

ATENEO DE MANILA UNIVERSITY

**TRANSLATING THE IDIOM OF OPPRESSION:
A GENEALOGICAL DECONSTRUCTION OF FILIPINIZATION AND THE
NINETEENTH CENTURY CONSTRUCTION OF THE
MODERN PHILIPPINE NATION**

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MODERN PHILIPPINE NATION**

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ABSTRACT

This doctoral thesis examines the phenomenon of *Filipinization*, specifically understood as the differential construction of a “Filipino identity” or ‘Filipino subject-consciousness,’ within three seminal texts in the history of Filipinization—viz.: 1) the *Manifiesto* of Padre Jose Burgos (1864); 2) the writings of the Filipino *ilustrados* in *La Solidaridad* (1889-1895); and 3) Jose Rizal’s *Annotations on Dr. Antonio de Morga’s Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas* (1890)—inasmuch as it leads to the nineteenth (19th) century ideological construction of the modern Philippine nation. Utilizing Jacques Derrida’s deconstructive thinking, this study undertakes a *genealogical critique* engaged on the discursive analysis of the term “Filipino” and the various notions of Filipino identity given in the different texts mentioned above in order to philosophically demonstrate the claim that Filipinization effectively translates the colonial epistemic violence of Eurocentric racism and its consequent “horror of absolutism” into the homo-hegemony of Filipino nationalisms.

Keywords: Filipinization, genealogical critique, discursive complicity, epistemic violence, Spanish colonialism, Filipino nationalism/s

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