Rizal in the U.S

Rizal in SS Belgic

- He met the Jacksons while he was on board towards San Francisco
- 28th of April, 1888 – the steamship (SS Belgic) anchored in the shores of San Francisco U.S.A
  - Their arrival was impeded of untoward event which provoked Rizal to despise the attitudes of American health officers towards Chinese and Negroes
  - Passengers of SS Belgic were not permitted to go out in the steamship because the American health authorities suspected the ship as a carrier of cholera
  - They defended that the ship’s operation was approved by the American consul in Japan
- American health authorities still refused to permit its passengers to land
  - The passengers protested against the discriminatory treatment and racial prejudice of the Americans towards Chinese and Negro passengers
- They discovered that the ship was only quarantined because of political reasons:
  - These Chinese laborers served as threats to the American laborers who formerly dominated the work force in various construction and manual labor camps

Rizal in Frisco

- May 4, 1888 – Rizal immediately checked in at the Palace Hotel
  - Palace Hotel- considered as one of the expensive hotel in San Francisco
- He spent 4 dollars a day for bathing and other amenities
- He also saw the Golden gate Bridge, which has been famous for its strength and impeccable design
- Lelan Stanford
  - Millionaire senator from San Francisco who established and supported the prestigious school in America, the Stanford University

Travels in the American States

- May 6, 1888
  - it was the day when Jose Rizal went to Oakland through a ferry boat
  - Oakland – 9 miles across San Francisco Bay
• Rizal took his dinner at Sacramento for 75 cents
• May 7 (Monday) – Rizal took his breakfast at Reno Nevada
  ▪ The biggest city in the world
• May 8 (Tuesday) – the train passed through Ogden, wherein Rizal was very impressed of its good irrigation design
• May 9 (Wednesday) – the train already reached the Colorado state
• May 10 (Thursday) – Rizal reached Nebraska
• May 11 (Friday) – the train reached Chicago (particularly Illinois)
  ▪ Rizal noticed that every cigar retailer had an Indian figure
• May 12 (Saturday) – Rizal was amazed when he saw the Niagara Falls
• May 13 (Sunday) – Rizal characterized Albany as a big city; he also saw the Hudson river

New York: The Last Destination

• His travel across the American continent ended on Sunday
  ▪ It was also the same day when he reached New York which he called “the big town”
• New York has been one of the seats of political power in America
  ▪ He got the chance to visit the famous monument of George Washington, which is considered as one of the greatest American Patriots in the United States history
• 16th of May 1888 – he boarded the City of Rome of Liverpool, England

Rizal’s Positive and Negative Impressions of America

• Positive impressions:
  ▪ Rizal’s admitted that the United States has its own natural beauty
  ▪ The U.S can offer great opportunities to the non-American citizen
  ▪ High standard of living
  ▪ Attitude and behavior of the infrastructure
  ▪ Americans
advanced

negative impressions:
- racial prejudice
- civil liberty was merely ideological than a practice

Rizal in the City of Rome

- Jose Rizal managed to have friends because of two reasons:
  - He was a linguist
    - became an interpreter to the various nationalists on board
  - friendly personality

- Rizal was so exited to meet another Filipino passenger in the steamship (Filipino Amah)
  - He was also disappointed because he could not understand what the Filipino was saying
  - Rizal could speak 15 international language, on the contrary, he could only speak one dialect. Tagalog

- Rizal used yoyo not as a toy but as an offensive instrument
  - Foreigners were very amazed of his creativity and rich imagination

- He was disappointed when he noticed that these American newspaper men had a shallow understanding of the presented subject matters

- May 24, 1888 – the steamship reached Liverpool, England

The Beckett and Rost Families

- Jose Rizal traveled again to London
  - Stayed in the house of dr. Antonio Ma. Regidor, who was exiled from the Philippines on 1872
• Beckett Family

  ▪ He eventually transferred to the Primrose hill
  
  ▪ Rizal chose to live with the Beckett’s because of the following reasons
    
      ▪ Their place was near to public places
      ▪ Place was very accessible to the British Museum

  ▪ Members of the Beckett Family

    ▪ Mr. Charles Beckett
    ▪ Mrs. Georgina Beckett – with 2 sons and 4 daughters
    ▪ Gertrude Beckett – first daughter (and eldest) of the Beckett couple

• Rost Family

  ▪ Antonio de Morga’s literary masterpiece on the Philippines was recommended by Ferdinand Blumentritt
  
  ▪ Rizal met Dr. Reinhold Rost, a popular linguist and one of the close friends of Ferdinand Blumentritt
  
  ▪ He spent his leisure time playing cricket with the Rost children every Sunday

Good News and Bad News from Home

• Good News

  ▪ Father Vincente Garcia (July 10, 1888) defended the novel under the pen name Justo Desiderio Magalang

• Bad News

  ▪ Harassment of the Filipino nationalists who supported the Anti-Friar Petition of 1888
  
  ▪ Calamba tenants were maltreated by Spanish friars and government
  
  ▪ Authorities because of their support for agrarian reforms

  ▪ “never – ending attacks by Spanish authorities to Jose Rizal for fearlessly writing the Noli”
  
  ▪ Governor General Weyler ordered Manuel T. Hidalgo to be exiled in Bohol without taking the proper legal process

Rizal’s holiday season in London
• He celebrated his Christmas and New Year’s day with his second family, the Beckett’s
• He acknowledged the importance of Jesus Christ as the savior of mankind
  ▪ Rizal was disappointed because some people were using this name to fulfill their selfish and evil interest
• Jose Rizal sent Christmas present to Ferdinand Blumentritt and Dr. Carlos Czepelak
• Mrs. Beckett gave him a magic book entitled “the life and adventures of Valentine Vox, the Ventriloquist”

Rizal: Leader of the Solidaridad association in Europe
• Jose Rizal assigned to be the honorary present of La Solidaridad
  ▪ La Solidaridad as a political movement
  ▪ Rizal considered as one of the co-founders of the Solidaridad Association
  ▪ Formally considered on December 31, 1888 by the following officers:
    o Dr. Jose Rizal – Honorary President
    o Galicano Apacible – President
    o Graciano Lopez – Jaena – Vice President
    o Manuel Santa Maria – Secretary
    o Mariano Ponce – Treasurer
    o Jose Ma. Panganiban – Accountant

La Solidaridad
• Served as a venue for the intellectual political thinkers to publish their political and liberal views about the situation of the Philippines during that time
• Aims of the newspaper
  ▪ Intended to expose the real socio-political situation of the Philippines under the Spanish tyrants
  ▪ Wanted to serve as an avenue for liberal and democratic ideals
• Purposed to present peaceful reform not just in the Philippine society but also on the Philippine political structure

Romantic affair with Gertrude Beckett

• Gertrude’s physical features
  ▪ Rosy cheeks
  ▪ Brown hair
  ▪ Blue eyes

• Gertrude serves Rizal without any condition
  ▪ Gettie was always with him whenever he had to do his daily routines, mix his colors for painting
  ▪ Rizal called her as “Gettie” and Gertrude called him as “pettie”

Universal exposition of 1889

Rizal’s Parisian Life

• Universal Exposition of 1889 – considered as one of the prestigious art exhibits in the world
• Rizal temporarily stayed at the house of Valentin Ventura (no.45 Rue Maubege)
• Rizal finally found a small room
  ▪ His board mate were Jose alberto and Capitan Justo Trinidad
• He was working on his historical annotation to Antonio de Morga’s book in Bibliotheque Nationale while in Paris
• The Paris exposition was formally opened by the third French Republic president Sadi carmot

Progressive Filipino Movements in France

• Kidlat Club
  ▪ Organized by Dr. Jose Rizal on the 19th of March 1889
  ▪ It was just a mere society which intended to gather Filipinos in France during the Universal Exposition of 1889
• Indios Bravos
  - Its name originated from an American Buffalo Bull Show
  - Rizal then realized that the red-skinned players were so proud of their identity as Indians
  - Formed another group which saved as a channel for the Filipinos to display their physical and intellectual superiority to increase their nationalistic confidence

• R.D.L.M Society
  - A secret society which was also formed by Jose Rizal during the Universal Exposition of 1889
  - Stand for Redencion de los Malayos (or Redemption of the Malayas)
  - Counterpart of the Katipunan because its existence and even its members were secretly organized
  - Two aims:
    - Gather all possible and useful artistic, scientific and artillery knowledge in the Philippines
    - Redeem the Malay race

Por Telefono

• Satirical literary works which aimed to attack Spanish Friars
• The satire did not only attack father Font
• It also a brilliant ideas to the time communications engineer to make a telephone connection possible in the Philippine Archipelago
• Quoted from Zaide’s book: opening paragraph of Por Telefono
  “in the year 1900, the Philippines for the first time was connected to the Metropolis by means of the laid out by an Anglo – Catalan company called the trans – Oceanic Telephone Company, so well known in its time for its truly bold ideas” (Zaide: 165)

Rizal’s Life and Works in Belgium

Reasons why the transferred to Brussels

• Rizal decided to leave Paris because:
  - His ideals and mission could not be achieved if he stayed into that place
- His concentration in writing his second novel might be deterred by his glamorous and gay lifestyle in Paris

- There were some rumors that the reasons why Rizal decided to transfer in Belgium was because he was only “running away from a girl just as he left London”

Brussels: The Land of Sweet Chocolates

- Rizal was accompanied by Jose Alberto when he decided to transfer to Belgium
  - Jose Alberto was taking up an engineering course when he accompanied Rizal to settle in Jacoby’s boarding house

- They stayed in a cozy house of Suzanne and Marie Jacoby in no. 38 Philippe Champagne, Brussels
  - “rue” means road
  - “champagne” – a place in Belgium from which the famous wine was named after

- Rizal found himself a suitable place to write a sequel of his social novel (Noli)

- Rizal dedicated the majority of his time doing relevant and significant activities such as:
  - Continued the remaining chapters of El filibusterismo
  - He also wrote various articles which were literary and political in nature
  - He never cut his communication lines to his family and friends (through letters)
  - Took time to develop his physical wellness in the gym honed his skills in target shooting and fencing
    - Fred Baldwin stated that his family had known the national hero way back in Hongkong
    - His family discussed that Rizal could not hit a dinner plate placed 20 feet away during his target practice

Rizal’s Article in La Solidaridad

- “Crueldad (Cruelty)"
  - contained a distinctive defense of Ferdinand blumentritt from the Spanish government officials”

- “La Verdad Para todos” (The truth For Al)
• Contained words which defended native local officials from the Libelous statements committed by the Spanish government officials

• “Una profanacion” (A Profanation)
  • About the attack of our national hero to the Spanish church officials for denying a Christian Burial to Mariano Herbosa

• Vicente Barrantes Teatro Tagalog
  • Rizal attacked Vicente Barrantes gray idea about the Tagalog theatrical art

• “Verandes Nuevas” (New truths)
  • Contained the defense of Jose Rizal to the letter written by Vicente Belloc Sanchez

• Lianto y Risas (Tears and Laughter)
  • This article condemned the racial discrimination of the Spaniards to the Filipinos

• Differencias (Differences)
  • Also condemned those people (mostly the Spaniards) whom made fun of the Filipinos for they were clamoring for socio-political reforms

• Inconsequencias (inconsequences)
  • Intended to defende the arguments of Antonio Luna against the article written by Pablo Mir Deas through El Pueblo Soberano

• Ingratitudes (Ingratitude)
  • Defense of the Filipinos who initiated socio-political reforms and who exposed their countrymen to the abuses and inequality committed by the Spanish authorities

Rizal’s Filipinized Tagalog Orthography

• Rizal also contributed to the development of his native to give his Filipinized Tagalog Orthography
  • “Ang hindi marunong magmahal sa sariling wika, daig pa ang hayop at malansang isda”

• He pioneered the “Filipinization” of Tagalog orthography was influenced by Hispanic language

• Hispanic letters such as W and C should be replaced by O and K

Not so Good Nerws from Home
Rizal received a number of letters which conveyed bad news either from his family’s economic situation in the Philippines or in his native land per se.

The issue regard to Calamba’s agrarian trouble had caused him a lot of anxiety.

One of the abuses committed by the Dominican friar to the family members of Jose Rizal was when the former brought the agrarian care to the Spanish court to dispossess the “rights” of the former.

- Almost thirty families (including the Rizal Family) were forced to leave their house in Calamba.

Rizal’s morbid premonition of Death

- Capable of seeing things which interpreted to happen in the future.
- Rizal had a number of odd dreams during his nights in Brussels.
  - Caused by anxieties and worries caused by the news that were revealed from his relatives in Calamba, Laguna.
- Rizal admitted that he would not live long.

Decision to Go to Madrid

- Rizal personally went to Madrid to ask for the legal assistance of Marcelo H. del Pilar to represent his family in the Spanish supreme Court.

Love Affair with Suzanne Jacoby

- It was not his physical appearance that made him so charming.
- It was his dignified and respectable “aura” which made Suzanne Jacoby fall in love with the Filipino propagandist.
- Rizal was still in love with Leonor Rivera.
- However, he cannot dictated his emotions, he left Jacoby.
- Like his previous romances with the other ladies, he left Jacoby in 1890 when he decided to transfer in Madrid Spain.

Rizal repudiation to the Spanish Colonial Policy

- He wasted no time when he arrived in Madrid.
  - Tired to seek the assistance of the Filipino community in Madrid (Asociacion-Hispano Filipina).
• Rizal also tried his luck in various newspaper in Madrid to broadcast the existing oppression committed by the Spanish landlords in the Philippines

• He was also accompanied by Marcelo H. del Pilar, Dr. Dominador Gomez to Señor Fabie (Minister of Colonies)
  ▪ He consulted the irregularity in Calamba to the minister of colonies

• Note that the Liberalist Governor - General Emilio Terrero was replaced by Governor – General Weyler
  ▪ Weyler – the butcher of Cuba

• Señor Fabie ignored the concerned raised by Jose Rizal

• Jose Rizal also went to the two former members of the ministry of colonies, Maura and Becerra

• Ferdinand Blumentritt – he advised Rizal to raised his concern to the Queen Regent Maria Christina

Rizal and Panganiban

• Rizal received eccentric news that one of his co-propagandist died because of a particular disease

• Jose Ma. Panganiban
  ▪ “Bicolanos Greatest Contribution to the Historic campaign for Reforms”
  ▪ Born in Manbulao, Camarines Norte
  ▪ Born: February 1, 1863; Died: August 19, 1890
  ▪ Served as one of the contribution of La Solidaridad newspaper
  ▪ Pen name in the publication: JOmapa

Love Triangle between Rizal, Boustead and Luna

• Rizal attended a social gathering (reunion) of his fellow Filipinos (paisanos) in Spain
  ▪ The reunion was flooded with bottles of wine

• Antonio Luna became drunk
  ▪ Luna was so bitter because of his tragic romance with Nellie Boustead
- It was Rizal who impeded his romance with the lady.
- Rizal who was preoccupied with so many things at that time, defended himself that he had nothing to do with his romantic affair with Bousted.
- Antonio Luna, who was influenced by the spirit of liquor, did not accept the explanation of Rizal.
- Luna verbalized negative words about Nellie.
- According to him “his high sense of chivalry could not be tolerate any slur against the honor of any woman” (Zaide).
- Because of that statement, he demanded Luna to have duek.
- When Antonio Luna became sober, he apologized to Jose Rizal.

Duel between Rizal and Retana

- Retana was a Spanish writer sort by the Spanish authorities to write damaging articles about the Filipinos and Rizal.
- Retana insisted that the reason why the land owners evicted the family and friends of Dr. Jose Rizal was because they did not pay their land rents in Calamba.
  - Upon reading the article in La Ecopa, Rizal immediately challenged Retana to a duel.
- Two things which can vindicated the good name of Rizal’s family and friends.
  - Retana’s blood.
  - Apology.

Marriage of Leonor Rivera

- Rizal was so depressed when he received a letter from Leonor Rivera stating that she was about to marry Henry Kipping.
  - He attended a play in teatro Apolo when he realized that he lost his locket containing the picture of Rivera.
  - He had dreamed that he will return home to a gloomy reception (1884).
- Rivera remained faithful to Rizal.
- Leonor Rivera died two years after the wedding.