

**THE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS OF RICE PRODUCTION IN GAPAN,
NUEVA ECIIJA DURING THE FIRST TWENTY YEARS OF AMERICAN
COLONIAL PERIOD (1903-1923)**

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by
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THESIS ABSTRACT

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7. Abstract:

7.1 Rationale/Background

This study pertaining to rice production trace the historical agricultural developments of Gapan City on rice production during the first twenty years of American colonial period, as one of the cities that make up the province of Nueva Ecija which is one of the most contributors of rice production in the Philippines.

7.2 Summary

This study is qualitative that explores historical accounts by doing archival method to gather the primary and secondary instrument and used document

analysis in order to interpret the historical developments of rice production in Gapan, Nueva Ecija during the first twenty years of American period.

7.3 Major Findings

The main factors regarding rice production developments are the enactment of civil government to both provinces and municipalities, the proper irrigation system developed by Americans, then the transportation system, also the Americans influenced to the infrastructures brought a greater progress in agrarian economy of Gapan as one of the towns in Nueva Ecija and prosper the province as the granary of the Philippines in 1920. But despite of the Americans effort to strengthen and support the farmers of Gapan they have failed and the town was subject to surge of economic loss again after the 1920s.

7.4 Conclusions

Americans may have brought the biggest change in the agricultural rice production through commercialization and modernization to the Philippines, and Nueva Ecija as one of the main agricultural provinces, where the town of Gapan is located, as for this town to be one on the contributors to the agricultural economic progress in the first two decades of American rule. Truly, the province and it's towns like Gapan are a seed bank to the rice production industry, but the progress and developments from infrastructures, agrarian policies, to modernization of agriculture which the scientific agriculture, are important factors that benefited the rice production industry, but since meager profits from

the government's decision to prioritize urban customers over rice producers resulted in dissatisfaction, which in turn fueled social and agricultural unrest.

7.5 Recommendations

This study first suggests having more research about local history in such towns, to have more knowledge and promote the historical facts about the identity of that place. This is important for the future historians and for knowledge of the community itself about their heritage and the history behind their places. Second, this study wants to suggest having future research about the agricultural towns like Gapan during the periods of war or pre-war to aggravate the knowledge of agricultural ways and the facts of the past to apply its essence in the present. Third, this study wants to suggest having local libraries where all archives and research about that certain place was filed so that future researcher may use to their future studies without any inconvenience to both parties. This would allow and persuade researcher to study more and create works with historical entities.

8. Translated Abstract (Filipino):

8.1 Rasyonale

Ang pag-aaral na ito na nauukol sa produksyon ng palay ay nag-trace ng mga makasaysayang pag-unlad sa agrikultura ng Gapan City sa produksyon ng bigas sa unang dalawampung taon ng kolonyalismong Amerikano, bilang isa sa

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

NARIC: National Rice and Corn Corporation.

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