



EMERGING ASIAN COMMUNITIES IN CONTEMPORARY PHILIPPINES

Institutional Research of the Asian Center

Presented by:

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INTRODUCTION

- ❖ Filipino out-migration has traditionally received substantial attention in academic and policy research
- ❖ Foreign in-migration research and its analytical texture need more exploration.
- ❖ The phenomenon of emerging Asian communities in the Philippines deserves scholarly scrutiny.
- ❖ As an incipient step in an in-depth investigation, the study shall contribute to filling this gap.

INTRODUCTION

- ❖ Guided by the bold notion of “Asia in the Philippines” vis-à-vis the “Philippines in Asia,” the institutional research project spearheaded by the Asian Center looks into case studies on Japanese, Chinese, Indonesian, Indian and Middle Eastern communities in the Philippines.
- ❖ The wide representation of communities and the range of research themes seek to contribute to a nuanced study of foreign migration and diaspora in the Philippines for academic and policy utility.

FIVE CASE STUDIES

❖ Employing qualitative research methodology and fieldwork conducted in 2013, the investigation involves shedding light on the respective issues of five communities

- (1) language acquisition and multiculturalism among Japanese-Filipino children
- (2) the utilization of informal contracting in the Chinese community
- (3) community-building among members of the Indonesian diaspora
- (4) the contributions of the Indian diaspora in Philippine development
- (5) patterns of Persian, Arab and Turkish migration



CASE STUDY 1

Shuttling Migration of Japanese-Filipino Children: Language Acquisition and Multiculturalism

**by Assoc. Prof. Michiyo Yoneno-Reyes,
Ph.D.**

Asian Center

CASE STUDY 1

Major findings:

- ❖ "Shuttling" pattern of migration characterises many Japanese-Filipino children today.
- ❖ The establishment of a mother-tongue is significant for child migrants for their growth as a responsible adult citizen in the future ("Cummins' theory").
- ❖ The research proved that Cummins' theory drawn from data from English speaking countries and from one-time migrant cases is applicable to Japanese-Filipino children who are exposed to more diverse languages and tend to "shuttle" between two countries.

CASE STUDY 1

- ❖ The research shows children who could retain and develop a mother-tongue also acquired the second (third, fourth and so on) language/s after migration more successfully. Informal support system facilitated that.
- ❖ Without support, children tend to be "double-limited" (semi-lingual), having no mother tongue. They are deprived of the opportunities of learning decent literacy, logical thinking and abstract concepts, and even basic communication skills.
- ❖ Formal support system for migrant children's language development is recommended.



CASE STUDY 2

Informal Contracting in Commerce Among Chinese in the Philippines

by Asst. Prof. Tina S. Clemente, Ph.D.

Asian Center

Asst. Prof. Marco B. Lagman

Dept. of Geography, CSSP

CASE STUDY 2

Major Findings

- ❖ Evolving social contexts play a big role in the extent that informal contracting is still used in the present times among Chinese Filipinos in commerce. Bases for informal ties are not as closed-knit in the present generation of respondents as compared to that of previous generations of their kin.
- ❖ The use and effectiveness of sanctions and severity of ex ante obligations are influenced by the size of the network in which particularized ties are shared.
- ❖ Improvement in institutional landscape, economic motivations amid market opportunities and resource needs are among the factors that influence the changing nature of ties. Hence, the use of informal contracts provides valuable insight in studying institutional change.



CASE STUDY 3

KELURAHANINDONES-FILIPINO

*Removing the Bangsa from the Orang
and Binding Ties in Diaspora Streams*

by Assoc. Prof. Rolando Talampas

Asian Center

CASE STUDY 3

Major Finding:

This study conceives of the present Indonesian diaspora in the Philippines as an ongoing process of community formation and transformation under concrete conditions of the changing environments and perceptions of nation. What this yields therefore is a snapshot of the consciousness of the people of Indonesian descent in southern Mindanao. This consciousness though derives inexclusively from their own self-imagination but also from the reactions and responses of the others with whom they undergo their experience in their new localities.

This study argues that the diasporic consciousness is made both implicit and explicit in the social discourses that dominate current views about their presence.



CASE STUDY 4

**Indians in the Philippines:
Communities, Continuities and Changes**

by Asst. Prof. Joefer Santarita, Ph.D.

Asian Center

CASE STUDY 4

Major Findings

- ❖ Networks and other social capital support Indian migrants to survive and improve their living. These have also supported business conditions in the Philippines through the years.
- ❖ The new wave of Indian movement promotes the growth of the business process outsourcing industry in the Philippines.
- ❖ The presence of Indian pharmaceutical companies in the Philippines facilitates the distribution of affordable yet quality medicines to less privileged Filipinos.



CASE STUDY 5

**Middle Eastern Communities in the
Philippines: Exploratory Study of
Persian, Arab and Turkish Migrants**

by Asst. Prof. Henelito Sevilla, Jr., Ph.D.
Asian Center

CASE STUDY 5

Major Findings

- ❖ There is an increasing number of Middle Easterners in the Philippines in recent years particularly Iranians and Turkish nationals who find the country conducive for business and study purposes. Such an increase is influenced by the a) quality of education Philippine universities offered such as in medical courses; b) cheap tuition fee relative to the fee in their own countries; c) Filipino hospitality and d) English language as medium of instruction.

CASE STUDY 5

- ❖ There is a rising number of Filipinos who are partly Persian and Arab by blood and who are still confused with their identities as they adjust in Filipino society while maintaining their connections to one a parent's homeland in the Middle East through informal and formal communities. Some of them have launched successful careers in modelling, sports and entertainment.
- ❖ Many of these nationals continue to experience problems such as: discrimination in public transportation, immigration and universities and overcharging in markets. Many new comers also face culture shock such as in dressing; a Filipino woman's role in the family, society and politics; and how Filipinos behave in public spaces.