

UNITAS

SEMI-ANNUAL PEER-REVIEWED INTERNATIONAL ONLINE JOURNAL
OF ADVANCED RESEARCH IN LITERATURE, CULTURE, AND SOCIETY

Post-colonial Narratives of
Korean-Japanese Literature:
Ethical Issues for the
Displaced

INSEOP SHIN

Translating *Banaag at Sikat*
(1906) of Lope K Santos:
Reflections on the Problem
of Meaning

BAYANI SANTOS, JR.

From Identity Formation to
Social Transformation:
A Dialogue on Filipino
American Studies

JEFFREY ARELLANO CABUSAO
MICHAEL JOSEPH VIOLA

Art vs. Politics: Criticism on the
Novel in Early Modern Korea

JINHYOUNG LEE

House of Cards:
The One-and-a-Half Story
House in *Kisapmata* (1981)

TITO R. QUILING, JR.

The Quest for Peace in the
Literatures of Mindanao

CHRISTINE F. GODINEZ
ORTEGA

Saling-wika / Saling-diwa:
Paano Isinalin ang Kasarian
sa mga Piling Tula ni Ophelia
Alcantara-Dimalanta

IMELDA P. DE CASTRO

Ryszard Kapuściński as
Nomad: De-imperializing the
Contemporary Travel Text

JOSE MONFRED C. SY



UNITAS is an international online peer-reviewed open-access journal of advanced research in literature, culture, and society published bi-annually (May and November).

UNITAS is published by the University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines, the oldest university in Asia. It is hosted by the Department of Literature, with its editorial address at the Office of the Scholar-in-Residence under the auspices of the Faculty of Arts and Letters. Hard copies are printed on demand or in a limited edition.

Copyright @ University of Santo Tomas

Copyright

The authors keep the copyright of their work in the interest of advancing knowledge but if it is reprinted, they are expected to acknowledge its initial publication in **UNITAS**. Although downloading and printing of the articles are allowed, users are urged to contact **UNITAS** if reproduction is intended for non-individual and non-commercial purposes. Reproduction of copies for fair use, i.e., for instruction in schools, colleges and universities, is allowed as long as only the exact number of copies needed for class use is reproduced.

History and Coverage

Established in July 1922, **UNITAS** is one of the oldest extant academic journals published by a university in the Philippines as well as in Asia. Still, **UNITAS** is perhaps the oldest extant academic journal of its kind in the Philippines and Asia in terms of expansive disciplinary coverage and diverse linguistic representation through the decades. While always cognizant of disciplinary specialization, it has been “multi-disciplinary” in publishing scholarship that is intra-disciplinary within the humanities and the arts, and inter-disciplinary across the other disciplines. As it was in the beginning, it has aimed for “unitas” by conjoining disciplinary difference through its pages.

Moreover, it has been multi-linguistic on the whole, allowing itself to evolve from a journal published purely in Spanish, and then in English, becoming bilingual eventually in the various issues in which articles are written in Spanish and English, or

as has been the case in the last several decades, in English and Filipino. And, of late, **UNITAS** has also published articles in other languages.

Apart from its disciplinary inclusiveness and crossovers, in almost 100 years of its existence, **UNITAS** has expanded the conceptual terrain of academic and topical coverage. It has published on cutting-edge and time-honored themes in which both established and emerging voices in research and scholarship are heard in articles that range across traditions, modernities, movements, philosophies, themes, politics, geographies, histories, musical types, architectural styles, gender relations, sexualities, government and non-government institutions, educational philosophies, media, forms, genres, canons, pedagogies, literary and cultural relations, and comparative studies, among others, in book review essays, critical commentaries, scholarly papers, and monographs. Such an expansiveness has allowed for establishing new lines of inquiry or exploring new lines of thinking about old ones.

Editorial Policy

UNITAS invites work of outstanding quality by scholars and researchers from a variety of disciplinary, intra-disciplinary, interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary principles, protocols and perspectives for its readership consisting primarily of academics, researchers, and graduate students, as well as of a diverse public consisting of scholars and leaders who are at the forefront of their fields and advocacies, undertaking research on multidisciplinary aspects of national and global issues within and beyond academia broadly from the perspective of but not limited to the human sciences.

In general, **UNITAS** aims to publish leading-edge and challenging articles and monographs in regular and special issues in relation to the critical currents and themes of the nation, the Asian region and the world which try to meet the various problems and opportunities of today's globalization.

Although single-authorship of articles remains typical, **UNITAS** encourages the submission of papers that are co-written by authors working across multi-cultural and multi-linguistic settings, which have resulted from an inter-cultural, inter-regional or inter-national collaboration of researchers in an effort to internationalize knowledge production, circulation and reception.

In particular, under the rubric of literary and cultural studies in Asia, **UNITAS** aims to be a platform for ethically engaged studies that represent intersections of national and international literatures, arts and cultures, crisscrossing critical and creative categories, authors and readers, "East" and "West," "North" and "South," text and

context, close readings and fieldwork, original works and translations, and theoretical and practical methodologies.

UNITAS welcomes submissions from all locations of the globe which are published in English, Philippine national and regional languages, and other foreign languages. Non-English language articles are required to submit an extended abstract in English containing the full argument rather than just a digest of the main idea.

Submissions to **UNITAS** are to follow the 8th edition of the MLA Style Manual. During the evaluation process, unless otherwise recommended by the double-blind peer reviewers to use a different documentation format, articles must be published following the MLA guidelines.

Ethical Policy

Every submission is assumed to have not been previously published and is not under consideration elsewhere for possible publication, unless it is a major submission meant as a reprint, and later approved for publication as such.

Plagiarism is the copying of large blocks of texts of someone's work and representing them as one's own. If plagiarism is ascertained after publication, the article may be withdrawn or retracted. Self-plagiarism or duplication of passages without proper citation will be evaluated on a case-to-case basis.

After the protocols of peer review and editing, **UNITAS** may or may not ask the authors to review the article prior to publication due to constraints.

Securing the publishing rights of all photos, images, or charts accompanying the article is the responsibility of the author.

Articles have to be submitted via e-mail to unitasust@gmail.com

Address all communications to:
University of Santo Tomas Office of the Scholar-in-Residence/UNITAS Office,
Faculty of Arts and Letters
G/F, St. Raymund de Peñafort Building, España St., 1008, Manila, Philippines
Telephone No: 406-1611 loc. 8830

Layout by Paolo Miguel G. Tiausas
UNITAS Logo by Francisco T. Reyes

International Editorial Board



Patricio Abinales
University of Hawaii at Manoa, US



Syed Farid Alatas
National University of Singapore



Jonathan Beller
Pratt Institute, US



Melani Budianta
University of Indonesia



Richard Chu
University of Massachusetts, US



Joel David
Inha University, South Korea

International Editorial Board



Fabian Antonio M. Dayrit
Ateneo de Manila University



Eduardo Deves-Valdes
Universidad Santiago de Chile



Leonard Harris
Purdue University, US



Caroline Sy Hau
Kyoto University, Japan



Loren Kruger
University of Chicago, US



Bienvenido Lumbera
University of the Philippines

International Editorial Board



Pawit Mahasarinand
Director, Bangkok Art and Culture Centre
(BACC)



Victor Merriman
Edge Hill University, UK



Patrick A. Messerlin
Sciences Po, France



Resil Mojares
University of San Carlos
Cebu City, Philippines



Mitsuya Mori
Seijo University, Japan



Tran Van Phuoc
Hue University, Vietnam

International Editorial Board



E. San Juan, Jr.
University of the Philippines



Stephen Shapiro
University of Warwick, UK



Inseop Shin
Konkuk University, South Korea



Brian Singleton
Trinity College
Dubrin, Ireland



Nicanor G. Tiongson
University of the Philippines



Megan Thomas
University of California
at Santa Cruz, US

International Editorial Board



Lily Rose Tope
University of the Philippines



Topsie Tupas
National Institute of Education, Singapore



Christa Wirth
Universität Zürich, Switzerland



Paul Young
University of Exeter, UK



Nie Zhenzhao
Zhejiang University, China

Editorial Staff

Maria Luisa Torres Reyes
maria.luisa.reyes@ust.edu.ph
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Joyce L. Arriola
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Augusto Antonio A. Aguila
Beyan Atta Hagos
EDITORIAL ASSOCIATES

Jan Raen Carlo M. Ledesma
MANAGING EDITOR

Nicole R. Tablizo
Zaira Vivien M. Manila
EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS

Contents

- 1 **In This Issue**
- 3 **Post-colonial Narratives of Korean-Japanese Literature**
Ethical Issues for the Displaced
INSEOP SHIN
- 29 **From Identity Formation to Social Transformation**
A Dialogue on Filipino American Studies
JEFFREY ARELLANO CABUSAO and
MICHAEL JOSEPH VIOLA
- 55 **House of Cards**
The One-and-a-Half Story House in *Kisapmata* (1981)
TITO R. QUILING, JR.
- 79 **Saling-wika / Saling-diwa**
Paano Isinalin ang Kasarian sa mga Piling Tula
ni Ophelia Alcantara-Dimalanta
IMELDA P. DE CASTRO
- 110 **Translating *Banaag at Sikat* (1906) of Lope K Santos**
Reflections on the Problem of Meaning
BAYANI SANTOS, JR.
- 134 **Art vs. Politics**
Criticism on the Novel in Early Modern Korea
JINHYOUNG LEE

Contents

160 **The Quest for Peace in the Literatures of Mindanao**

CHRISTINE F. GODINEZ ORTEGA

176 **Ryszard Kapuściński as Nomad**

De-imperializing the Contemporary Travel Text

JOSE MONFRED C. SY

231 **About the Authors**

In This Issue

“Art vs Politics: Criticism on the Novel in Early Modern Korea” by Jinhyoung Lee traces the emergence of the novel as a distinct genre in the context of Korea’s colonial history. As the paper argues, it was paid at a price. While the novel had traditionally held so much power as a medium for critique, its new-found form in the modern period would blunt its political edge as it began to develop into an aesthetic literary genre all its own.

In “From Identity Formation to Social Transformation: A Dialogue on Filipino American Studies” by Jeffrey Arellano Cabusao and Michael Joseph Viola, two Filipino-American scholars from immigrant families engage in a conversation about growing up in the US, the state of Filipino-American Studies, the works of Carlos Bulosan—a Filipino-American immigrant author best known for his semi-autobiographical novel *America Is in the Heart*—to which they find themselves implicated, as people of color living in the US. Through all their experiences, they reflect upon “the social responsibility of Filipino American intellectual life” and realize that their social commitment “must not be restricted by the boundaries of the academy.”

In “Translating *Banaag at Sikat* (1906) of Lope K Santos by Bayani Santos, Jr., the translator reflects on his English translation of “Sa Batis ng Antipolo,” the first chapter of the canonical Tagalog novel by L.K. Santos. His translation of the chapter, B. Santos, Jr. discovers, is illustrative of specific challenges in translation practice, including, understanding the socio-cultural context of the source text, sensitivity to the nuances of characters and characterization, the use of the “original code” in the translation if a particular expression is without an equivalent in the target language, the need to navigate conflicts in literary traditions in the translation, the struggle to achieve “vernacular accuracy,” among others.

“House of Cards: The One-and-a-Half Story House in Kisapmata” (1981) by Tito R. Quiling, Jr. is an analysis of *Kisapmata* [Blink of an Eye] (1981) by Mike de Leon, in which the film’s setting, as the article argues, is personified into a character. Produced during the Marcos dictatorship in the Philippines, the film’s depiction of the domestic space is revealed to be repressive due to “limitations set by authority figures,” “suffocating” the inhabitants. The analysis focuses on how, in *Kisapmata*, the “prison-like space” is rendered distinctly in the language of film.

In “Saling-wika / Saling-diwa: Paano Isinalin ang Kasarian sa mga Piling Tula ni Ophelia Alcantara-Dimalanta” by Imelda P. De Castro, translation becomes not only a linguistic space of gendered subjects but itself a “gendered” space for negotiation by subjects across languages. In itself, translating the works of Ophelia Alcantara-Dimalanta from English into Filipino presents difficult challenges enough for translators owing to her works’ literary fullness and critical breadth which must be carefully negotiated. But as the essay discusses, the gender inflection of her works marks not only the aesthetic of form but the very gender-identity of her poetics.

“Post-colonial Narratives of Korean-Japanese Literature: Ethical Issues for the Displaced” by Inseop Shin discusses the genre of Korean-Japanese literature and its “special place” in the study of modern Japanese literature from the beginning of its development. By analyzing several significant works, the study underscores its very special place within modern Japanese literature today. A product of the post-colonial experience, it is characterized by “the internalization and transfer of physical and psychological wounds from one generation to the next inflicted by the territorial, cultural, and social disruption under Japanese colonial rule.” As a genre, as the paper points out, Korean-Japanese literature embodies the post-colonial traumas inflicted by the colonial ravages, and their implications today.”

“The Quest for Peace in the Literatures of Mindanao” by Christine F. Godinez Ortega discusses the folk literatures of Mindanaoans from which they draw lessons about war and conflict in order “to achieve peace.” The author points out that although armed conflict does take place “sporadically” in Central Mindanao, it rarely does so, and that generally, “Mindanao is peaceful.” In studying the literatures of Mindanaoans, this paper expresses the hope that there will be a greater understanding of the complex realities of Mindanao.

“Ryszard Kapuściński as Nomad: De-imperializing the Contemporary Travel Text” is a product of the effort of UNITAS to encourage the research of emerging scholars and facilitate the publication of emergent scholarship which this paper by Jose Monfred C. Sy exemplifies. Submissions being considered for this initiative build from various platforms including completed graduate school theses or dissertations, conference presentations or seminar lectures which have been developed into full papers, rounded out academic essays from ongoing research, and so on, especially by young scholars. In Sy’s paper, through a close analysis of nomadic subjectivity and spatiality, the two reportages by the Polish journalist, Ryszard Kapuściński, *Imperium* and *Shadow of the Sun*, are revealed to be as energetically journalistic as they are powerfully political and luminously literary.