Pakikisama</u> . . . . .	17
Euphemism . . . . .	20
Go-between . . . . .	22
<u>Utang na Loob</u> . . . . .	24
<u>Anor Propio</u> . . . . .	27
<u>Hiya</u> . . . . .	30
<u>Bahala Na</u> . . . . .	32
III. PERSONALISM . . . . .	38
Emmanuel Mounier's Life . . . . .	39
Emmanuel Mounier's Personalism . . . . .	40
The Birth and Meaning of Personalism . . . . .	40
The Place of the Human Person in Mounier's	
Thought . . . . .	42

The Person and the Individual . . . . .	43
The World-situatedness of the Person . . . . .	46
The Person as a Social and Universal Being . . . . .	47
The Person's Commitment/Vocation . . . . .	49
Engagement in the World . . . . .	50
Involvement with Others . . . . .	51
Person and Transcendence . . . . .	53
Two Important Personalizing Factors . . . . .	55
Freedom . . . . .	55
Love . . . . .	57
The Person and the Family . . . . .	59
The Person and the Community . . . . .	61
IV. A PHILOSOPHICAL ANALYSIS OF PHILIPPINE POPULAR	
VALUES . . . . .	65
The Person from the Filipino's Standpoint . . . . .	66
Philosophical Analysis of Philippine Popular Values	69
<u>Pakikisama</u> . . . . .	70
<u>Euphemism</u> . . . . .	74
Go-between . . . . .	76
<u>Utang na Loob.</u> . . . . .	79
<u>Amor Propio.</u> . . . . .	81
<u>Miya.</u> . . . . .	83
<u>Bahala Na</u> . . . . .	85
Synthesis . . . . .	87



V. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS . . . . .	91
Conclusion . . . . .	91
Recommendations . . . . .	93
BIBLIOGRAPHY. . . . .	95
APPENDIX A . . . . .	99
The Problem . . . . .	99
Importance of the Study . . . . .	99
Review of Literature . . . . .	101
Method and Organization . . . . .	104
Definition of Terms . . . . .	105
CURRICULUM VITAE . . . . .	106

## CHAPTER I

### THE FILIPINO SOCIAL STRUCTURE

It is the purpose of this thesis to analyze Filipino popular values from a philosophical point of view. These values are: pakikisama, euphemism, go-between, utang na loob, amor proprio, hiya, and bahala na. In order to get a deeper insight into these values it seems necessary to discuss first the Filipino social structure which greatly influences the formation and functioning of the Filipino value system. Hence, this chapter.

To understand Filipino social structure, the writer will present first the meaning and importance of the study of social structure followed by the meaning and importance of kinship system in general; then, the Filipino kinship system and family will be discussed. Thus, this presentation will be divided into four sections:

- I. Meaning and Importance of the Study of Social Structure
- II. Meaning and Importance of Kinship System
- III. The Filipino Kinship System
- IV. The Filipino Family

The essay entitled "Filipino Social Structure and Value Orientations" by F. Landa Jocano which appeared in the number two lecture series of the Filipino Cultural Heritage<sup>1</sup> will be utilized mainly in this study.

<sup>1</sup>F. Landa Jocano, "Filipino Social Structure and Value Orientations," Filipino Cultural Heritage, Lecture Series No. 2 (Manila: Philippine Women's University, 1966).