

# HISTORY OF THE PHILIPPINES



BARROWS

# A HISTORY OF THE PHILIPPINES

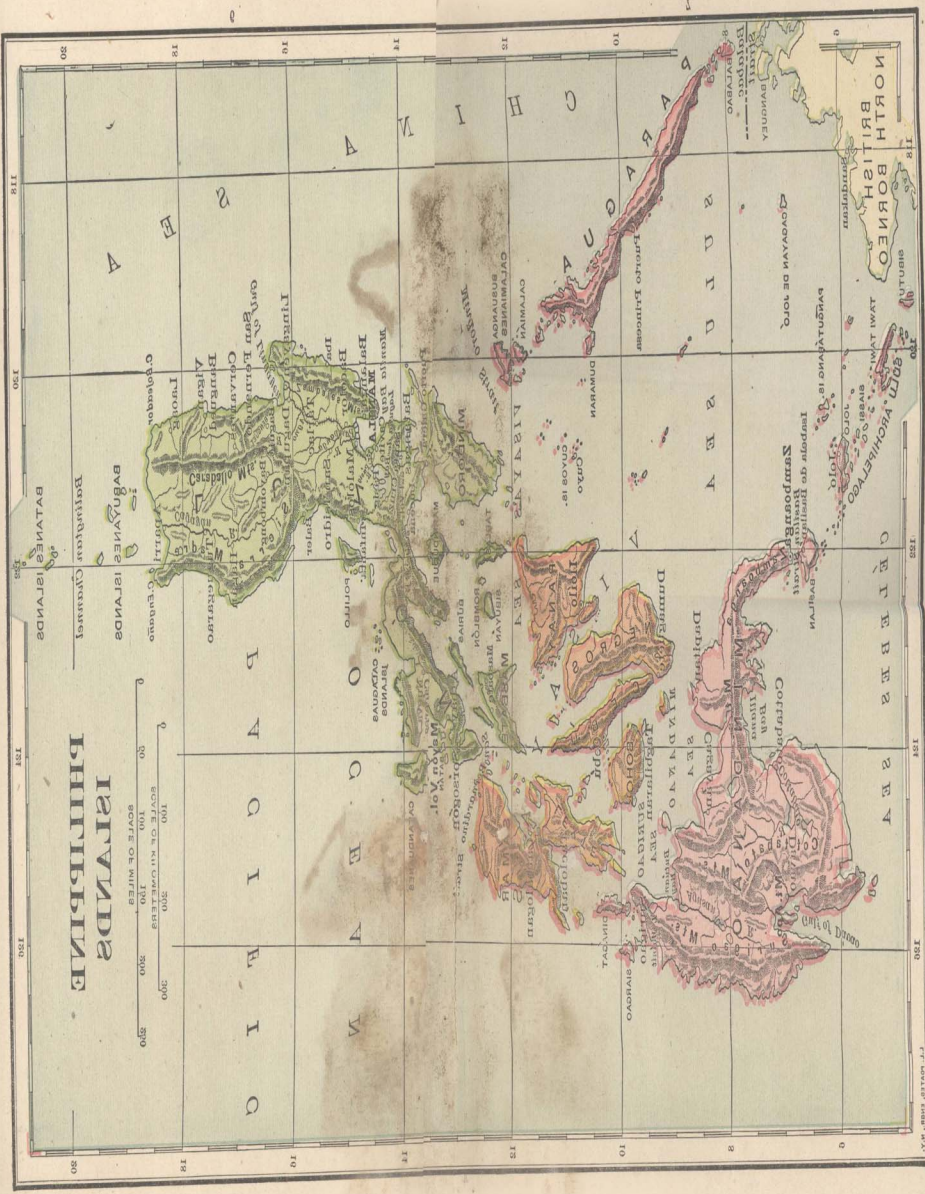
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## PREFACE

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THIS book has been prepared at the suggestion of the educational authorities for pupils in the public high schools of the Philippines, as an introduction to the history of their country. Its preparation occupied about two years, while the author was busily engaged in other duties, — much of it being written while he was traveling or exploring in different parts of the Archipelago. No pretensions are made to an exhaustive character for the book. For the writer, as well as for the pupil for whom it is intended, it is an introduction to the study of the history of Malaysia.

Considerable difficulty has been experienced in securing the necessary historical sources, but it is believed that the principal ones have been read. The author is greatly indebted to the Honorable Dr. Pardo de Tavera for the use of rare volumes from his library, and he wishes to acknowledge also the kindness of Mr. Manuel Yriarte, Chief of the Bureau of Archives, for permission to examine public documents. The occasional reprints of the old Philippine histories have, however, been used more frequently than the original editions. The splendid series of reprinted works on the Philippines, promised by Miss Blair and Mr. Robertson, was not begun in time to be used in the preparation of this book. The appearance of this series will make easy a path which the present writer



has found comparatively difficult, and will open the way for an incomparably better history of the Philippines than has ever yet been made.

The drawings of ethnographic subjects, which partly illustrate this book, were made from objects in the Philippine Museum by Mr. Anselmo Espiritu, a teacher in the public schools of Manila. They are very accurate.

Above every one else, in writing this book, the author is under obligations to his wife, without whose constant help and encouragement it could not have been written.

DAVID P. BARROWS.

MANILA, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS,  
MARCH 1ST, 1903.

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## PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

THE first edition of this book, which appeared in the summer of 1905, has been exhausted for some time, and another issue seems called for. The book has received some severe criticism, especially for its treatment of the work of the Roman Catholic Church and the policy pursued at times by the Spanish Government. I have carefully reviewed all of these criticisms that came to my attention and have concluded that, almost without exception, the statements should remain as first presented. The book, therefore, appears again practically without alteration, except for the correction of typographical errors and the occasional modification of a paragraph.

On the other hand, several friends, who have been good enough to read the volume, have urged that it be rewritten on a more extended plan, allowing larger treatment to certain topics. I have not done this, for two reasons: first,

because of a lack of requisite leisure ; second, because some further time must yet elapse before certain indispensable material is available. This includes the completion of the source publications by Miss Blair and Mr. Robertson, *The Philippine Islands*, now issued up to Volume XLIX ; the publication of the Insurgent War Records ; and especially the bringing to light or better ordering of material, both private and official, bearing on the last decades of Spanish rule.

The period of 1860 to 1898 is one of consummate interest. It covers the period when the Spanish Government was trying to reform its administration in keeping with the progress of the islands ; when the forces of reaction were persistently triumphing ; and when the rapidly expanding development of the people itself constantly resulted in larger aspirations. Some of the most salutary lessons of colonial history are contained in this epoch. What the Spanish Government then faced, other colonial powers will shortly be facing ; and the history of this period of unrest and transition can hardly be written too large. This is the portion of the present volume for which I feel apology is most due. However, I will say again, this book is only an *introduction* to the history of the Philippines under Spanish and American rule.

It may be added further, that some few years more must elapse before the work of America in the Philippines can be properly presented. The view given in Chapter XIII is of the American Government at the time of its organization and first efforts. Five years have since elapsed, and in that brief period remarkable results have been attained, which must, however, be carried still further before their full consequence will be disclosed. There has been estab-

lished between the races a new standard of relationship of far more importance than any tangible results. The spirit of the effort has been aptly characterized by a most competent French critic as "the substitution of the principle of partnership for that of domination." It marks an advance in the intercourse of races for which the world is most in need. The successful establishment of this principle in the government of the Philippines, will be sufficient to set the achievements of the first American civil governor beside the greatest results of administrators of foreign colonies.

By the time these pages appear the Filipino people will have chosen a representative legislative assembly with the legal capacity, for the first time in the history of the islands, to express the general desire and will. It goes without saying that its voice will have great weight with the American nation. What will it demand? The program of an independent Philippines under the disinterested protection of the United States would seem to be an impossibility. No nation, least of all America, with her traditional aversion to foreign complications, would undertake to guarantee the integrity or the internal peace of the Philippines without an adequate control of the administration. As long as America bears any responsibility for the Philippines, the ultimate administrative authority must be with those of her own choosing.

Complete independence, freeing America definitely from all burden and further interest, is on the other hand an intelligible program and admissible among practical policies; but the greatest peril of the Archipelago lies in the possibility of the Philippine Assembly seeking this separation and in the disposition of the



American people to welcome such a solution. Separation too early realized would lead to disaster.

There is no short cut to Philippine Nationality. Its attainment is a long task, calling for infinite patience and self-control. The population must greatly increase and must effectively occupy the entire archipelago, satisfactory relations with the Pagan and Mohammedan peoples must be established, education must do its work, and the social order be entirely transformed, before the basis of national life is laid. Yet the aspiration for national existence cannot justly be discouraged. It is the motive power under which the greatest of popular triumphs have been achieved. The situation is one peculiarly delicate and yet full of the greatest promise. There is every reason why both Americans and Filipinos should hold to their tasks with constant devotion and watchfulness over self. There could be no better motto for all who are engaged in this undertaking than the words of the present Secretary of War, on whom, more than on any other man, rests the immediate future of the Philippines, "In my view, a duty is an entirety, and it is not fulfilled until it is *entirely* fulfilled."

DAVID P. BARROWS.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,  
MAY, 1907.



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# HISTORY OF THE PHILIPPINES.

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## CHAPTER I.

### THE PHILIPPINES AS A SUBJECT FOR HISTORICAL STUDY.

**Purpose of this Book.** — This book has been written for the young men and young women of the Philippines. It is intended to introduce them to the history of their own island country. The subject of Philippine history is much broader and more splendid than the size and character of this little book reveal. Many subjects have only been briefly touched upon, and there are many sources of information, old histories, letters and official documents, which the writer had not time and opportunity to study in the preparation of this work. It is not too soon, however, to present a history of the Philippines, even though imperfectly written, to the Philippine people themselves; and if this book serves to direct young men and young women to a study of the history of their own island country, it will have fulfilled its purpose.

**The Development of the Philippines and of Japan.** — In many ways the next decade of the history of the Philippine Islands may resemble the splendid development of the neighboring country of Japan. Both countries have in past times been isolated more or less from the life and thought of the modern world. Both are now open to the full current of human affairs. Both countries promise to play an important part in the politics and commerce of

the Far East. Geographically, the Philippines occupy the more central and influential position, and the success of the institutions of the Philippines may react upon the countries of southeastern Asia and Malaysia to an extent that we cannot appreciate or foresee. Japan, by reason of her larger population, the greater industry of her people, a more orderly social life, and devoted public spirit, is at the present time far in the lead.

*The Philippines.* — But the Philippines possess certain advantages which, in the course of some years, may tell strongly in her favor. There are greater natural resources, a richer soil, and more tillable ground. The population, while not large, is increasing rapidly, as rapidly, in fact, as the population of Japan or of Java. And in the character of her institutions the Philippines have certain advantages. The position of woman, while unfortunate in Japan, as in China and nearly all eastern countries, in the Philippines is most fortunate, and is certain to tell effectually upon the advancement of the race in competition with other eastern civilizations. The fact that Christianity is the established religion of the people makes possible a sympathy and understanding between the Philippines and western countries.

*Japan.* — Yet there are many lessons which Japan can teach the Philippines, and one of these is of the advantages and rewards of fearless and thorough study. Fifty years ago, Japan, which had rigorously excluded all intercourse with foreign nations, was induced to open its doors by an American fleet under Commodore Perry. At that time the Japanese knew little of western history, and had no knowledge of modern science. Their contact with the Americans and other foreigners revealed to them the inferiority of their knowledge. The leaders of the country



awoke to the necessity of a study of western countries and their achievements, especially in government and in the sciences.

Japan had at her service a special class of people known as the *samurai*, who, in the life of Old Japan, were the free soldiers of the feudal nobility, and who were not only the fighters of Japan, but the students and scholars as well. The young men of this *samurai* class threw themselves earnestly and devotedly into the study of the great fields of knowledge, which had previously been unknown to the Japanese. At great sacrifice many of them went abroad to other lands, in order to study in foreign universities. Numbers of them went to the United States, frequently working as servants in college towns in order to procure the means for the pursuit of their education.

The Japanese Government in every way began to adopt measures for the transformation of the knowledge of the people. Schools were opened, laboratories established, and great numbers of scientific and historical books were translated into Japanese. A public school system was organized, and finally a university was established. The Government sent abroad many young men to study in almost every branch of knowledge and to return to the service of the people. The manufacturers of Japan studied and adopted western machinery and modern methods of production. The government itself underwent revolution and reorganization upon lines more liberal to the people and more favorable to the national spirit of the country. The result has been the transformation, in less than fifty years, of what was formerly an isolated and ignorant country.

*The Lesson for the Filipinos.*—This is the great lesson which Japan teaches the Philippines. If there is to be transformation here, with a constant growth of

knowledge and advancement, and an elevation of the character of the people as a whole, there must be a courageous and unflinching search for the truth: and the young men and young women of the Philippines must seek the advantages of education, not for themselves, but for the benefit of their people and their land; not to gain for themselves a selfish position of social and economic advantage over the poor and less educated Filipinos, but in order that, having gained these advantages for themselves, they may in turn give them to their less fortunate countrymen. The young Filipino, man or woman, must learn the lessons of truthfulness, courage, and unselfishness, and in all of his gaining of knowledge, and in his use of it as well, he must practice these virtues, or his learning will be an evil to his land and not a blessing.

The aim of this book is to help him to understand, first of all, the place that the Philippines occupy in the modern history of nations, so that he may understand how far and from what beginnings the Filipino people have progressed, toward what things the outside world itself has moved during this time, and what place and opportunities the Filipinos, as a people, may seek for in the future.

**The Meaning of History.** — History, as it is written and understood, comprises many centuries of human life and achievement, and we must begin our study by discussing a little what history means. Men may live for thousands of years without having a life that may be called historical; for history is formed only where there are credible written records of events. Until we have these records, we have no ground for historical study, but leave the field to another study, which we call Archeology, or Pre-historic Culture.

*Historical Races.* — Thus there are great races which

have no history, for they have left no records. Either the people could not write, or their writings have been destroyed, or they told nothing about the life of the people. The history of these races began only with the coming of a historical, or more advanced race among them.

Thus, the history of the black, or negro, race begins only with the exploration of Africa by the white race, and the history of the American Indians, except perhaps of those of Peru and Mexico, begins only with the white man's conquest of America. The white, or European, race is, above all others, the great historical race; but the yellow race, represented by the Chinese, has also a historical life and development, beginning many centuries before the birth of Christ.

For thousands of years the history of the white race was confined to countries bordering or adjacent to the Mediterranean Sea. There was little contact with other races of men and almost no knowledge of countries beyond the Mediterranean shores. The great continents of America and Australia and the beautiful island-world of the Pacific and Indian oceans were scarcely dreamed of. This was the status of the white race in Europe a little more than five hundred years ago. How different is the position of this race to-day! It has now explored nearly the entire globe. The white people have crossed every continent and every sea. On every continent they have established colonies and over many countries their power.

During these last five centuries, besides this spread of geographical discovery, the mingling of all the races, and the founding of great colonies, have come also the development of scientific knowledge, great discoveries and inventions, the utilization of steam and electricity, which give to man such tremendous power over the material world.